



TRAINING AND DIALOGUE PROGRAMS

GENERAL INFORMATION ON

ASSURANCE OF FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY CONTROL

集團研修「食品の安全性確保」

JFY 2010

<Type: Solution Creation / 類型: 課題解決促進型>

NO. J10-00678(1080847)

From July 2010 to March 2011

Phases in Japan: From Aug. 30, 2010 to Dec. 4, 2010

This information pertains to one of the Training and Dialogue Programs of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which shall be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between both Governments.

I. Concept

Background

Assurance of food safety is a common challenge for the international community. It has become more and more important especially for developing countries to secure qualitative and quantitative supply of foods. While efforts to increase food production are being made, there is an increasing demand to assure the safety of foods based on the “From Farm to Table” concept. This is because there have been outbreaks of food accidents one after another.

To cope with this situation in effective ways, appropriate guidance and surveillance provided by food inspectors in food producing and handling sectors is indispensable. And it goes without saying that inspection of foods with proficient skills plays a vital role to secure food safety for all the people.

This program is designed for technical specialists or researchers in charge of guidance, surveillance and inspection for food safety to upgrade their capacity with acquired knowledge and expertise for finding solutions to those problems.

For what?

This program aims to realize the improvement of safety and quality level at each stage of food chain in participating countries.

For whom?

This program is offered to technical specialists or researchers in charge of guidance, surveillance and inspection for food safety.

How?

Participants shall have opportunities to learn techniques for physicochemical and microbial examination of foods on top of gaining the knowledge on Japanese food Inspection system through lectures, observation and lab practices. Participants will formulate an action plan describing how they will improve or solve issues related to their workplaces, making use of what they have acquired in Japan.

II. Description

1. Title (J-No.): Assurance of Food Safety and Quality Control (J1000678)

2. Period of program

Duration of whole program:	July 2010 to March 2011
Preliminary Phase: (in a participant's home country)	July 29, 2010 to August 29, 2010
Core Phase in Japan:	August 30 to December 4, 2010
Finalization Phase: (in a participant's home country)	December 2010 to March 2011

3. Target Regions or Countries

Argentina, China, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Laos, Moldova, Peru, and Viet Nam

4. Eligible / Target Organization

This program is designed for governmental organizations in charge of guidance, surveillance and inspection for food safety.

5. Total Number of Participants

6 participants

6. Language to be used in this program: English

7. Program Objective:

A Draft plan to improve techniques or work effectiveness for strengthening food safety will be formulated by governmental organizations in charge of guidance, surveillance and inspection on food safety.

8. Overall Goal

Regulation, inspecting organization, and disseminating activities in food hygiene and quality control will be improved and strengthened, resulting in the improvement of safety as well as quality of foods.

9. Expected Module Output and Contents:

This program consists of the following components. Details on each component are given below:

(1) Preliminary Phase in a participant's home country (July 29, 2010 to August 29, 2010) <i>Participating organizations make required preparation for the Program in the respective country.</i>	
Expected Module Output	Activities
Job Report is formulated	Formulation and submission of Job Report

(2) Core Phase in Japan (August 30, 2010 to December 4, 2010) <i>Participants dispatched by the organizations attend the Program implemented in Japan.</i>		
Expected Module Output	Subjects/Agendas	Methodology
To identify and share problems and issues on food hygiene/quality control in workplace	(1) Job report presentation (2) Discussion	Presentation Discussion
To understand and to be able to explain the theories of Japanese Food Standards, with special reference to "From Farm to Table" concept.	(1) Overview of Food Sanitation Law and Food Standards (2) Food safety policies and administration (3) Traceability (4) Quarantine Station (5) Animal Quarantine Office (6) Plant Quarantine Station (7) Flow of export/import inspection	Lecture Observation
To be able to analyze data obtained by use of acquired techniques for food inspection including sampling, physicochemical and microbial examination.	(1) System for inspection of importing foods (National level & local level) (2) Laboratory sampling method (3) Physicochemical examination (4) Microbial examination (5) Mycotoxin analysis (6) Meat inspection facilities	Lecture Observation Lab Practice
To be able to explain and to make active use of HACCP system in food manufacturing process.	(1) Present status of HACCP introduction in Japan (2) Case studies and workshop on HACCP application (3) Japanese Agricultural Standard System and food quality test (4) Frozen food/canned food inspection facilities (5) HACCP / ISO introduced food factories	Lecture Workshop Observation Lab Practice

Action plan (interim report) to solve problems and issues on food safety with acquired knowledge and expertise is formulated.	(1) Action Plan formulation workshop (2) Action Plan guidance (3) Presentation of Action Plan	Workshop Consultation Presentation
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(3) Finalization Phase in a participant's home country

Participating organizations produce final outputs by making use of results brought back by participants. This phase marks the end of the Program.

Expected Module Output	Activities
Action Plan (Interim Report) will be studied by each participating organization for feasibility.	Explanation of the action plan (interim report) back in the participant's country and submission of its final report compiled by each participating organization by March, 31, 2011 to JICA.

<Structure of the program>

1. Preliminary phase (activities in your home country): Formulation and submission of Job Report

2. Core Phase (activities in Japan):

1st month (8/30 -9/30)

- (1) General orientation (Japan's governance, society and culture)
- (2) Program orientation
- (3) Course orientation and current topics on foods
- (4) Job report presentation and discussion
- (5) Food sanitation administration by national and local governments
- (6) Food Sanitation Law
- (7) System for inspection of imported foods
- (8) Visit to customhouse, animal quarantine, plant quarantine (Flow of imported food inspection)
- (9) HACCP system – its introduction and application
- (10) Visit to HACCP introduced factories
- (11) Safety of food crops at farm level

2nd month (10/1 – 10/31)

- (1) Inspection procedures
- (2) Visit to warehouses for sampling
- (3) Laboratory sampling
- (4) Physico-chemical examination
- (5) Microbial examination
- (6) Inspection based on food standards and Food Sanitation Law
- (7) Project Cycle Management workshop for action plan making

3rd month (11/1 – 12/4)

- (1) Mycotoxin analysis
- (2) Food safety monitoring
- (3) Japanese Agricultural Standards (JAS) System
- (4) Food Quality Test based on JAS
- (5) Presentation of action plan (interim report), evaluation, closing ceremony etc.

3. Final Phase (activities in home country)

Participants are expected to make efforts to implement the action plan (interim report) and make a progress report within three (3) months after the end of the phase in Japan.

10. Follow-up Cooperation by JICA:

In this program, JICA might extend follow-up support to participating organizations that intend to develop the result of the program further. Please note that the support shall be extended selectively based on proposals from the participating organizations.

III. Conditions and Procedures for Application

1. Expectations for the Participating Organizations:

- (1) This program is designed primarily for organizations that intend to address specific issues or problems identified in their operation. Participating organizations are expected to use the program for those specific purposes.
- (2) This program is enriched with contents and facilitation schemes specially developed in collaboration with relevant prominent organizations in Japan. These special features enable the program to meet specific requirements of applying organizations and effectively facilitate them toward solutions for the issues and problems.
- (3) As this program is designed to facilitate organizations to come up with concrete solutions for their issues, participating organizations are expected to make due preparation before dispatching their participants to Japan by carrying out the activities of the Preliminary Phase described in section II -9 .
- (4) Participating organizations are also expected to make the best use of the results achieved by their participants in Japan by carrying out the activities of the Finalization Phase described in section II -9.

2. Nominee Qualifications:

Applying Organizations are expected to select nominees who meet the following qualifications.

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties: being technical specialists or researchers engaged in inspection of food safety or in guidance on quality control in food manufacturing process.
- 2) Experience in the relevant field: have more than 2 years' experience in the field of guidance, surveillance and inspection.
- 3) Educational Background: being a graduate of university or equivalent
- 4) Language: must have a command of spoken and written English.
Please attach an official certificate for English ability such as TOEFL, TOEIC etc, if possible)
- 5) Health: must be in good health, both physically and mentally, to participate in the Program in Japan

※Pregnancy :

There is higher risk for pregnant women and people with chronic diseases to cause serious medical consequences when infected with the new Influenza A (H1N1) virus according to the past cases.

Under the pandemic situations of the new Influenza, pregnant applicants shall not be accepted for the time being.

And applicants who suffer from chronic diseases, such as respiratory illness, cardiac disease, metabolic disease (diabetes, etc), renal dysfunction and immune insufficiency (systemic steroid administration, etc), shall not be accepted in principle. However, for those applicants with the chronic diseases, if they and their organizations express strong interest in participating in training programs, JICA shall accept them as an exceptional case after receiving a letter of consent from themselves and their organizations.

Please ask national staffs in JICA office for the details.

6) Must not be serving any form of military service.

(2) Recommendable Qualifications

- 1) Expectations for the Participants:
- 2) Age: must be less than fifty (50) years old

3. Required Documents for Application

- (1) Application Form:** The Application Form is available at the respective country's JICA office or the Embassy of Japan.
- (2) Nominee's English Score Sheet:** to be submitted with the application form. If you have any official documentation of English ability (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS), please attach it (or a copy) to the application form.
- (3) Questionnaire:** to be submitted with the application form. See the ANNEX "Questionnaire".

4. Procedure for Application and Selection :

(1) Submitting the Application Documents:

Closing date for application to the JICA Center in JAPAN: **June 30, 2010**

Note: Please confirm the closing date set by the respective country's JICA office or Embassy of Japan of your country to meet the final date in Japan.

(2) Selection:

After receiving the document(s) through due administrative procedures in the respective government, the respective country's JICA office (or Japanese Embassy) shall conduct screenings, and send the documents to the JICA Center in charge in Japan, which organizes this program. Selection shall be made by the JICA Center in consultation with the organizations concerned in Japan based on submitted documents according to qualifications. *The organization with intention to utilize the opportunity of this program will be highly valued in the selection.*

(3) Notice of Acceptance

Notification of results shall be made by the respective country's JICA office (or Embassy of Japan) to the respective Government by **not later than July 30, 2010**.

5. Document(s) to be submitted by accepted participants:

Job Report must be submitted by **August 23, 2010**.

Only accepted participants are required to prepare a Job Report (detailed information is provided in the ANNEX "Job Report").

The Report should be sent to JICA Hyogo by August 23, 2010, preferably by e-mail to jicahic-kenshukakuju1@jica.go.jp

6. Conditions for Attendance:

- (1)** to observe the schedule of the program,
- (2)** not to change the program subjects or extend the period of stay in Japan,
- (3)** not to bring any members of their family,
- (4)** to return to their home countries at the end of the program in Japan according to the travel schedule designated by JICA,
- (5)** to refrain from engaging in political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain,
- (6)** to observe the rules and regulations of their place of accommodation and not to change the accommodation designated by JICA, and
- (7)** to participate the whole program including a preparatory phase prior to the program in Japan. Applying organizations, after receiving notice of acceptance for their nominees, are expected to carry out the actions described in section II -9 and section III -4.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer:

(1) Name: JICA Hyogo

(2) Contact: Program Division, JICA Hyogo (jicahic@jica.go.jp)

2. Travel to Japan:

(1) Air Ticket: The cost of a round-trip ticket between an international airport designated by JICA and Japan will be borne by JICA.

(2) Travel Insurance: Term of Insurance: From arrival to departure in Japan. The traveling time outside Japan shall not be covered.

3. Accommodation in Japan:

JICA will arrange the following accommodations for the participants in Japan:

JICA Hyogo International Center (JICA HYOGO)

Address: 1-5-2, Wakinohama-kaigandori, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo 651-0073, Japan

TEL: 81-78-261-0341 FAX: 81-78-261-0342

(where “81” is the country code for Japan, and “78” is the local area code)

If there is no vacancy at JICA HYOGO, JICA will arrange alternative accommodations for the participants. Please refer to facility guide of JICA Hyogo at its URL, <http://www.jica.go.jp/english/contact/domestic/>.

4. Expenses:

The following expenses will be provided for the participants by JICA:

(1) Allowances for accommodation, living expenses, outfit, and shipping

(2) Expenses for study tours (basically in the form of train tickets.

(3) Free medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment are not included)

(4) Expenses for program implementation, including materials

For more details, please see p. 9-16 of the brochure for participants titled “KENSU-IN GUIDE BOOK,” which will be given to the selected participants before (or at the time of) the pre-departure orientation.

5. Pre-departure Orientation:

A pre-departure orientation will be held at the respective country’s JICA office (or Japanese Embassy), to provide participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the workshop, and other matters.

V. Other Information

1. Participants who have successfully completed the seminar will be awarded a certificate by JICA.
2. For the promotion of mutual friendship, Hyogo International Center encourages international exchange between JICA participants and local communities, including school and university students as a part of development education program. JICA participants are expected to contribute by attending such activities and will possibly be asked to make presentations on the society, economy and culture of their home country.
3. There is a computer room in JICA Hyogo where sixteen desk-top computers have the internet access. Each guest room also has the access by LAN cable. It is advisable to bring lap top computer in order to avoid congestions.

VI. ANNEX:

* This questionnaire should be submitted together with Application Form.

Questionnaire

Name: _____

Country: _____

* The purpose of this questionnaire is to know exactly the level of your knowledge on the operation/application of analytical instruments and test methods.

1. What kind of food do you examine in your daily work?

2. Check analytical instrument that you have been using in your workplace.

- GC
- HPLC
- GC/MS
- LC/MS
- Others (please specify)

3. Evaluate familiarity to each analytical instrument in terms of the actual experience. Check the appropriate column.

Type of Analytical instrument	You use it almost everyday.	You use it once a week or once a month.	You seldom use it, but you know its principle.
GC			
HPLC			
GC/MS			
LC/MS			

4. List up microbial tests if you are familiar with.

5. Please specify skills and knowledge you would like to develop in this program.

Only accepted participants should submit JOB REPORT by August 23, 2010 by e-mail to jicahic-kenshukakuju1@jica.go.jp. JOB REPORT should be prepared in accordance with the format below. Presentation of the report for about 30 minutes per each participant will be carried out prior to entering the program.

Job Report

- 1. Identify the problems and issues of food sanitation, and quality control in your workplace.**
- 2. Analyze the causes of above-mentioned problems and issues.**
- 3. Background information: Names of laws and regulations on food sanitation, inspection system, and training for inspectors, etc.**
- 4. State health/hygienic control practices applied to exporting foods, including the information of examination facilities.**

For Your Reference

JICA and Capacity Development

The key concept underpinning JICA operations since its establishment in 1974 has been the conviction that “capacity development” is central to the socioeconomic development of any country, regardless of the specific operational scheme one may be undertaking, i.e. expert assignments, development projects, development study projects, training programs, JOCV programs, etc.

Within this wide range of programs, Training Programs have long occupied an important place in JICA operations. Conducted in Japan, they provide partner countries with opportunities to acquire practical knowledge accumulated in Japanese society. Participants dispatched by partner countries might find useful knowledge and re-create their own knowledge for enhancement of their own capacity or that of the organization and society to which they belong.

About 460 pre-organized programs cover a wide range of professional fields, ranging from education, health, infrastructure, energy, trade and finance, to agriculture, rural development, gender mainstreaming, and environmental protection. A variety of programs and are being customized to address the specific needs of different target organizations, such as policy-making organizations, service provision organizations, as well as research and academic institutions. Some programs are organized to target a certain group of countries with similar developmental challenges.

Japanese Development Experience

Japan was the first non-Western country to successfully modernize its society and industrialize its economy. At the core of this process, which started more than 140 years ago, was the “*adopt and adapt*” concept by which a wide range of appropriate skills and knowledge have been imported from developed countries; these skills and knowledge have been adapted and/or improved using local skills, knowledge and initiatives. They finally became internalized in Japanese society to suit its local needs and conditions.

From engineering technology to production management methods, most of the know-how that has enabled Japan to become what it is today has emanated from this “*adoption and adaptation*” process, which, of course, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories. We presume that such experiences, both successful and unsuccessful, will be useful to our partners who are trying to address the challenges currently faced by developing countries.

However, it is rather challenging to share with our partners this whole body of Japan’s developmental experience. This difficulty has to do, in part, with the challenge of explaining a body of “tacit knowledge,” a type of knowledge that cannot fully be expressed in words or numbers. Adding to this difficulty are the social and cultural systems of Japan that vastly differ from those of other Western industrialized countries, and hence still remain unfamiliar to many partner countries. Simply stated, coming to Japan might be one way of overcoming such a cultural gap.

JICA, therefore, would like to invite as many leaders of partner countries as possible to come and visit us, to mingle with the Japanese people, and witness the advantages as well as the disadvantages of Japanese systems, so that integration of their findings might help them reach their developmental objectives.



CORRESPONDENCE

For enquiries and further information, please contact the JICA office or the Embassy of Japan. Further, address correspondence to:

JICA Hyogo International Center (JICA HYOGO)

Address: 1-5-2, Wakinohama-kaigandori, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo 651-0073, Japan

TEL: +81-78-261-0341 FAX: +81-78-261-0342