

JENESYS2025 Indonesia-Japan Political, Cultural and Marine Related Exchange for Young Diplomats and Government Officials (Invitation Program) Report

1. Program Overview

【Objectives and Overview】

This program was conducted to provide the younger generation of Indonesia with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of Japan's foreign policy and key domestic policies related to politics and the economy through lectures and discussions, and to help them build networks with relevant stakeholders. Recognizing that some participants were involved in maritime administration, site visits and case studies related to Japan's maritime security and fisheries were also included to promote a multifaceted understanding of Japan and to strengthen friendship and cooperation.

【Participants】 Total: 15 participants (young diplomats and government officials, including provincial officials from Papua; professionals in marine conservation and the ocean economy)

【Locations】 Tokyo 15, Miyagi 15, Iwate 15

【Schedule】

■ Online Pre-study Program :

Jan. 27 (Tue) **【Pre-departure Orientation】**

Set Period Prior to Arrival **【 Task-based Learning (VOD) 】** “Overview/Mission”, “Virtual Home Visit”, “Message from Minamisanriku”, “Study Japanese Culture in Kyoto”, “The Host Town Initiative”, “Learning Japanese”

■ Invitation Program :

Feb. 3 (Tue) Arrival at Narita International Airport

【Post-arrival Orientation】

【Courtesy Call】 Ms. SUNOHARA Yuko, Assistant Director, Southeast Asian Affairs Department, Second Southeast Asia Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

【Observation】 Asakusa

Feb. 4 (Wed) **【Lecture】** “Overview of Japan Coast Guard Operations”

Lecturer: Mr. TAMARI Kosaburo, Section Chief, Administration Department International Strategy Division, Planning Section, Japan Coast Guard

【Theme Related Observation】 Japan Coast Guard Museum YOKOHAMA

【Observation】 Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse

Feb. 5 (Thu) Travel from Tokyo to Miyagi

	【Courtesy Call】 Mr. TAKAHASHI Masashi, Director, International Affairs Division, Miyagi Prefectural Government
Feb. 6 (Fri)	【Observation】 Kesennuma Library 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. SUGAWARA Shigeru, Mayor of Kesennuma City 【Cultural Experience】 Iwaisaki Salt Making Experience Center
Feb. 7 (Sat)	【Meeting with the Host Families】 【Homestay】 Rikuzentakata City
Feb. 8 (Sun)	【Farewell Ceremony with the Host Families】 【Workshop】 Preparations for the Reporting Session (summarizing program findings, confirming social media posts, preparation of action plans)
Feb. 9 (Mon)	Travel from Iwate to Tokyo 【Reporting Session】 Presentations of Program Findings and Action Plans
Feb. 10 (Tue)	Departure from Narita International Airport

2. Program Photos

Invitation Program

	
February 3, 2026 【Courtesy Call】 Ms. SUNOHARA Yuko, Assistant Director, Southeast Asian Affairs Department, Second Southeast Asia Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan	February 3, 2026 【Observation】 Asakusa
	
February 4, 2026 【Lecture】 “Overview of Japan Coast Guard Operations”	February 4, 2026 【Theme Related Observation】 Japan Coast Guard Museum YOKOHAMA

	
February 5, 2026 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. TAKAHASHI Masashi, Director, International Affairs Division, Miyagi Prefectural Government	February 5, 2026 【Observation】 Kesennuma Library
	
February 6, 2026 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. SUGAWARA Shigeru, Mayor of Kesennuma City	February 6, 2026 【Cultural Experience】 Iwaisaki Salt Making Experience Center
	
February 7, 2026 【Homestay】	February 8, 2026 【Farewell Party with the Host Families】
	
February 8, 2026 【Workshop】	February 9, 2026 【Reporting Session】 Group photo

3. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)

◆ **Government Official (Maritime Security Agency)**

The homestay left the deepest impression on me. The experience was definitely the highlight of the entire program. Participating in the series of JENESYS activities gave me meaningful opportunities to learn about and grow familiar with the qualities of Japanese people the country's unique culture. I came to appreciate the values woven into everyday life: keeping to schedules, maintaining a clean and orderly environment, treating others with respect, and showing consideration for the people around you. The itinerary was carefully planned, with thoughtful preparation that ensured we were always ready for the next step. I was also amazed by how everyone took home their own garbage and made sure to keep things clean.

There were also Japanese customs that I encountered for the first time during my stay, such as brushing teeth after meals and gargling upon returning home. I found both practices to be very hygienic, and I felt that these habits help create a pleasant, comfortable atmosphere for communication and interaction.

What moved me the most during the trip was how welcoming everyone was and how they truly respected our presence. People would greet us at the entrance when we arrived, and when we left, they would see us off until we were completely out of sight. I truly felt the warmth of Japan as a country.

◆ **Government Official (Maritime Security Agency)**

The most memorable visit during the program was observing the Japan Coast Guard's comprehensive approach to maritime security, which integrates advanced technologies with highly trained personnel to safeguard Japan's coastal and ocean areas. This experience showed me that, in an increasingly complex maritime environment, strong interagency coordination and continuous capacity-building are essential to ensuring safety and security at sea.

◆ **Diplomat**

Gaining the opportunity to visit public facilities and government institutions in Japan allowed me to deepen my understanding of the country. It became a valuable experience to see beyond the obvious, giving me insight into how Japan came to be the way it is. Among all these experiences, the one that left the strongest impression on me was the homestay. In Japan, I met a new "family," people I now feel I can call my Otosan (father) and Okasan (mother). It has become a precious memory that will stay with me for the rest of my life.

◆ **Diplomat**

Visiting Rikuzentakata and being taken to the East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Memorial Museum by my host family left a deep impression on me. Through what I learned there, we gained a new appreciation for how people in Japan approach their work with a strong sense of responsibility, how they look ahead and consider solutions, and how they continuously prepare themselves to act swiftly in times of disaster.

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

◆ Host Family

I was quite nervous to welcome a guest from abroad into my home, but once the homestay began, we ended up having a wonderful time together. Even after it was over, the excitement I felt outweighed any tiredness. Despite the language barrier, I realized how much we can understand each other through expressions and behavior.

◆ Host Family

Before the homestay, I was worried about the differences in language and culture, but in the end, it turned out to be a very enjoyable experience. They cooked nasi goreng and tahu goreng, two amazing Indonesian dishes for us!

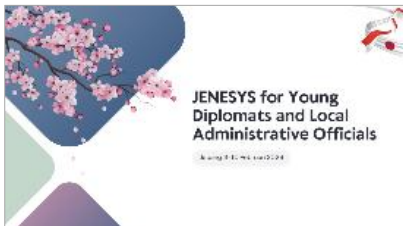
5. Disseminations by the Participants (excerpt), Articles, etc.

	
February 5, 2026 (Instagram) Government Official (Maritime Security Agency) JAPAN COAST GUARD DAY Learning how Japan protects its seas and uncovering a real maritime security story at the JCG Museum: a past incident involving a suspicious vessel that chose self-bombed rather than capture. A powerful reminder of how complex maritime security can be. grateful for the insights	February 9, 2026 (Instagram) Diplomat Kesennuma City Library Kesennuma's warmly welcoming the JENESYS ASEAN participants. Indonesia contributed \$2 million to support Kesennuma's recovery. One of the results is this library, a safe space where the community gathers and strengthens one another after the 2011 tsunami. Inside the library stands the Balai Anak Persahabatan Yudhoyono, a symbol of the close friendship between Indonesia-Japan. The library also provides a playground and gymnastics for toddlers, reflecting the government's strong support for mothers and families. because recovery is not only about rebuilding cities, but also nurturing future generations

	
February 7,2026 (Instagram) Diplomat Honored to represent the JENESYS ASEAN delegation to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for our visit to Kesennuma City, as well as for the warm and gracious reception, directly to the Mayor of Kesennuma City, Mr. Shigeru Sugawara.	February 7,2026 (Instagram) Government Official (Maritime Security Agency) The homestay with a local family was the most memorable experience for me. We stayed with an elderly couple in their 80s, and the time we spent with them became truly irreplaceable. They welcomed us with such warmth, and we shared so many moments of laughter and joy together. They treated us as if we were their own grandchildren, showering us with kindness and affection. It was a wonderful experience, and I am deeply grateful for the time we were able to share.

6. Presentations of Program Findings and Action Plan at the Reporting Session (excerpt)

Locations: Tokyo, Miyagi, Iwate – Presentation by 1 group

		
【Results of the Program】 ◆ Learnings from the program While Japan's advanced technological capabilities met the expectations we had of a leading industrial nation, it was through the program activities and our homestays that we came to better understand the people of Japan. Contrary to the common perception of Japanese society being individualistic and somewhat closed off, the people we met were remarkably friendly and warm, placing great value on		

family and community ties, always putting others before themselves, extremely responsible and full of hospitality.

◆ Learnings about the theme: “Cultural and Marine Related Exchange”

Japan demonstrates a high level of environmental awareness, particularly with respect to its oceans and port areas, resulting in remarkably clean coastal environments. The country also maintains a strong culture of disaster preparedness. We believe this is supported not only by the extensive network of local museums and information centers, but also by the fact that their exhibits go beyond simple displays to offer meaningful, thoughtfully designed content that deepens public understanding.

【Action Plan】

1. “Marine Debris Awareness Patrol”

Description: Conduct inspections of marine debris in collaboration with local fishing vessels.

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

Schedule: First week of May 2026

Target Group: Fishing vessels in the Maluku Islands

2. “Port Cleanliness Initiative”

Description: Carry out cleaning activities within port areas and promote awareness on proper waste separation.

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Transportation

Schedule: April 2026

Target Group: Departments responsible for port sanitation and maintenance

3. “Marine Conservation Month”

Description: Conduct beach-cleaning activities.

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

Schedule: April 2026

Target Group: Residents in the coastal areas of Cilacap and Teluk Penyu, Central Java

4. “What I Can Do, What You Can Do”

Description: Conduct beach-cleaning activities.

Responsible Agency: Siau Tagulandang Biaro Regency (Sitaro Regency)

Schedule: April 2026

Target Group: Children living in coastal communities of Sitaro Regency

5. “SAR Goes to School”

Description: Implement disaster preparedness training (earthquake and fire drills) to help students develop the ability to protect themselves.

Responsible Agency: National Search and Rescue Agency of Indonesia (BASARNAS)

Schedule: April 2026

Target Group: Elementary and junior high schools in the Greater Jakarta area

6. “Floating Library for Children!”

Description: Improve existing library and medical-service boats operating in coastal areas of Jakarta—

enhancing children's book collections and expanding dedicated play spaces.

Responsible Agency: Indonesian Water Police

Schedule: March 2026

Target Group: Preschool and school-age children in the coastal communities of the Thousand Islands (Kepulauan Seribu), Jakarta

7. "Kaizen for Daily Life"

Description: Promote daily habits such as brushing teeth, home gardening, and being ready five minutes early.

Responsible Agency: Indonesian Coast Guard (Bakamla)

Schedule: March 2026

Target Group: JENESYS participants and their families

8. "Foreign Language Challenge"

Description: Utilize various media to support the acquisition and improvement of foreign-language skills.

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries

Schedule: March 2026

Target Group: JENESYS participants

9. "Lunch Club Share Session"

Description: Share insights and lessons learned through the JENESYS program.

Responsible Agency: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Schedule: Third week of February 2026

Target Group: Supervisors, colleagues, and interns of the Foreign Policy Strategy Bureau

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)