

IDEAS Program Guide



Message from the President of IDE-JETRO



Kyoji FUKAO

President of IDE-JETRO

The Institute of Developing Economies (IDE) was founded in 1960 and has been a research institute affiliated to the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) since their merger in 1998. The primary objective of the IDE is to undertake both basic and comprehensive research on economic, political and social issues affecting developing countries and regions in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Latin

America and so on.

The IDEAS was founded in 1990 for nurturing front-line development specialists in the field of economic development and cooperation and started a training program for Japanese students in 1990 and one for overseas fellows in 1991. These were designed for young officials in developing countries.

In 2018, IDEAS integrated the two programs and launched a new training program, the purpose of which is to train front-line experts engaged in practical business related to international trade and investment.

The newly revamped three-month program is for mid-career officials who are mainly in charge of policy planning or business practice in the fields of trade and investment in governmental organizations in Asian and African countries. Additionally, this new program is designed for Japanese fellows who want to deepen their understanding of international trade, foreign investment and the international economy. The program provides opportunities to become familiar with the industrial policies of Japan and other developed countries and to study various topics related to trade and investment.

We believe that our program not only assists developing countries in Asia and Africa to make and implement effective and efficient trade and investment policies but also helps to build close relationships and networks between Japan and developing countries in these regions.



Program Introduction

Training Curriculum

The outline of the curriculum is as follows.

1. International Trade, Investment and Finance

This course introduces the theories and current practices of international trade and finance.

2. Japanese Industry and Organization (Development Experiences of Japan)

This course provides lectures on developmental experiences in Japan in terms of the management of private firms and the public sector.

3. Industry Competitiveness

This course provides lectures related to strategies employed by companies, business and human rights, SDGs and so on.

4. Intensive Lecture

This course provides one-week intensive lecture on specific issues related to current international trade and investment by professors from overseas universities or experts from international organizations.

5. Seminars

This course provides the opportunity for discussion and presentation on case studies for policy issues. Fellows are requested to write a term paper.

6. Special Lectures *Elective for domestic fellows

This course provides lectures on a wide range of issues in many developing countries.

7. Japanese *For residents in countries other than Japan

A Japanese language class is offered to overseas fellows so they can acquire practical language skills for daily life in Japan.

8. Field Trips *For residents in countries other than Japan

Opportunities to visit factories, farms, physical infrastructures and various other places to have first-hand experience of Japan's economy, politics and society.

9. Extracurricular Activities *Only for overseas fellows

Overseas fellows are expected to deepen their understanding of Japan through a visit to a high school and to a family living in Chiba Prefecture.



Training Period

The program runs from October through to the following January. Upon successful completion of the program, fellows will be granted a Diploma in International Studies.



Application Guide

Admission Capacity & Screening

1. Admission Capacity

Admission Capacity shall be specified by the annual plan of IDEAS.

2. Admission Screening

- Application documents screening.
- Interview assessment (For residents in countries other than Japan).



Admission Requirements

★For residents in Japan

- Applicants should be Japanese nationals or residents in Japan.
- Applicants who hold a master's degree or have equivalent experience, regardless of field, would be preferable. Excellent applicants who only have a bachelor's degree will also be eligible to participate in training on a case-by-case basis.
- Applicants should have sufficient ability in English to be able to participate in university-level work. A TOEFL iBT score of more than 88 would be highly recommended.
- Applicants need to accept the "Terms and Conditions" provided by IDE-JETRO.

★For residents in countries other than Japan

- Applicants should be public officials working for the government or public institutions in developing countries.
- Applicants should be people who can be recommended by their current governmental organization. It would be preferable if applicants were engaged in the field of the promotion of trade and investment.
- Applicants who have more than three years of work experience would be preferable. Excellent applicants with less than three years of work experience will also be able to participate in training on a case-by-case basis.
- The expected age of applicants is 35 or younger.
- Applicants who hold a master's degree or have equivalent experience, regardless of field, would be preferable. Excellent applicants who only have a bachelor's degree will also be eligible to participate in training on a case-by-case basis.
- Applicants should have sufficient ability in English to be able to participate in university-level work. A TOEFL iBT score of more than 88 would be highly recommended (but competence in the Japanese language is not required).
- Applicants need to accept the "Terms and Conditions" provided by IDE-JETRO.

Note: IDE-JETRO retains the right to select countries and organizations of the applicants.

Overseas fellows cannot accompany their family to Japan during the IDEAS program.



Application Documents

- Completed application form (Including an essay*).
- *Applicants are requested to write an essay.
- *The essay should be written in English on a sheet of A4-size paper.
- Certificates of bachelor's and master's degrees.
- Two recent photographs of the applicant (30mm x 40mm) including one attached to your application form. (Should be taken within the last 6 months. Please write your name on the back.)



★For residents in countries other than Japan

In addition to the documents described above, applicants who are residents in countries other than Japan are required to submit the following documents.

- A letter of reference written by the applicant's supervisor. (The letter should be enclosed in a sealed envelope.)
- A photocopy of the applicant's passport.



Allowance & Services

Overseas fellows will be provided with:

- A round trip economy-class air ticket.
- A monthly stipend determined in accordance with IDE-JETRO regulations.
- Free tuition for coursework.
- Free textbooks.
- An individual locker, desk and computer with Internet access.
- Access to the IDE library.

Location and Facilities

IDE-JETRO is located in Chiba City. It has lecture rooms with audiovisual equipment and Wi-Fi, a fellow's study room equipped with individual lockers, desks and PCs, a common room with TV and a multifunction printer. The fellows are entitled to borrow books from the IDE library.



Accommodation Facilities

Overseas fellows are required to stay in a designated accommodation facility, which is suitable for international guests.

Fees

For residents in Japan

Fellows who are Japanese nationals or residents in Japan are required to pay the tuition fees.

The amount of the tuition fees shall be determined by the annual plan of IDE-JETRO.

Messages

Graduate



Ms. BUI Thi Thuy Dung

Foreign Investment Agency, Ministry of Planning and Investment
Vietnam
(1st IDEAS Overseas Graduate)

As one of the most dynamic emerging countries in East Asia, Vietnam has made significant progress in socio-economic development. However, the country still faces many challenges. I have learned many lessons from a developed country like Japan, and from the developing countries where other fellows reside which share the same problems as Vietnam, especially in foreign direct investment which is related to an area of my work.

The knowledge I have gained from this course has been very fruitful for my current work and for my future career path. This course has a great range of many topics e.g. industrial policies in Japan, trade, investment and finance, companies' production strategies, marketing and innovation...

Besides all the lectures, I also very much enjoyed extracurricular activities like learning the Japanese language, the home stay, the study tour...

This course is very well organized in terms of classroom facilities, staff, accommodation and transportation. IDEAS staff have been supportive and helpful to us during our course.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to IDEAS, as well as all the professors, lecturers and staff for giving me this opportunity to be one of the fellows of the 1st IDEAS program, which has certainly helped me to create many unforgettable memories.

(As of January 22, 2019)

Graduate



Mr. Mokitul HASAN

National Board of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
Bangladesh
(1st IDEAS Overseas Graduate)

The IDEAS program lasts for a short time but I believe it is engaging enough to inspire participants for a lifetime with its rich and in-depth lecture contents that focus mostly on contemporary trade and investment issues. The program has activities such as group presentations and role-plays, distinguished faculties and dedicated staff members. Apart from getting to know each other, participants can enjoy many opportunities to gain an overview of developmental experience in Japan through field trips, and exposure to Japanese culture through programs like high school visits, the home stay program, Japanese language classes etc. This is particularly commendable since participants usually come from countries that have investment potential or close business ties with Japan and with each other. The IDE is a great environment for study and the collection of materials at the IDE library is the best. I am grateful to IDE-JETRO for this opportunity and I am proud to be an IDEAS fellow.

(As of January 22, 2019)

IDEAS Teaching Staff



Dr. Hikari ISHIDO

Professor of International Economics,
Chiba University

The students will learn what trade and investment theory is, how those concepts are actually used by the policymakers in the Asia Pacific region, and how their use is sometimes restricted in actual international economic negotiations.





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