# IKIITA



KITA participants devote themselves to their training.

# E-mail exchange between a course leader and a former participant

[Follow-up of a JICA/KITA Participant]

Course leader : Mr. Hajime SUETA Former participant: Mr. Mark LEKGJONAJ

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Training Division Kitakyushu International Techno-cooperative Association



#### $\sim$ E-mail Exchange with a Former Participant (Mr. Mark LEKGJONAJ) $\sim$

*Mr.* SUETA, a course leader of KITA, has been building the relationship with former participants in many ways even after the training ended. I believe that following-up activities for JICA/KITA participants are useful ways to provide technical supports for those who returned to their respective countries.

I would, therefore, like to introduce a part of his e-mail exchange with Mr. Mark LEKGJONAJ from Albania.



#### ◆Comment from Mr. SUETA, Course Leader

In the course of "Operation and Maintenance of Sewerage and Waste Water Treatment Technique (B)," most of the participants were from the countries where a sewerage project was about to start. Therefore, all the participants were eager to absorb various types of knowledge. Mr. LEKGJONAJ was one of them. He explained water environmental problems in his country with several pictures and also provided a lot of detailed information to me. I enjoyed having him in my course.

I exchange e-mails with him from time to time even after he went back to his country. I sent the following e-mail to him in September.

"There will be a training course on sewerage system for Kosovo participants from the middle of October this year. I will be in charge of this course, but I am concerned because the training will be conducted in Albanian."

He replied, "Feel free to contact me if you need any help with Albanian. I want to help you as much as I can in return for taking care of me in Japan."

I felt so relieved thanks to his message. I sincerely appreciate that I could establish this kind of relationship, although we don't communicate so often.

Nine participants from eight countries participated in this training. Judging from their earnest learning attitudes, every one of them, including Mr. LEKGJONAJ, must have had a strong desire to somehow improve the sewerage systems of their own countries.

I hope that Mr. LEKGJONAJ will play an important role in his country, using the knowledge he gained in the training in Japan.



#### ◆The E-mail Recently Received from Mr. LEKGJONAJ

< an excerpt from the original e-mail from Mr. LEKGJONAJ>

Dear Sueta-san,

How are you and your family? I really hope you are doing well, and having nice times. Did you go on vacations? I am ok, and I am sorry we do not talk with each other, but my time was really busy, I have finished my project. Here in Albania now we are having some problems because of the elections, all my colleagues are afraid for the job positions because of the elections...this situation its "normal" for my country. I have an advantage, I am optimist and fully believe in my skills, so in one way its a Japanese way of thinking...you see I have good remembers and I got good manners from my Japanese experience.

\*snip\*

Tell me something about you, are you playing guitar with your friends? I am sure that in your reply email I will read how good and funny you are organizing your time.

Take care Sueta-san, and we will talk more often now.

I really miss you all, and please say hi to Joomi-san, (a coordinator of his training course) from me. It was nice writing to you.

Mark.



At Mt. Sarakura covered with snow

#### Pictures from the JICA/KITA Training

Mr. LEKGJONAJ



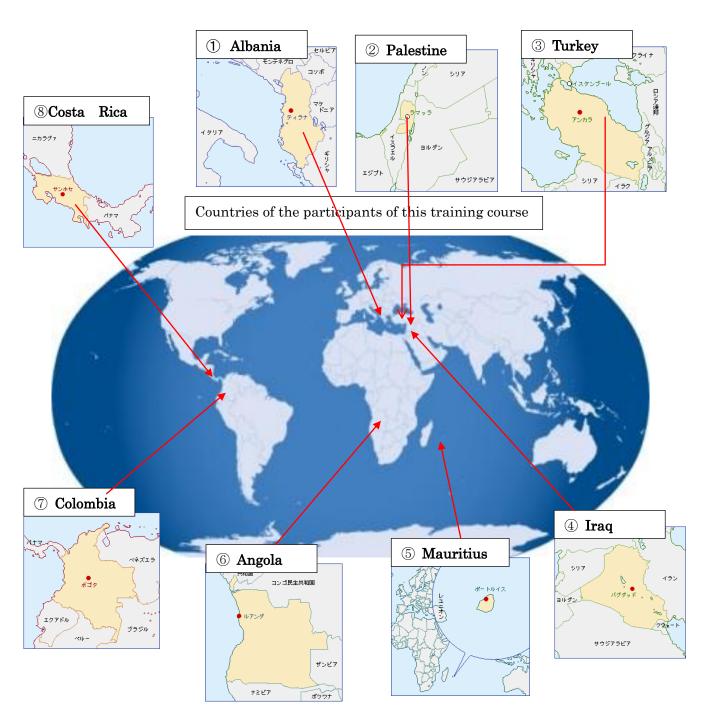
Storm simulation booth at Tokyo Life Safety Learning Center



#### <u>1. Outline of the Training Course</u>

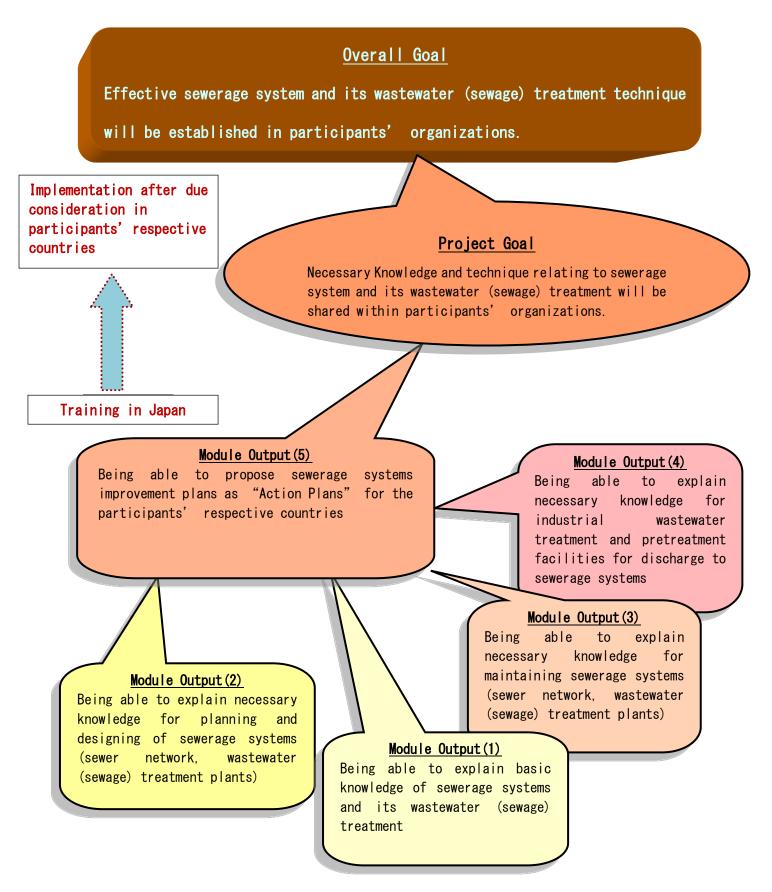
- (1) Course Name Operation and Maintenance of Sewerage System and Waste Water
- (2) Course Leader Hajime SUETA
- (3) Type of Course Trainers Training
- (4) Training Period January 16, 2013 to March 8, 2013
- (5) Participants 9 participants from 8 countries

①Albania ②Palestine ③Turkey ④Iraq ⑤Mauritius
⑥Angola ⑦Colombia ⑧Costa Rica (2 members)





#### 2. Conceptual Framework of the Training Course





### 3. General Information about Albania



## **Republic of Albania**

Source: Website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Basic Data	Area	About $28,700~\mathrm{km^2}$ (1.5 times bigger than Shikoku region)
	Population	About 2.82 million (2011 Census)
	Capital	Tirana ( About 420,000 people )
	Ethnic group	Albanian
	Official language	Albanian
Economy	Major industries	Agriculture, manufacturing, construction
	GDP	13.1 billion U.S. dollars (The World Bank, 2012)
	Economic growth rate	1.6% (EIU 2012)
	Major trading items	(1)Export: minerals, fuels, electricity, textiles,
		footwear, construction materials
		(2)Import: minerals, fuels, electricity, machinery,
		food stuffs, tobacco
	Currency	Lek
	Exchange rate	1 U.S. dollar=about 105.5 Lek (August, 2013)

#### World Map

