

# KITA

## NEWS

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Scene from the seminar venue



Scene of demonstration at the seminar

### **JICA SMEs Overseas Business Expansion Support Projects** ~ Investigation for Project Execution has been completed ~

The Technical Cooperation Division set up their efforts for consulting as their master plan to support J-FILS Co., Ltd. and has been implementing JICA's investigation for project execution for almost one year. In Vietnam, under circumstances of rapid economic development, various environmental pollutions have risen to the surface due to influences from population concentration to the main urban areas. We have been conducting an investigation in order to apply a breakthrough enzyme-based wastewater treatment system developed by J-FILS Co., Ltd. to such issues in Vietnam. As a result, we received very high esteem from Hai Phong City. Please see page 12 page for details.

## In Promoting FY2017 Business Plan



**Hideki FURUNO**, President

The global situation was thrown into turmoil in the latter half of the last fiscal year. There is growing uneasiness about world order due to issues such as the influx of Syrian refugees into Europe, Britain's decision to leave the EU, Chinese moves to dominate the South China Sea, and President Trump's America First doctrine, and Japan can no longer remain indifferent to such threats as North Korea's development of nuclear weapons and military menace, or the international terrorism spearheaded by IS, which is using any means it can to spread terror on an even wider scale. World order, which had been moving in the direction of stability, has been jolted, and the ensuing waves are spreading as far as Japan too. Japan is being kept on its toes as it has to remain alert to international issues while also working hard on reconstruction in the aftermath of disasters such as the Great East Japan Earthquake and the 2016 Kumamoto earthquakes.

Despite such feelings of uneasiness in the wider community, KITA's performance in FY2016 enabled us to heave a sigh of relief. We had to be content with operating income deficits for two years running, in FY2014 and FY2015, but we were able to get into the black in FY2016 despite our 10 million yen investment in the Master Plan. Although good luck in our timing was the primary factor in bringing about this excellent result, I think that our success was also due to factors such as good outcomes from our ability to offer courses engendered by new ideas in our training business, and the fact that consulting for public organizations has gone into full swing in our technical cooperation business. In addition, the constant steady efforts by everyone concerned to cut costs and streamline daily tasks also contributed to this success.

FY2016 was a year in which there were an unprecedented number of things that affected our management and finances. The main ones are listed below.

1. Full-scale operation of the KITA Master Plan. This got off to a good start.
2. A switch to valuation at market price for securities. We were able to secure benefits from this.

3. Kitakyushu Maintenance Engineering Society (KME) came back under KITA control (last October). It started to take action as a valuable asset of the Technical Cooperation Division.

However, in FY2017 the duration of the courses, something which directly affects the revenue of our training business, tended to be shortened due to factors such as changes in the situations in emerging nations, and consulting, which is becoming a major asset for our technical cooperation business, is by its very nature a long-term action so its timing does have big effect on our annual revenue. We expect these and other factors to work against KITA in FY2017.

We have to try to break free from this kind of disadvantageous situation.

Firstly, we have to take up the challenge of offering paid-for training courses in our training business, which will boost our brand and further strengthen our ability to provide solutions.

Secondly, in our technical assistance business we have to further expand our consulting operations by boosting our technical assistance brand, as well as taking action such as strengthening links with Kitakyushu organizations (including the Kitakyushu Asian Center for Low Carbon Society).

In order to achieve these things, we will follow the three business guidelines below in our approach to FY2017.

1. Enhance and improve project capabilities with the aim of establishing the KITA brand
2. Further promote the streamlining of project management
3. Establish ourselves as a public interest incorporated foundation, and ensure transparency, fairness and disclosure

These business guidelines will be of extreme importance in putting KITA on a strong footing via the full-scale implementation of the KITA Master Plan. I humbly ask for your continued support and cooperation.

# FY2016 Operation Results / FY2017 Operation Plan

## I. KITA's Medium and Long Term Policies

1. Accumulation of KITA's assets
2. Investigation of "what is typical of KITA" and the advantages of being based in Kitakyushu

## II. FY2016 Results

We implemented the four business guidelines listed below. In particular, the Master Plan produced results at an earlier stage than we had expected, and we achieved profitability despite the 10 million yen investment costs of the Master Plan. In addition, we were able to complete the various tasks involved in the challenges listed below fairly smoothly.

### 1. Enhance and improve project capabilities with the aim of establishing the KITA brand

- (1) Training brand: Reliable implementation, from the grasp of local needs to follow-up on outcomes
- (2) Technical assistance brand: Global deployment of small and medium-sized Kitakyushu companies

### 2. Formulate and implement the KITA Master Plan

- (1) Final draft of the KITA Master Plan (10-year plan)
- (2) Start to move forward with the KITA Master Plan

### 3. Further promote the streamlining of project management

- (1) Clarifying the respective roles of organizations and operations, and boosting coordination between

organizations

- (2) Promoting effective use of the IT infrastructure and improving its functions

### 4. Establish ourselves as a public interest incorporated foundation, and ensure transparency, fairness and disclosure

- (1) Scrupulously protecting information and providing full disclosure
- (2) Preparation of the relevant documents for external audits by the Cabinet Office and Kitakyushu municipal government

### ● Financial Results

Revenue: 221.7 million yen

expenditure: 219.5 million yen

(Plan Revenue: 245.6 million yen expenditure: 245.6 million yen)

The primary factor in our decreased revenue was the downsizing of JICA projects. However, although we had estimated an operating income close to zero in our budget, in actual fact we were able to declare an operating profit of 2.1 million yen.

## III. FY2017 Plan

The Master Plan came into full swing in FY2016 and we expect to see good results in FY2017, its second year. However, the Master Plan is still in a phase where investment is a priority, so we have projected a deficit for it even though we expect to recover investment costs at an early stage. Meanwhile, we have decided to promote the tasks listed below as a plan that can be implemented without the liquidation of our principal which was presupposed by the Master Plan.

### 1. Enhance and improve project capabilities with the aim of establishing the KITA brand

- (1) Training brand: Reliable implementation, from the grasp of local needs to follow-up on outcomes
  - a) Further enrich the content of our training courses
  - b) Create structures aimed at receiving orders for new training courses
- (2) Technical assistance brand: Continue with projects intended for the public benefit, pioneer the global expansion of small to medium-sized Kitakyushu companies, and cultivate profit-making business
  - a) Continue to implement projects intended for the public benefit
  - b) Support the global expansion of SMEs in Kitakyushu and start developing profit-making business
  - c) Coordinate with the Asian Center for Low

Carbon Society

- d) Enhance our maintenance training projects: utilize the Kitakyushu Maintenance Engineering Society (KME)

### 2. Further promote the streamlining of project management

- (1) Clarifying the respective roles of organizations and operations, and boosting coordination between organizations
- (2) Promoting effective use of the IT infrastructure and improving its functions

### 3. Establish ourselves as a public interest incorporated foundation, and ensure transparency, fairness and disclosure

- (1) Scrupulously protecting information and providing full disclosure
- (2) Preparation of the relevant documents for external audits by the Cabinet Office and Kitakyushu municipal government
- (3) Securing daily manners as a public interest incorporated foundation

### ● Financial plan

Revenue: 215.7 million yen

expenditure: 226.9 million yen

(including Master Plan expenditure 15 million)

Profit: -11.2 million yen

(usual business +3.7 million, Master Plan -15 million)

## Words of Farewell on Leaving KITA

**Dr. Masakatsu UENO**, Former Vice President of KITA



### Deeply memorable events

In July 2006, I was adopted as a course leader (CL), and for six years from April 2011 to March 2017, I worked with you as a Vice President and Director of Training Division. I cordially thank you for my safe retirement under the age limit.

Now, I've just got off the boat, getting better view of the whirlpool in the direction of the upper stream of the river through which the boat had gone where direction and speed of flow are drastically changing. If I may be allowed a little exaggeration, I actually feel "I could have managed to limp into port without sinking." When I look at the whirlpool carefully, landscapes and events go through my head as follows.

- 1) Question "What are the properties of KITA?" from President, Mr. FURUNO.
- 2) Embodiment of "public benefits" and "transparency," which are the indispensable conditions as a public interest incorporated foundation.
- 3) Written relationship of JICA, KITA, and CLs. Clarification of roles that KITA (Training Division) should fulfill its role in the relationship as well as building of an operational system.
- 4) Reinforcement of exchange pipes with JICA in order to share the training issues and suggest some new training issues.

What was produced in the process of conquering the above-mentioned whirlpool was "KITA Training Brand." As you know, this brand is for "offering of solutions." That is, offering of keys for solving issues."

People of the subject countries (developing countries) have been challenging many problems, aiming at a better future. For that, "knowledge confirmed with experience" is necessary. Fortunately, we have this kind of knowledge. We thought that offering this knowledge is an important role of the training, so we set up the "offering of solutions" as the core of the training brand.

Fortunately, the basic philosophy of this "offering of solutions" is perfectly coincident with that of JICA's training policy "co-creation." I think that it will remain as "the core" of KITA Brand as long as the policy of JICA doesn't

drastically change. It is indispensable to know exactly "what is the issue" at first in order to offer useful solutions. For this reason, we uniquely worked out Issue Analysis Sheet (IAS), which we have been improving with CLs for a more effective utilization method, resulting in the current one. However, the content of issues varies widely. Appearance and shape of the net must keep changing in order to catch various issues. I believe that this originality and ingenuity will form KITA's properties.

### Expectation to KITA's future

As you know, training ordered from JICA is part of ODA. It is not too much to say that you taking charge of training are "citizen-level diplomats." Information obtained by participants depends on the curriculum designed by CLs and the enthusiasm of those who offer information. Especially, enthusiasm is important. It is because enthusiasm provokes "impression" and information received with "impression" is acquired by participants, resulting in next action. Information without impression is forgotten by participants, so it won't result in next action. Training is utilized only with impression, and its fruits result in reliance on Japan, so the point of training thoroughly depends on "How we can give them impression," doesn't it?

Please strive for reform and improvement of the content of training, keeping importance of "roles of CLs" in mind. And please aim at "world-best KITA." In July this year, KITA saw its 37th anniversary. Then, KITA will see the 40th, 50th, and 100th anniversaries. I pray for further development of KITA as my greeting of retirement.



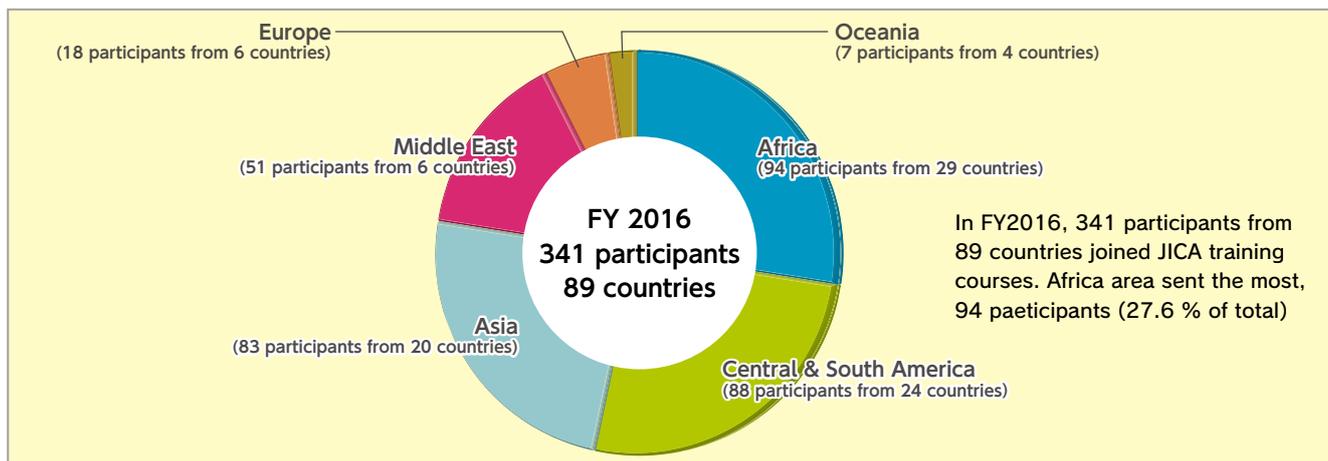
We visited Vietnam for follow-up of the fruits of training (January 2015)  
Two on the right are the executives of TAC Ho Chi Minh

# Highlights of KITA training courses

## JICA training courses in FY2016

No.	Title of training course	Training term	Course Leader	Participants
<b>I Environment Management</b>				
1	Industrial Pollution Control Management	Jan.24,2017 - Apr.22,2017	Hegi	9
2	Advancement of Solid Waste Management Technologies (Advance, Technique) (A)	Jul.10,2016 - Sep.10,2016	Sashiwa	8
3	Advancement of Solid Waste Management Technologies (Advance, Technique) (B)	Oct. 2,2016 - Dec. 3,2016	Haraguchi	8
4	Management of Composting Project (A)	Oct.11,2016 - Nov.12,2016	Sashiwa	7
5	Management of Composting Project (B)	Aug.21,2016 - Sep.22,2016	K. Kido	10
6	Industrial Pollution Control Management for Iraq	Nov. 1,2016 - Nov.22,2016	Hegi	12
<b>II Water Resources &amp; Water Treatment</b>				
1	Operation and Maintenance of Sewerage System	Jan.10,2017 - Mar. 4,2017	Sueta	7
2	Water Environment Administration	May 8,2016 - Jun.29,2016	A. Kido	12
3	Training for Sewerage Administration 1 Vietnam	Oct. 3,2016 - Oct.20,2016	Ogata	10
<b>III Production Technology &amp; Local Industry Activation</b>				
1	Small and Medium Enterprises / Local Industry Promotion for Latin America (A)	Jan.17,2017 - Feb.17,2017	Tomita	12
2	Small and Medium Enterprises / Local Industry Promotion for Latin America (B)	Jun. 7,2016 - Jul. 8,2016	K. Kawasaki	11
3	Developed Market Oriented Export Promotion Strategy / Marketing Strategy for African Countries (B)	Jun.25,2016 - Jul.30,2016	Nakashima	7
4	Developed Market Oriented Export Promotion Strategy / Marketing Strategy for African Countries (E)	Jan.28,2016 - Mar.3,2017	Nakashima	9
5	Developed Market Oriented Export Promotion Strategy / Marketing Strategy for Latin America (C)	Sep. 3,2016 - Oct. 8,2016	Io	10
6	Enhancement of Training Management in Vocational Training Institutes (C)	Oct. 2,2016 - Nov. 5,2016	Aritake	9
7	Know-how of MONOZUKURI at Japanese Manufacturing Site	Oct.16,2016 - Dec. 1,2016	Yamato	7
8	Practical Human Resource Development in Electrical and Electronic Engineering for Africa	Aug.20,2016 - Oct.15,2016	Tomita	7
9	Capacity Development for Entrepreneurs and MSMEs Activation in African Countries (A)	May 14,2016 - Jun.18,2016	Kosugi	11
10	Strengthening Marketing Capacity for SMEs in Iran	Feb.14,2017 - Mar.11,2017	Aritake	12
11	"Japanese Food" Business Promotion	Nov. 6,2016 - Dec. 1,2016	Miki	6
12	Improvement of Maintenance Skills for Coal Fired Steam Turbine Power Engineering in Ukraine	Nov.13.2016 - Nov.26,2016	Fujii	7
<b>IV Saving Energy &amp; Renewable Energy</b>				
1	Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Iran	Aug.28,2016 - Sep.17,2016	Terada	11
2	Policy Planning for Energy Efficiency and Conservation (B)	Jul. 3,2016 - Aug. 6,2016	Kawaguchi	10
3	Renewable Energy in Grid -Mainly on Photovoltaic- (A)	Jul.10,2016 - Aug.20,2016	J.Kawasaki	9
4	Renewable Energy in Grid -Mainly on Photovoltaic- (B)	Mar.21,2017 - May 3,2017	Ueyama	9
5	Energy Efficiency and Conservation in Commercial and Residential Sector (A)	Oct.30,2016 - Dec.17,2016	Ueyama	7
6	Energy Efficiency and Conservation in Commercial and Residential Sector (B)	Jan.15,2017 - Mar. 3,2017	Kawaguchi	10
7	High Efficient & Clean Thermal Power (A)	Aug.21,2016 - Sep.10,2016	Fujii	7
8	High Efficient & Clean Thermal Power (B)	Jan.29,2017 - Feb.18,2017	Fujii	6
9	Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Young Leaders) for India / Renewable Energy	Nov27,2016 - Dec.14,2016	Yazu	13
10	Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Young Leaders) for African Countries (French) / Renewable Energy	Jul.24,2016 - Aug.10,2016	Yazu	15
11	Promotion of Energy Conservation in the Industrial Sector for Kazakhstan	Aug.21,2016 - Oct. 1,2016	Ueyama	8
12	Geothermal Drilling Management	Jul. 5,2016 - Aug.10,2016	Takasaki	7
<b>V Health Care, Urban Development &amp; Others</b>				
1	Food Safety Administration	Oct. 2,2016 - Oct.29,2016	Nakahara	13
2	Urban Management for Sustainable Urban Development (A)	Oct.16,2016 - Oct.29,2016	Takasaki	8
3	Urban Management for Sustainable Urban Development (B)	Nov. 6,2016 - Nov.19,2016	J. Kawasaki	10
4	Urban Management for Sustainable Urban Development (C)	Jan.29,2017 - Feb.11,2017	Io	7

## Number of countries and participants by area



# Highlights of KITA Training Courses

## Training Courses Digest (Last half of FY2016)

Courses started from  
October 1, 2016 to  
March 31, 2017

- 1) Training Course
- 2) Training period
- 3) Course Leader



- 1) Advancement of Solid Waste Management Technologies (Advance, Technique) (B)
- 2) Oct. 2, 2016 - Dec. 3, 2016
- 3) Mr. K. Haraguchi

How was the training in Japan?

The policy measures and technology you have learned here in Japan are only a small part of them, so your role is to gather, process, and adjust them to the way of your country.

What was your impression of Japan? I hope you could understand the Japanese culture and mindset.



- 1) Food Safety Administration
- 2) Oct. 2, 2016 - Oct.29, 2016
- 3) Mr. K. Nakahara

All the participants are taking important role to secure food safety in public administrations, research institutions of your country. Everyone participated actively in the course which is composed of wide aspects of food safety.

I really appreciate your effort. I hope the knowledge and information you have learned in Japan would be some help for improvement of food safety of your country.



- 1) Training for Sewerage Administration 1 Vietnam
- 2) Oct. 3, 2016 - Oct.19, 2016
- 3) Mr. S. Ogata

Though it was a short course, I introduced the basics and site inspection concerning water treatment as much as possible and the lecture which is indispensable for sewerage administration.

Please play an active role as a leader for the development of sewerage administration of Vietnam by deepening your knowledge based on what you have learned in the training. I wish you will go on to greater success.



- 1) "Japanese Food" Business Promotion
- 2) Nov. 6, 2016 - Dec. 1, 2016
- 3) Mr. Y. Miki

It is up to you whether you just wait for happiness to come or challenge yourself and make efforts to achieve happiness. Your choice shows your philosophy of life. 3 conditions to draw happiness

1. Curiosity
2. Positive Thinking
3. Human Network



- 1) Urban Management for Sustainable Urban Development (B)
- 2) Nov. 6, 2016 - Nov.19, 2016
- 3) Mr. J. Kawasaki

It was a short 2weeks, but the very informative training. I really appreciate lecturers who answer the various questions from the trainees.

I hope what you have learned in this training will help your work after returning home and be a new step for the development of sustainable city. I am grateful for being able to share useful time with you.



- 1) Know-how of MONOZUKURI at Japanese Manufacturing Site
- 2) Oct.16, 2016 - Dec. 1, 2016
- 3) Mr. S. Yamato

Though it was a short period, I devoted myself to run the training course smoothly. How was the training? I was deeply impressed by your enthusiastic attitude to learn everything.

I hope you would make efforts to raise the level of manufacturing industries of your country, utilizing what you have learned in this training.



- 1) Operation and Maintenance of Sewerage System
- 2) Jan.10, 2017 - Mar. 4, 2017
- 3) Mr. H. Sueta

I was impressed by your enthusiastic attitude taking the memo hard and trying to absorb the knowledge. It was a very active class and you showed a great teamwork. I myself also could carry out this course happily.

I really appreciate all of your cooperation. It is your future task to deepen the knowledge you have learned in this course. Please play an active role to disseminate sewerage system in your country. See you! Dewa Mata

# Highlights of KITA Training Courses



- 1) Energy Efficiency and Conservation in Commercial and Residential Sector (B)
- 2) Jan.15, 2017 - Mar. 3, 2017
- 3) Mr. K. Kawaguchi

7 weeks went by surprisingly fast, how was the winter in Japan? It might be very hard training, but it is a great pleasure for me that all of you could finish the training safely without big trouble.

I hope you have learned from the training on energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy promotion and your living experience in Japan will help you to improve energy efficiency of your country as well as the quality of your work.



- 1) Industrial Pollution Control Management
- 2) Jan.24, 2017 - Apr.22, 2017
- 3) Mr. Y. Hegi

Congratulations on completing your training course. Because the training period was short and I could only introduce a part of actual situation of environmental conservation in Japan. However, I suppose you have attained some useful information to solve your issues.

I also hope you will play an active role in solving many other issues besides environmental problems in your country.



- 1) Strengthening Marketing Capacity for SMEs in Iran
- 2) Feb.14, 2017 - Mar.12, 2017
- 3) Mr. I. Aritake

It is absolutely different to know and to be able to do. The knowledge changes to wisdom through practice. Be sure to try it. By completing an appropriate plan, your success has been promised more than half.

The most important thing is to get all the members' cooperation and move ahead based on planning.



- 1) Renewable Energy in Grid -Mainly on Photovoltaic- (B)
- 2) Mar.12, 2017 – Apr. 22, 2017
- 3) Dr. T. Ueyama

It was a fulfilling training by your enthusiastic participation. The test result after the training also recorded the best. I worked hard for designing course to provide you useful and interesting program. How was the training for you?

It would be very glad if you make use of JICA training to play an important role in disseminating PV generation in your country.

# Recent Activities for Overseas Development Cooperation

## Support of business exchange in the southern district of Vietnam that has been prominently developing

### ～ Economic exchange projects between City of Kitakyushu and the southern district of Vietnam ～

**Toshikatsu MIYATA**, Executive Technical Advisor

City of Kitakyushu and KITA have been aggressively promoting business exchange between enterprises of Kitakyushu City and those of Vietnam since 2009 when City of Kitakyushu executed the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement with Hai Phong City. In June this year, we implemented the business exchange meeting in the southern district of Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City and its surrounding areas) that has been prominently developing.

This time, we accompanied five enterprises with seven persons from the metal industry, weighing equipment manufacturing industry, rubber manufacturing industry, technical trading industry, etc. in order to support their exchanges after we completed preparation including the preliminary investigation of local enterprises (January) and its report meeting (February). We conducted business talks with ten enterprises of Ho Chi Minh City and Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province, hearing of latest economic information at Ho Chi Minh office of JETRO, and Vietnam Industrial & Manufacturing Fair 2017.

The persons from the participating enterprises heard and saw the appearance of maintenance of infrastructure (subway and highway, etc.) in Ho Chi Minh City and its

surrounding areas as well as construction of high-rise apartments along the railroad line, actually feeling the active situation and dynamism of the local economy.

This time's business exchange has been producing some fruits such as the development of some business talks and the concept of advance into local factories, but each enterprise has got nothing more than the contact window of each of their business partners. Hereafter, each enterprise's aggressive and continuous contact is indispensable. KITA will continue supporting them together with City of Kitakyushu.



Business talks were actively conducted in Ho Chi Minh City and Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province.



Ho Chi Minh City where construction rush is continuing.

## Support project for improvement in waste management in Davao City of Republic of the Philippines

### ～ Grassroots Technical Cooperation Projects ～

**Yasumitsu KONDO**, Executive Technical Advisor

In Davao City of Philippines, JICA's Grassroots Technical Cooperation Projects with the purpose of reduction of urban waste, which was commenced in March this year, is scheduled to finish in March 2020. As there is some possibility of introducing a Waste to Energy (WTE) power plant in Davao City, because its final disposal facility is on the verge of a crisis, City of Kitakyushu has been providing information from various angles on WTE and countermeasures against dioxin for three years.

Also, City of Kitakyushu has supported the design of guidelines of WTE's introduction, together with the Ministry of the Environment. Through such processes, in November last year, City of Kitakyushu concluded "Strategic Environmental Partnership Agreement" with Davao City.

On the other hand, we have executed this project from the stance that general support for waste management is indispensable as the introduction of WTE postulates reduction and recycle of waste. In this project, we are to conduct technical transfer on waste segregation and reduction measures of the same city. I have visited there twice since April in order to grasp the actual situation of

reduction and recycling of waste from household and business operators.

Based upon the findings of such an investigation, we are to promptly decide the enforcement policies in this field, way of thinking, and systems to accomplish the purpose of the project, on the basis of the confidential relationship of both cities.



Kickoff meeting



Situation of segregation of household waste

# Recent Activities for Overseas Development Cooperation

## Aiming at no discharge of food waste

### ~ Project of segregation/collection and composting in Fraser's Hill of Malaysia ~

**Shinsuke TAKEUCHI**, Executive Technical Advisor

Fraser's Hill of Malaysia is located in the mountainous region, about two hours by car to the north from Kuala Lumpur, attracting about 120 thousand tourists a year as it is cool all year round and the nature is pristine because of its high altitude of about 1,600 meters. On the other hand, as for the waste disposal situation, this place generates about one ton of waste per day, which is collected twice a week and then carried to the final disposal site in the skirts of the mountain, which takes about two hours.

Malaysia aims at promotion of ecotourism with "zero waste" through segregation and recycling of waste, and they have decided to participate in JICA's Grassroots Technical Cooperation Projects in order to conduct the project of segregation, collection and composting of food waste (hereinafter called raw garbage) by Kitakyushu Asian Center for Low Carbon Society, KITA and the Merry Corporation.

In this project, we asked hotels and restaurants to cooperate in discharge of segregated raw garbage. We have constructed a new segregation and collection system in which the collection frequency was changed from current twice a week into three times a week because raw garbage needs to be composted before it goes rotten.

Next, the Merry Corporation commenced composting of raw garbage by setting up a composting facility in the compost center. Raw garbage of about two tons is currently collected is per month, which becomes about 100kg of compost and is utilized in flowerbeds and golf fields.



Raw garbage segregated



Three-wheeler for segregation



Excursion to the composting facility and test operation



Fully ripened compost

## Support for composting of urban waste by Hai Phong City of Vietnam

**Koji TAKAKURA**, Executive Technical Advisor

Hai Phong City, of which the urgent issue is recycling and reduction of waste, designed "Green Growth Promotion Plan of Hai Phong City" in May 2015 in cooperation with the City of Kitakyushu, aiming at proper disposal of waste and building of a society with resource recycling. Hai Phong City has already prepared a large-scale composting facility that can dispose 200 tons of mixed waste per day at the total construction cost of 2.1 billion yen, supported by a foreign country, but it was about to be dismantled because it didn't work at all. In order to improve and revitalize this facility, I have been giving guidance on composting technology on the site, as well as supporting development of the whole system from segregation and collection of organic waste that is used for raw materials of compost, and advice on making a market to sell it.

Under the guidance on composting technology on the site, the staff with quick understanding successfully proceeded to the pilot test, taking advantage of their experience of engagement in composting work, and now, I have judged that they have surely acquired good quality compost manufacturing technology. The purpose of technical guidance is to revitalize the facility by utilizing the existing lines as they are, to that end, I have accomplished guidance

not only by optimizing technology provided but also by cooperating, thinking highly of local technologies.

In the future, I will shift my axis toward construction of a mechanism for segregation and collection that is indispensable for manufacture of high quality compost, as well as making a market to sell organic waste together with expansion of composting and follow-up.



Composting has been successfully proceeding.



Requesting restaurant operators to segregate organic waste.

## Held a Dinner party at Industrial Club of West Japan

**Tatsuhiko TAKAI**, Director, General Affairs Section

On April 14, 2017, we invited nine participants on the Renewable Energy in Grid -Mainly on Photovoltaic-(B) Course to a dinner party at the Industrial Club of West Japan. This international friendship program has traditionally been held in early autumn and at the end of the fiscal year, but this year we tried holding it in April, for the first time ever.

We were blessed with the warm, fine weather so typical of springtime, and the participants were relaxed and smiling as they boarded the bus. With only one week left of their stay here, they were all ready to make the most of their remaining time and enjoy the Japanese spring.

When we arrived, a guide from the Industrial Club of West Japan showed us around the Western-style building. The participants on this course had been on field trips to Tokyo and Kyoto, and they were astonished to hear that this house had been designed by Kingo TATSUNO, the man who designed Tokyo Station, and what is more, that it had been built before Tokyo Station. While the house greedily incorporates the finest Western techniques of a century or so ago in its construction, bringing together the very best of the contemporary architecture of its day, the garden is in true Japanese style employing the same techniques used in Kyoto, such as incorporating the surrounding scenery into its design. I think that the participants probably felt that they had caught a glimpse of the Japanese culture and values of that time. I could also see that they felt that the way in which this building had been carefully maintained over the course of a century was typical of Japan.

We moved to the Japanese-style building after dinner, where Ms. Date from the Chado Urasenke Tankokai and her pupils kindly held a tea ceremony for us. I think that the participants will have sensed the true spirit of the tea ceremony from the way in which our hosts not only served tea whilst also carefully explaining about the etiquette, but also had taken great pains in meticulously preparing the utensils and sweets

to greet their guests. However, the participants did seem to find sitting on tatami mats difficult. When it was time to take a group photo at the end, although they all wanted to secure a place near the pupils, who were in traditional Japanese attire, the participants seemed to have considerable difficulty in standing up.

A game of bingo was played at the end of the event. Apparently none of the participants had played bingo before and they were rather puzzled to begin with. However, by the time the first participant had got to bingo, all the participants were very excited and vowing that they would be next. Once four of the nine participants had got to bingo, it took rather a long time for the next winning number to be called and, believe it or not, the remaining five participants all got to bingo at the same time in the end! The event drew to a close with everyone laughing out loud at this highly unusual result.



Tea Ceremony



Bingo Game

## JICA's SMEs Support for overseas business expansion of J-FILS Co., Ltd.

### Investigation for Project Execution has been completed.

**Tomoharu ASAHARA, Toshikatsu MIYATA, Seiichi ISHIKAWA**, Technical Cooperation Division

The Technical Cooperation Division set up their efforts for consulting as their master plan to support J-FILS Co., Ltd. It's the first project, and has been implementing JICA's investigation for project execution for almost one year. As we have already reported the process in No.45 and No.46 of KITA news, I report only the outline here, omitting the details.

In Vietnam, under circumstances of rapid economic development, various environmental pollutions have risen to the surface due to influences from population concentration to the main urban areas and changes in the industrial structure in local cities. Above all, under serious water quality contamination of rivers and canals that has been caused by insufficient maintenance of sanitary sewage facilities, not only construction or maintenance of public sewage facilities but also individual wastewater countermeasures against the generation sources such as factories and facilities have become urgent issues for improvement in the water quality of rivers.

We have been conducting an investigation in order to apply a breakthrough enzyme-based wastewater treatment system developed by J-FILS Co., Ltd. to such issues in Vietnam.

- 1) Implementation of actual wastewater treatment test at the pilot plant of the seafood market that is located in the urban area, one of the main factors of contamination of rivers.
- 2) Holding of local technical seminars including reports of the test results.

As a result of above-mentioned activities, we received very high esteem from Hai Phong City, so Mr. Son, the Vice Mayor in charge of environmental countermeasures indicated his intention to introduce this technology in order to incarnate "Green Growth Promotion Plan of Hai Phong City" that they have been promoting. As a foothold for this, we agreed to implement verification with actual equipment in cooperation. In the future, we aim at development into diffusion and verification projects.

As this investigation project was realized because several factors successfully overlapped each other by chance, I will tell about the circumstances.

- A) Meeting with Mr. TANI, President of J-FILS Co., Ltd.: One message in the overseas expansion investigation sheet, which we implemented together with International Business Promotion Division, City of Kitakyushu, of some company in the city, played the role of trigger.
- B) KITA's master plan: Technical Cooperation Division, which was trying to strengthen efforts for consulting at

that time, immediately visited Mr. TANI, in order to ask about wastewater treatment technology, and consequently we confirmed that it is a much more excellent technology than ever.

- C) JICA Grassroots Technical Cooperation Projects in Hai Phong City: Just at that time, Technical Cooperation Division had been making efforts on improvement in productivity and product quality of regional enterprises of Hai Phong City, so the division asked concerned parties of Hai Phong City about application of this wastewater treatment technology.
- D) Boost by Head of Department of Foreign Affairs, People's Committee of Hai Phong City: Owing to efforts of Mr. Binh, an interpreter and former staff of Department of Foreign Affairs, we were able to directly meet the Head of Department of Foreign Affairs, and the head immediately indicated his intention to request us for efforts for improvement in water quality of Hai Phong City by utilizing this technology and to fully cooperate for that on the scene.

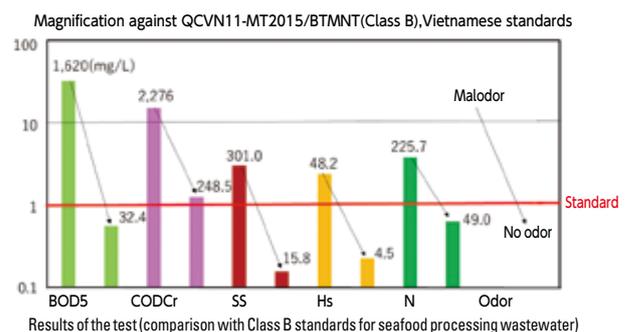
Through such circumstances, we challenged JICA SMEs Overseas Business Expansion Support Projects ~ Investigation for Project Execution, and have just accomplished the desired purpose. In the future, we want to make efforts on "diffusion and verification projects" as above-mentioned, aiming at a Win-Win relationship with concerned persons.



Scene from the seminar venue



Scene of demonstration at the seminar



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