

# Japan-Mexico Training Program for the Strategic Global Partnership

General information on ICT and DX Capacity Development (ICT・DX 能力強化コース)

JFY 2021

Course No.: 202003433-J014
Course Period in Japan: From March 13, 2022 to Aug 10, 2022

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) that has existed before and short-term courses (less than three months period) are newly established since then. Currently, JICA accepts 50 Mexicans trainees annually under this scheme.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this training program in 2021, in order to realize the program including a value of "Bilateral Co-creation by Japan and Mexico", the course line-up has been completely reviewed, taking into account the compatibility with the eleven 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 Infection Disease control due to pandemic of COVID-19, Food Security, ICT/Digital Transformation, and among 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?

To solve social issues of Mexico applying ICT, especially those related with topics of PRONACES, proposing the conduction of action plan to deal with the selected issue.

### For whom

Researchers and master's students interested in solving Mexican social issues using ICT/DX technology.

#### How?

This course is designed for the participants who are responsible for designing and implementing projects against social issues in governmental institutions or private organizations which could be solved by applying ICT. Participants will learn how to analyze and identify social issues through an active learning model "TANKYU Practice", using case studies close to the actual real-world practice. Participants will also learn how to formulate a project as well as get some knowledge on up-to-date ICT solutions.

<sup>1</sup> https://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2011/2/PDF/0222\_02\_01.pdf

# **II. Description**

### 1. Title (Course No.202003433-J014)

ICT and DX Capacity Development

### 2. Course Duration in Japan

March to August, 2022 (Technical Training Period: May to August, 2022: three months)

13th March: Arrival in Japan

15th March to 8th May: Briefing, General Orientation and Intensive Japanese

Language Class

9th May to 10th August: Technical Training Program

11th August: Departure from Japan

### 3. Target Regions or Countries

Mexico

### 4. Capacity (Upper Limit of Participants)

Two (2) participants

### 5. Language

English

### 6. Objective(s)

To improve the capacity to develop ICT projects which help solve development issues of various fields effectively and efficiently.

### 7. Overall Goal

In order to contribute to the PRONACES of CONACYT in Mexico, special attention will be paid to the content of the course, orienting it in this regard. For the particular case of this course, a set of PRONACES topics can be develop as follows:

The Strategy No. 1 "Knowledge and management of watersheds based on the natural water cycle and social equity in terms of its use for the common welfare and environmental conservation", specifically related to the development of technical, organizational and cultural alternatives that lead to the maximum possible saving of water for agricultural production, contributing to the reduction of water, energy and ecological footprints.

The Strategy No. 6 "Pollutant processes, toxic damage and their socioenvironmental impact", specifically the generation of computational models using existing monitoring data to 1) evaluate the dispersion and distribution of pollutants and 2) estimate the exposure degree to the pollutants in the incidence zones of the Environmental Emergency Region (REA).

The Strategy No. 7 "Health and data science", in sense of to analyze the large databases of public health entities to support a quantitative overview of the general health situation in Mexico.

The course is expected to contribute to Mexico, in order to conduct the action plans formulated throughout the course, with the issues proposed by the

participants, pursuing the aforementioned PRONACES topics.

### 8. Output and Contents

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

The General Orientation and Japanese language program are organized at the Chubu International 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.

| Expected Output                                                                                                                | Subjects/Agendas                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Preparatory stage                                                                                                              | Preparation of "job report" is required to describe the ideas for the possible solution against social issues by applying ICT (entire structure of the proposed system(s), technologies and human resources). |
| Problem analysis and issue based problem-solving                                                                               | Observations/ discussions on problem analysis and issue based problem-solving                                                                                                                                 |
| Up-to-date ICT solutions for various challenges in Japan                                                                       | Observations/ discussions on up-to-date ICT solutions for various challenges in Japan                                                                                                                         |
| Preparation of Action Plan and propose the applicable techniques / knowledge to Mexican organization belonging the participant | Observations/ discussions on preparation of Action Plan                                                                                                                                                       |

### <Structure of the Course>

Topic outline (subject to minor changes)

### 1st month (Tentative)

- (1) Job report Presentation
- (2) TANKYU Practice (Problem solving and solution building method)

# 2nd month (Tentative)

- (1) Up-to-date ICT Solutions Lecture on Introduction to the subject (IoT, Machine learning, Drone technology etc.)
- (2) ICT for Development and e-Government
- (3) Leadership Development
- (4) Up-to-date ICT Solutions Site Lecture and Tour

### 3rd month (Tentative)

- (1) PCM Method (Stakeholder/Problem/Objective analysis and Logframe) and project management
- (2) Action Plan Preparation
- (3) Action Plan Presentation

#### 2. Nominee Qualifications

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

- (1) Essential Qualifications
- 1) Current Duties:
  - (a) Officers belonging to a central government dedicated to the management of ICT use, such as the ministry of ICT/communications.
  - (b) Central/Local government officers in charge of promoting ICT based services such as e-government, e-education, e-agriculture, e-health, etc.
  - (c) Private sector personnel who belong to ICT solution providers working with above (a) or (b) for DX in both public and private sectors.
- 2) Experience in the Relevant Field:

More than two years of work experience. Applicants should have a basic knowledge of ICT and a keen interest in applying ICT in his/her work.

3) Educational Background:

University graduate or equivalent

4) Language Proficiency:

Have a competent command of spoken and written English which is equal to TOEFL iBT 100 or more (This program includes active participation in discussions, which requires HIGH competence of English ability. Please attach a copy of the official certificate for English ability such as TOEFL, TOEIC etc., if possible.)

- 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 (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.
- (2) Recommended Qualifications
- 1) Expectations for the Participants
- 2) Age: between the ages of twenty-five (25) and fifty (50) years
- 3) Gender Consideration : JICA promotes gender equality. Women are encouraged to apply for the program.

# III. Eligibility and Procedures

## 1.Required Documents for Application

- (1) Application Form: The Application Form is available at the JICA overseas 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)

# 1. 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

The JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan) will notify the results **not later than March**, **2022**.

### 2. 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.

### 3. 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, and
- (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, trainees could not trip to Japan and this course would be offered remotely or canceled.

# IV. Administrative Arrangements

## 1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

(1) Center: Kansai center (Technical Training)

(2) Program Officer: Ms. KONO Yukiko (Kono.Yukiko@jica.go.jp)

### 2. Implementing Partner

(1) Name: To be determined

# 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 (include damaged baggage during the arrival flight to Japan) will not be covered.

### 4. Accommodation in Japan

Basically, JICA will arrange the following accommodation(s) for the participants in Japan:

-JICA Chubu Center (JICA Chubu)

60-7, Hiraike-cho, 4-chome, Nakamura-ku, Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture 453-0872

Tel: +81-52-533-0220 Fax: +81-52-564-3751

https://www.jica.go.jp/tokyo/english/office/index.html

-Accommodation while the Technical Training in Kobe To be arranged

### 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 <u>not</u> included).
- (4) Expenses for program implementation, including materials.
- (5) For more details, please see "III. ALLOWANCES" of the brochure for participants titled "KENSHU-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 respective country's JICA office (or the Japanese Embassy), 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               |
| French ver.                                             | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2yU9ISYcTY               |
| Spanish ver.                                            | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7I-WIQSDjI               |
| Russian ver.                                            | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7_ujz37AQc               |
| Arabic ver.                                             | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iBQqdpXQb4               |
| Part II: Introduction of JICA Centers in Japan          |                                                           |
| JICA Hokkaido                                           | https://www.jica.go.jp/sapporo/english/office/index.html  |
| (Sapporo)                                               |                                                           |
| JICA Hokkaido                                           | https://www.jica.go.jp/obihiro/english/office/index.html  |
| (Obihiro)                                               |                                                           |
| JICA Tohoku                                             | https://www.jica.go.jp/tohoku/english/office/index.html   |
| JICA Tsukuba                                            | https://www.jica.go.jp/tsukuba/english/office/index.html  |
| JICA Tokyo                                              | https://www.jica.go.jp/tokyo/english/office/index.html    |
| JICA Yokohama                                           | https://www.jica.go.jp/yokohama/english/office/index.html |
| JICA Hokuriku                                           | https://www.jica.go.jp/hokuriku/english/office/index.html |
| JICA Chubu                                              | https://www.jica.go.jp/chubu/english/office/index.html    |
| JICA Kansai                                             | https://www.jica.go.jp/kansai/english/office/index.html   |
| JICA Chugoku                                            | https://www.jica.go.jp/chugoku/english/office/index.html  |
| JICA Shikoku                                            | https://www.jica.go.jp/shikoku/english/office/index.html  |
| JICA Kyushu                                             | https://www.jica.go.jp/kyushu/english/office/index.html   |
| JICA Okinawa                                            | https://www.jica.go.jp/okinawa/english/office/index.html  |

### For Your Reference<sup>2</sup>

### **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 course 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.

<sup>2</sup> 本記載部分は定型である。

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 overseas office or the Embassy of Japan. Further, address correspondence to:

**JICA Kansai Center (JICA KANSAI)**