



Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus)

General information on

Strengthening Role and Function of Farmers' Organization in Central Asian Countries

課題別研修「中央アジア地域農民組織強化」

JFY 2022

Course No.: 202107835J001

Course Period in Japan: From October 3, 2022 to November 3, 2022

*The above schedule includes quarantine period for entry and exit due to Japan's border measures.

*In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that there is still a possibility the course period will be changed, shortened, or the course itself will be cancelled.

*If training cannot be conducted in Japan, online training will be conducted during the above period.

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

The collapse of the collective farming system and market-oriented economic reform has been in progress in Central Asian countries after the independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991. In the agricultural sector, a number of small-scale farmers emerged as a result of land reform and dissolution of collective farms. While farmers' organizations to support the small-scale farmers have been established in those countries, systems/functions of those organizations are still fragile and they cannot provide farmers with necessary services such as common purchase of farming equipment/materials, exploring product distribution networks, providing technical guidance and micro-finances etc. Therefore, strengthening roles and functions of farmers' organizations is essential to increase agricultural productivity and farmer's income in this area.

This training and dialogue program aims to strengthen roles and functions of farmers' organization, and thus to contribute to agricultural promotion in the Central Asian countries.

For what?

This program aims to strengthen roles and functions of farmers' organization in the Central Asian countries.

For whom?

This program is offered to a senior administrative officer of central and local governments in charge of establishing and/or supporting farmers' organizations, a leader of highly public farmers' organization (NOT a private farm) with "strong will" to improve/strengthen roles and functions of farmers' organization, and a university researcher in the relevant field.

How?

Participants shall have opportunities to learn the roles and functions of farmers' organizations providing various services to support farmers through the training. The participants are expected to understand overview of agricultural cooperatives. At the end of the training, the participants are expected to formulate an "Action plan" describing what the participant will do after their going back to home country with making the best use of the knowledge and idea acquired and discussed in the program.

II. Description

1. Title (Course No.)

Strengthening Role and Function of Farmers' Organization in Central Asian Countries (202107835J001)

2. Course Duration in Japan

October 3, 2022 to November 3, 2022

*The above schedule includes quarantine period for entry and exit due to Japan's border measures.

*If training cannot be conducted in Japan, online training will be conducted during the above period.

3. Target Regions or Countries

Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Republic of Uzbekistan

4. Eligible / Target Organization

This program is mainly designed for the section/department of the central and local governments in charge of establishing and/or supporting farmers' organizations, a highly public farmers' organization (NOT a private farm), and a university which is specialized in the relevant field.

* The foundation of farmers' organization itself is not targeted in this Program.

5. Capacity (Upper Limit of Participants)

12 participants

6. Language

Russian

7. Objective(s)

Participant's organizations officially discuss and formulate a plan to improve/strengthen roles and functions of farmers' organization in respective country based on the Action Plan proposed by each participant.

8. Overall Goal

Participant's organizations will officially implement the formulated plan to improve/strengthen roles and functions of farmers' organization in respective country.

9. Output and Contents

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

(1) Preliminary Phase in a Participant's Home Country (Up to September 2022)

Expected Module Output	Subjects/Agendas
To analyze current situation and problems of farmer's organization in each country	Preparation and submission of "Inception Report"

(2) Core Phase in Japan (from October 3, 2022 to November 3, 2022)

Expected Module Output	Subjects/Agendas	Methodology
1) To analyze current situation and problems of farmer's organization in each country	-	- Presentation of "Inception Report" - Discussion
2) To understand roles and functions of farmers' organizations in Japan	a. Overview of agricultural cooperatives in Japan	- Lecture - Observation - Discussion
	b. Agricultural financing system	
	c. Agricultural insurance system	
	d. Distribution of agricultural materials/equipment	
	e. Distribution of Agricultural products	
	f. Overview of water user's association in Japan	
3) To understand support system for farmers' activities and farmers' organizations	g. Agricultural policy in Japan and Hokkaido	- Lecture - Observation - Discussion
	h. Roles of central and local governments for supporting farmers' activities and farmers' organizations	
	i. Agricultural extension service system in Japan	
	j. Management of agricultural land	
4) To propose a plan to improve/strengthen roles and functions of farmers' organizations in each country as an "Action Plan"	-	- Discussion - Preparation of "Action Plan" - Consultation - Presentation

NOTE:

(1) An Action Plan, which participants are going to propose must be FEASIBLE, therefore, it is recommended that participants bring relevant data, map, pictures, laws and regulations of your country.

(2) The training contents mentioned-above may be subject to minor changes.

(3) JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo) might suspend the acceptance of candidates for the coming years from those organizations which do not seriously share participant's action plan, nor without reporting to JICA within the mentioned period.

III. Eligibility and Procedures

1. Expectations to the Applying 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 project 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 project to meet specific requirements of applying organizations and effectively facilitate them toward solutions for the issues and problems.
- (3) This project is designed primarily for organizations that intend to address specific issues or problems identified in their operations. Applying organizations are expected to use the Program for those specific purposes.
- (4) In this connection, applying organizations are expected to nominate the most qualified candidates to address the said issues or problems, carefully referring to the qualifications described in section III-2 below.
- (5) Applying organizations are also expected to be prepared to make use of knowledge acquired by the nominees for the said purpose.

2. Nominee Qualifications

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

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties: be a senior administrative officer of central and local governments in charge of establishing and/or supporting farmers' organizations, a leader of highly public farmers' organization (e.g. an association / cooperative of farmers and related NGO, NOT a private farmer), and a university researcher.
- 2) Educational Background: be a graduate of university or equivalent
- 3) Language Proficiency: have a competent command of spoken and written Russian (This Program includes active participation in discussions, proposing action plan which requires high competence of Russian ability.)
- 4) 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) Age: between the ages of twenty-five (25) and forty-fifty (50) years
- 2) 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.

3. Required Documents for Application

(1) Application Form: The Application Form is available at **the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan)**

* 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

4. Procedures for Application and Selection

(1) Submission of the Application Documents

Closing date for applications: **Please confirm the local deadline with the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan).**

(All required material must arrive at **JICA Center in Japan** by July 1, 2022)

(2) Selection

Primary screening is conducted at the JICA overseas office (or the embassy of Japan) after receiving official documents from your government. JICA Center will consult with concerned organizations in Japan in the process of final selection. Applying organizations with the best intentions to utilize the opportunity will be highly valued.

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.

(3) Notice of Acceptance

The JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan) will notify the results **not later than July 15, 2022.**

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

Inception Report -- to be submitted by July 22, 2022

Accepted candidates are required to prepare an Inception Report (Please read Annex "Inception Report" for detailed information.) before their departure. The Inception Report should be prepared in the format of Microsoft PowerPoint and sent to JICA by July 22, 2022, preferably by e-mail to Tan.Miyuki@jica.go.jp and Fujita-Yumi@jica.go.jp

6. Conditions for Participation

The participants of KCCP are required

- (1) to strictly observe the course schedule,
- (2) not to change the program topics,
- (3) not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants themselves,
- (4) to understand that leaving Japan during the course period (to return to home country, etc.) is not allowed (except for programs longer than one year),
- (5) not to bring or invite any family members (except for programs longer than one year),
- (6) 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,
- (7) to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments,
- (8) not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (9) 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",
- (10) 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,
- (11) not to drive a car or motorbike, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- (12) to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation,
- (13) to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule,
- (14) to take measure against infectious disease such as wearing the mask, maintaining the social distance and washing hands, and

(15) to bring a laptop.

*Online sessions will be conducted during the quarantine duration.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

(1) **Center:** JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo)

(2) **Program Officer:** Ms. Tan Miyuki (Tan.Miyuki@jica.go.jp)

(3) **Program Assistant:** Ms. FUJITA Yumi (Fujita-Yumi@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner

(1) **Name:** Asia Regional Collaboration Institute, Inc.

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 Hokkaido Center (JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo)) Address: Minami 4-25, Hondori 16-chome, Shiroishi-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido, 003-8668, Japan TEL: 81-11-866-8383 FAX: 81-11-866-8382 (where "81" is the country code for Japan, and "11" is the local area code) Please refer to facility guide of JICA HOKKAIDO (Sapporo) at its URL, https://www.jica.go.jp/sapporo/english/office/index.html

If there is no vacancy at JICA HOKKAIDO (Sapporo), JICA will arrange alternative accommodation(s) for the participants.

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 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.

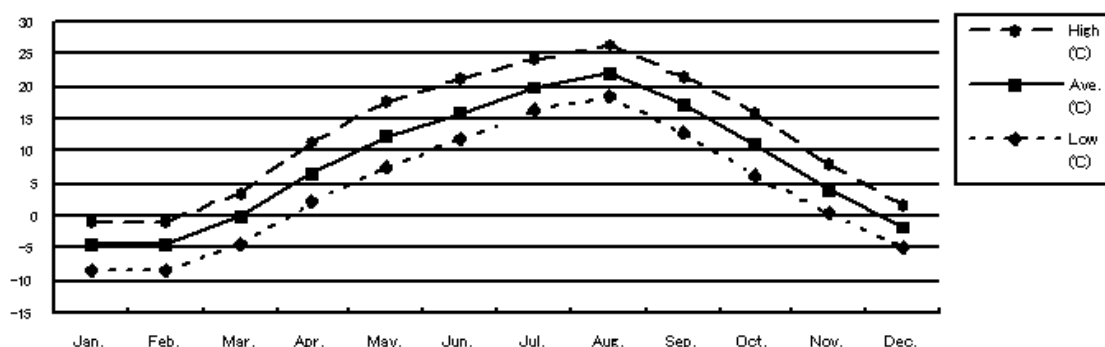
Image videos of 'Introduction of JICA Center (YouTube)' show the following information of JICA Centers: Location, Building, Entrance, Reception(Front desk), Lobby, Office, Accommodation(Room), Amenities(Hand dryer), Bathroom(Shower and Toilet), Toiletries, Restaurant, Laundry Room(Washing machine, Iron), 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
Russian ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7_ujz37AQc
Part II: Introduction of JICA Centers in Japan	
JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo)	https://www.jica.go.jp/sapporo/english/office/index.html

V. Other Information

1. Participants who have successfully completed the program in Japan will be awarded a certificate by JICA.
2. At the end of the course, participants are required to prepare an "Action Plan" and make a presentation on it, which is expected to be implemented in your home country after the training course with utilizing skills and knowledge obtained through the training course. For the convenience, JICA recommends each participant bring relevant data and reference documents which would be useful in making a well-grounded action plan.

3. Climate in Sapporo



	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
High(°C)	-1	-0.8	3.4	11.4	17.8	21	24.2	26.3	21.7	15.9	7.8	1.7
Ave.(°C)	-4.4	-4.4	-0.2	6.5	12.2	16	19.8	22.1	17.1	11	4.1	-1.6
Low(°C)	-8.4	-8.5	-4.2	2.1	7.3	11.9	16.4	18.7	12.8	6.3	0.4	-5
Snow(cm)	58	83	64	2							5	28

4. Equipment in JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo)

JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo) offers the following equipment for the participants.

<Private Room> Bed, Prefabricated Bath, Desk, Refrigerator, Hot pot, Bookshelf, Air Conditioning, In-room Safe, TV sets (CNN, NHK (BS) , DVD/VHS Video Player)
 <Audio-Visual equipment for training>Video recorder, Slide Projector, Multimedia Projector

VI. Annex

Inception Report

Inception Report should be prepared in **Russian** in the format of **Microsoft PowerPoint**, and directly submitted to JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo) by email (Tan.Miyuki@jica.go.jp and Fujita-Yumi@jica.go.jp) **by 22nd July 2022**. Since all the reports will be translated into Japanese in advance, your prompt submission of the report will be highly appreciated.

1. General information
 - 1)-1 Name
 - 1)-2 Organization
 2. Present position and its duty (advantages and disadvantages)
 3. Overall condition of agriculture in your region
 - 3)-1 Current situation (advantages and disadvantages)
 - 3)-2 Basic statistical data on regional agriculture and farmers
 - 3)-2 Future images
 4. Types of farms and farmer's organizations in your region
 - 4)-1 Current situation (advantages and disadvantages)
 - 4)-2 Future images
 5. Issues that you would like to improve / strengthen
 - 5)-1 Current situation (advantages and disadvantages)
 - 5)-2 Future images
 6. Expectations for the training course
2. The report should be written **in Russian** in the format of **Microsoft PowerPoint or Microsoft Word**.
 3. Submit the report by **not later than 22nd July 2022**. For the prior translation into Japanese, it is required to observe the submission date.

Since the report will be used in the group discussion in Japan, it is recommended for participants to bring relevant information, statistical data, pictures, maps, and the other materials.

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

JICA Tokyo Center (JICA TOKYO JICA Hokkaido Center (JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo))

Address: Minami 4-25, Hondori 16-chome, Shiroishi-ku,
Sapporo, Hokkaido, 003-8668, Japan

TEL: +81-11-866-8393 FAX: +81-11-866-8382