

# IDE Advanced School (IDEAS)

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*Secretary General:* Minoru Makishima

IDEAS was established as an education wing of the IDE. Since its inauguration in 1990, IDEAS has offered post-graduate level programs in Development Studies in order to nurture experts who are able to deal with development issues that developing countries face today.

The school organizes two types of programs in parallel: a one-year program for Japanese students (September–June) and a six-month overseas fellows program for young government officials of Asian countries (October–March). During the first six months (October–March), many courses are offered in English jointly in the two groups, enabling the development of close interactions between them. Through the program, students are expected to develop a comprehensive understanding of national development policies and to be able to propose solutions to existing development issues, while they acquire practical knowledge to implement specific projects.

The main feature of the curriculum is the introduction of structured cluster courses. In particular, the program provides four core courses in the first semester, in which both Japanese students and overseas fellows can learn together about the socioeconomic development experiences of Japan and the Asian NIEs as well as contemporary issues of development and so on. Through this curriculum enhancement, the school should acquire a higher capacity in training experts in economic and social development for developing countries. This modification may enable IDEAS to offer diplomas based on a balanced and accountable credit system.

Japanese students who successfully completed the program can then proceed to graduate schools in development studies at appropriate universities abroad.

▶ **Training Program for Fellows from Asian Countries**  
(September 2004–March 2005)

The training program for overseas fellows was initiated in 1991. The objective is to enhance the absorption capacity of foreign aid in developing countries. This objective can be achieved by training officials from governmental organizations in the developing regions who are in charge of the planning and implementation of socioeconomic development policies. The program provides opportunities for them to become acquainted with the aid administration policies of Japan and other developed countries as well as to study the economic development of Japan and Asian NIEs. In the current academic year, we invited sixteen government officials from fourteen Asian countries.

(For details of the curriculum, please refer to pp. 69–70.)

▶ **Follow-up Program**

IDEAS conducted a short-term training program for overseas fellows who have graduated from IDEAS. The aim is to provide them with practical skills to cope with development issues, which they will face in their work after returning from the six-month IDEAS program. The follow-up program was started in 1995 and carried out in Asian countries from 2001. The follow-up program for 2004/2005 academic year was held in Vietnam in January 2005, under the theme of “Deregulation and Privatization in Asian Countries” in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning and Investment of Vietnam.

▶ **Training Program for Japanese Students**  
(September 2004–June 2005)

In the fifteenth academic year trained 12 Japanese students were selected among 61 applicants. The subjects covered in this academic year are shown on pp. 67–69.