



Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus)

General information on

**Plant Variety Protection and Quality Control System
of Seeds to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality
Seeds (Online)**

**課題別研修「高品質種子の供給のための
植物品種保護制度及び種子の品質管理制度」(遠隔研修)
JFY 2020**

(Implemented in FY2021)

Course No.: 201902270J002

Online Program Period: From September 13, 2021 to November 2, 2021

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

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

Agriculture is the main industry and the ratio of population who engage in the agriculture is high in many developing countries. However, the productivity is still low and the quality and the yield is unstable due to the weather and plant pests and diseases in many of them.

In order to tackle the above-mentioned problems, it is essential to introduce the excellent varieties which can be adopted in the different environment according to the regions and develop the new varieties, in addition to the dissemination of the appropriate plant management techniques of the agricultural products.

At the same time, the developed new plant varieties can be very quick and easy to be propagated in the third countries without permission, though the process of plant breeding is time-consuming and expensive. Therefore, it is important to facilitate the system of PVP (Plant Variety Protection), which is a measure for promoting plant breeding by providing breeders with a legal framework for protecting their intellectual properties, and furthermore, to promote the development and circulation of excellent new varieties globally.

At present, protection of the new varieties of plants are promoted by TRIPS (Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) of WTO in each country, but the legal framework or management system in regard to PVP is behind in many countries or not properly operated in spite of the TRIPS. This is partially due to the lack of the knowledge of Plant Variety Protection and its proper implementation technique.

Japan is a member of UPOV (The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants), which is the authority in responsible for the International Convention to protect breeders' rights to those who grow plants and register its varieties. In this regard, this program aims to improve the situations of the countries so that they will be equipped with PVP system based on UPOV convention.

For what?

This program aims to provide the participants with practical skills for implementing the PVP system and quality control of seeds and seedlings, in conformity with internationally agreed principles, in order to contribute to accelerated development in agriculture.

For whom?

This program is offered to the national, local governmental and any public officers engaged in the field of PVP and/or seed testing or seed certification. These include examiners for PVP system, technicians in charge of DUS growing tests, and/or seed quality evaluation (germination, purity, moisture, seed health etc.).

Although the major part of this course involves technical issues and practices, good impacts from PVP system in line with UPOV are introduced and the participants have chances to discuss about the possibility of the UPOV accession. It should be noted that the course module does not include subjects on plant quarantine system, i.e., border control of pest and disease.

How?

During the online program, participants will have opportunities to learn technical methodologies through lectures, practices, and video visits to private companies as well as an online lectures from Vietnam and some other UPOV member countries either in Asia or in Africa. Participants are expected to disseminate their acquired knowledge to their colleagues.

II. Description

1. Title (Course No.)

Plant Variety Protection and Quality Control System of Seeds to Facilitate Distribution of High Quality Seeds (201902270J002)

2. Online Program Period

September 13, 2021 to November 2, 2021

16:00-18:00 in principle (Japan Time)

3. Target Regions or Countries

Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iraq, Laos, Philippines, Mongolia, Pakistan, Sudan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zambia

4. Eligible / Target Organization

National or local government or other relevant organization mainly in charge of practical work on new plant variety protection and/or seed testing or seed certification

5. Capacity (Upper Limit of Participants)

13 participants

6. Language

English

7. Objective

Participants acquire practical skills to implement public system of seed quality test, and new plant variety protection (PVP) system, in conformity with international standards.

8. Overall Goal

In participants' home country, the system of controlling seeds and seedlings and PVP will be established and the development and dissemination of excellent new varieties will be promoted based on UPOV convention.

9. Output and Contents

(1) Under the course objective, participants are expected to achieve the following outputs:

- 1) Participant understands the importance of PVP, and its potential impact on agricultural production and the economy of her/his country through the utilization of newly bred varieties.
- 2) Participant understands the situation to improve PVP system in conformity with UPOV and seed quality control system in Asia.
- 3) Participant acquires technical skill to conduct DUS (Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability) growing test which is an indispensable process related to examination in PVP system.
- 4) Participant understands and can explain key issues in quality control of production and distribution of seeds and seedlings in his/her home country.
- 5) Participant can explain the outline and the importance of internationally certified seed tests, and acquire technical skill to conduct seed quality testing.

- (2) Prior to the start of the online program, participants are required to prepare an Inception Report, which discusses about the improvement of PVP implementation and need for improved quality control of seeds and seedlings distributed in their countries, and submit it to JICA Tsukuba (See III.3(4)).

For the preparation of Inception Report, participants are requested to consult their senior colleague of their organizations and/or relevant authorities in their own countries.

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

(1) Preliminary Phase in participants' home countries (Prior to the start of the online program) <i>Participating organizations make required preparation for the program in the respective countries.</i>	
Expected Module Outputs	Activities
Inception Report is formulated	Following the instruction in ANNEX I & III, Participants should prepare an Inception Report. The presentation file of the inception report should be submitted to JICA Tsukuba no later than August 30, 2021.

(2) Online Program (From September 13 to November 2, 2021) (<i>Tentative schedule is shown in the following page</i>) <i>Participants attend the program online.</i>		
Expected Module Outputs	Subjects/Agendas	Methodology
1) Participant understands the importance of PVP, and its potential impact on agricultural production through breeding to improve local varieties.	* Lecture on examination at PVP Office in MAFF. * Lecture by Office of UPOV * UPOV distance learning course registration, etc. → You are requested to take UPOV DL205 if you have not taken the UPOV DL yet.	<Lectures and video visits, related to plant variety protection, distance learning by UPOV>
2) Participant understands the situation to improve PVP system in conformity with international system and seed quality control system in Asia.	* History to develop PVP system in Vietnam and joining UPOV and its importance after becoming a member of UPOV. * The situation to improve PVP system by JICA project. * QC system of seeds and seedlings in Asia.	<Lecturers and video visit to Vietnam Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)>
3) Participant acquires technical skill to conduct DUS growing test which is an indispensable process related to examination in PVP system.	Online lectures on DUS growing test (test guidelines, planning DUS test, field management, assessment & measurement, photo-taking, PVP database, etc.) by NCSS Headquarters and Nishi Nihon or other Stations.	<Online lectures on DUS tests>

4) Participant understands and can explain key issues in Quality Control of production and distribution of seeds and seedlings in their home country.	* Report on problems regarding PVP systems and Quality Control of seeds and seedlings in participants' home country, type of crop/ agri-business with international competitiveness or potential to strengthen it etc.	<Development of inception report, video visit to private and public sectors on seeds and seedlings>
5) Participant can explain the outline and the importance of internationally certified seed tests, and acquire technical skill to conduct seed quality testing.	* Lecture and video visit at the Center for Seeds and Seedlings NARO (NCSS) * Practice at NCSS Headquarters and Nishinohon Station * Video visit to seed company which exports seeds with seed quality certificates issued at NCSS.	<Lectures and video visits of seed testing laboratories>

(3) Finalization Phase in participants' home countries <i>Participating organizations are expected to produce final outputs by making use of the course's results brought back by participants. This phase marks the end of the program.</i>	
Expected Module outputs	Activities
To implement the results of the course	Application and implementation of the acquired knowledge in the participant's country.

<For your Reference: Tentative Schedule >

MAFF: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan

NCSS: Center for Seeds and Seedlings, NARO

UPOV: International Union for the Protection of New Variety of Plants

JICE: Japan International Cooperation Center

16:00-18:00 in principle (Japan Time)

Date			Program	Lecturer	Training Style
Day 1	Sept.13	Mon	Briefing / Ice-Break Orientation	JICA, JICE	Webinar
Day 2	Sept.14	Tue	Presentation of Inception Report	Participants, JICE, JICA, MAFF, NCSS, Experts	Webinar
Day 3	Sept.15	Wed	UPOV Convention, TG & DUS, Prisma, etc. (TBD)	UPOV	Video & Webinar
Day 4	Sept.16	Thu	Case Studies: Merit from the PVP system, Merit for the Farmers, etc. (TBD)	UPOV	Video & Webinar
Day 5	Sept.17	Fri	Self Reviewing of Weekly Training (Compiling of Questions)	Participants	Self-Study
	Sept.18	Sat			
	Sept.19	Sun			
Day 6	Sept.20	Mon	National Holiday (but on training) Additional Case Study (TBD)	UPOV	Webinar
Day 7	Sept.21	Tue	PVP System of Japan: Revised Law: Background and Outline Case of Infringement and Good Practices	MAFF	Webinar
Day 8	Sept.22	Wed	DUS Examination in PVP System in Japan Data Base Management	MAFF	Webinar
	Sept.23	Thu	National Holiday		
Day 9	Sept.24	Fri	EAPVP Forum Activities (ex. e-PVP Asia) Cooperation in Examination of Japan	MAFF	Webinar
	Sept.25	Sat			
	Sept.26	Sun			
Day 10	Sept.27	Mon	How to conduct Cooperation in Examination (TBD), Discussion	MAFF/UPOV(TBD)	Webinar
Day 11	Sept.28	Tue	Outline of DUS Test at NCSS Facility Tour of NCSS Nishi Nihon Station	Mr. Osaki, NCSS Tsukuba HQR NCSS Nishi Nihon Station	Video Video
Day 12	Sept.29	Wed	Test Guideline for DUS Test DUS Test Planning	Mr. Araseki, NCSS Tsukuba HQR Mr. Araseki	Video
Day 13	Sept.30	Thu	Selection of Similar Varieties Procedure of Seed Ordering for DUS Test	Mr. Mikuni, NCSS Tsukuba HQR Mr. Sasaki, NCSS Tsukuba	Video
Day 14	Oct. 1	Fri	Self Reviewing of Weekly Training (Compiling of Questions)	Participants	Self-Study
	Oct. 2	Sat			
	Oct. 3	Sun			
Day 15	Oct. 4	Mon	Selection of Similar Varieties (Workshop) Q & A by Webinar	Mr. Mikuni, NCSS Tsukuba HQR Tsukuba HQR	Webinar Webinar
Day 16	Oct. 5	Tue	Observation of Characteristics (QL/PQ/QN, MS/MG/VG/VS, etc) Photographing for DUS Test Report	Mr. Osako, NCSS Tsukuba HQR Mr. Imamura, NCSS HQR	Video Video
Day 17	Oct. 6	Wed	Note Setting Decision of DUS and Test Report Making	Mr. Nakanishi, NCSS Tsukuba HQR Mr. Horiguchi, NCSS Tsukuba HQR	Video Video
Day 18	Oct. 7	Thu	Q & A by Webinar	NCSS Tsukuba HQR	Webinar
Day 19	Oct. 8	Fri	Self Reviewing of Weekly Training (Compiling of Questions)	Participants	Self-Study
	Oct. 9	Sat			
	Oct. 10	Sun			

Date			Program	Lecturer	Training Style
Day 20	Oct. 11	Mon	Case Study of Conducting DUS Growing Test (Cultivation Method, Demonstration of Characteristics Observation)	NCSS Nishi Nihon Station	Video
			Explanation of Making of DUS Test Report for Presentation by Participants	NCSS Nishi Nihon Station	Webinar
			Q & A by Webinar	NCSS Tsukuba HQR and NCSS Nishi Nihon Station	Webinar
Day 21	Oct. 12	Tue	TBD : Case Study of DUS Test or Q & A for DUS Test Report Making Simulation by Participants	NCSS Tsukuba HQR and Mr. Mizuno (TBD)	Webinar
Day 22	Oct. 13	Wed	Additional Case Study (Merit of PVP in private sector) or Q & A Session	Any country out of ODA recipient countries	Video and Webinar
Day 23	Oct. 14	Thu	Case Study of Vietnam (Merit of PVP in private sector)	Mr. Minh, Senior Counselor of Vietnam Seem Association	Video / Webinar
Day 24	Oct. 15	Fri	Preparation of DUS Test Report Simulation Presentation	Participants	Self-Study
	Oct. 16	Sat			
	Oct. 17	Sun			
Day 25	Oct. 18	Mon	Presentation of DUS Test Report Simulation	Participants	Webinar
Day 26	Oct. 19	Tue	All about Example Varieties: Its Role in Test Guidelines and DUS Tests, Selection of Example Varieties, Its Utilization, etc.	Mr. Tadao Mizuno, former chief examiner of MAFF	Webinar
Day 27	Oct. 20	Wed	All about Example Varieties: Its Role in Test Guidelines and DUS Tests, Selection of Example Varieties, Its Utilization, etc.	Mr. Tadao Mizuno, former chief examiner of MAFF	Webinar
Day 28	Oct. 21	Thu	All about Example Varieties: Its Role in Test Guidelines and DUS Tests, Selection of Example Varieties, Its Utilization, etc.	Mr. Tadao Mizuno, former chief examiner of MAFF	Webinar
Day 29	Oct. 22	Fri	Self Reviewing of Weekly Training	Participants	Self-Study
	Oct. 23	Sat			
	Oct. 24	Sun			
Day 30	Oct. 25	Mon	All about Example Varieties: Its Role in Test Guidelines and DUS Tests, Selection of Example Varieties, Its Utilization, etc.	Mr. Tadao Mizuno, former chief examiner of MAFF	Webinar including Workshop
Day 31	Oct. 26	Tue	Q & A for Example Varieties	Mr. Tadao Mizuno, former chief examiner of MAFF	Webinar including Workshop
Day 32	Oct. 27	Wed	Seed Test of Japan	NCSS Tsukuba HQR	TBD
Day 33	Oct. 28	Thu	Disease and Pest in Seed	NCSS Tsukuba HQR	TBD
	Oct. 29	Fri			
	Oct. 30	Sat			
	Oct. 31	Sun			
Day 34	Nov. 1	Mon	Overall Discussion	Participants, MAFF, NCSS, (UPOV)	Webinar
Day 35	Nov. 2	Tue	Evaluation Meeting Closing Ceremony	MAFF, JICA, NCSS, JICE JICA, JICE	Webinar

III. Eligibility and Procedures

1. Expectations to the Applying Organizations

- (1) This course is designed primarily for organizations that intend to address specific issues or problems identified in their operation. Applying organizations are expected to use the program for those specific purposes.
- (2) This course is enriched with contents and facilitation schemes specially developed in collaboration with relevant prominent organizations in Japan. These special features enable the course to meet specific requirements of applying organizations and effectively facilitate them toward solutions for the issues and problems.

2. Nominee Qualifications

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

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties: Officials of national or local government or relevant organization in charge of technical work on **plant variety protection to protect new varieties of plants and/or seed testing or seed certification**
(Notice: Breeding, conservation and use of plant genetic resources are not included.)
- 2) Experience in the Relevant Field: have more than three (3) years' experience
- 3) Educational Background: be a university graduate, ideally with the background of agriculture-related subjects
- 4) Language Proficiency: have a competent command of spoken and written English proficiency equivalent to TOEFL iBT 85 or above (This course includes active participation in discussions, which requires high competence in English. Please attach an official certificate for English ability such as TOEFL, TOEIC etc, if possible)

(2) Specific Qualifications for Online program participation

- 1) Have own available laptop computer (with microphone and camera)
- 2) Have access to stable internet connection (5Mbps speed)
- 3) Have basic skill on internet operation such as accessibility to Zoom, Microsoft Teams, etc.
- 4) Secure the date for attending all lectures of online program
- 5) Have availability for participation regardless of the normal working hours. It will be held from 16:00 to 18:00 (Japanese time: GMT +9) every weekday during the period.

If there are any concerns, JICA overseas offices may be able to support for setting up participants' IT environment (ex. tablet or laptop PC lending, venue arrangement, etc.) by answering Questionnaire. Please see ANNEX II.

(Please also be noted that JICA overseas offices may not be able to offer sufficient support.)

(3) Recommended Qualifications

- 1) Expectations for the Participants
 - Age: between twenty-five (25) and forty-five (45) years
 - Computer skill: be able to operate the personal computer and software (cf. Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.) up to a certain level
- 2) Gender Consideration: JICA promotes gender equality. Women are encouraged to apply for the program.

3. Required Documents for Application

- (1) Application Form:** The Application Form is available at **the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan)**
- (2) Photocopy of Passport:** to be submitted with the application form.
 - *The following information should be included in the photocopy:
Name, Date of Birth, Nationality, Sex, Passport Number and Expiry Date
 - If you don't have the passport, other identifications can be acceptable (e.g., National Identification Card).
- (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)
If there is no certificate, it is strongly requested that JICA Overseas Office in the recipient country have an interview with the nominee and send the result of the interview with the application form to JICA Tsukuba.
- (4) Inception Report Document:** All applicants should prepare an Inception Report that describes present situation, current problems in their daily tasks to be addressed during this training program. It should be typewritten in English (12-point font, A4 size paper) in accordance with the instruction (see ANNEX I), and submitted together with the Application Form.
- (5) Questionnaire:** to be submitted with the application form. Fill in Annex II of this General Information.

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 materials must arrive at **JICA Center in Japan** by **July 30, 2021.**)

(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, namely Intellectual Property Division in Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and Center for

Seeds and Seedlings, NARO (NCSS), 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 August 16, 2021.**

5. Additional Document to Be Submitted by Accepted Candidates

Before the start of the online program, only accepted candidates are required to prepare a presentation material about Inception Report (detailed information is provided in the ANNEX III "Instruction for the Preparation of Inception Report".) **in Microsoft PowerPoint format.** The presentation time allocated to each participant will be ten (10) minutes including questions and answers. The presentation material should be sent to JICA by **August 30, 2021** preferably by e-mail to tbicttp@jica.go.jp

6. Conditions for Participation

The participants of KCCP are required

- (1)** to strictly observe the course schedule,
- (2)** not to record or share the online contents without permission.

7. Abbreviations:

DUS: Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability

MAFF: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan

NCSS: Center for Seeds and Seedlings, NARO

JICE: Japan International Cooperation Center

PVP: Plant Variety Protection

UPOV: International Union for the Protection of New Variety of Plants

JFY: Japan Fiscal Year (start from April to March)

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

(1) **Center:** JICA Tsukuba Center (JICA TSUKUBA)

(2) **Program Officer:** Ms. HAGIWARA Makiko (tbicctp@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partners

- **Name:** Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)
URL: <https://www.jice.org/en/index.html>
- **Name:** Intellectual Property Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF)
URL: <https://www.maff.go.jp/e/index.html>
- **Name:** Center for Seeds and Seedlings, NARO (NCSS)
URL: <https://www.naro.go.jp/english/laboratory/ncss/index.html>

3. Orientation before the start of the online program

YouTube of “Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan” is viewable from the link below.

Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan	
English ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLurfKugrEw

V. Other Information

1. **Certificate:** Participants who have successfully completed the course will be awarded an official certificate from JICA.
2. **Information of JICA:** You can check our services on our website and social media.

- **JICA Tsukuba Website:**
<https://www.jica.go.jp/tsukuba/english/office/index.html>
- **JICA Tsukuba Facebook:**
<https://www.facebook.com/jicatsukuba>
- **JICA Tsukuba Brochure:**
https://www.jica.go.jp/tsukuba/english/office/others/c8h0vm0000ec0zqr-att/tsukuba_profile_en.pdf
- **YouTube clip “Introduction of JICA Tsukuba”:**
<https://www.jica.go.jp/tsukuba/english/office/index.html>



VI. Annex I

Instruction for the Preparation of Inception Report Document (To be submitted with Application Form by all candidates)

The Inception Report is an introductory report, which describes the current situation of each participant's organization/country regarding the topic of the program

Before compiling the Inception Report, it is recommended for the applicants to consult and discuss with their senior colleague or supervisors of their organizations regarding the topics of the program and to have the report authorized by them.

Suggested topics which the applicants and their senior colleagues or supervisors discuss for the Inception Report are the following:

- 1) Regulations or laws related to intellectual property rights for new plant varieties such as Plant Variety Protection System in your country, including its conformity with the UPOV Convention.
- 2) Regulations or laws related to seed and seedling production, distribution and marketing, etc. in your country.
- 3) Regulations or laws related to seed testing or other seed quality control system, if any other than 1) and 2) above.
- 4) Situation regarding plant breeding activities in your country, etc.
- 5) Situation regarding seed industry and seed business in your country
- 6) State details of procedure, if your country works on the following subjects
 - a) DUS growing test in relation to PVP system
 - b) Seed health (testing of seed-borne pathogens according to ISTA rules)
- 7) Current problems regarding the above subjects, which need to be addressed within 2-3 years including administrative and/or legal issues
- 8) Others: Important plants in your country

Notes:

All applicants are requested to make Inception Report Document in Microsoft Word Format and submit it **with Application Form**.

VII. Annex II (Questionnaire)

【Your IT Environment for Online Program】		
Based on your answer, JICA office will consider your IT environment arrangement. Since your answer does not affect to the acceptance judgment, please answer honestly.		
No.	Questions	Yes or No
1	Do you have a following system to attend online program at your home or office?	
1-1	Desktop or laptop PC	Desktop or Laptop or None
1-2	Internet environment	Yes or No (OS version:)
1-3	Stable Internet connection (5Mbps speed)	Yes or No
1-4	PC with Microphone	Yes or No
1-5	PC with Camera	Yes or No
2	Have you ever attend online meeting?	Yes or No (When:) (Organizer:)
3	Have you ever used those online systems below?	
3-1	Zoom	Yes or No
3-2	Microsoft Teams	Yes or No
3-3	Google Drive	Yes or No
3-4	Google Form	Yes or No
3-5	You Tube	Yes or No
3-6	Facebook	Yes or No
3-7	Other	Describe it:
4	Which do you prefer, participating from your home, your office or the designated place that JICA provide such as hotels or conference rooms, during the online program? From September 13, to November 2, 2021	Your home, your office, or the designated place that JICA provide
5	Please let us know if you have any concerns or questions for participating the program.	Describe:
6	Your contact email address and phone number during the online program	Email: Phone:

VII. ANNEX III

Instruction for the Preparation of Inception Report Presentation File (To be submitted by August 30, 2021 by accepted participants only)

All accepted participants are requested to prepare an Inception Report presentation file compiling the contents of the Inception Report Document **in Microsoft PowerPoint format**.

Presentation of the Inception Report will be arranged for **10** minutes (incl. **5** minutes Q&A) for each participating country at the beginning of the online program.
In this regard, all participants are expected prepare 4 slides.

<u>Slide 1</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nickname (during the course) ● Country ● Belonging Organization ● Current Job Description (only summary) ● Photos of your office and staff (if possible)
<u>Slide 2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Relationship with UPOV (ex. present status of your country for the accession to UPOV Convention, consultation from UPOV, etc.)
<u>Slide 3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Problems or challenges on PVP & quality control system of seeds and your job responsibility
<u>Slide 4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expectation from the Online Program

The compiled Inception Report Presentation should be sent to JICA by August 30, 2021 preferably by e-mail to tbictp@jica.go.jp.

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, 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 Tsukuba Center (JICA TSUKUBA)

Address: 3-6 Koyadai, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken 305-0074, Japan

TEL: +81-29-838-1111 FAX: +81-29-838-1119

Email: tbictp@jica.go.jp