

## JENESYS2024 Malaysia and Timor-Leste Joint Online Alumni Meeting Report

### 1. Program Overview

【Objectives and Overview】 This program was conducted to update the knowledge of past JENESYS participants from Malaysia or Timor-Leste on the cooperation between their countries and Japan by inviting representatives from universities and organizations that have projects in both countries as guest speakers. This allowed the participants to strengthen their mutual networks and increased their interest in Japan. The participants also exchanged opinions with one another in an effort to strengthen the alumni network.

#### 【Participants】

Total: 15 high school students to working youths from Malaysia and Timor-Leste that participated in past JENESYS Programs (participants from FY2015 to FY2024)

#### 【Locations】 Gifu 15, Fukui 15

#### 【Schedule】

■ Online Alumni Meeting: Nov. 15 (Fri), 2024

1. 【Opening Remarks】

2. 【Introduction Video on Studying Abroad in Japan】 “Introduction of Gifu University”

Lecturer: KUME Tetsuji, Professor, Faculty of engineering and graduate school of engineering, Gifu University

3. 【JDS<sup>(note)</sup> Fellow Presentation】

Presenters: Pereira Vosco (Gifu University, from Timor-Leste)

Freitas Ribeiro Bendito (Gifu University, from Timor-Leste)

(Note) JDS (The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship): A project implemented by the Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE) to accept young administrative officials as exchange students under a grant aid from the Japanese government.

4. 【Lecture】 “The Connections between Fukui and Malaysia”

Lecturer: Mohd Syairir Bin Abd Malek, President, Malaysia International Association

5. 【Commemorative Photo】

6. 【Group Discussions】

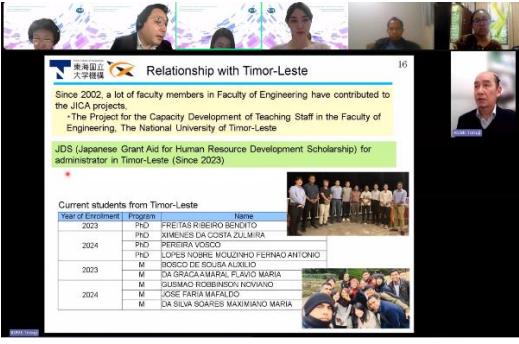
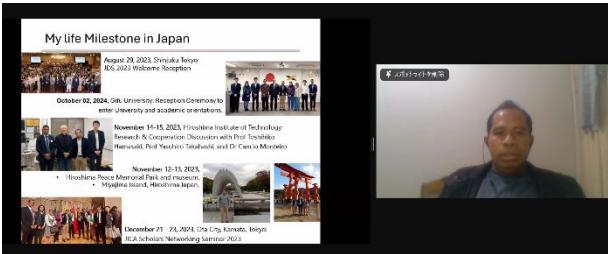
Theme: 1. What was the most interesting thing about today's program?

2. Do you have any activities as a JENESYS alumnus, or any plans or ideas for strengthening relations between Japan and your country?

7. 【Lecturers' Review】

8. 【Closing Remarks】

### 2. Program photos

	<p>2. Welcoming Environment for Southeast Asian Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gifu University has a growing community of international students, including many from Southeast Asia.</li> <li>Support systems, such as cultural orientation programs and student associations, offer guidance on living and studying in Japan, helping international students integrate smoothly.</li> </ul> 
<p>【Introduction Video on Studying Abroad in Japan】 “Introduction of Gifu University”</p>	<p>【JDS Fellow Presentation】 Presentation by Pereira Vosco</p>
	
<p>【JDS Fellow Presentation】 Presentation by Freitas Ribeiro Bendito</p>	<p>【Lecture】 “The Connections between Fukui and Malaysia”</p>
	
<p>【Group Discussions】</p>	<p>【Commemorative Photo】</p>

### 3. Participants' Inquiries and Interests (excerpt)

- ◆ Regarding the “The Connections between Fukui and Malaysia” lecture
  - Why did you choose Echizen Town in Fukui Prefecture as the location for your business?
  - It was very helpful to hear from Mr. Syairir that there are seminars on projects for international students who want to work in Japan after graduating, and that such projects led to the current activities of the NPO Malaysia International Association.

#### **4. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)**

##### **◆ Undergraduate (Malaysia)**

I really like the presentation from both Timor-Leste alumni because they told their experience of living in Japan to continue their study for PhD programs. It's wonderful to see there's actually possibility for SEA country especially the developing countries have the ability to further their study with the help of scholarship provided because living in Japan as a university student isn't cheap with all the tuition fees, cost of living, etc.

I also like the lecture provided about the admission to Gifu university and most of the course provided is under engineering. My interest to continue my study to Japan has increased because there's also a program provided with fully English lecture.

##### **◆ Undergraduate (Malaysia)**

Selected speakers have delivered their talks thoroughly with precise, detailed explanations that was conducted in casual but informative sessions. I was particularly impressed by their talks on exchange projects between elementary school students in Malaysia and Timor-Leste and Japan. I look forward to exploring further opportunities with scholars and other interested parties. Thank you very much.

##### **◆ Graduate Student (Timor-Leste)**

Thank you so much for organizing this program. I gained new insights about Gifu University and learned about admission to Gifu University and the Youth Leadership Exchange Program between Malaysia and Japan.

##### **◆ Working Youth (Timor-Leste)**

I gained valuable and meaningful information from today's alumni meeting. I also realized that we need to continue programs (like this one) in ways that are adapted to the circumstances and conditions in each country.

#### **5. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)**

##### **◆ Lecturer**

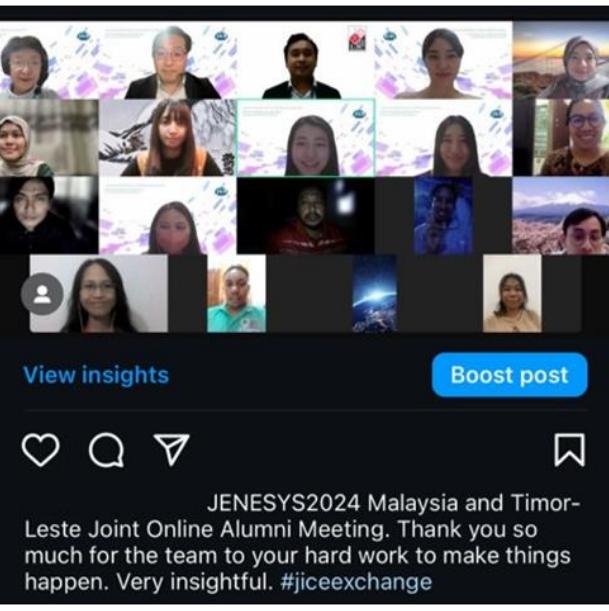
Participating in this program was a great opportunity. I hope I will have the opportunity to cooperate with the next international exchange program as well.

##### **◆ Lecturer**

It was a pleasure to cooperate with the JENESYS Program.

Thank you very much for the invitation. It was great to learn about this initiative to promote friendly exchanges with ASEAN Member States.

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

	<p>November 15, 2024 (Instagram) Graduate Student (Timor-Leste) JENESYS2024 Malaysia and Timor-Leste Joint Online Alumni Meeting. Thank you so much for the team to your hard work to make things happen. Very insightful.</p>
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## 7. Group Work Presentations

### Group Discussions

**Theme: 1. What was the most interesting thing about today's program?**

**2. Do you have any activities as a JENESYS alumni, or any plans or ideas for strengthening relations between Japan and your country?**

Malaysia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● What was the most interesting thing about today's program?<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The research and transition to life in Japan with programs catered.</li><li>2. The transition of academic life in Japan from degree to a master's research program.</li><li>3. Sharing on how masters and doctoral program are conducted in Japan. Most are done in fully research mode - different style from other countries.</li><li>4. Networking opportunity.</li><li>5. Education PhD conducted by the universities.</li><li>6. Technological advancement.</li><li>7. Food security among developed &amp; least nations.</li></ol></li><li>● Do you have any activities as a JENESYS alumnus, or any plans or ideas for strengthening relations between Japan and your country?<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. More access to cultural exploration activities (e.g. food, cooking traditions, games, festivities) that don't just focus in the central area, possibly in more universities through universities' international clubs. This can be done by first strengthening JENESYS alumni activities and networking, that can eventually open up doors to collaborations with our local universities and dispatch alumni staying around the universities as representatives for programmes.</li><li>2. Initiate a local organization or association for Malaysian alumni in each state or divided into region.</li></ol></li></ul>

For instance, Jenesys Malaysian southern region, (Negeri Sembilan to Johor or surroundings) Jenesys East Malaysia (Labuan, Sabah Sarawak); Northern & Selangor region (Perlis, Kelantan Kedah).

3. Cultural exchange program between the universities in Malaysia and Japan (can be online or offline)

4. Collaborating farming technique & introduce hybrid sweet potatoes from Malaysia with Japanese Murasaki for resilience and improve textures in flavor and taste by cross breeding and engagement with both institution of higher learning & research facilities.

#### **Timor-Leste**

1. What was the most interesting thing about today's program?

The information about Gifu University's support system for international students and research facilities was interesting and useful for those wishing to pursue higher education.

2. Do you have any activities as a JENESYS alumnus, or any plans or ideas for strengthening relations between Japan and your country?

We discussed our experiences at JENESYS and the initiatives we have undertaken since returning home (reforestation, beach cleanup, installation of rainwater drainage basins), and shared our experiences with each other.

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)