



**Juntos!! Japan-Latin America and the Caribbean Exchange Inbound Program
(SICA Cuba Group) Report**

Theme : Sustainable Development (Regional Revitalization)

1. Program Overview

【Objectives】 Since the political systems and economic conditions of each Central American country are diverse, "sustainable development" is a common goal that applies to all countries, and we have been providing support to local communities in each country through JICA and other organizations. Recently, in Japan, new initiatives for tourism development and local industry development in rural areas have been attracting attention, and the purpose of this event was to show the diversity of Japan by having people in charge of regional policy and local government officials from Central American countries observe new initiatives being taken by local governments and communities in Japan, as well as to encourage exchanges and relationship-building between local governments.

【Participants】

Total: 7 working youth from the following eight countries:

Guatemala, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, El Salvador, Panamá, Cuba

*in no particular order

【Location】

Tokyo, Hyogo

2. Program Schedule

■ **Pre-study program (online):**

January 21, 2025

Orientation before arriving in Japan, prior explanation on the Inbound Program Set period

■ **Inbound program :**

Sunday, February 16

Participants from Guatemala, Panama, Dominican Republic, and Costa Rica arrived at Narita airport

Participants from El Salvador and Cuba arrived at Haneda airport

Monday, February 17 Lecture and Courtesy call

【Theme related lecture】

Shinichi SATO, Director, Mexico, Central America and Caribbean Division, Latin

American and Caribbean Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
【Theme related lecture】
“Regional Revitalization through International Cooperation” JICA
【Courtesy call】
Ms. ERI Arfiya, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs

Tuesday, February 18 Traveling and observation
Move from Tokyo to Hyogo Pref.
Participant from Honduras arrived in Kansai International Airport
【Observation to theme-related facilities • Exchanges】
Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institute

Wednesday, February 19 Traveling, lecture and observation
Move from Kobe city to Toyooka city
【Theme related lecture】
Toyooka city hall “overview of city's activities for local agriculture”
Mr. Makoto Naniwa, , Director, Agriculture,, Forestry and Fisheries Division
Mr. Daiki Yamamoto, Assistant Director, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Division
Toyooka City

【Observation and lecture】
1. Yuri Cooperation
Overview of the cooration/ Observation _Factory visit
Mr. Yuri Shozaburo, President
2.Nakata Kogei Co., Ltd.
Overview of the corporation / Observation _Factory visit
Mr. Masaji Izaki, Manager

Thursday, February 20 Observation and traveling
【Theme related observation and lecture】
1. Hachigoro's Toshima Wetland
Lecture”Japanese policy and environment preservation”/Observation
Mr. Setsuo Satake, President
2. Kaneka Solartech Corporation
Ryo Shimizu, President
Move from Hyogo to Tokyo

Friday, February 21 Wrap up session

Saturday, February 22 Participants from Costa Rica, Cuba, Panama, Guatemala, Honduras
departed from Haneda Airport
Participants from El Salvador, and Dominican Republic departed from Narita airport

3. Program photos



Jan 21 【Pre-departure orientation】



Feb 17 【Lecture】 MOFA



Feb 17 【Theme related lecture】 JICA



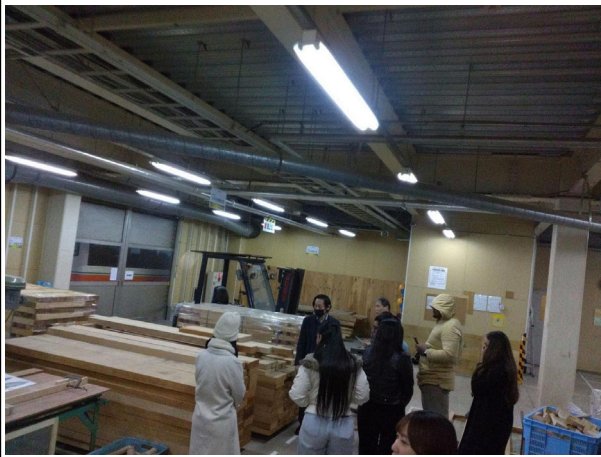
Feb 18 【Observation】 Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institute



Feb 19 【Lecture】 Toyooka city



Feb 19 【Observation】 Yuri cooperation



Feb 19 【Observation】 Nakata Kogei Cooperation



Feb 20 【Observation】 Hachigoro's Toshima Wetland



Feb 20 【Observation】 Kaneka Corporation



Feb 21 【Wrap up session】

4. Voices from Participants (excerpt)

◆ Working Youth (El Salvador)

We learned how to respect and conservation of natural resource and natural methods for enviroment conservation. In addition , we leaneed revitalization of the environment thorough research for effective execution.

◆ Working Youth (Panama)

We learned about the synergy between the public and private sectors in Japan. Also, we have learned supports throughout the business chain and local employment generation.

◆ Working Youth (Hondulus)

We have learned that the respect fo the enviroment is key to development discipline and order at the time of execution.

5. Action Plans Presented at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

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◆ Dominican Republic:

- Analysis of a preventive risk manual for the purpose of dissemination to the public through the newspaper.
- Education and Community Empowerment Projects
- Linking with entities through networks and alliances

◆ Cuba:

- Recycling practices and civic culture on solid waste
- Care of protected areas
- Entrepreneurship and local government development

◆ Costa Rica:

- Promote the Recycling and composting center
- Improve theCommunity gardens
- Cooperate between Entrepreneurship and local government

◆ Guatemala:

- Promote Sustainable Development in Marginalized Communities
- Improve urban sustainable development program: Job creation and Ecosystem services tourism

Implementation Agency: AFS Japan