

Applying the Peacebuilding Knowledge in the Field and Accumulating Experience

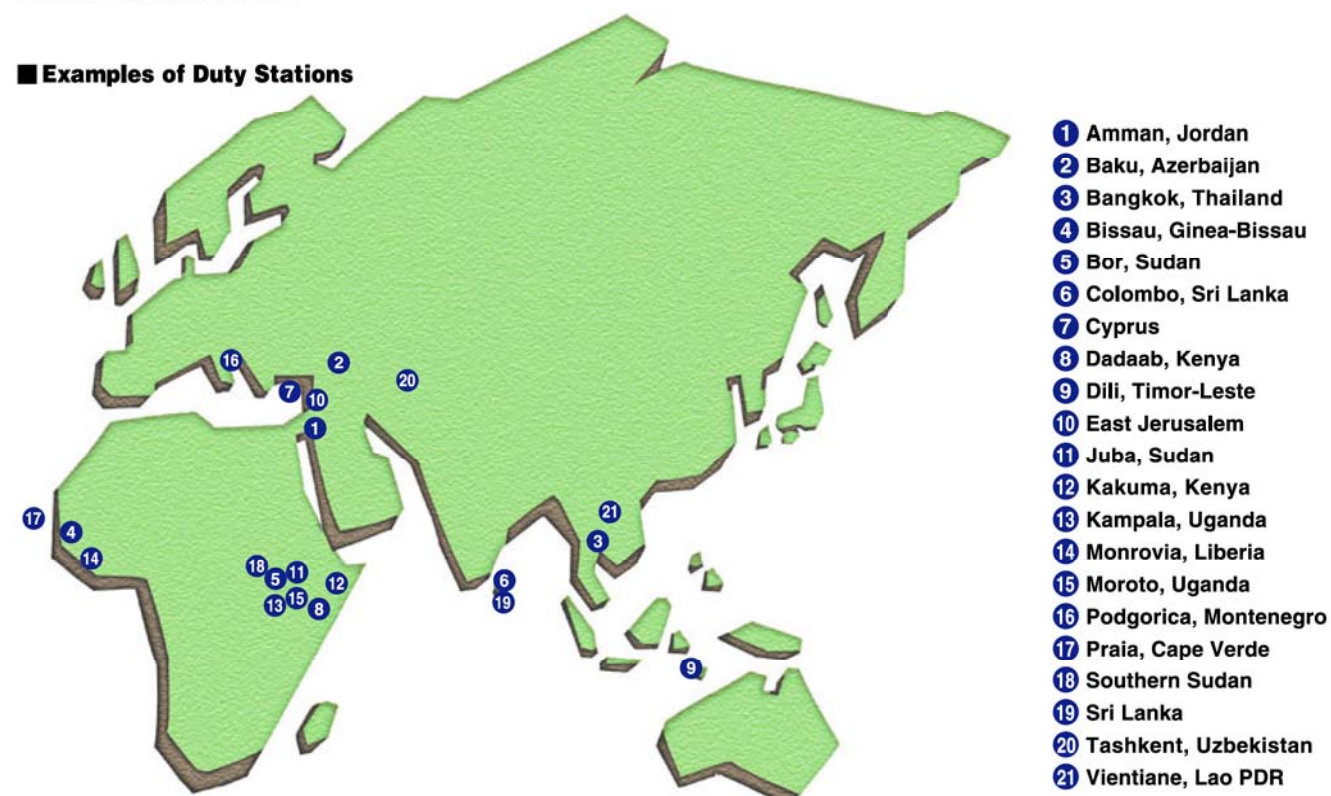
Overseas Attachment : Primary Course and Senior Specialist Course

For Program Associates who have completed the Coursework in Japan, the Overseas Attachment serves as a stepping stone opportunity to test their knowledge and gain first-hand experience at peacebuilding-related organizations worldwide. The field experience helps them pave the career path to becoming a professional peacebuilder. The maximum duration of the Overseas Attachment in the Primary Course is 12 months (6 months for Program Associates from other Asian countries). The Overseas Attachment is also arranged for Japanese Senior Program Associates for 12 months in principle. Program Associates' preferences for areas of work and their qualifications are taken into consideration before their duty stations are finalized. For JFY 2009, the overall administration of the Overseas Attachment has been provided by United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV).

The JFY 2009 Program Associates have been dispatched since early 2010 to areas such as Southern Sudan and Timor-Leste and are now working at duty stations including those of the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Since their assignments at these duty stations can last for a maximum of one year, the Program Associates will continue their Overseas Attachment for the most part of JFY 2010. The program continues to support them throughout the duration of their assignments, and aims to send more future peacebuilders across the world.



Examples of Duty Stations



Examples of Duty Stations and Responsibilities Arranged for Primary Course

(As of early March 2010: Agency, Assignment Title, and Duty Station may change.)

Agency	Assignment Title	Duty Station
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Humanitarian Affairs Officer	Juba, Sudan
	Peace & Development Analyst	Cyprus
	Citizens' Participation Programme Officer	Podgorica, Montenegro
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Inter-Community Youth Relationships Officer	Dadaab, Kenya
	Associate Protection Officer	Bor, Sudan
	Peacebuilding Officer	Kakuma, Kenya
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Child Protection and HIV/AIDS and Children Programmes	Vientiane, Lao PDR
	Communication Officer	Kampala, Uganda
	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	Baku, Azerbaijan
	Emergency Education Officer	Dili, Timor Leste
	Education Officer	Moroto, Uganda
Office of the Deputy-Special Representative of the Secretary-General (DSRSG/UN Resident Coordinator)	Special Assistant to DSRSG/RC	Bissau, Guinea-Bissau
United Nations Office of Funds and Programmes (Resident Coordinator's Office)	Communication Associate	Praia, Cape Verde
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	DDR Planning Officer	Colombo, Sri Lanka
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	Legal Officer	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Associate Nutrition Officer	Bangkok, Thailand
	Civil Affairs Expert	Monrovia, Liberia
United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO)*	DDR Reporting Officer	Southern Sudan
	Return, Reintegration and Recovery Officer	Southern Sudan
	Human Rights Officer	Dili, Timor Leste

*Serving as members of UN peacekeeping missions after completing the program.



Examples of Duty Stations and Responsibilities Arranged for Senior Specialist Course

(As of early March 2010: Agency, Assignment Title, and Duty Station may change.)

Agency	Assignment Title	Duty Station
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Monitoring, Reporting, and Evaluation Analyst	East Jerusalem
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Sr. UNV (Public Health)	Amman, Jordan
United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)	Capacity Building Experts	Vientiane, Lao PRD
	Program Officer in Peacebuilding	Sri Lanka



Intellectual Contributions

Symposium / Expert Forum



In Tokyo

Public Symposium and Expert Forum on “Building Civilian Peacebuilders”

HPC hosted a two-day symposium entitled “Building Civilian Peacebuilders: Japan's Assistance to Afghanistan and Beyond” on February 22 and 23, 2010. About 30 officials and experts from Afghanistan and various other countries, international organizations, NGOs, academia, and media were invited as speakers and panelists. The symposium's audience totaled about 120 individuals.

The first day of the symposium focused on Japan's civilian contributions to Afghanistan, as well as current situations and challenges faced by the Afghan government. The second day centered around discussions on ways to enhance the development and deployment of civilian peacebuilders worldwide.

On February 24, an expert forum was held as a follow-up session for invited guests and HPC Program Associates. It served to further strengthen the international network of peacebuilding practitioners and facilitated an active exchange of information and experience.

February 22 (Mon) : Public Symposium I

Opening Remarks

Koichi Takemasa (State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan)

Keynote Speeches

Kenji Isezaki (Chair, Board of Directors, Peacebuilders / Professor, Graduate School of Global Studies, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies); **Roland Paris** (University Research Chair in International Security and Governance, University of Ottawa); **Humayun Hamidzada** (Deputy Minister of Finance, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan); **Richard Ponzio** (Senior Strategy and Policy Officer, Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, U.S. Department of State)

Plenary Discussion

—Special Session—

“Japan's Engagement in Afghanistan and Its Future”

MC: Hideki Shinoda (Director, HPC); **Yuji Uesugi** (Program Officer, HPC)
Panelists (in alphabetical order): **Mariko Aoki** (Program Coordinator, Association for Aid and Relief, Japan); **Takatoshi Hasebe** (Country Representative for Afghanistan Office / Program Officer for Afghanistan, Japan International Volunteer Center); **Sukehiro Hasegawa** (Professor, Faculty of Law, Hosei University / Former SRSG for Timor-Leste); **Hisayoshi Ina** (Foreign Policy Columnist / Vice Chair of the Editorial Board of The Nikkei Newspapers); **Tadashi Inuzuka** (House of Councillors / Incumbent, Democratic Party of Japan); **Nobutaka Miyahara** (Professor, Faculty of Literature, Kurume University / Research Fellow, Tokyo Foundation); **Hiroshi Miyashita** (Manager,

Asia II, Program Division, Tokyo Head Office, Save the Children Japan); **Koji Murata** (Professor, Faculty of Law, Doshisha University); **Masataka Nakahara** (Director General, South Asia Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency); **Kensuke Onishi** (Chairperson and CEO, Peace Winds Japan); **Rumiko Seya** (Secretary General, Japan Center for Conflict Prevention); **Noriyuki Shilina** (Chief, Operations Unit, Japan Platform); **Kolchiro Tanaka** (Director of JIME Center, Institute of Energy Economics); **Hiroshi Taniyama** (President, Japan International Volunteer Center); **Akira Yamada** (Deputy Director-General, International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan); **Tomonori Yoshizaki** (Chief, 5th Research Office, Research Department, National Institute for Defense Studies, Ministry of Defense); **Noriyuki Wakisaka** (Editorial Writer, Asahi Shimbun Publishing Company)

February 23 (Tue) : Public Symposium II

Session 1

“Whole of Government Approach and Bilateral Partners: On the Specific Task Forces to be Established through the New International Stabilization and Peacebuilding Initiative”

MC: Roland Paris (University Research Chair in International Security and Governance, University of Ottawa)

Speakers: Richard Ponzio (Senior Strategy and Policy Officer, Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, U.S. Department of State); **Jeffrey Stacey** (International Engagement Officer, Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, U.S. Department of State); **Hannelore Valier** (Project Manager, International Civilian Capacity, German Center for International Peace Operations [ZIF]); **Jürgen Ulrich Störk** (Coordinator of the Swiss Expert Pool for Civilian Peace Building, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland); **Anthony Anderson** (Special Advisor, Peace Operations and Fragile States Policy Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada)

Session 2

“Improving the International Response in the Aftermath of Conflict: The UN Initiative to Review Civilian Peacebuilding Capacities and European Organizations”

MC: Vesselin Popovski (Senior Academic Programme Officer, United Nations University)

Speakers: Reidun Otteroy (Peacebuilding Support Team Coordinator, UN Peacebuilding Support Office); **John Crosby** (Operational Support Officer, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe); **Sukehiro Hasegawa** (Professor, Faculty of Law, Hosei University / Former SRSG for Timor-Leste)

Session 3&4

“Global South and Local Ownership: Promotion of Civilian Peacebuilding Contributions from Local Sources and Development of Training Curriculums to Promote Local Ownership in Peacebuilding”

MC: Hideki Shinoda (Director, HPC); **Yuji Uesugi** (Program Officer, HPC)

Speakers: Kwesi Aning (Head, Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution Department, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre); **Alaa Abdalaziz** (Coordinator & Head of Programs Unit, Cairo Regional Center for Training on Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping in Africa); **Amal Jayawardane** (Executive Director, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies, Colombo / Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Colombo); **Memunatu Pratt** (Head of the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone / Former Legacy Officer of the Special Court for Sierra Leone); **Rasid Abdullayev** (Independent Political Analyst, Nigoh Weekly, Tajikistan [HPC Senior Program Associate]); **Sherzod Zakhidov** (Head of Japan Division, Asia Pacific Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Uzbekistan [HPC Senior Program Associate]); **Goo Soon Kwon** (UNMIL / Former Team Leader of Overseas Relief & Development, Good People International, Republic of Korea [HPC Program Associate, Primary Course])

In Timor-Leste

“Expert Forum on Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention at the Community Level”

In an effort to explore an “Asian approach to peacebuilding,” HPC hosted the expert forum in Dili on August 28, 2009, in collaboration with the National Directorate for Prevention of Community Conflicts (NDPCC), a division of Timor-Leste's Ministry of Defense and Security. The event also received endorsement from the Embassy of Japan in Timor-Leste. In a country celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Popular Consultation that had led to its independence, the forum served as a meaningful occasion for its 36 participants including government officials, UN officers, NGO members, and academics.

It is widely recognized that sustainable peacebuilding requires conflict prevention and resolution at the community level, yet such a locally oriented approach, though in principle respected, has not been fully employed in policy making and implementation. The purpose of the forum was to address this issue of local ownership and its implications for Timor-Leste, Japan, and the world at large.

In his opening remarks, Ambassador Iwao Kitahara gave examples of Japanese assistance to Timor-Leste in the area of human resource development, and stressed the importance of community participation and intergovernmental coordination. HPC's Director Hideaki Shinoda also explained Japan's commitments to developing local peacebuilding capacity through his presen-

tation on this program.

Timor-Leste's stance on local ownership was illustrated, through the initiatives of NDPCC, by Mr. Francisco da Costa Guterres, Secretary of State for Security, and Mr. Anacleto Da Costa Ribeiro, Advisor for Conflict Prevention and Security Management. Since the country's conflicts had arisen often due in part to the lack of information and strategy, NDPCC had been established in recent years to create an early warning and response system. Relevant information would be collected by monitors trained to work with local community leaders. The forthcoming task of NDPCC would be to identify potential sources of conflict based on the data collected, and to formulate policy recommendations for decision-making parties.

Several critical points were raised through the subsequent discussion. Since Timor-Leste has a complex history of colonization, forced occupation, and post-independence crises, recognizing specific kinds of local knowledge is crucial in finding the right solutions to sources of conflict and establishing a unique peacebuilding approach. Equally important is the human resource capacity to utilize such knowledge, as attested by the 1999 security sector reform, of which the country could not take full control. This also calls for the need to consider how to integrate local and international approaches so that the local knowledge would be promoted through broader initiatives. Owing to the active exchange of these insights, the forum effectively shed light on the importance of ensuring local ownership in a constructive and multi-layered manner.

From Program Associates

Masakazu Shibata

Program Associate in the Primary Course

The Primary Course has been both inspiring and a great learning experience for us. Not only did the lectures and workshops provide us with additional understanding of issues related to conflict resolution and peacebuilding, but it also gave us an opportunity to share our insight and ideas among various Program Associates. I enjoyed our discussions in and outside classrooms that bridged our understanding about these complex issues of peacebuilding process and mechanisms. With an open mindset, believing and trusting in peace, I hope that we can make a difference by planting the seeds of peace, love and understanding for the future that will enable people to create conditions conducive to peaceful coexistence.



Francisco Cruz Simoes de G. S.

Program Associate in the Senior Specialist Course Timor-Leste

The main reason I joined the program was to deepen my understanding of peacebuilding. Also, I was eager to increase my capacity to share ideas and experiences with others. The Program Associates had gathered from different cultures and countries; some were much older than me, which made it more interesting to share different point of views. The program was very relevant to my current job, and I believe that the knowledge and skills acquired from the course will also support my future career. In addition, I believe that the networks established through the program are meaningful for all of the Program Associates for their future careers.



Maki Komura

Participant in the Seminar on Basic Peacebuilding

The Seminar on Basic Peacebuilding was a great opportunity for me to learn about the field experiences and expert insights of the lecturers, and also to meet fellow participants from diverse backgrounds. Through the series of seminars, I was able to grasp the concept and current practice of peacebuilding. My interest lies in the protection of conflict-affected children, and especially in DDR of child soldiers. The seminar has helped me situate these issues within the larger context of peacebuilding. From now on I intend to cultivate my future career based on the knowledge I acquired from this seminar.



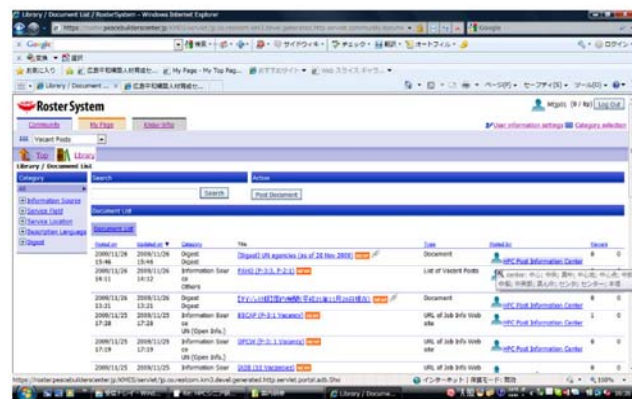
Practical Advice for Stepping onto the World Stage

Career Development Support / HPC Roster System

Careers in the field of peacebuilding do not always guarantee stable employment, and job hunting can be a recurring issue. Accordingly, the Japanese Program Associates in the Primary Course were provided with career development support from the beginning of the Coursework in Japan. This included practical advice from such experts as former prominent officers of international organizations, vacancy information from the UN and peacebuilding organizations, and a career booklet containing the know-how on resume-writing, job interviews, and other relevant information.

Furthermore, by registering in HPC's online Roster System, all Program Associates in the Primary Course as well as the Senior Specialist Course were able to receive up-to-the-minute job information, foster their networks on bulletin boards, and obtain peacebuilding-related literature. The Japanese Program Associates in the Primary Course were also provided with opportunities to consult qualified mentors on an individual basis. By making the most of these support features, the Program Associates were able to upgrade their skills for career development.

The program continues to help establish networks of people and information, and aims to send more peacebuilders onto the world stage.



From Program Graduates



Tatsuhiko Furumoto
United Nations Development Programme[UNDP]
in Nepal (Kathmandu)
Program Analyst
JFY 2007 Program Associate

Some people face a dilemma when starting a "peacebuilding career." Certain relevant experience is often required from the beginning, but without the first step, no experience can be obtained. I was also the one who faced such a dilemma, and joined this program. After the coursework in Japan, I served for UNHCR in South Sudan as part of the program. Since then, I have been involved in humanitarian action, election observation and publication of a magazine on peacebuilding. And now, I handle governance projects in Nepal. I can now feel that I am making solid steps for the peacebuilding career. I recall that HPC really was the breakthrough for me.



Yuka Sugawara
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] in Kenya (Nairobi)
Associate Resettlement Officer
JFY 2007 Program Associate



The HPC training was eye-opening for its substantial information on wide coverage and issues related to peacebuilding. The on-the-job training at UNHCR in Lebanon helped me prepare myself for my current job in the Resettlement unit in UNHCR Kenya.



Ayako Oi
United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] in Timor-Leste (Dili)
Associate Expert
JFY 2007 Program Associate

I have been working in UNDP Timor-Leste since November 2007, first as a Program Associate/UN Volunteer and then as a JPO. Currently, I am working to support the reintegration of Inter-

nally Displaced Persons and the disaster risk management. This program has indeed opened the door for me to pursue a new career in peacebuilding. The knowledge I obtained from the in-country training, for example, various roles of UN organisations and co-ordination, has also been useful in my day-to-day work.



Shigeko Nanbu
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] Headquarters in Geneva
Junior Professional Officer
JFY 2008 Program Associate



HPC has opened a new door for me. Working with UNHCR in the deep field of Ethiopia as part of the Overseas Attachment gave me confidence to pursue my career in refugee assistance. I am now working at UNHCR HQs as a JPO, reflecting the needs of refugees I saw in the camps to the programs and policies at the headquarters level.



Natsuko Kanayama
United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] in Sierra Leone (Freetown)
Programme Officer
FY2008 Program Associate

Four major benefits of HPC are 1) its comprehensive curriculum in Japan, 2) Coursework taught by the best lecturers in academia and practice, 3) Overseas Attachment as an entry point for international experience, and 4) the strong bond between classmates. These benefits infused me with the high spirits that helped me to achieve the targets of my responsibility for peacebuilding.



HPC Senior Advisors

The following people have offered to act as Senior Advisors:

Kenji Isezaki

Chair, Board of Directors, Peacebuilders / Professor, Graduate School of Global Studies, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (Former Chief, DDR Coordination Section, United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone [UNAMSIL])

Ken Inoue

Director, Democratic Governance Support Unit, United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste [UNMIT] (Former Director for Civil Affairs, United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo [UNMIK])

Takayoshi Kusago

Associate Professor, Graduate School of Human Sciences, Osaka University (Former UNDP Poverty Reduction Strategies Advisor, Asia-Pacific Region)

Yasushi Katsuma

Professor, Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University (Former UNICEF Official)

Rumiko Seya

Secretary General, Japan Centre for Conflict Prevention (Former DDR Officer, United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire [UNOCI])

Izumi Nakamitsu

Director, UN DPKO Policy, Evaluation, and Training (Former UNHCR Official)

Sukehiro Hasegawa

Professor, Faculty of Law, Hosei University (Former Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Timor-Leste)

Past Job Placements

Selected List of Job Placements and Duty Stations of JFY 2007 and 2008 Program Associates

United Nations

- United Nations Development Programme [UNDP]
Mozambique, Kosovo, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR]
Ethiopia, Kenya, Nepal, Thailand
- United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF]
Bangladesh, Eritrea, Kosovo, Sierra Leone
- United Nations Volunteers Programme [UNV]
Tokyo
- United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan [UNAMA]
- United Nations Mission in the Sudan [UNMIS]

International Organization

- International Organization for Migration [IOM]
Sri Lanka
- PKO Center**
- Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre [KAIPCT]
- Government**
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Headquarters in Tokyo, Overseas Establishments)
- International Peace Cooperation Headquarters, Cabinet Office
- NGO**
- ADRA Japan in Sudan
- Others**
- Japan International Cooperation Center [JICE] Osaka
- Successful Candidates for JPO (Junior Professional Officer)

*Some of the JFY 2009 Program Associates have completed the program and are now employed as members of UN peacekeeping missions (UNMIL, UNMIS, UNMIT, etc).

(As of December 2009)

Jun. 19	Contract signed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA); Start of the JFY 2009 "Program for Human Resource Development in Asia for Peacebuilding"
Jun. 29	HPC began accepting applications from prospective participants in the Primary Course, Senior Specialist Course, and Seminar on Basic Peacebuilding.
Jul. 3	Information Session on the Program [Peacebuilders' Office, Hiroshima] 
	Information Session on the Program and Panel Discussion (co-hosted by Peacebuilding Forum and HPC): "Peacebuilding Partnerships: Toward Enhancing Cooperation among Universities, International Organizations, NGOs, and Governments" [Campus Innovation Center, Tokyo]
Jul. 7	Information Session on the Program and Lecture (co-hosted by UN Japanese Staff Association, Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN, UN Forum, and HPC): "Career Development in the Field of Peacebuilding" [Conference Room, Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN, New York]
Jul. 15	Information Session on the Program and Seminar (co-hosted by Ritsumeikan University Graduate School GP and HPC): "What is Peacebuilding? Career and the Field" [Kinugasa Campus, Ritsumeikan University] Information Session on the Program and Panel Discussion (co-hosted by Osaka School of International Public Policy and HPC): "Qualifications in the Field of Peacebuilding" [Nakanoshima Center, Osaka University]
Jul. 16	Information Session on the Program (JICA Chubu International Center, Nagoya)
Jul. 31	Information Session on the Program and Symposium (co-hosted by MOFA, UNV and HPC): "Japanese Foreign Policy on Peacebuilding and Its Partnership with International Organizations" [United Nations University (UNU) Building, Tokyo]
Aug. 5	Information Session on the Program and Seminar (co-hosted by Research Institute for Peace and Security and HPC): "Civil-Military Dialogue in the Field of Peacebuilding" [Nippon Foundation, Tokyo]
Aug. 7	Information Session on the Program and Seminar (co-hosted by JICA and HPC): "Current Situations and Issues of Human Resources Development in the Field of Peacebuilding" [JICA Global Plaza, Tokyo]
Aug. 11	Information Session on the Program (Senior Specialist Course) [Osaka Prefectural Government Office]
Aug. 12	Information Session on the Program [Embassy of Japan in France]
Aug. 13	Information Session on the Program [Embassy of Japan in the UK]
Aug. 14	Information Session on the Program (Senior Specialist Course) [Mita Kaigisho, Tokyo]
Aug. 17	Information Session on the Program and Seminar (hosted by HPC and endorsed by Japan Platform): "The Human Resources Development Program for Peacebuilding and Its Corporation with NGOs" [Conference Room, Japan Platform, Tokyo]
Aug. 17-21	The Seminar on Basic Peacebuilding was held at the United Nations University.
Aug. 28	"Expert Forum on Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention at the Community Level" was jointly held by HPC and the National Directorate for Prevention of Community Conflicts, Ministry of Defense and Security of Timor-Leste, with endorsement from the Embassy of Japan in Timor-Leste. [Dili, Timor-Leste] 

Oct. 26-29	HPC Director Hideaki Shinoda participated in the "Washington Workshop on Reconstruction, Stabilization, and Peacebuilding" (co-convened by the State Department's Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, US, the Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force, Canada, and the Stabilization Unit, UK) and in the "Stability Operations Training and Education Workshop" (organized by Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute, US). The Director made presentations on the "Program for Human Resource Development in Asia for Peacebuilding" at both of these workshops. [Embassy of Canada in Washington and National Defense University, Washington, D.C.]
Nov. 6	Commencement Ceremony of the Coursework in Japan (Primary Course) [UNU Building, Tokyo] Speakers: Koichi Takemasa (State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan); Flavia Pansieri (Executive Coordinator, UNV); Kenji Isezaki (Chair, Board of Directors, Peacebuilders); Shinji Nagase (Liaison Officer, UNV); Hideaki Shinoda (Director, HPC); A meeting between HPC and the UNV Executive Coordinator was held following the ceremony.
Nov. 9-20	Primary Course: Start of the Coursework in Japan (Tokyo and Hiroshima) Initial Week; Lecture and Discussion Week 
Nov. 24-27	Workshop Week I: "Conflict Analysis and Resolution"
Nov. 30	Special Lecture: Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah, United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General for Somalia
Nov.30-Dec.4	Workshop Week II: "Project Management"
Dec. 7-11	Preparation Week I: Preparation for the Overseas Attachment
Dec. 11	Closing Ceremony for the Core Coursework [Aster Plaza, Hiroshima]
Dec. 14-18	Preparation Week II: HPC Career Development Workshop [UNU Building, Tokyo]
Jan. 6	Commencement Ceremony of the Coursework in Japan (Senior Specialist Course) [UNU Building, Tokyo] Speakers: Koichi Takemasa (State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan); Shinji Nagase (Liaison Officer, UNV); Hideaki Shinoda (Director, HPC); Messages from Flavia Pansieri (Executive Coordinator, UNV) and Kenji Isezaki (Chair, Board of Directors, Peacebuilders)
Jan. 7-29	Senior Specialist Course: Start of the Coursework in Japan (Tokyo and Hiroshima) Initial Week; Lecture and Discussion Week 
Feb. 1-5	Workshop Week I: "Transitional Justice"
Feb. 8-12	Workshop Week II: "Coordination/Negotiation"
Feb. 12	Special Lecture: Ali Ahmed Jama, "Minister for Foreign Affairs" of the Republic of Somalia Closing Ceremony for the Core Coursework [Hiroshima International Plaza, Higashi Hiroshima]
Feb. 15-19	Preparation Week: Preparation for the Overseas Attachment [UNU Building, Tokyo]
Feb. 22-24	Symposium: "Building Civilian Peacebuilders: Japan's Assistance to Afghanistan and Beyond" (followed by Expert Forum) [Kaiun Building, Tokyo] 
Feb.	Overseas Attachment: Program Associates began being dispatched to assigned duty stations.



The Program Graduates and Their Worldwide Peacebuilding Efforts

The Program for Human Resource Development in Asia for Peacebuilding
Commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in JFY 2007–2008



As one of Japan's continued commitments to international peace and development, the program was launched by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) initially in 2007 and again in 2008. The program was envisioned to be the focal point of Asia's human resource development, research, and intellectual contribution to peacebuilding.

Accordingly, Hiroshima University, contracted by MOFA to implement the program, established the Hiroshima Peacebuilders Center (HPC) in June of 2007. To ensure the efficient operation of the program, Hiroshima University subcontracted portions of the program to domestic and overseas organizations while coordinating the overall implementation. These organizations were selected based on their experience in carrying out peacebuilding training and activities specializing in conflict-related issues. They were namely NGO Peacebuilders, the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV), Hiroshima International Center, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima Office for Asia and the Pacific, and Japan Center for Conflict Prevention.

In order to integrate theory and practice necessary for the peacebuilding field, the program in JFY 2007 and 2008 created and consolidated three pillars of training: Coursework in Japan, Overseas Attachment, and Career Development Support.

The Coursework, the program's first component, was carried out over a 6-week period. Combined with Hiroshima University's research strength in peacebuilding, HPC's collaboration with overseas training institutions (Canada, Sweden, etc.) and international organizations (United Nations, etc.) helped to make the Coursework world-class and rich in content.

Following the Coursework, the Overseas Attachment was arranged for up to 6 months. The Program Associates were dispatched to organizations such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). These organizations' duty stations were located in countries such as Kenya, Nepal, Timor-Leste, Lebanon, and Laos.

Career development support was provided throughout the program in order for the Program Associates to be able to continue their peacebuilding efforts after the program. This included practical advice in the form of individual consultation as well as job vacancy information.

The program received participants from throughout Asia. The Japanese Program Associates joined the program after application screening and interviews, and the Program Associates from other Asian countries came from a variety of organizations such as their countries' Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Police Agency, international organizations, and universities. For JFY 2007, 15

Japanese Program Associates (2 males, 13 females) and 14 Program Associates from other Asian countries (one each from most of the ASEAN countries, China, South Korea, India, Mongolia, and Nepal) participated in the program. For JFY 2008, 15 Japanese Program Associates (2 males, 13 females) and 14 Program Associates from other Asian countries (one each from most of the ASEAN countries, China, South Korea, India, Sri Lanka, and Timor-Leste) took part. Upon completion of the program, the Program Associates went on to the forefront of peacebuilding efforts worldwide.

Currently they are making active contributions as professional peacebuilders across the globe, including Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Kenya, Timor-Leste, Sudan, and Eritrea. In these places, many are working as members of international organizations such as UNICEF, UNHCR, and UNDP.



Timeline of the Program, 2007–2008

JFY 2007 (April 2007 – March 2008)

Jun.12: Contract signed with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA); Start of the JFY 2007 Program

June–July: Information Sessions on the Program held in conjunction with various seminars, symposiums, and lectures in 9 places including Hiroshima, Tokyo, Osaka, London, etc.

Sep.15: Commencement Ceremony of the Coursework in Japan (Hiroshima International Plaza)

–Special Lectures: Kenzo Oshima, Former Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations; Carolyn McAskie, Assistant Secretary-General, Peacebuilding Support Office, United Nations



Sep.29: Public Symposium: "What Can We Do for Peace?" – From Hiroshima, Japan, and Asia" (International Conference Center, Hiroshima)

Oct.28: Conclusion of the Coursework in Japan



Oct.31: Public Symposium: "Training and Dispatching Civilian Peacebuilders – Responding to New Challenges on the Ground" (UNU Building, Tokyo)

Nov.1: Program Associates were dispatched to assigned duty stations (Overseas Attachment).

Mar.21: Overseas Attachment Reporting Meeting (Campus Innovation Center, Tokyo)



JFY 2008 (April 2008 – March 2009)

Apr.24: Contract signed with Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA); Start of the JFY 2008 Program

May–June: Information Sessions on the Program held in 6 places including Tokyo, Osaka, UK, etc.

Jul.21–24: "Peacebuilding Community of Practice" Workshop in Hiroshima co-hosted by HPC and UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)



Aug.25: Commencement Ceremony of the Coursework in Japan (UNU Building, Tokyo)

–Program Associates paid a courtesy call on the then Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda.

Oct.3: Conclusion of the Coursework in Japan



Oct.4: Program Associates were dispatched to assigned duty stations (Overseas Attachment).

October–February: Information Sessions on the Program held in 3 places including Tokyo.

Mar.20–21: Public Symposium and Workshop: "Sharing Experiences in Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding" (International Conference Center Hiroshima)

Mar.23: Overseas Attachment Reporting Meeting (UNU Building, Tokyo)



Mar.24: International Seminar: "Japan's Contribution to Peace and Human Resource Development: Looking back on the past two years of the 'Pilot Program for Human Resource Development in Asia for Peacebuilding' and the Challenges and Prospects for the Future" (UNU Building)