



Japan-Mexico Training Program for the Strategic Global Partnership

**General information on
Public Health and Epidemiological Study
(公衆衛生・疫学研究)
JFY 2022**

Course No.: 202007331-J015

Course Period in Japan: From March 27, 2023 to October 14, 2023

This information pertains to one of the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Programs (Group & Region Focus) of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between both Governments.

JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

The Japanese Cabinet released the Development Cooperation Charter in February 2015, which stated, *“In its development cooperation, Japan has maintained the spirit of jointly creating things that suit partner countries while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned based on a field-oriented approach through dialogue and collaboration. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other and grow and develop together.”* JICA believes that this ‘Knowledge Co-Creation Program’ will serve as a foundation of mutual learning process.

I. Concept

Background

In 1971, the Japan-Mexico Exchange Program has started, which mutually accepts students and young engineers from Mexico and Japan; in February 2010, based on the “Japan-Mexico Joint Statement Strategic Global Partnership in the 21st Century¹”, the Exchange Program was renewed into the Japan-Mexico Training Program for the Strategic Global Partnership. This program contains long-term courses (between three months and twelve months’ period) and short-term courses (less than three months’ period). Currently, JICA accepts 50 Mexicans trainees annually under this scheme.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this training program in 2021 with a value added of “Co-creation between Mexico and Japan”, the course line-up has been completely reviewed, taking into account the compatibility with the priority fields of PRONACES (National Strategy Program) set by the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) in Mexico, to response strong needs in the areas such as infectious disease control related to COVID-19 pandemic, food security, ICT and digital transformation, and others.

This training program aims to develop Mexican human resources, through the implementation of training program based on the Japan-Mexico Joint Statement, thereby contributing to reinforcement establishment of the Mexico-Japan Strategic Global Partnership.

For what?

This training program is expected to contribute to the development of resilient public health systems in Mexico in line with the PRONACES’ strategy “Health”.

For whom?

This training program is for public health and epidemiology researchers in health research institutes for infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response in Mexico.

How?

This training program is offered in a combination of lectures, laboratory practice, discussion, seminars, and meetings.

¹ https://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2011/2/PDF/0222_02_01.pdf

II. Description

1. Title (Course No202007331-J015.)

Public Health and Epidemiological Study

2. Course Duration in Japan

March to October, 2023

(Technical Training Period: May 8 to October 13th, 2023: 5 months)

27th March: Arrival in Japan

28th March to 7th May: Briefing, General Orientation and Intensive

Japanese Language Class (@JICA Chubu Center)

8th May to 13th October: Technical Training Program

(@Nagasaki University)

14th October: Departure from Japan

3. Target Regions or Countries

Mexico

4. Eligible / Target Organization

Health research institutes for infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response in Mexico

5. Capacity (Upper Limit of Participants)

Two (2) participants

6. Language

English

7. Objective(s)

The objective of this training program is to strengthen the capacity of public health and epidemiology researchers in health research institutes for infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response in Mexico.

8. Overall Goal

The overall goal of this training program is to strengthen the functions of health research institutes for infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response in Mexico with a partnership with Japan.

This training program is expected to contribute to the development of resilient public health systems in Mexico in line with the PRONACES' strategy "Health", specially related to the "Data science applied to health".

9. Output and Contents

This course consists of the following components.

Details on each component are given below.

<The General Orientation and Intensive Japanese language Class>

The General Orientation and Intensive Japanese language Class are organized at the Chubu Center of JICA prior to the technical training to assist the participants in understanding Japan and adjusting themselves to life in Japan, and thus to facilitate effective training.

<The technical training program>

The technical training program is provided in Nagasaki University

The expected outputs of this training program are;

- (1) To acquire knowledge of infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response and tropical medicine.
- (2) To improve the technical capacity of advanced public and epidemiological research and laboratory practices for infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response and tropical medicine.
- (3) To understand the roles, functions, and programs of health research institutes in research, education, and global partnership.

The expected contents of this training program are;

For output (1):

Training on knowledge on public health, epidemiology, and others about infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response and tropical medicine.

For output (2):

Training on the technical capacity of advanced public health and epidemiological research and laboratory practices for infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response and tropical medicine.

For output (3)

Learning of key roles, functions, and programs of the health research institutes in research, education, and global partnership.

Attending research workshops, educational programs, and meetings.

The technical training program is offered in a combination of lectures, laboratory practice, discussion, seminars, and meetings.

III. Eligibility and Procedures

1. Nominee Qualifications

Applying organizations are expected to select nominees who meet the following qualifications;

1) Essential Qualifications

- (1) Current Duties: Public health and epidemiology researchers in health research institutes for infectious diseases emergency preparedness and response in Mexico.
- (2) Experience in the relevant field: more than 10 years of experience.
- (3) Educational Background: Master's or Doctoral degree
- (4) Language Proficiency: Fluent English
- (5) Health: must be in good health to participate in the program in Japan.
To reduce the risk of worsening symptoms associated with respiratory tract infection, please be honest to declare in the Medical History. ※1 (QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS RESTRICTION of the application form) if you have been a patient of following illnesses; Hypertension / Diabetes / Cardiovascular illness / Heart failure / Chronic respiratory illness.

※1: Considering the length of the course exceeds six months and that during this period JICA could not offer proper health care assistance for periodical exams, medical appointments or eventual emergency care (if needed) required during gestation, pregnant applicants are not recommended to apply due to the potential risk of health and life issues of mother and fetus. Also, for the same reason, in case of the expected date of birth is during the course period, JICA could not accept the applicant, even if already selected.

2) Recommend Qualifications

- (1) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Women are encouraged to apply for the program. JICA makes a commitment to promote gender equality and women's empowerment, providing equal opportunity for all applicants regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity.

2. Required Documents for Application

- (1) **Application Form:** The Application Form is available at the **JICA Mexico office**.

* If you have any difficulties/disabilities which require assistance, please specify necessary assistances in the QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS RESTRICTION (1-(c)) of the application form. Information will be reviewed and used for reasonable accommodation.

- (2) **Photocopy of Passport:** You should submit it with the application form if you possess your passport which you will carry when entering Japan

for this program. If not, you are requested to submit its photocopy as soon as you obtain it.

*The following information should be included in the photocopy:

Name, Date of Birth, Nationality, Sex, Passport Number and Expiry Date

(3) English Score Sheet: to be submitted with the application form, if the nominees have any official English examination scores. (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS)

3. Procedures for Application and Selection

(1) Selection

After the application documents are submitted, primary screening and individual interview are conducted by CONACYT. Then JICA will consult with concerned organizations in Japan in the process of final selection.

The Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan.

(2) Notice of Acceptance

CONACYT will notify the results **not later than December, 2022.**

4. Additional Document(s) to Be Submitted by Accepted Candidates

The accepted candidate may be required to prepare and submit an Inception Report. Please follow the instructions to be notified individually after the approval.

5. Conditions for Participation

The participants of KCCP are required

- (1)** to strictly observe the course schedule,
- (2)** not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants themselves,
- (3)** to understand that leaving Japan during the course period (to return to home country, etc.) is not allowed,
- (4)** not to bring or invite any family members,
- (5)** to carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by both the nominating Government and the Japanese Government in respect of the course,
- (6)** to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments,

- (7)** not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (8)** to discontinue the program, should the participants violate the Japanese laws or JICA's regulations, or the participants commit illegal or immoral conduct, or get critical illness or serious injury and be considered unable to continue the course. The participants shall be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care stipulated in (3) of "5. Expenses", "IV. Administrative Arrangements",
- (9)** to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for the KCCP depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- (10)** not to drive a car or motorbike, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (11)** to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation,
- (12)** to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule.
- (13)** In case of natural disaster or any possible contingency that makes unfeasible to conduct this course in Japan, it could be canceled.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

(1) Responsible JICA domestic office: JICA Kyushu center

Address: 2-2-1 Hirano, Yahatahigashi-ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Fukuoka, 805-8505, Japan

TEL: +81-93-671-6311 FAX: +81-93-671-0979

URL: <https://www.jica.go.jp/kyushu/english/office/index.html>

(2) Program Officer: OGATA Yoji (Mr.) (kictp@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner

Name: Nagasaki University

Institute of Tropical Medicine (Nekken)

Originally found in 1942, the Institute of Tropical Medicine aims to overcome tropical diseases, particularly infectious diseases, and the various health problems associated with them, in cooperation with related institutions, to strive for excellence in the following areas; spear-head research in tropical medicine and international health; global contribution through disease control and health promotion in the tropics by applying the fruits of the research; and cultivation of the researchers and specialists in the above fields. It is only WHO COVID-19 Reference Laboratory in Japan.

<http://www.tm.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/nekken/en/>

Graduate School of Tropical Medicine and Global Health (TMGH)

TMGH offers the number of academic master and doctoral courses and short diploma courses to develop future global health leaders, researchers, policy-makers, and health system specialists. More than 70 outstanding, and diverse faculty members from different parts of the world are conducting research for improving the health of people in both local and global contexts.

URL: <https://www.tmg.h.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/en/>

3. Travel to Japan

(1) Air Ticket: In principle, JICA will arrange an economy-class round-trip ticket between an international airport designated by JICA and Japan.

(2) Travel Insurance: Coverage is from time of arrival up to departure in Japan. Thus traveling time outside Japan (including damaged baggage during the arrival flight to Japan) will not be covered.

4. Accommodation in Japan

JICA will arrange appropriate accommodations in Japan for the participants. It will probably be the international dormitory at the university. If there is no vacancy, JICA

will arrange alternative accommodation(s) for the participants.

※Participants will stay at a private hotel for the first week of quarantine period in accordance with the border measures of the JICA against the COVID-19.

※Meal will not be served(except for the first week of quarantine period) at the accommodation, therefore participants need to cook yourself in the room. There are canteens at the university and restaurants and shops are available around the accommodation. So highly self-disciplined candidates are expected to be selected.

5. Expenses

The following expenses in Japan will be provided by JICA

- (1) Allowances for meals, living expenses, outfits, and shipping and stopover.
- (2) Expenses for study tours (basically in the form of train tickets).
- (3) Medical care for participants who become ill after arriving in Japan (the costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment are not included).
- (4) Expenses for program implementation, including materials.
- (5) For more details, please see “III. ALLOWANCES” of the brochure for participants titled “KENSU-IN GUIDE BOOK,” which will be given before departure for Japan.

*Link to JICA HP (English/French/Spanish/Russian):

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/types_of_assistance/tech/acceptance/training/index.html

6. Pre-departure Orientation*

A pre-departure orientation will be held at JICA Mexico office, to provide Participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the course, and other matters.

*YouTube of “Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan” and “Introduction of JICA Center” are viewable from the link below.

Image videos of 'Introduction of JICA Center (YouTube)' show the following information of JICA Centers: Location, Building, Entrance, Reception(Front desk), Lobby, Office, Accommodation(Room), Amenities(Hand dryer), Bathroom(Shower and Toilet), Toiletries, Restaurant, Laundry Room(Washing machine, Iron), ICT Room(Computer for participants), Clinic, Cash dispenser, Gym, Neighborhood

Part I: Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan	
English ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLurfKugrEw
Spanish ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7l-WIQSDjI
Part II: Introduction of JICA Centers in Japan	
JICA Kyushu	https://www.jica.go.jp/kyushu/english/office/index.html

For Your Reference

JICA and Capacity Development

Technical cooperation is people-to-people cooperation that supports partner countries in enhancing their comprehensive capacities to address development challenges by their own efforts. Instead of applying Japanese technology per se to partner countries, JICA's technical cooperation provides solutions that best fit their needs by working with people living there. In the process, consideration is given to factors such as their regional characteristics, historical background, and languages. JICA does not limit its technical cooperation to human resources development; it offers multi-tiered assistance that also involves organizational strengthening, policy formulation, and institution building.

Implementation methods of JICA's technical cooperation can be divided into two approaches. One is overseas cooperation by dispatching experts and volunteers in various development sectors to partner countries; the other is domestic cooperation by inviting participants from developing countries to Japan. The latter method is the Knowledge Co-Creation Program, formerly called Training Program, and it is one of the core programs carried out in Japan. By inviting officials from partner countries and with cooperation from domestic partners, the Knowledge Co-Creation Program provides technical knowledge and practical solutions for development issues in participating countries.

The Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus) has long occupied an important place in JICA operations. About 400 pre-organized courses 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 is being customized by the different target organizations to address the specific needs, 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, as the first non-Western nation to become a developed country, built itself into a country that is free, peaceful, prosperous and democratic while preserving its tradition. Japan will serve as one of the best examples for our partner countries to follow in their own development.

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 a process of adoption and adaptation, of course, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories.

Through Japan's progressive adaptation and application of systems, methods and technologies from the West in a way that is suited to its own circumstances, Japan has

developed a storehouse of knowledge not found elsewhere from unique systems of organization, administration and personnel management to such social systems as the livelihood improvement approach and governmental organization. It is not easy to apply such experiences to other countries where the circumstances differ, but the experiences can provide ideas and clues useful when devising measures to solve problems.

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.



Contact Information for Inquiries

For inquiries and further information, please contact the JICA Mexico office.

Further, address correspondence to:

JICA Kyushu Center (JICA KYUSHU)