

Overseas Reports

A Report from a Former Participant 【Current Activities in the Gaza Strip, Palestine】



Mr. AMEN in Akihabara, Tokyo during his stay in Japan



His E-mail (Recent News)

- 1) Course Leader : Hajime SUETA
- 2) Former Participant: Mr. AMEN Tareq W.M.

September 29th, 2014

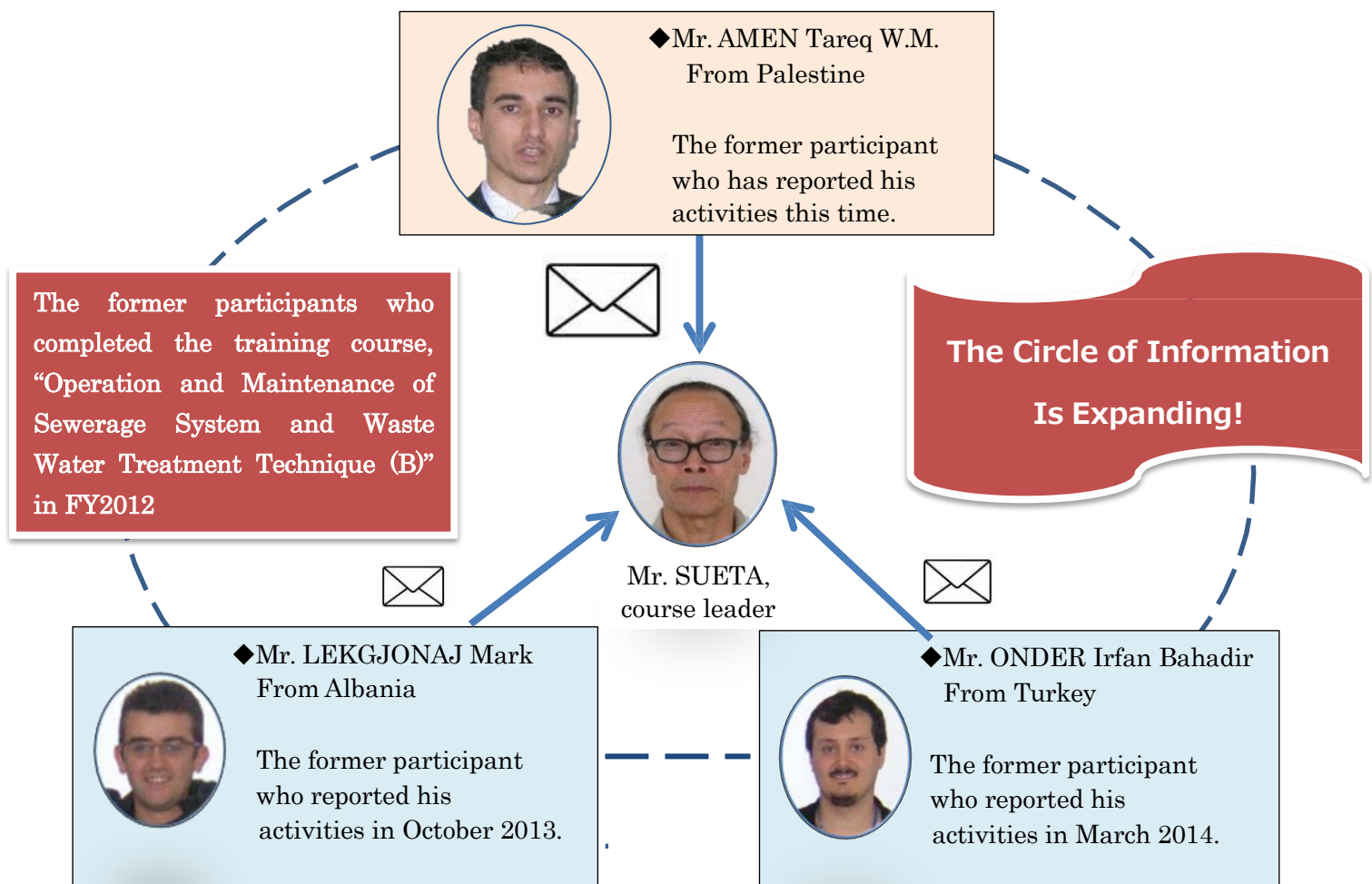
Training Division

Kitakyushu International Techno-cooperative Association

~We report on activities being run by Mr. AMEN who works in the sewerage sector in his homeland, the Gaza Strip, Palestine after completing his JICA training course~

This issue of 'Overseas Reports' covers the current situation of Mr. AMEN (Tareq-san) from the Gaza Strip, Palestine. This is the third issue of 'Overseas Reports', following on from the previous reports about Mr. LEKGJONAJ from Albania and Mr. ONDER from Turkey who were on the same training course as Mr. AMEN. Mr. SUETA, the course leader who managed this training course, introduced Mr. AMEN's report to us.

1.Introduction of Former Participants who Reported Their Activities to Us



2. Introduction of Mr. AMEN Tareq W.M.

At the time of Mr. AMEN's visit to Japan his job was to collaborate in the planning of the Gaza Central Wastewater Treatment Plant Project and to supervise its implementation. He provides guidance for companies, for example by visiting the project site, advising the supervisors and checking the progress of the project.

He joined the training course from a region that has few specialists in the field of sewer engineering. He therefore aspired to study everything to do with such areas as wastewater treatment techniques, planning and design methods, operation and maintenance techniques, and industrial wastewater treatment methods. He was the second youngest of the nine participants on the course.

3.A Message from Mr. SUETA, Course Leader



At the job report presentations, he started his PowerPoint slide show by showing how Palestinian territory is being steadily encroached upon. We got a real sense of how serious the territorial issue is. Amidst such difficult conditions for the country, the sewerage project has reached the stage where, with assistance from Japan, it will have a large wastewater processing plant.

I was amazed at how hard Mr. AMEN studied, even though Palestine is a country that does not yet have a wastewater processing plant. He is aware that it will be the role of the participants in this training to push forward with further new wastewater treatment projects, and it was apparent that he had fully studied aspects such as the differences between wastewater treatment in Japan and his own country. He tackled the training with an interest in everything from major topics such as general plans for wastewater treatment plants down to minute details, asking questions such as 'Which tools are used to open manholes?'

He took 'Updating the Final Design for the Gaza Central Sewerage Project (Wastewater Treatment Plant)' as the theme of his action plan at the end of the course, giving a presentation about the wastewater treatment plant technology he had learned in Japan and how he would apply it in his homeland. Although we did not have many opportunities to interact on an individual basis during his training, I was once again impressed by how very passionate this young man is about his studies when I read in his email about how he has finished his master's degree and now wants to take up the challenge of a doctoral program.

Although his country is in an extremely difficult situation, I hope that he will continue to do his very best to advance the Palestinian sewerage project.

4.Recent News from Mr. AMEN



I would like to express my grateful thanks and appreciation to you and to the people of Japan and their respected government for given me opportunity to carry out that visit under your supervision. Special thanks for JICA; The coordinator and sponsor for this study tour.

Here we still suffering from the occupation. People here in Gaza still under the imposed siege, everything is paralyzed by the force of the occupation. From 7 July to 26 August 2014, the Israeli occupation army launched a military war in the Gaza Strip, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported that 2,101

Palestinians have been killed in last July and August in addition hundreds of thousands of Civilians become homeless after their houses were completely demolished.

Gaza already faced a challenging situation in regards to water and wastewater prior to the escalation, and services were further hampered during the war, due to electricity and fuel shortages and the inaccessibility of many installations. Approximately half a million people were directly affected by damage to water facilities, and one million were affected due to damage to the wastewater plant and wastewater pumping stations.

Personally I was lucky where I have been one of technical team which work to update design of Gaza central sewerage treatment plant “Construction will begin in 2017” with capacity of 180,000 m³/day and during war I joined to emergency committee for water sector but now to returned to my work in water and environment department in the ministry of local government. At the end of June I finished the requirement to hold master degree in civil engineering and I hope to take chance to gain PhD scholarship, I should be grateful to you if you recommended me to this chance.

Finally I recommend you to use Facebook account to communicate with all of training course team in same time.

Keep in touch

Eng . Tareq Waleed Amen

Msc in Construction Management

Ministry of Local Government,

Water and Environment Department Deputy Manger

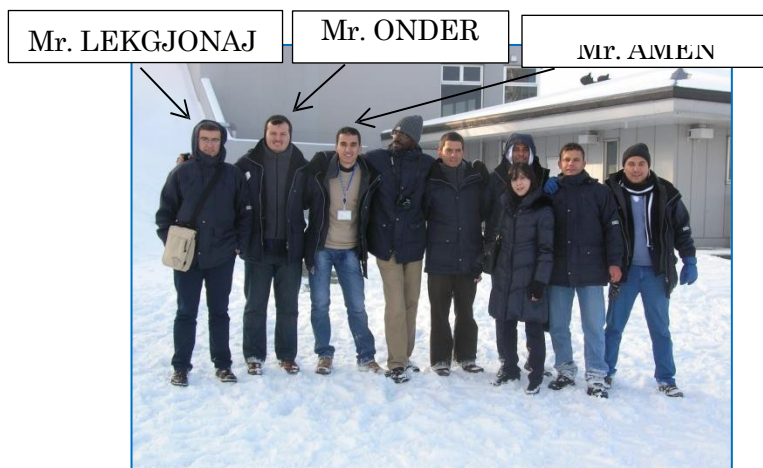


5. Outline of the JICA Training Course Mr. AMEN Attended

- (1) **Course Name** : Operation and Maintenance of Sewerage System and Waste Water Treatment Technique (B)
- (2) **Course Leader** : Hajime SUETA
- (3) **Training Period** : January 16, 2013 to March 8, 2013
- (4) **Participants** : 9 participants from 8 countries
 - a) Albania b) Palestine c) Turkey d) Iraq e) Mauritius
 - f) Angola g) Colombia h) Costa Rica (2 members)



A memorial group photo at the closing ceremony of the training course,
“Operation and Maintenance of Sewerage System and Waste Water Treatment Technique (B)” in FY 2012



At Mt. Sarakura covered with snow



Practice of water analysis
at the Hiagari Sewage Treatment Plant



At the closing party



Mr. AMEN making his
'Job Report' presentation



Receiving the certificate
at the closing ceremony



At a sewerage construction site



In front of the Minamata Disease
Memorial Monument



Storm simulation booth
at Tokyo Life Safety Learning Center



At the Environmental Museum of Water