

## JENESYS2025 Mekong Five Countries Online Alumni Meeting Follow-up Project Report

### 1. Program Overview

#### 【Objectives and Overview】

An online alumni meeting was held on Friday, August 22, for past participants of the JENESYS Program from five Mekong countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam). The objective of the alumni meeting was to help participants reconnect with Japan by having them learn about current exchange efforts, such as the G-DORM Student Exchange Program carried out by Niigata University in partnership with universities in the Mekong region. Through this session, participants were able to update their understanding of how Japan and their countries are working together. The program also aimed to strengthen the alumni network and encourage more active engagement among alumni in the region.

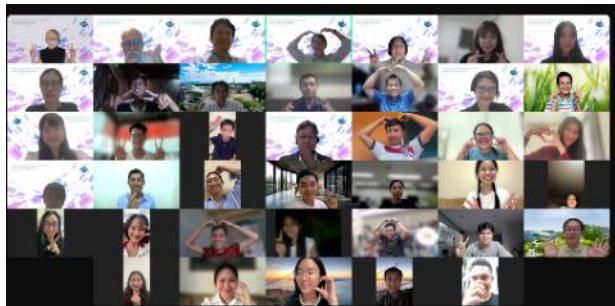
【Participants】 Total: 37 JENESYS ASEAN alumni from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam. (participants up to FY2024, from high school students to working youths)  
(Breakdown) Cambodia 12, Lao PDR 7, Myanmar 13, Thailand 2, Viet Nam 3

【Locations】 Niigata 37

#### 【Schedule】

- Online Alumni Meeting: August 22, 2025 (Fri)
- 1. Opening remarks
- 2. 【Address】 Ms. MORISHITA Moemi, Official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, First Southeast Asia Division, Southeast and Southwest Asian Affairs Department, Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, MOFA
- 3. 【Exchange among Participants】 Group discussions by country  
Theme:  
“Let’s share the Japan Around You! – Moments You Feel Connected to Japan in Everyday Life”
- 4. 【Exchange among Participants】 Sharing what was discussed in the main room
- 5. 【Introduction of Activities of Japanese Organizations in Mekong Countries】  
Lecture: “Introduction of Niigata University”  
Lecturer: Professor BABA Akira, Vice Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Niigata University  
Lecture: “Global Project-Based Learning with Industry-Academia Collaboration Fostering Global Competencies: Practices of Niigata University in Japan”  
Lecturer: Associate Professor UEDA Yasutaka, Faculty of Engineering, Niigata University
- 6. Q&A session
- 7. Commemorative photo
- 8. 【Exchange among Participants】 Creating a message board  
Theme: “What does JENESYS mean to you?”
- 9. Closing remarks

## 2. Program Photos

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|                                                                                                                                                   |                                          |
| <p>【Address】 Ms. MORISHITA Moemi, Official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, First Southeast Asia Division, Southeast and Southwest Asian Affairs Department, Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, MOFA</p>                        | <p>【Exchange among Participants】<br/>Group discussions by country</p>                                                      |
|                                                                                                                                                   |                                          |
| <p>【Exchange among Participants】<br/>Sharing what was discussed in the main room</p>                                                                                                                                               | <p>【Introduction of Activities of Japanese Organizations in Mekong Countries】<br/>“Introduction of Niigata University”</p> |
|                                                                                                                                                 |                                        |
| <p>【Introduction of Activities of Japanese Organizations in Mekong Countries】<br/>“Global Project-Based Learning with Industry-Academia Collaboration Fostering Global Competencies: Practices of Niigata University in Japan”</p> | <p>【Q&amp;A Session】</p>                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                 |                                        |
| <p>【Commemorative Photo】</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>【Exchange among Participants】<br/>Creating a message board</p>                                                          |

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

- How do the Faculty of Engineering's research strengths and the G-DORM program <sup>(Note)</sup> synergize to prepare students for future global challenges, particularly in sustainability and technology innovation?
- The G-DORM program fosters globally minded talent through collaboration with Mekong region universities. What are the most significant outcomes or success stories from this program so far, and how do you measure its impact on students' global competencies? How can it contribute to universities located in low-middle-income countries in the Mekong region?
- When students from different countries and cultures participate in the G-DORM program, what kinds of challenges have you observed, and how do you overcome them?

(Note) G-DORM (Global Dormitory) Program (Niigata University): This is an exchange project in which students from Niigata University and four universities in the Mekong region form teams that transcend nationality, academic field, and year level. The teams engage primarily in internship-based activities in either Niigata or the Mekong region. The program aims to foster global leaders in science and engineering through the resolution of regional issues.

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

#### ◆ Working Youth (Thailand)

The lecturers spoke slowly and clearly, which allowed me to fully understand their presentations in Japanese without needing interpretation.

Also, the educational efforts introduced by the speakers were useful for my students, who are learning to become Japanese language teachers. I would like to share the information with them.

#### ◆ Undergraduate Student (Myanmar)

We were able to gain a lot of knowledge about the G-DORM educational program between a university in the Magway region of Myanmar and Niigata University. This program is a highly beneficial system for sustainable development, and we hope it will continue to grow in a more long-term and stable way in the future.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone at Niigata University who kindly shared detailed information about such a wonderful educational program.

#### ◆ Working Youth (Lao PDR)

Thank you very much, Professor Baba and Associate Professor Ueda, for introducing Niigata University, its activities, and the G-DORM program. I especially appreciated your response to my question about the challenges and outcomes of G-DORM — it was very insightful and helped me better understand how the program supports students and regional collaboration.

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

#### ◆ Lecturer

As an institution, we are working to increase the number of international students through both full-degree programs and exchange opportunities. In this context, we were grateful for the opportunity to introduce our university to a wider audience.

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

|                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | <p>August 25, 2025 (Facebook)</p> <p>Undergraduate Student (Myanmar)</p> <p>It's such an honor to be one of the alumni of this wonderful program. JENESYS has given me incredible experiences and deeper understanding of the connections between Japan and Mekong countries.</p> |
|   | <p>August 22, 2025 (Instagram)</p> <p>High School Student (Myanmar)</p> <p>JENESYS 2025</p> <p>Mekong Five Countries Online Alumni Meeting</p> <p>Thank you so much.</p>                                                                                                          |
|  | <p>August 26, 2025 (Facebook page for the G-Dorm Project of the Faculty of Engineering, Niigata University)</p> <p>Our professors introduced the G-DORM Project in the JENESYS2025 Mekong Five Countries Online Alumni Meeting!</p>                                               |

## 7. Group Work Presentations (excerpt)

Theme: "Let's share the Japan Around You! – Moments You Feel Connected to Japan in Everyday Life"

| Cambodia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>"សូមចែករំលែកអំពីប្រទេសជប៉ុនដែលនៅជុំវិញអ្នក! ~ នៅពេលដែលអ្នកមានអារម្មណ៍ថាមានទំនាក់ទំនងជាមួយប្រទេសជប៉ុនក្នុងជីវិតប្រចាំថ្ងៃរបស់អ្នក~"</p> <p>-&gt; កម្មវិធី JENESYS បានផ្តល់ឱកាសដល់អនុស្សរិយសម្រាប់ខ្ញុំ ដែលពួកយើងនៅបន្តទំនាក់ទំនងអន្តរជាតិតាមរយៈsocial media និងអាចបន្តការរៀនសូត្រគំនូរជាពិសេស គ្នាតាមអនឡាញតាម topic ជាច្រើន (JENESYS program creates long-lasting positive impacts for us all) មិត្តភាព និងមេរៀនបន្សល់ទុកពីកម្មវិធីបានដើរតួនាទីយ៉ាងសំខាន់ក្នុងការសម្រាប់ការសិក្សាជាប្រចាំថ្ងៃនិងធ្វើការដោយមានស្មារតីឆ្នុះខ្ពស់</p> <p>-&gt; ការចងចាំបទពិសោធន៍homestay យ៉ាងដ៏ប្លែក និងការទទួលបាន បទពិសោធន៍ថ្មីៗជាច្រើនជាមួយមិត្តជនជាតិជប៉ុននិងប្រទេសនានានៅប្រទេសជប៉ុន + អនុស្សរិយ របស់បង្វេរ ពីការចូលរួម celebrate 50th Year Japan-ASEAN Friendship and Cooperation</p> <p>-&gt; ជីវិតប្រចាំថ្ងៃដ៏ល្អ ផ្សារទំនើបអ៊ីអន សម្ភារប្រើប្រាស់ប្រចាំថ្ងៃ ថវិកាអាហារមកពីប្រទេសជប៉ុន ធ្វើឱ្យខ្ញុំរំលឹកដល់ការដែលបានចូលរួមកម្មវិធី JENESYS Exchange program នៅប្រទេសជប៉ុន</p> <p>-&gt; ការវិនិយោគរបស់ប្រទេសជប៉ុនមាន ស្មាន ផ្លូវ ការរស់នៅ lifestyle ដែលមានឥទ្ធិពលពី technology and innovation របស់ប្រទេសជប៉ុន ជួយសម្រួលការរស់នៅរបស់យើង (appreciation for support and influence from Japan on the development of Cambodia toward better lifestyles of Cambodian citizens like daily transportation and strong work ethics)</p> <p>-&gt; ជំនួយពីប្រទេសជប៉ុនតាមរយៈអង្គការ និងរដ្ឋាភិបាល</p> | <p>The JENESYS Program connects us internationally through social media, continues to teach us many things even now, and has had a lasting positive impact on all its participants. Among these connections,</p> |





## Thailand

"แชร์ข้อมูลเกี่ยวกับญี่ปุ่นรอบตัวเรากันเถอะ! ~ เวลาคุณรู้สึกเชื่อมโยงกับญี่ปุ่นในชีวิตประจำวันของคุณ ~"

- ไปตั้งแต่ 2016 เป็นโครงการรอบรอบพิเศษ มีแต่ครูเท่านั้น
- เป็นครูสอนภาษาญี่ปุ่น และสอนภาษาไทย
- โครงการชิงกิ ญี่ปุ่น 1 ปี เพื่อกลับมาสอน
- Host family เป็นโฮสไฟล์สำคัญ
- จังหวัดนารา
- แอโรบิคตอนเช้า รำจิโอะ
- พิเศษเพราะว่าที่ผ่านมา เราเรียนแต่ตำรา แต่การเรียนที่ดี ต้องสอนวัฒนธรรมด้วย
- เรียนการจับดอกลีป๊อมาอยู่ไทยก็ได้ลองจับดอกลีป๊อให้นักเรียนไทย ลองจับดอกลีป๊อแบบญี่ปุ่น
- Jenesys 2024 มกราคม 1 สัปดาห์
- ใช้ชีวิตกับครอบครัวเจ้าภาพที่ Tochigi
- หัวข้อ การศึกษา และการอนุรักษ์วัฒนธรรม
- แชร์ผ่าน social media หลังจบโครงการ

The participants in our group shared their connections with Japan, specifically memories from their time in the JENESYS Invitation Program.

### ◆ Japanese Language Teacher Participant

In addition to participating in the 2016 JENESYS Program, I studied in Japan for a year through the Shingi Program to become a Japanese language teacher in Thailand. The highlight of the JENESYS Program for me was meeting my host family in Nara Prefecture, and will never forget participating in morning radio-taiso (exercises) together with them.

I used to study only from textbooks, but I now believe that to learn a language, you should also get to know the culture of that country. In Thailand, I had students experience ikebana.

### ◆ Student participant

I participated in the JENESYS program in January 2024. During my stay, I did a homestay in Tochigi Prefecture and stayed with my host family. After returning home, I was able to share a lot of information about Japan.

## Viet Nam

"Hãy chia sẻ những câu chuyện về Nhật Bản xảy ra xung quanh bạn! ~ Những khoảnh khắc trong cuộc sống hàng ngày mà bạn cảm thấy gắn bó với Nhật Bản ~"

### Notes:

- Những thông tin về Nhật Bản thường xuyên nghe và nhắc nhiều nhất là sự kiên cường của con người và thiên tai -> VN học hỏi được nhiều, trên truyền thông đại chúng, những câu chuyện Huy nghe về cách người dân chống chịu với thiên tai và vượt qua như thế nào (Disaster Prevention).
- Đồ dùng và công nghệ Nhật Bản trong đời sống: Ở VN, sản phẩm Nhật Bản rất quen thuộc từ xe máy Honda, Yamaha, đến các sản phẩm Panasonic, Toshiba -> Trình độ khoa học CN cao, các đồ dùng và công nghệ Nhật Bản được ứng dụng nhiều trong đời sống
- Văn hoá đại chúng nhật bản (Anime, Manga, Ghibli, J-POP): Anime và manga đã trở thành 1 phần tuổi thơ và thanh xuân của nhiều bạn trẻ VN: Naruto, Doraemon, One Piece, Conan và mới đây nhất là Thanh gươm diệt quỷ (Kimetsu no Yaiba). Các lễ hội cosplay, giao lưu văn hoá phát triển mạnh mẽ. Giải trí thì Huy có thích bộ Anime - Kimetsu No Yaiba, bộ phim phản ánh về giá trị nhân văn của người Nhật, cũng như giáo dục được tình thương. Vẫn luôn chờ đợi các tập tiếp theo. Văn hóa Nhật Bản đã ảnh hưởng đến định hướng và sự tiếp thu của Huy.
- Giáo dục tiên tiến: một số trường đại học/cấp 3 ở VN hiện nay đang dạy tiếng Nhật như ngoại ngữ 2, tạo cơ hội cho sinh viên tìm hiểu sâu hơn về đất nước. Có nhiều chương trình học bổng, trao đổi học sinh/sinh viên như JENESYS/MEXT giúp sinh viên VN và ĐNA sang Nhật trải nghiệm. Các alumni người Việt cũng góp phần lan tỏa thông điệp từ chương trình.
- Hợp tác kinh tế: Thiết lập đối tác chiến lược toàn diện vào năm 2023, mở ra chương quan hệ mới Việt Nam - Nhật Bản về nhiều lĩnh vực
- Đồ ăn và sự kỉ luật về thời gian. Từ 2022, Huy bắt đầu rất thích ăn Sasimi và biết kỉ luật thời gian cho mình. Trong đó, tất cả những trải nghiệm này luôn là bài học để nhớ lại và tiếp tục cải thiện. Văn hoá trà đạo, nghệ thuật cắm hoa (ikebana), võ thuật judo, karate cũng có mặt trong đời sống Việt
- Môi trường là yếu tố hàng đầu rất ấn tượng với Nhật, không khí rất trong lành. Minh từng đặt câu hỏi: phải chỉ có cơ hội ghé thăm Nhật Bản lần nữa?

- Much of what people hear about Japan through mass media revolves around the resilience of its people and their response to natural disasters. In Viet Nam, Japanese products are very common in Viet Nam due to their high technological standards. From Honda and Yamaha motorcycles to Panasonic and Toshiba appliances, Japanese products can be found all over in daily life.
- For many Vietnamese youths, Japanese pop culture (anime, manga, Ghibli films, J-POP, etc.) has become a part of their childhood. Naruto, Doraemon, One Piece, Detective Conan, and more recently, Demon Slayer are very popular, and many feel that they reflect the human values and nurturing through love culture of Japan and its people.
- Currently, some universities and high schools in Viet Nam teach Japanese as a second foreign

language, providing opportunities to learn more deeply about Japan. International exchange and study abroad programs like JENESYS and the Japanese Government Scholarship Program (MEXT) are also available, increasing opportunities for Vietnamese and Southeast Asian students to study in Japan. Vietnamese alumni associations also play a role in promoting these programs.

- Economic cooperation between our two countries is closely coordinated. The establishment of a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2023 opened a new chapter in Viet Nam-Japan relations, promoting cooperation across numerous fields.

## 8. Message Board Messages Created during the Exchange among Participants (excerpt)

Theme: "What does JENESYS mean to you?"



- A wonderful experience for me and my friends. JENESYS brought us, ASEAN, Timor and Japan together. Will always be in my heart.
- JENESYS means a lot especially in the learning field, connection building, and for friendships across the board. It's like being given both a window to see the world and a mirror to reflect on how I can contribute to it.
- JENESYS means connection and inspiration to me, it gave me the chance to learn new perspectives, build friendships across countries, and deepen my awareness of global and regional issues.
- JENESYS gives me incredible experiences between cultures and different people. It can shape me into a person who loves to engage globally.
- JENESYS means connecting with citizens from different nations and sharing ideas. It enhances our creativity and knowledge of multiple topics and universities. Furthermore, it allows us to openly describe our ideas and opinions about different topics.
- JENESYS gave me an unforgettable memory to contribute in both science and culture exchanges as well as to strengthen connection between Cambodia and Japan. Thank you for your support for our youth.

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)