

JENESYS2024 Online Japan-Visit Advanced Program for ASEAN Alumni Report (Theme: Maritime Safety and Rule of Law)

1. Program Overview

【Objective and Overview】 Targeting alumni from ASEAN Member States (AMS) and Timor-Leste who have participated in JENESYS in the past, this program was conducted to promote further understanding of Japan through the introduction of Japanese companies, organizations, and groups that are expanding overseas; to strengthen networking by having participants introduce their own connections with Japan and exchange opinions; and to invigorate alumni activities.

【Participants】 Total: 38 alumni from ASEAN Member States (AMS) ^(Note) and Timor-Leste (FY2015-FY2023 participants)

(Breakdown) Brunei 3, Cambodia 5, Indonesia 7, Malaysia 5, Myanmar 2, the Philippines 8, Timor-Leste 6, Viet Nam 2

(Note) ASEAN Member States: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam

【Schedule】

Online Visiting Japan Program: September 26 (Thu)

Sep. 30 (Mon)

【Orientation】

【Opening Remarks】 Mr. TAKAMIZU Hidero, Director, Regional Cooperation Division, Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

【Theme Related Lecture, Opinion Exchange】

“Maritime Security and the Rule of Law at Sea”

Lecturer: Prof. NISHIMOTO Kentaro, Graduate School of Law, Tohoku University

【Exchange among Participants】 Self-introductions, confirmation of role assignments, etc. by group

Oct. 1 (Tue)

【Theme Related Lecture】 Omaezaki Nagisa no Koban

Lecturer: Mr. MASUDA Hiroki, Chief, General incorporated association Omaezaki Smile Project

【Exchange among Participants】 Group discussions

Oct. 2 (Wed)

【School Exchange】 School of Marine Science and Technology, Tokai University

【Exchange among Participants】 Group discussions

Oct. 3 (Thu)

【Lecture】 “Exploring Tohoku ~ A Regional Overview and The 77 Bank’s Global Business Support ~”

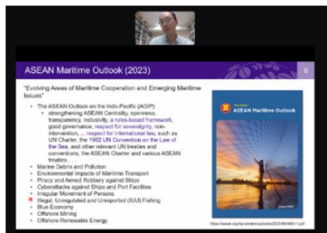
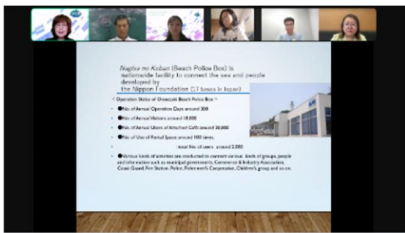
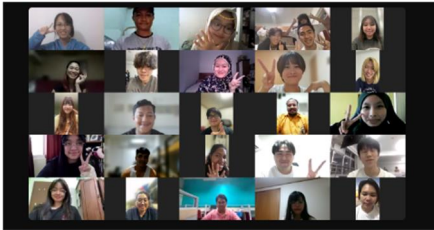

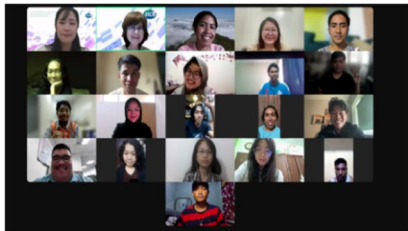
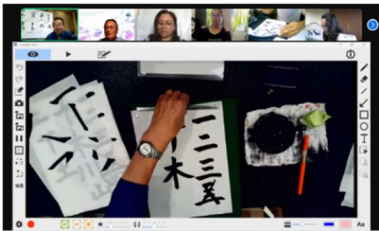
Lecturer: Mr. AMANO Shohei, Assistant Manager, Asia Business Support Dept, Treasury Administration&International DIV, The 77 Bank, Ltd.

【Exchange among Participants】 Group discussions

Oct. 4 (Fri)	【Exchange among Participants】 “Discuss about Maritime Safety issues in your country”
Oct. 5 (Sat)	【Cultural Experience】 Japanese Calligraphy "Shodo" Instructor : Mr. KAKINUMA Sachio, True Japan Tour Co., Ltd.
Oct. 7 (Mon)	【Workshop】 Summarizing program findings and preparation of action plans
Oct. 8 (Tue)	【Reporting Session】 Presentation of program findings and action plans

This program was partially conducted in joint with the JENESYS2024 Online Japan-Visit Advanced Program for ASEAN Alumni (Theme: Energy, Climate Change).

2. Program Photos

	
September 30, 2024 【Theme Related Lecture, Opinion Exchange】 “Maritime Security and the Rule of Law at Sea”	October 1, 2024 【 Theme Related Lecture 】 Omaezaki Nagisa no Koban
	
October 2, 2024 【School Exchange】 School of Marine Science and Technology, Tokai University	October 3, 2024 【Lecture】 “Exploring Tohoku ~ A Regional Overview and The 77 Bank's Global Business Support ~”
	
October 4, 2024 【Exchange among Participants】 Group photo	October 5, 2024 【Cultural Experience】 Japanese Calligraphy "Shodo"

	
<p>October 8, 2024 【Reporting Session】 Group presentations</p>	<p>October 8, 2024 【Reporting Session】 Commemorative photo</p>

3. Participants' Inquiries and Interests (excerpt)

◆ Omaezaki Nagisa no Koban

- Are the members of the organization that do this activity volunteers or do they get paid?
- Does this activity receive support from the government?
- I think activities like this are great, but how did they start? Was it initiated by the government or within the community?

◆ School Exchange with the School of Marine Science and Technology, Tokai University

- What are some of the effects of sand getting on plants due to erosion and how do you deal with invasive species? (question targeted at a Japanese student studying "seashore vegetation")
- What is the percentage of female students? What were some of the difficulties you faced as a woman during the training? (question targeted at a Japanese student majoring in nautical science)

◆ The 77 Bank, Ltd.

- What is the business scale of your bank's clients? I imagined that the scale would be large since you mentioned the bank is expanding overseas.
- Does your bank work with local communities or subsidiaries abroad on SDG initiatives?

◆ Japanese Calligraphy “Shodo”

- Do you think that using kanji, hiragana, and katakana individually or in combination changes the expression of your works? Do you think about combining them according to what you want to express?
- Does the quality of the brush and ink affect the quality of the works?
- Would the younger generation consider a calligraphy piece as a considerable gift?

4. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)

◆ Undergraduate Student (Cambodia)

It was a stimulating experience. The discussions highlighted key issues in maintaining maritime safety in the Asia-Pacific region, which is vital for both security and economic prosperity. I was particularly impressed by how international collaboration and legal frameworks such as UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea) play crucial roles in addressing maritime disputes and promoting peace. The program also reinforced the importance of balancing law enforcement with humanitarian principles, especially in rescue operations and safeguarding the rights of seafarers. It was insightful to hear from experts who provided practical examples of how Japan and ASEAN countries cooperate to ensure a safe and secure maritime environment.

◆ Graduate Student (the Philippines)

I enjoyed this program about maritime security and rule of law because it is related to my field in legal profession. Very informative. At the same time, it is also great that in most part of the program, Japanese culture was well introduced and merged.

◆ Undergraduate Student (Indonesia)

I am very happy because this program fills my days, and here is a place where I can hone my English skills and improve them again.

5. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

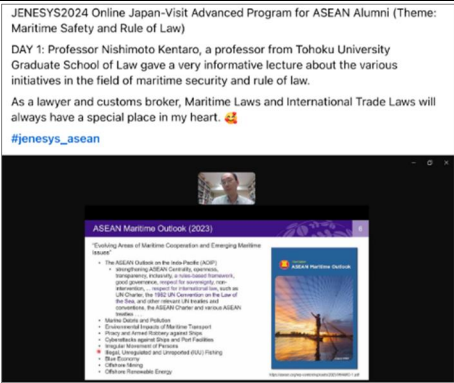
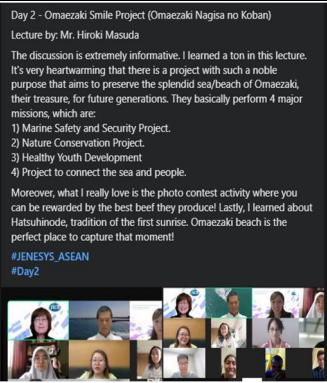
◆ Exchange School Students


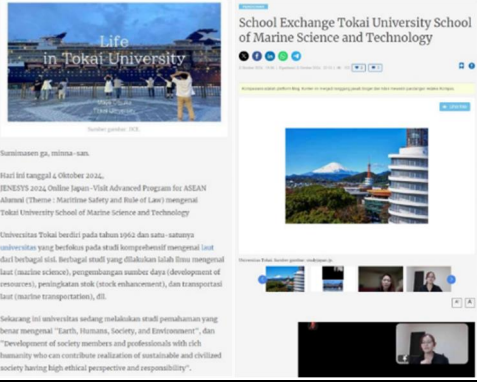
The participants eagerly answered all of my questions, and the participants from Timor-Leste and the Philippines were especially friendly. Not only did I want to exchange with them more online, but I felt the strong urge to actually to where they live.

◆ Lecturer

I am grateful for the opportunity to share the efforts of Northeast Japan and our bank to people from abroad. It was an exceptional opportunity.



6. Disseminations by the Participants (excerpt), Articles, etc.

	
<p>October 1, 2024 (Facebook)</p> <p>Graduate Student (the Philippines)</p> <p>JENESYS 2024 Online Japan-Visit Advanced Program for ASEAN Alumni (Maritime Safety and Rule of Law)</p> <p>DAY1: Professor Nishimoto Kentaro, a professor from Tohoku University Graduate School of Law gave a very informative lecture about the various initiatives in the field of maritime security and rule of law.</p> <p>As a lawyer and custom broker, Maritime Laws and International Trade Laws always have a special place in my heart.</p>	<p>October 2, 2024 (Facebook)</p> <p>Undergraduate Student (the Philippines)</p> <p>DAY2-Omaezaki Smile Project (Omaezaki Nagisa no Koban)</p> <p>Lecture by: Mr. Hiroki Masuda</p> <p>The discussion is extremely informative. I learned a lot in this lecture. It's very heartwarming that there is a project with such a noble purpose that aims to preserve the splendid sea/beach of Omaezaki, their treasure, for future generations. They basically perform 4 major missions, which are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Maritime Safety and Security Project 2) Nature Conservation Project 3) Healthy Youth Development 4) Project to connect the sea and people <p>Moreover, what I really love is the photo contest activity where you can be rewarded by the best beef they produce! Lastly, I learned about Hatsuinode, tradition of the first sunrise. Omaezaki beach is the perfect place to capture that moment!</p>

	
<p>October 3, 2024 (Facebook)</p> <p>The third day of JICE's International Exchange Programs. It was a great learning experiences to have such fruitful discussion with ASEAN and Japanese students, especially the Professor from Tokai University.</p>	<p>October 3, 2024 (kompasiana online)</p> <p>“School Exchange with Tokai University Students - Maritime Safety and Rule of Law”</p> <p>Online Japan-Visit Advanced Program for ASEAN Alumni (Maritime Safety and Rule of Law)</p> <p>About the School of Marine Science and Technology, Tokai University</p>

7. Presentations of Program Findings and Action Plans at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

Streaming locations: Shizuoka, Tokyo (Presentations by a total of 4 groups)

Group A1	
	
<p>【What we Learned】</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Learnings from the program: <p>We knew that Japan has advanced technology, rich culture, clean environment, and bustling cities, but through participating in this program, we also learned about the charm of the Tohoku region surrounded by the sea and mountains, and the beauty of Japanese calligraphy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Learnings about “Maritime Safety and Rule of Law”: <p>We had some basic understanding of maritime safety, mainly from international news regarding piracy, territorial disputes, and environmental concerns like pollution, however some members did not have a good understanding related to the theme.</p> <p>After this program we gained a better understanding of how the rule of law is applied in real maritime conflicts and how international collaboration can enhance the security and stability of maritime boundaries. We were impressed learning about Omaezaki Nagisa no Koban (Beach Police Box).</p>	

【Action Plan】

Each of the 5 members of our group will conduct separate action plans based of the following 5 topics.

- (1) Enhancing Maritime Security Awareness through Blog posts
- (2) Sharing about the Zoom Experience
- (3) Lecture on Maritime Security and Rule of Law
- (4) Seminar on Maritime Safety and Security
- (5) Connection Sea and the People "Beach Clean Up"

Group A2



【What we Learned】

◆ Learnings from the program:

I have been interested in learning more and have joined various activities regarding Japan such as Bon Odori Matsuri, Japanese folklore programmes organized by the Japan Foundation. From this program, we also made new friends at Tokai University and yes, we are Instagram friends!

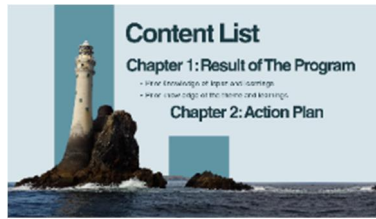
◆ Learnings about "Maritime Safety and Rule of Law":

We already knew that Japan is a great and advanced country especially for maritime and sea. Through this program, we learned a lot about the maritime security of countries in ASEAN and Japan, the Omaezaki Nagisa no Koban. We also learned that they conduct swimming training for young ages. I can learn how Japan authority is really concerned about the safety of its people.

【Action Plan】

Although I am now far away for college, my hometown, Panther Beach, is known as a spawning ground for sea turtles. There is a local organization called the "Sea Turtle Conservation Community," which is engaged in activities such as installing signs to protect the spawning grounds. If I have the opportunity to return to my hometown, I would like to become a volunteer member of this organization.

Group A3



【What we Learned】

◆ Learnings from the program:

We did not know about the Omaezaki Smile Project and 77 Bank before, but we learned a lot through this program. We also learned much about calligraphy, its history and the instruments used.

◆ Learnings about “Maritime Safety and Rule of Law”:

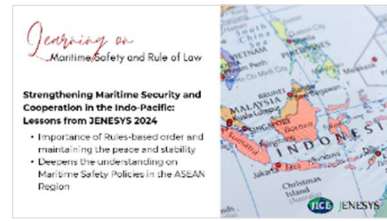
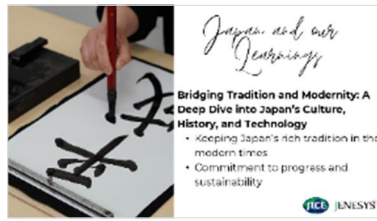
Maritime Security Involves a broad range of challenges for individual states and international cooperation. Upholding the rule of law at sea is fundamental in achieving maritime territorial sustainability and stability. UNCLOS, as an institution that focuses on maritime security and rule of law, does not only provide the conflict resolution mechanism through law but also fosters international security. We also discussed with Tokai University students on the MASS (Maritime Autonomous Surface Ships) Agreement between Indonesia and Japan.

【Action Plan】

Our members will carry out the following independent action plans.

- (1).Building Awareness on Maritime Safety and Rule of Law: Will write articles for school or local newspapers, make posts on social media, and share by word of mouth at school or in coffee shops.
- (2) Public Awareness Events: Will participate in beach cleaning activities and events with organizations and volunteers with the same mindset.
- (3) Maritime Safety Week: Together with organizations involved in marine safety in various countries, we will set up “Marine Safety Week/Day” to raise awareness through various activities.
- (4) Cooperation of the Community with Government Agencies: Led by the coast guard, the local community will survey the ocean with local government agencies.

Group A4



【What we Learned】

◆ Learnings from the program:

Japan has a diverse culinary culture across the country and long historical traditions while at the same time being technologically advanced and partaking in international cooperation efforts.

◆ Learnings about “Maritime Safety and Rule of Law”:

We learned about the importance of maintaining peace and stability based on the rule of law, gained a better understanding of maritime security policies in the ASEAN region, and learned how maritime security and cooperation in the Indo-Pacific can be strengthened. We also learned about the activities of the Omaezaki Nagisa no Koban project, which brings people and the sea together through a variety of marine activities conducted by the local community. We also learned that the efforts being made in Japan to protect and sustain marine ecosystems can also be applied in the ASEAN region, and that education for the younger generation is important.

【Action Plan】

(1) IEC Action Plan: Maritime Safety and Rule of Law through Social Media

The JENESYS 2024 online program will spearhead a monthly social media educational outreach campaign from October to December 2024, targeting youth, maritime professionals, coastal communities, and public institutions in the ASEAN region.

(2) School Presentation

The JENESYS alumni association will use visual information, social media, and event venues to communicate what they have learned in this program about maritime safety and the rule of law to students and interested faculty and staff at the school.

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)