JICWELS
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION OF WELFARE SERVICES
Japan International Corporation of Welfare Services (JICWELS) was established with the sanction of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in July 1983 for the purpose of contributing to the promotion of international health and social welfare activities.

JICWELS is implementing technical cooperation by ODA and other resources, such as human resources development for the developing counties, mainly for ASEAN countries, sending short term experts and study teams to the developing countries, organizing international conferences and meetings.

In addition, we are designated by the Government of Japan as the only acceptance agency for acceptance of foreign professionals, such as nurses and care givers from Asian countries under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the Government of Japan and Asian countries. We have started preparation for the to accept foreign professionals since 2010.
I. Human Resources Development

Since the establishment, JICWELS has conducted study programmes for overseas administrators in the areas of health and welfare as a part of technical cooperation programmes in Japanese ODA. These programmes are intended to respond to the critical needs of developing countries for development of skilled human resources to manage their policy and programme planning activities. The study programme budget has been shifted to Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under the continuous guidance of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in 2004, as well as Japanese ODA programmes, JICWELS has been conducting study programmes for foreign fellows dispatched by WHO Fellowship Programme.

WHO Fellowship Programme

WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WHO/WPRO) in Manila entrust JICWELS to conduct necessary logistics arrangements for the WHO fellows coming from foreign countries. In collaboration with the Ministry, JICWELS works out detailed study itinerary with receiving institutions concerned, and arranges fellows’ hotel accommodation, airport reception for their arrival, and makes transportation arrangements. Besides, JICWELS provides general orientation on itinerary and Japanese life as well as guide to the receiving institutions, and also maintains continuous liaison with the Ministry during the fellows’ training.

Administration support for the WHO Director-General and the Regional Director's travel to Japan

Under supervision of WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WHO/WPRO) in Manila and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, JICWELS support necessary logistic arrangement during WHO Director-General and Regional Directors stay in Japan.

Improvement of the Social Welfare System

The programme is held for 4 weeks with inviting 9 administrators from developing countries, intended for the senior management and administrative officers (Director or Deputy Director) who are in charge of planning or management and administration of the social welfare, introducing the information and experiences regarding the development and operations of the Japanese social welfare services, Child Welfare Administration, Welfare for the elderly, Administration for Disability (Physically, mentally, Intellectually) and public assistance.

Improvement of Social Insurance System

The programme is for administrators from developing countries, intended for the senior administrative officers (Director or Deputy Director) who are in charge of planning or administration of the social insurance, introducing the information and experiences attained in Japanese social insurance services. The programme is composed of two courses such as Health Insurance and Pension Insurance courses.
Countermeasure for Communicable Diseases
The programme is designed for health administrators who are in charge of communicable diseases control, introducing various experiences, measures for communicable diseases control in Japan and encourages an active exchange of information of the participants, in particular, on recent outbreaks such as avian flu, SARS after unavoidable disasters (earthquakes, flooding, Tsunami, etc).

Good Governance of Medicines for Pharmaceutical Regulation Authorities
The programme is held for 4 weeks with inviting administrators from developing countries, intended for the senior administrative officers (Director or Deputy Director) who are in charge of planning or administration of pharmaceutical affairs. The programme is composed of introduction of pharmaceutical affairs administration evaluation system of pharmaceutical products, safety measurement, inspection and guidance, sales, distribution management and related services in Japan, study visits, study tour to local governments, and group exercise.

Quality management of Essential Medicines-Good Manufacturing and Practice(GMP) and Inspection
The programme is for experts from developing countries, intended for either government pharmaceutical inspectors or key personnel of national pharmaceutical corporations who have enough knowledge of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), designed to introduce drug manufacturing processes and quality control system in line with GMP concept as well as GMP inspection system and modern science technology for quality assurance of essential drugs in Japan.

Promotion of the Collaboration between Child Welfare and Maternal and Child Health
The program is designed for administrators/experts from developing countries in charge of Child Welfare or Maternal and Child Health to promote close collaboration of welfare and MCH at participant’s workplace and raise level of Maternal and Child Health, Welfare in respective countries.

Water Supply Administration for Better Management of Water Supply Services
The programme is held for 3 weeks participants from developing countries, intended for the senior administrative officers who are in charge of water supply management, introducing the information and experiences concerning water supply management in Japan through various lectures and study visit to the related facilities, toward improvement of water supply services management in their own organizations and countries.
II. Project and Study

International Cooperation Project Study Committee in the Water Supply Sector
JICWELS organizes a committee for the study, planning and promotion of development of suitable projects in the field of water supply, focusing on Public Private Partnership (PPP). The committee examines various subjects for the purpose of effective promotion way of international cooperation and contribution to a means of developing the most effective projects which meet the needs in the developing countries.

In the Past, JICWELS dispatched teams in the following countries; Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Honduras, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, USA and Vietnam.

The Project for Institutional Reinforcement of Water Supply and Sanitation in North Area of Peru
Upon request from a Japanese consulting firm who received the technical cooperation project of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), JICWELS dispatched an expert in public health to conduct development of awareness about sanitation targeting the inhabitants of the projected sites in rural area of the Republic of Peru.

Health Sciences Research Grants at the Ministry of Health Labor and Welfare
- Strategy for Global Health challenge to achieve Millennium Development Goals-
JICWELS is entrusted by Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and implement to promote Health and Research studies. JICWELS coordinate invitation of foreign researcher, send young Japanese researcher to other countries, holding international symposium and contribute enlightenment of research outcome to general public.
In recent years, high needs of collaboration between donor countries and international institutions. For example, to tackle against SARS and Avian Influenza, whole region needs to cooperate together to take effective measurements.

In this kind of situation, international conferences that provide opportunity to exchange information and having discussion between donor countries and countries in a region to be together. JICWELS contribute international harmonization with development cooperation of health, social welfare field through international conference.

ASEAN & Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies
JICWELS implements international conference to develop close collaboration of ASEAN countries and strengthen human resource development in the field of social welfare and health. High-level officials in charge of social security system are invited to Japan and various themes are discussed in this conference. Japanese experiences, and activities of ASEAN countries are also introduced and promote further strong cooperation among respective countries.
IV. Acceptance Support of Foreign Nurses and Careworkers

The acceptance of foreign workers in nursing and careworking fields has started as a result of Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) concluded between Japan and Southeast Asian countries to promote the partnership in various economic fields including “the movement of natural persons”.

Based on the Economic Partnership Agreement with the Philippines and Indonesia, JICWELS promotes the smooth and appropriate acceptance of the Filipino and Indonesian nurses and careworkers for Japanese medical and social welfare corporation as the only accepting coordinating agency in Japan, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and other related agencies.

Acceptance Support Project of Nurses and Careworkers under EPA

The acceptance of the Filipino and Indonesian nurses and caregivers under EPA is a program which allows Filipino and Indonesian nurses and caregivers to work in a hospital or caregiving facility in Japan as “Kangoshi” or “Kaigofukushishi”, after they undergo working and training in a hospital or caregiving facility which satisfies requirements to obtain a Japanese national qualification to obtain a qualification for “Kangoshi” and “Kaigofukushishi” in Japan.

JICWELS has been designated by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare as the only accepting coordinating agency in Japan to engage in operations such as: coordination with the deploying agency in the Philippines and Indonesia, recruitment and screening of accepting institutions, and provision of supports on conclusion of employment contract. Also, JICWELS provides support for Filipino and Indonesian candidates and their accepting facilities after they have entered into Japan.

Accepting Project of Nurses and Careworkers under EPA

JICWELS promote the acceptance of foreign nurses and caregivers under the commission by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, based on the agreement between Indonesia and the Philippines.

Number of accepted candidates

2008 Indonesian candidates for “Kangoshi” and “Kaigofukushishi” 208
2009 Filipino candidates for “Kangoshi” and “Kaigofukushishi” 310
2009 Indonesian candidates for “Kangoshi” and “Kaigofukushishi” 362
2010 Filipino candidates for “Kangoshi” and “Kaigofukushishi” 128
2010 Indonesian candidates for “Kangoshi” and “Kaigofukushishi” 116

Also, for the smooth acceptance of Foreign nurses and careworkers, JICWELS provides support for foreign nurses and caregivers and their accepting facilities through the consultation hotline and the annual visitation to the accepting facilities.
V. Others

**Publication and information Dissemination project**
JICWELS provides news letter to the members and publishes training materials for the acceptance of Support of Foreign Nurses and Careworkers.

**Public relations**
JICWELS provides information of social security, pharmaceutical, water supply situation in Asian countries as well as outcome of research and survey studies.
東京メトロ銀座線「虎ノ門」駅3番出口より徒歩4分
東京メトロ日比谷線・千代田線・丸の内線「霞ヶ関」駅A13出口より徒歩8分
4 minutes’ walk from TORANOMON Station, Subway Ginza Line
8 minutes’ walk from KASUMIGASEKI Station, Subway Hibiya or Chiyoda Line

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