



JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Long Term Participants (JICA Development Studies Program)

General Information on Agriculture Studies Networks for Food Security (Agri-Net)

Enrolment 2027 Autumn

長期研修

「食料安全保障のための農学ネットワーク(2027 年秋入学)」

This handout provides an overview of the “Agriculture Studies Networks for Food Security (Agri-Net)” program/course, which is one of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)’s Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Long-Term). The program will be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between respective governments.

The objective of the Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Long-Term) is to offer opportunities to people from developing countries to study at higher educational institutions in Japan and to help them build their network of people. This is intended to assist in the human resource development plans of the governments of developing countries and Japan, and eventually to expand and strengthen bilateral ties between the developing countries and Japan.

0. Background

What is JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

The Japanese Cabinet revised the Development Cooperation Charter in June 2023, 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.

What is JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP)

Japan is the very first country and still is one of the very few countries that has modernized from a non-Western background to establish a free, democratic, prosperous, and peace-loving nation based on the rule of law, without losing much of its tradition and identity. With such belief, JICA invites future leaders from partner countries to Japan under KCCP and offers them opportunity to learn about Japan's unique modernization and development experiences. This special program is called, JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP).

JICA-DSP is provided to all participants of KCCP during their stay in Japan. JICA will offer participants various opportunities through which they can learn about Japan's modernization and development experiences.

<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/dsp-chair/index.html>

Voice from participants and alumni

JICA-VAN provides a variety of photos and short videos from participants and alumni. These insights will help you envision your future academic journey in Japan.

<https://jica-van-cms.jica.go.jp/custom/scholarship/jica-scholarship.html>

1. Overview

Until now, JICA has provided training programs as a part of technical cooperation in various fields. In order to strengthen networks between the target countries in respective fields, JICA established a new long-term training program to foster young/middle-aged bureaucrats, academicians and leading human resources in various fields of target countries who are capable of influencing policy making processes in their countries or contributing to socioeconomic development in the near future.

The Agri-Net Program was launched in Japanese Fiscal Year (JFY) 2017 under the framework of JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP) for the purpose of promoting cooperation for food security in the world.

JICA established the JICA Global Agenda in 2022 to promote sustainable and inclusive agricultural and rural development, as well as to stimulate agriculture (including fisheries and the livestock industry) and related industries such as processing and distribution. JICA aims to eradicate poverty in rural areas by increasing farmers' income and revitalizing rural economies, and to ensure food security through the stable production and supply of food, based on the following five prioritized clusters:

- (1) Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment & Promotion (SHEP)
- (2) Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)
- (3) Strengthening Food Value Chains (FVC)
- (4) Promotion of Fisheries-centered Blue Economy
- (5) Sustainable Livestock Development toward One Health

The program/course will offer participants with special curriculums on Japanese developmental experience (JICA-DSP) and internships, if necessary, in addition to obtaining a Master's or PhD. degree.

2. Objectives

- (1) To develop high level human resources who are capable of contributing to appropriate policy decisions and its implementation for tackling political and developmental issues in respective fields.
- (2) To establish and maintain mid and long-term amicable relationships between target countries and Japan.
- (3) To develop human resources of public and private sectors under JICA Global Agenda related to Agriculture and Rural Development Sector.
- (4) To Strengthen a human network between partner countries and Japan in the above-mentioned field.

3. Course Outline

The course consists of the acceptance of participants from target countries (see Appendix 3).

This handout provides information related to long-term courses including master's degree courses and Ph.D. courses.

Applicants may select the university to which they wish to apply from the universities which have concluded an agreement to accept JICA participants on the condition that the applicants pass the entrance examination of the selected university. Please see Appendix1- University Information for more details.

Proposed research topics should consist of subjects that contribute to government policies on sustainable development (Examples: Administration/public policy, finance, public finance management, international politics/diplomacy, regional research, business, international trade/investment, disaster risk reduction, maritime issues etc.)

In addition to curriculums of the master's and Ph.D. programs, activities such as short-term programs (e.g. Understanding the Japanese Development Experience¹), will be planned in order to enrich the participants' academic and personal experience of their programs of studies at the universities.

4. Duration

In principle, two (2) years for Master's course and three (3) years for Ph.D. course (depending on the program offered by universities).

Master: from September or October 2027 to September 2029 (2years)

Ph.D.: from September or October 2027 to September 2030 (3years)

Note 1 (Conditional Acceptance / Research Student):

- If a certain university judges that a certain candidate is not readily acceptable (insufficient) as a proper student, that candidate may be accepted as a "research student" for a period of six (6) months at longest. This period is not counted as a part of the regular course of Master's or Ph.D. program. Research students are requested to stay in Japan and study intensively to utilize their time to prepare for the entrance examination.

¹ As part of JICA-DSP, this program is co-organized by GRIPS (National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies), IUJ (International University of Japan) and JICA for JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Long Term Participants. The program offers participants with opportunities to gain a deep understanding of the Japanese development experience, and to draw lessons and gain insights that will support their development work at their home countries and internationally.

- In case research students cannot pass the entrance exam within six (6) months, they **MUST** return to their home countries without delay (Agri-Net Program scholarship will be terminated at that moment).
- Before application, the candidates should consider the possibility of additional period as research students and should be approved by belonging organizations.
- Necessary living cost during the period as research students will be paid by JICA following JICA's regulation as described in Section 11-Expenses to be Borne by JICA.

Note 2 (Longer Duration):

- Some universities set more than three (3) years for a Ph.D course, please check admission information of the universities that you intend to apply to.
- If so, be sure to obtain permission from your belonging organization to leave in that period.

5. Number of Participants

36 participants in total from the target countries.

(Maximum 10 participants allowed for Ph.D. courses)

*Please note that for the Agri-Net Program, which aims to develop human resources in the public and private sectors based on JICA's Global Agenda, JICA may prioritize applicants whose research interests are strongly related to the five fields mentioned in "Overview", those who have participated in JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Programs and those who are related to JICA's technical cooperation projects.

6. Language to be used in this Program

English

7. Eligibility

Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- (1) **Current Duties:** Young or mid-career government officials and prospective academics who are expected to contribute to policy formulation or its implementation for tackling sustainable development issues in their respective fields.

* In principle, candidates without affiliations are not eligible for acceptance.

- Applicants from the private sector must be engaged in fields related to systems, policies, and organizations in the agriculture and rural development sector; sustainable agricultural production; the food value chain (FVC); livestock development and animal health; or fisheries development and resource management.

- (2) **Nationality:** Citizens of the target countries (see Appendix 3) eligible for Japan's ODA

(3) Age:

for master's programs, thirty-five (35) years of age or under in principle (As of April 1, the year of enrolment).

for Ph.D. programs, forty (40) years of age or under in principle (As of April 1, the year of enrolment).

* Should there be certain circumstances deemed to be considered, applicants over the age mentioned above may become accepted. Please contact our JICA overseas office for more information.

(4) Educational Background:

for master's programs, a Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree holder

for Ph.D. programs, a Master's Degree holder

(5) Working experiences/ status:

- to have a total of more than five (5) years of work experience
- to have at least six (6) months of work experience at their current organization.
- to obtain permission for application from their current belonging organizations.
- to secure reinstatement from their current belonging organizations.

(6) Language: sufficient English proficiency (in reading, writing, listening and speaking) equivalent to or higher than the scores listed below, as required for the specialized and academic education necessary to complete a Master's or Ph.D. program;

TOEFL iBT: 90

IELTS: 6.5

CEFR:B2

DET (Duolingo English Test): 120-125

(7) Physical Presence: must physically come to Japan to carry out research activities to complete this program.

(8) Health: to be in good health to participate in the program.

(9) Others: must not be receiving nor plan to receive other scholarships from Japanese government, such as Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), The Japan Foundation (JF) during the program.

8. Admissions

Applicants must be selected as JICA's official candidates through JICA's internal selection procedure and must pass the entrance examination² of the university they have applied to,

² The results of JICA's screening procedure and University's entrance examination will not accept any inquiry.

including examinations to enter the candidates' desired Master's degree or Ph.D. degree course.

JICA seeks more female applicants due to the past records of fewer applications from women. JICA is committed to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment and provides equal opportunities for all applicants regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. See Appendix5- Encourage Women to Joint the Course.

9. Application Guidelines

Applicants must apply through the procedures as described below, which are necessary requirements by both applicant's Government and the Government of Japan for the Official Development Assistance (ODA).

(1) Procedures and Required Documents for Application:

Each applicant is required to submit the "Application Documents³" listed in (2) below to JICA overseas office in charge of the applicants' countries.

(2) Application Documents

1) Required Documents for JICA when applicants apply to this program

- ① JICA Application Form (AF) (see Appendix 2: Part A, Part B, Annex1 and Annex2)
 - * Authorized signature and official stamp is required on "Official Application Form" and "Present Organization and Nomination"
 - * Copy of e-mail, etc. of "provisional approval for supervision" from a potential supervisor that supervision toward degree completion is possible. In addition, check the relevant boxes in the Application Form.
- ② Graduation certificate/Degree certificate
 - * Officially certified copies of the original
 - * Written in English or accompanied with official translation
- ③ Academic transcript
 - * Must contain all the grades earned at the university attended by the applicant
 - * Officially certified copies of the original transcript
 - * Written in English or accompanied with official translation in English
- ④ Photocopy of certificate of English language proficiency test
 - * Regardless of the university's requirements, all applicants are required to submit an English language proficiency test. (see (6) of Section 7. Eligibility)
 - * Applicants are therefore encouraged to take an English language proficiency test that satisfies the requirements of their intended university, as the same test score may be used later for the university application process.
 - * For information on reimbursement of English language proficiency test fees, see

³ Submitted documents will not be returned.

"(4) Points to Be Noted Regarding Procedures."

- ⑤ A copy of Passport or ID with photo (for checking nationality, name, sex, and date of birth)
 - * A certified English translation must be attached if the ID is written in a language other than English, French, Portuguese, or Spanish.
- ⑥ 2 ID photos (4cm × 3cm) pasted on application form (Original and copy)

2) Required Documents for university when applicants apply to their preferred university
Please follow guidance from each university.

3) Required Documents for JICA after applicants apply to their preferred university

① Health Certificate

- * Must be submitted in JICA format to JICA office of the applicants' country at the applicants' expense, no later than April, the year of enrolment.
- * The date of Health Certificate should be on or after April 1, the year of enrolment.
- * Without the certificate, admission may be rejected.
- * JICA will NOT reimburse the cost to the applicant.

② Medical History

- * Must be submitted in JICA format to JICA office of the applicants' country, no later than April, the year of enrolment.
- * Applicants who require assistance due to a disability or medical condition are requested to specify the necessary support in Medical History (1-(c)) so that JICA can make appropriate logistical arrangements or provide alternatives.

(3) Selection Process in General

There are mainly following three selection processes. (See 10. Schedule for more details.)

- (A) The first selection by JICA based on the submitted documents⁴
- (B) The second selection by Japanese universities is through candidates' applications and general entrance examinations⁵
- (C) The third selection by JICA Headquarters

(4) Points to be Noted regarding Procedures

⁴ 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

⁵ Applicants must follow each university's application procedure after the screening. If the applicant decides to withdraw after their official applications to the universities, the applicant must formally inform the university and JICA overseas office in their country by letter.

Fees for English proficiency test can be reimbursed only once when the general entrance examinations are taken. Details of the reimbursement vary by each area and should be consulted with the nearest JICA overseas office of each candidate.

JICA will determine whether the candidate is eligible to participate in training in Japan. JICA will make a decision on acceptance or rejection based on several factors such as entrance examination results, planned number of participants, medical examination results and others. The reason for the decision will not be disclosed.

10. Schedule

By the mid-November of 2026.	1. Applicants are nominated by their respective organizations in the target countries. The organization responsible in the target countries will select the applicants. 2. Applicants applying for Fall 2027 enrollment must read Appendix1 (University Information) carefully. Applicants are highly encouraged to consult with their university supervisors whose research interests align with those of the applicants independently and acquire provisional supervision approval. For the first contact with the supervisor, the applicant must clearly indicate that he/she is applying under the Agri-Net Program by using the Preliminary Consultation Form (Appendix 4.2). Please refer to Pre-Consultation Guide (Appendix 4.1) for details on important considerations. 3. Applicants must submit their application forms to the JICA overseas office responsible for their country by the designated date by JICA. Applications without provisional supervision approval will still be accepted. However, applicants who have obtained this confirmation may be given higher priority during the AF review by JICA. Please confirm the local deadline with the JICA overseas office.
mid-November 2026 – January 2027	Selection process by JICA (1 st Selection) <i>see (A) of (2) Selection process</i>
Around the end of January 2027	The results of the selection process will be notified to each applicant through the JICA overseas office. *Change the name of those who have passed the selection process at the JICA headquarters from "Applicant" to "Candidate."
February -June(approximately) 2027	Candidates will apply for admission to take the university's general entrance examination.
February -June(approximately) 2027	Selection process by university (2nd Selection: Entrance Examination) <i>see (B) of (2) Selection process</i>
June - July 2027	Arrival of results of entrance examination from the university
June - July 2027	Finalization of candidates at JICA Headquarters (3rd Selection) <i>see (C) of (2) Selection process</i>
July - August 2027	JICA sends a "Letter of Acceptance" to final candidates as the official result of the approval.

	Preparation for study in Japan if candidate is determined as a KCCP (Long-term) participant
September-October 2027	Orientation by JICA overseas office before departure
September -October 2027	Orientation by JICA domestic office Beginning of Fall Semester in Japan

*Schedule for the application period for the general entrance examination depends on each university.

*Schedule and program contents might be adjusted appropriately due to unforeseen circumstances.

(2) Selection process

(A) The first selection: Selection by JICA based on application forms (AFs)

[Necessary Actions for Applicants for this selection]

Each applicant submits Application Documents listed in (2) of 9. Application Guidelines by the local deadline designated by JICA overseas office in applicant's country.

Period	Mid-November 2026 – January 2027
Contents	(1) Screening of submitted Application Documents by JICA overseas office (2) Interview of applicants by JICA overseas office in applicants' country may be conducted to check professional experience, basic academic ability, and English language proficiency (3) Screening of submitted Application Documents by JICA Headquarters.
Objectives	To review the qualifications and requirements of each applicant (shown in Section 7. "Eligibility"). This confirms applicants' ability to contribute to achieving the course objectives and addressing their country's development challenges after the program.
Result	Applicants who pass this selection can proceed to the second Selection. (hereinafter referred as "candidate")

(B) The second selection: Selection (Entrance Examination) by Japanese universities

[Necessary Actions for Candidates for this selection]

Each candidate must check the application documents required by the university to which they apply. They must then submit the required application documents directly to the university by the specified deadline. It is ALL the candidate's responsibility to duly submit required documents including submission of English test score if necessary to the university by its deadline⁶. JICA will NOT intervene in this process. Some universities require sending hard copies of documents to Japan. Those who are required to enter as research students also need to check the necessary application procedure as research students set by each university. JICA will NOT cover the cost of postage. **Only the fee for entrance examinations is paid directly to each university by JICA.**

⁶ Candidate needs to take English skill test considering the schedule in order to submit the score to university by the deadline if necessary.

During this selection process, each candidate may be interviewed (e.g. by using Zoom) depending on the university's selection process.

Period	February 2027 – June 2027(approximately)
Contents	Screening of submitted university application documents and interviews by Japanese universities
Objectives	General entrance examination by Japanese universities
Venue	If necessary, using Zoom or other means for interviews
Selection	Universities will screen the candidates based on the documents they submit, as well as on interviews, etc.
Result	The candidates who pass this selection will proceed to the third screening by JICA Headquarters.

(C) The third selection: Determination of the Final Candidate by JICA Headquarters

Period	July 2027(approximately)
Contents	Final coordination by JICA Headquarters
Objectives	Adjustment the number of participants in maximum 36, etc.
Result	JICA domestic office starts necessary arrangements for acceptance

*Even if candidates pass the second selection, this does not guarantee selection as program participants.

11. Expenses To Be Borne By JICA

Under the JICA KCCP Long-term Trainee Allowance standards, JICA will cover expenses and allowance to participants accepted to the program/course. See the table below for more details. Note that the payments (e.g., for tuition, research support expenses, school support expenses) will not be paid directly to the candidates/participants themselves, but directly to the university or other relevant institutions.

Expense category	Payment amount	Payment frequency
Tuition (examination fees, entrance fees, course fees)	Actual costs	According to the request from universities
Living Allowance	JPY 143,000–148,000 per month*	Every month via university
Airfare	Actual costs	Upon arrival in Japan and upon returning home
Outfit Allowance**	JPY100,000	Once (upon arrival in Japan)
Moving Allowance***	Up to JPY164,000-224,000	Once (during the training period)**

Research Support Expenses****	Actual costs (up to JPY360,000 per year)	
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).	In accordance with the provisions of the medical insurance	

*Varies according to living area in Japan, type of accommodation, etc.

**Only once, after opening bank account in Japan. As it takes several weeks to have the bank account opened, it is strongly recommended to bring cash for personal expenses during the period.

***Depending on the accommodation facility. Consultation with the university is required.

****Research Support Expenses are allowed to be provided via the university and will be disbursed subject to consultation and approval by the applicant's supervisor.

12. Expenses Not To Be Borne By JICA⁷

JICA will not bear any costs other than the allowances described above. JICA is not responsible for the following expenses:

- (1) Passport fees (for re-issuance and extensions, etc.)
- (2) Visa fees for a transit countries and related and transportation expenses to obtain Visa
- (3) Transportation expenses to obtain a Japanese Visa
- (4) Domestic travel expenses within the applicant's home country
- (5) Departure tax
- (6) Airport tax/airport facility charges outside of Japan, including third countries
- (7) Customs duty
- (8) Excess baggage charges
- (9) Compensation for lost and/or damaged baggage
- (10) "No show" charge" for transit airport hotel (non-refundable)
- (11) Lost - ticket fee
- (12) Accommodation fee for day-use hotel during return travel
- (13) Transportation expenses not related to official programs
- (14) Telephone bill or mini-bar tab at accommodation
- (15) Medical costs related to pre-existing illness, pregnancy, or dental treatment
- (16) Medical cost related to the same illness exceeding 180days
- (17) National Health Insurance fee

Note: If participants/candidates fail to comply with JICA regulations, they may be required to bear any additional necessary expenses.

13. Conditions for Participation

The applicants/participants of KCCP are required,

(1) Travel, Schedule, and Stay in Japan

- to understand that participants must physically come to Japan to participate in this program at the date designated by JICA,
- not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants on their own,
- to return to their home country on a flight designated by JICA, when they finish the program/course or when it is deemed impossible to finish the program within the program period, or when the participant is not successful on the regular course examination,
- to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule,
- to understand that the maximum duration of "Overseas research" and "Temporary Leave (leaving Japan for private purpose)" is 60 days, in principle.

(2) Academic Programs and Research

- not to change course subjects or extend the course period,
- to enroll and complete JICA-DSP online courses, when you receive JICA's instructions to do so.
- to approve the following conditions on summary of my thesis;
 - ① Summary of the thesis shall be kept at JICA.
 - ② Summary of the thesis can be read by anyone who made a request to JICA.
 - ③ Summary of the thesis can be used for publication by JICA including the JICA website.
 - ④ Photocopy of the thesis shall be permitted to third parties upon approval by JICA.
- to acknowledge that a leave of absence from school is not permitted in principle,
- to understand that the maximum duration of research student is 6 months for both master's and Ph.D. courses, and duration of acceptance as a regular student is based on the course years determined by the university,

(3) Health and Medical Management

- to be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care expenses described in the table of "11. Expenses To be borne by JICA,"
- to submit a Health Certificate with Medical History in JICA format to JICA office of the applicants' country at the applicants' expense, no later than the end of April, the year of enrolment. The date of Health Certificate should be on or after April 1, the year of enrolment. JICA will NOT reimburse the cost to the applicants.
- to accept to submit a second Health Certificate in JICA format if deemed necessary by JICA. The cost of acquiring the Health Certificate will be borne by JICA unless it is required due to the candidates' fault.

- to promptly resubmit their medical history, if there are changes in their health condition, such as pregnancy or a pre-existing disease,
- to be in good health to participate in the program. In order to reduce the risk of worsening symptoms associated with respiratory tract infection, please be honest when consulting the doctor for their Health Certificate,
- to accept to take tuberculosis related inspections organized by JICA after arriving in Japan and to submit the results to JICA and university.

(4) Application Eligibility and Restrictions

- to accept that 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,
- not to be receiving nor plan to receive other scholarships from Japanese government, such as Japan Student Service Organization (JASSO), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), The Japan Foundation (JF) during the program
- to understand not to make other applications for different JICA training courses at the same time,
- to indicate all educational background, including currently enrolled university, if any.
- to understand that the use of Generative AI such as Chat GPT to create Application Forms including Research Plans, and research papers may not be acceptable in accordance with the policies of each university. Any such use may result in rejection of your application or termination of training if identified.

(5) Compliance, Regulations, and Penalties

- 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,
- to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments, ("Plagiarism" especially is taken severely by enrolling university, regardless of whether it is direct plagiarism or self-plagiarism and participants may be subjected to disciplinary action such as suspension),
- not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- to agree to be discontinued from the program, should the participant (a)violate Japanese laws, JICA's regulations, or University's regulations, (b)commit illegal or any type of immoral conduct including sexual harassment, (c)become critically ill or seriously injured after arrival in Japan.
- to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for KCCP depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- not to drive a car or motorbike in Japan, regardless of an international driving license possessed,
- to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation,

(6) Allowances and Family Accompanying

- to understand that inviting participants' family members (Spouse and children only) is not recommended until at least six months after the participant's arrival in Japan,

Appendixes:

1. University Information (Excel)
2. Application Form (Excel)
3. List of the Target Countries for Agri-Net JFY2027 (Word)
- 4.1 Pre-Consultation Guide (PDF)
- 4.2 Preliminary Consultation Form for Matching Progress by JICA Applicant (related to research plan) (Excel)
5. "Encourage Women to Joint the Course" (PDF)



CORRESPONDENCE

For enquiries and further information, please contact your nearest JICA office.

Appendix 3 List of Target Countries for Agri-Net JFY2027

Countries	・東南アジア (7 ケ国) : インドネシア、マレーシア、フィリピン、タイ、カンボジア、ラオス、東ティモール Southeast Asia (7 countries): Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Timor-Leste ・大洋州 (7 ケ国) : フィジー、サモア、バヌアツ、パプアニューギニア、ソロモン諸島、パラオ、ミクロネシア Oceania (7 countries): Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, Palau, Micronesia ・東・中央アジア (6 ケ国) : モンゴル、キルギス、アゼルバイジャン、アルメニア、タジキスタン、ウズベキスタン East and Central Asia (6 countries): Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan ・南アジア (6 ケ国) : バングラデシュ、ネパール、スリランカ、モルディブ、インド、パキスタン South Asia (6 countries): Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, India, Pakistan ・中南米 (16 ケ国) : グアテマラ、ニカラグア、ボリビア、ブラジル、パラグアイ、セントルシア、エクアドル、ドミニカ共和国、エルサルバドル、ジャマイカ、アルゼンチン、ペルー、キューバ、コロンビア、パナマ、ホンジュラス Latin America (16 countries): Guatemala, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Saint Lucia, Ecuador, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Jamaica, Argentina, Peru, Cuba, Colombia, Panama, Honduras ・中東・欧州 (12 ケ国) : イラク、ヨルダン、エジプト、チュニジア、トルコ、モルドバ、ウクライナ、北マケドニア、モンテネグロ、アルバニア、コソボ、ボスニア・ヘルツェゴヴィナ Middle East and Europe (12 countries): Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Turkey, Moldova, Ukraine, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina ・アフリカ (40 ケ国) : エチオピア、ガーナ、ケニア、マラウイ、南アフリカ、ウガンダ、ザンビア、ブルキナファソ、カメルーン、コートジボワール、マダガスカル、モザンビーク、ルワンダ、ナイジェリア、ガボン、チャド、ボツワナ、モーリタニア、セネガル、スーダン、コンゴ民主共和国、南スーダン、ナミビア、ベナン、コンゴ共和国、ブルンジ、アンゴラ、レソト、ギニア、ガンビア、リベリア、シエラレオネ、中央アフリカ、トーゴ、ジンバブエ、タンザニア、マリ、カーボベルデ、赤道ギニア、ソマリア Africa (40 countries): Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Nigeria, Gabon, Chad, Botswana, Mauritania, Senegal, Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, Namibia, Benin, Republic of the Congo, Burundi, Angola, Lesotho, Guinea, Gambia, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Central Africa, Togo, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Mali, Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Somalia
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Encourage Women to Join the Course !

The role of women in agriculture contributes significantly to improving the world's food supply.

As a stakeholder in global agricultural production and food security

More than half of the world's people engaged in agriculture are women, and in most developing countries, women produce two-thirds of all food.

However, rural women have very limited opportunities for education, social participation, technology diffusion, and access to various inputs and services such as agricultural machinery, seeds, and fertilizers.

Land ownership

Land owned by women -
Less than 20% -



Developing countries 10% -

World Economic Forum (2020) "Global Gender Gap Report 2020"

Access to agricultural extension services

Agricultural extension services
available to women farmers -
Only 5% -



FAO (2015) "Women, agriculture and food security"

What will you do ?

- JICA recognizes women as important stakeholders in driving economic growth.
- The door is open for applications. We at JICA encourage women to participate!

**Knowledge Co-Creation
Program (Group and Region
Focus)**

**Capacity Development for
Empowerment of Rural Women**

JICA introduces the Japanese rural development process and livelihood approaches and rural women's entrepreneurial activities and gender equality initiatives to policy makers and extension advisors involved in supporting women in developing countries.

**The United Nations General
Assembly has declared 2026
as the International Year of the
Woman Farmer. (May 2024)**

The initiative recognizes the essential role of women in agriculture and food security, while addressing gender disparities in land ownership, market access, credit, and technology.



Guide for Preliminary-Consultation Inquiry with a Desired Graduate School and Supervisor

1. Points to Note

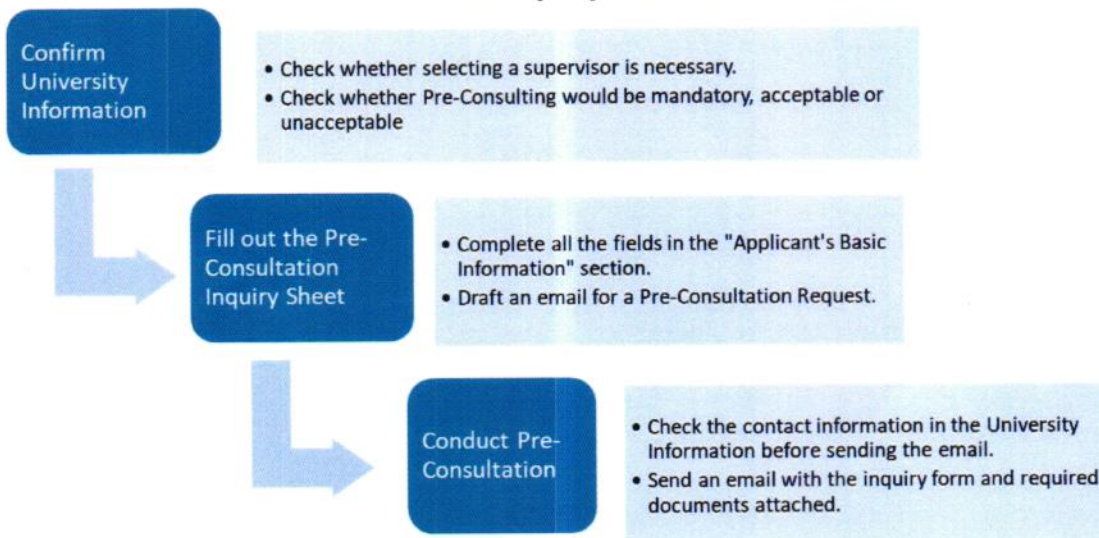
1.1 Purpose of Preliminary Consultation:

The preliminary consultation (Pre-Consultation) is specifically designed to ensure that your research plan and theme are well-aligned with your desired graduate schools and potential supervisors. Using the 'University Information' and the 'Preliminary Consultation Inquiry Sheet', you can reach out to your desired graduate schools in a proper and effective manner.

1.2 Duration:

The Pre-Consultation period shall be ended in **Middle of November 2026**. Please ensure you can conduct the preliminary consultation before the submission of Application Form.

1.3 Outline of Pre-Consultation Inquiry Process



2. How to Fill Out the Preliminary Consultation Inquiry Sheet

2.1 Preliminary Consultation Inquiry Sheet Sample

Below is a sample of the Preliminary Consultation Inquiry Sheet, which you can use to reach out to a potential supervisor with your inquiry.

Refer to 2.2 Confirmation Points'

Refer to 2.3 Basic Information of Applicant'

Refer to 2.4 Inquires to the University'

Preliminary Consultation Form by JICA Applicant
(related to research plan)
Agriculture Studies Networks for Food Security (Agri-Net)

大学ご担当者様

・本書は、これを出す者がJICA長期研修の応募希望者かつ貴校への出願を希望する者であることを示します。
・本表は、貴校が希望する研究テーマが採可なものであるかどうかを確認するものであり、入学を内定するものではありません。可能な範囲で相談者の研究に関する事前相談にご回答ください。
・相談者は事前相談（9月中旬～11月中旬）の結果も踏まえ、直接出願の希望大学（研究科）を決定します。
・入試合格をいただいたのち、最終的な受入判断はJICAが決定いたします。（翌年7月頃）

To University

This document certifies that the applicant named below is a prospective applicant for the JICA Long-Term Training Program and wishes to apply to your university.

The preliminary consultation is intended to confirm whether the prospective applicant's desired research theme can be supervised and does not constitute a guarantee of acceptance. Please respond to the prospective applicant's request as soon as possible to the extent possible.

Based on the results of the prior consultation period (from early July to mid-November), the prospective applicant will select the graduate school to which they wish to apply directly.

After passing the entrance examination, the final decision on acceptance will be made by JICA in or around July of the following year.

To Applicant

Preliminary consultation conducted using this form does not guarantee admission to the university.

Please do not send emails with both the subject line and body left blank.

FYI: Email Sample (Click here)

☐ Please confirm that "JICA Applicant Pre-Consultation" is entered in the subject line of your email.

☐ Please ensure that your name, country, and program are clearly stated in the body of your email.

To be filled in by the applicant. *Please ensure that all yellow columns are completed.* Inquiry Date: _____

Basic Information of Applicant	
Graduate School Code	
Name of the University	
Name of the Graduate School	
Name of the Course	
Name of Potential Supervisor	
JICA Program	Agriculture Studies Networks for Food Security (Agri-Net)
Name of Applicant	
E-mail Address	
Country	
Organization	
First Academic Background	
Field of Study (F.S.)	
Specific Research Field (SRF)	
Research Theme	
Alternative Theme (if applicable)	

Inquiries to the University	
Inquiries must be related your research plan.	

2.2 Confirmation Points

The top of this Inquiry Sheet includes the following notes as confirmation points.

- ✓ Even if the candidate receives a response from the university indicating that their research aligns with the university's interests through this preliminary consultation form, **it does not guarantee admission** to the university. All candidates must undergo subsequent such as general entrance examination.
- ✓ Please **do not send a blank email** in both the subject and body of the e-mail. You can refer to the 'E-mail Sample' when sending inquiry sheet to a university.

E-mail Sample

A	B
1	
2	Subject Inquiry from a JICA Applicant: Pre-Consultation Request (name)
3 4 5	The body of the email (Sample) To whom it may concern, Greetings. I hope this message finds you well. My name is XXX, and I am a JICA candidate from "Country," participating in the Agri-Net program." I am currently employed at XXX (your organization). I am very interested in studying in your laboratory of "XXX (name of course)" at XXX (Name of Graduate School Name) because ---- (brief reason why you are interested in) . Attached to this email is a pre-consultation form. I would greatly appreciate it if you could take the time to review my inquiry and provide your feedback. Thank you very much for your consideration. Best regards, Attached Document: - Information on the Applicant's Organization - Research Background & Interests - Research Plan and Career Plan - Copy of the master's thesis (Ph.D. applicants only)
6	
7	

Please be sure to check when sending an Inquiry Sheet via Email

- Did you put "Inquiry from a JICA Applicant: Pre-Consultation Request" in the email subject line?
- In the body of the e-mail, did you clearly state your name, country, and program in which you are participating? (Refer to E-mail Sample)

2.3 Basic Information of Applicant

Please fill in all the fields highlighted in yellow in the "Basic Information of Applicant" section.

Filled in by Applicant * Please complete all the yellow sections. Inquiry Date (YYYY/MM/DD))

Basic Information of Applicant	
Name of Desired University	Refer to "Column E" in the University Information.
Name of Desired Graduate School	Refer to "Column F" in the University Information.
Graduate School Code	Refer to "Column B." ex) 3701A
Name of Course	Refer to "Column G and H."
Name of Preferred Supervisor	Refer to Column I. Even if you find a different supervisor's name at the URL in Column T or Column V, you should select the name from Column I as the potential supervisor.
JICA Program (Select from dropdown list)	Agri-Net Program
Name of Applicant	Your Name
E-mail Address	Your contact e-mail address
Country	Country of Residence
Current Organization Name	Please fill out the name of the organization you are currently working for.
Final Academic Background	The degree you have obtained
Field of Study (FS) / Specific Research Field (SRF)	Please specify the field of study or major you have completed.
Research Theme Title (tentative theme is acceptable)	Please specify the research theme/ title.

2.4 Inquires to the University

Please check the 'SHOULD NOT' and 'SHOULD' sections below carefully and draft the body of the preliminary consultation accordingly.

Points to note for the "Inquires to the University" section:

****SHOULD NOT:**** ☹️

- Attaching only the research plan or thesis without any questions, leaving the section blank.
- Attaching only the research plan or thesis and asking, "Which laboratory matches my research?"
- Asking questions without checking the potential supervisor or desired laboratory's website to understand what research the professor or laboratory is conducting.

****SHOULD:**** 😊

- Thoroughly review the research content of the desired laboratory and potential supervisor on the university's website. Formulate your questions based on this information. This step is crucial, so please ensure you complete it.
- To check more details about the desired graduate school and supervisor information, please refer to the **University Information** in **Column J** (Website for the graduate school), **Column P** (Messages for Candidates), **Column S** and **T** (URL or documents to refer to a list of professors with whom candidates may apply) in addition to the university's official website.

University Information

Column J

Column P

Column T

Column V

University

(2) 大学への事前相談
(2) Prior consultation for selecting a potential supervisor

応募希望者へのメッセージ・
アピールポイント等
Messages for prospective applicants

修士
Master

博士
Ph. D

応募希望者からの事前相談連絡先
Contact Information for prior
consultation with university

指導教員氏名
(英語表記)
Name of professor
(English)

研究科ウェブサイト
(英文URL)
Website for the
graduate school
(English)

応募希望者へのメッセージ・アピールポイント等
(英語)
(任意記入)
Messages for prospective applicants, if any
(English)
(Optional)

修士課程応募希望者が指導を
希望することができる教員一
覧の参照先URL、資料
URL or documents to
refer to a list of
professors with whom
prospective applicants
may apply.

博士課程応募希望者が指導を
希望することができる教員一
覧の参照先URL、資料
URL or documents to
refer to a list of
professors with whom
prospective applicants
may apply.

関係先の教員名または担当
窓口係局名
Please enter the name of
the professor or the
faculty member in
charge to select a
potential supervisor
for prior consultation.

事前相談先メールアドレス
Please input an e-mail
address for
consultation from
prospective Applicants.

Website for the
graduate school

Messages for
Candidates

URL or documents to
refer to a list of
professors with whom
candidates may apply.

Caution!

Even if you find a different supervisor's name at the URL in **Column S** or **Column T**, the name listed in **Column I** is the appropriate potential supervisor.

*If you are attaching research papers or other documents, please list the attachment names at the bottom.

The bottom of Inquiry Sheet

Inquires to the University Inquires must be related your research plan	
Attached Document Title:	
Here	