



Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus)

General information on

**Capacity Development of Local Government for Community
Rebuilding in Conflict-Affected Countries**

**課題別研修「地方行政能力強化(紛争影響国における地域社会再建)」
JFY 2026**

Course No.: 202514912J001

Course Period in Japan: From January 18, 2027 to February 4, 2027

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.¹

JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

The Japanese Cabinet released 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.

I. Concept

Background

After the cold war, conflicts have been recurring frequently all over the world; and its termination, the reconstruction and development after the conflicts and the support to prevent the reoccurrence of the conflicts are crucial issues internationally. Recent characteristics of the conflicts are summarized as an increase of the internal conflicts, diversification and complication of the root causes of the conflicts, and its concentration on the developing countries, especially on the less developed areas. In the context of these conflict-affected countries, there exist common problems of the government structure being fragile with governance issues. The regional/local government systems which this program targets at have the problems of functionality for efficient public service delivery. In order to establish the peaceful state and the sustainable development, it is necessary to support to enhance the capacity in regional/local government.

Japan has restored the vast damages of the World War II, built the peaceful state and attained the economic development. Efficient and functional local government is one of key aspects for sustainable peace and development of Japan. Thus, to share the system and practices of the local governance of Japan as an example is effective to reconsider the role of the regional/local government in the conflict-affected countries.

For what?

This program is for regional/local and central government officers to improve their comprehension with reference to the local development and community rebuilding in order to enhance their policy/plan formulation and implementation capacity.

For whom?

This program is offered to regional/local government officials and central government officials in charge of local government and planning.

Each country is requested to submit both female and male applications for the participants to gain insights from women's point of views, and to accelerate the realization of gender equality and women's empowerment.

How?

This training program offers the face-to-face lectures and discussions on i) case studies of community rebuilding in conflict-affected countries, ii) local governance system of Japan, iii) experiences of cooperation between local government and communities in promoting local development, iv) postwar/post-disaster community rebuilding experiences in Japan, v) roles, competences and inter-government relations in promoting local development.

Through these, participants will extract the lessons which can be referred to in strengthening the functions of regional/local government, and to resolve the issues faced by these governments. In addition, by reviewing the processes and mechanisms of public

service delivery, it is expected to enhance the policy formation and implementation capacity in rebuilding a region/community which will not relapse into conflicts.

This program not only puts emphasis on the discussions on the local governance but also on how to apply them for more stable development in their own countries.

II. Description

1. Title (Course No.)

Capacity Development of Local Government for Community Rebuilding in Conflict-Affected Countries (202514912J001)

2. Course Duration in Japan

January 18 to February 4, 2027

3. Target Regions or Countries

Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Ukraine

Female applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for the program.

4. Eligible / Target Organization

Regional/Local governments

Central ministry in charge of local governments

5. Capacity

12participants

6. Language

English *participants should be sufficient to attend this course in English

7. Objective(s)

Capacity of regional/local and central government officers in conflict-affected countries in charge of local development and community development will be strengthened in terms of policy/plan formulation and implementation.

8. Overall Goal

The course will focus on the potentials and role of regional/local government in local and community development. Reference will be made to Japan's experience in local development, local governance system, as well as post-war and post-disaster reconstruction processes. Participants will also share and learn views and experiences from other participants..

9. Output and Contents

This course consists of the following components. Details on each component are given below.²

Expected Module Output	Subjects/Agendas	Methodology
【Module Output 1】 To review the relevance of promoting peacebuilding through community rebuilding in conflict-affected countries.	Framework of peacebuilding and case studies of support for the local government in conflict affected countries	Lecture Discussion
【Module Output 2】 To understand the roles and functions of local governance system of Japan, including its history, institutional reforms and challenges.	Transition of local governance system in Japan, Current local governance system in Japan, Relationship between executive and legislature	Lecture
【Module Output 3】 To obtain the concrete images on how the local government functions in promoting development with a focus on relationship between government and communities including women and the vulnerability, and extract lessons which could be referred to in strengthening local government functions to resolve issues of their own country.	1. Local government mission and responsibility	Lecture Discussion
	1. Case study in Akitakata City a. Local governance system in Akitakata City b. Comprehensive planning and citizen participation c. Community building based on government-citizen collaboration	Lecture and Visit

【Module Output 4】 To understand and acquire the lessons learned with regard to the role of local government in community rebuilding, which could be referred to in strengthening local government functions to resolve issues of the own country, based on Japan's postwar and post-disaster reconstruction experiences	1. Lessons from postwar reconstruction in Hiroshima prefecture -Observation of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park	Lecture and Visit
	2. Overview of Great East Japan Earthquake and implementation mechanism of reconstruction projects	Lecture
	3. Community development for reconstruction in Higashi-Matsushima City	Lecture and Visit
	4. Post-disaster reconstruction in Iwaki City Current situation and challenges	Lecture
	5. Activities of civil organization for reconstruction in Iwaki, women's participation in economy	Lecture and Visit
【Module Output 5】 To revisit opportunities and challenges of promoting peacebuilding through development, and elaborate policy recommendation/action plans	1. Reflection 2. Formulation and presentation of action plan	Discussion Exercise Presentation

Note: The above contents may be subject to change.

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.

【Remarks】

Gender: Each country is requested to submit both female and male applications to accelerate the realization of gender equality and women's empowerment.

Disabilities: Persons with disabilities who meet the required qualifications also have an opportunity to apply. Reasonable accommodations will be considered for participants with disabilities. "Reasonable accommodation" means necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case.

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties: be local government officials (in conflict-affected regions), Central government officials in charge of local government or planning
- 2) Experience in the Relevant Field: have more than 5 years' experience
- 3) Educational Background: be a graduate of university
- 4) Language Proficiency: have a competent command of spoken and written English proficiency equivalent to TOEFL iBT 100 or above
- 5) Health: must be in good health to participate in the program in Japan.
Participant's health and safety should be most respected. Pre-existing conditions and pregnancy may lead to health problems that were not present prior to arriving in Japan due to stress from international travel, changes in climate, and a new living environment. In recent years, regrettable cases have occurred, including the exacerbation of symptoms after arrival and, in the case of pregnancy, stillbirth. Some participants have also incurred substantial out-of-pocket medical costs. If any of the conditions below may apply, please take a moment to consider whether to participate, and continue after confirming your agreement to the points below.

① Questionnaire

("QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS AND RESTRICTION")

If any of the following apply, you must state them accurately in the questionnaire, even if they do not affect your current work or daily life.

- a. Chronic diseases (e.g., hypertension, diabetes)
- b. Conditions currently under treatment
- c. Past illnesses that have resolved (including serious conditions affecting the heart, liver, or brain; tuberculosis, etc.)
- d. Pregnancy (for female applicants)

② Medical certificate

Please submit a medical certificate issued by a doctor that your condition is stable and that, from a medical standpoint, there is no problem with your participation in KCCP in Japan.

Applicable cases:

- a. Chronic diseases (e.g., hypertension, diabetes)
- b. Conditions currently under treatment
- c. Past illnesses that have resolved (including serious conditions affecting the heart, liver, or brain; tuberculosis, etc.)

③ Reporting changes

If pregnancy or any health issues are identified after submitting the form, please report them to JICA promptly.

④ Insurance coverage

Medical and additional living expenses related to pregnancy and pre-existing conditions are NOT covered by insurance arranged by JICA. Such costs must be borne entirely by the participant; JICA assumes no liability.

* Please understand that insurance coverage applies only to sudden illness or injury occurring during your stay in Japan.

* Medical expenses in Japan could be a significant financial burden when not covered by insurance.

(2) Recommended Qualifications

- 1) Expectations for the Participants
- 2) Age: between the ages of twenty-five (25) and fifty (50) years
- 3) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: 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.

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

*It is recommended that your passport be valid for more than 6 months after the last day of the program.

- (3) Organization Chart:** To be submitted an Organization Chart of the whole government and of the applicant's organization together with the Application Form. Please clearly indicate the applicant's position on the chart. Submission of Organization Chart is an important factor in the selection process of participants.

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 October 9, 2026**)

(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 November 20, 2026.**

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

Inception Report -- to be submitted by December 17, 2026

Accepted candidates are required to prepare an Inception Report (Please read Annex "Inception Report" for detailed information.) before their departure³. The Inception Report should be sent by e-mail to cictp@jica.go.jp

Medical Questionnaire

A health questionnaire (Forms) will be emailed to you about two weeks prior to your arrival in Japan to confirm your health status immediately prior to your arrival in Japan.

We will review your answers and may ask you additional questions about your health or send you information to help you manage your health.

Response deadline: About 1 week before your arrival in Japan

6. Conditions for Participation

The participants of KCCP are required

- (1) to strictly observe the course schedule,
- (2) not to change the air ticket (and flight class and flight schedule arranged by JICA) and lodging by the participants themselves,
- (3) to understand that leaving Japan during the course period (to return to home country, etc.) is not allowed (except for programs longer than one year),
- (4) not to bring or invite any family members (except for programs longer than one year),
- (5) to carry out such instructions and abide by such conditions as may be stipulated by both the nominating Government and the Japanese Government in respect of the course,
- (6) to observe the rules and regulations of the program implementing partners to provide the program or establishments,
- (7) not to engage in political activities, or any form of employment for profit,
- (8) to discontinue the program, should the participants violate the Japanese laws or JICA's regulations, or the participants commit illegal or any type of immoral conduct including sexual harassment, or get critical illness or serious injury and be considered unable to continue the course. The participants shall be responsible for paying any cost for treatment of the said health conditions except for the medical care stipulated in (3) of "5. Expenses", "IV. Administrative Arrangements",
- (9) to return the total amount or a part of the expenditure for the KCCP depending on the severity of such violation, should the participants violate the laws and ordinances,
- (10) not to drive a car or motorbike, regardless of an international driving license

possessed,

(11) to observe the rules and regulations at the place of the participants' accommodation, and

(12) to refund allowances or other benefits paid by JICA in the case of a change in schedule.

(13) to promptly notify JICA in the case that there are any changes in the health status since the time of application (such as changes requiring medical attention due to illness or discovery of pregnancy).

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

(1) **Center:** JICA Chugoku Center (JICA CHUGOKU)

(2) **Program Officer:** Ms. Yu MATSUMOTO (cictp@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner

(1) **Name:** Hiroshima Kokusai Center

(2) **URL:** <https://hiroshima-ic.or.jp/en/>

3. Travel to Japan

(1) **Air Ticket:** In principle, JICA will arrange an economy-class⁴ 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 Tokyo Center (JICA TOKYO)

Address: 2-49-5 Nishihara, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0066, Japan

TEL: +81-3-3485-7051

(where "81" is the country code for Japan, and "3" is the local area code)

Please refer to facility guide of JICA TOKYO at its URL,
<https://www.jica.go.jp/tokyo/english/office/index.html>

JICA Chugoku Center (JICA CHUGOKU)

Address: 3-3-1 Kagamiyama, Higashi Hiroshima, 739-0046, Japan

TEL: +81-82-421-6310

(where "81" is the country code for Japan, and "82" is the local area code)

Please refer to facility guide of JICA Chugoku at its URL,
<https://www.jica.go.jp/domestic/chugoku/index.html>

If there is no vacancy at JICA TOKYO, 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, 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 "KENSHU-IN GUIDEBOOK," (English/French/Spanish/Russian).

*Link to the Website:

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/activities/schemes/tech_pro/acceptance_training/forparticipants.html or

<https://jica-van-cms.jica.go.jp/custom/kccp/kccp01.html>

6. Pre-departure Orientation

A pre-departure orientation will be held at respective country's JICA office (or the Japanese Embassy), to provide Participants with details on travel to Japan, conditions of the course, and other matters.

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

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

Part I: Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan	
English ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLurfKugrEw
French ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2yU9ISYcTY
Spanish ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7l-WIQSDjl
Russian ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7_ujz37AQc
Arabic ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iBQqdpXQb4
Part II: Introduction of JICA Centers in Japan	
JICA Hokkaido (Sapporo)	https://www.jica.go.jp/sapporo/english/office/index.html
JICA Hokkaido (Obihiro)	https://www.jica.go.jp/obihiro/english/office/index.html
JICA Tohoku	https://www.jica.go.jp/tohoku/english/office/index.html
JICA Tsukuba	https://www.jica.go.jp/tsukuba/english/office/index.html
JICA Tokyo	https://www.jica.go.jp/tokyo/english/office/index.html
JICA Yokohama	https://www.jica.go.jp/yokohama/english/office/index.html
JICA Hokuriku	https://www.jica.go.jp/hokuriku/english/office/index.html
JICA Chubu	https://www.jica.go.jp/chubu/english/office/index.html
JICA Kansai	https://www.jica.go.jp/kansai/english/office/index.html
JICA Chugoku	https://www.jica.go.jp/chugoku/english/office/index.html
JICA Shikoku	https://www.jica.go.jp/shikoku/english/office/index.html
JICA Kyushu	https://www.jica.go.jp/kyushu/english/office/index.html

V. Other Information

Items you need to bring

1. Own pc (for writing the final reports) .
2. At least 300 dollars for survival money, because you will be able to withdraw your allowance 2 days after your arrival date in Japan.
3. Suitable food if you have any dietary restrictions
4. Regular medication you may need

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 CHUGOKU Center (JICA CHUGOKU)