

# NEWSLETTER

Global Internship Program (G.echo Program)  
—Discover what you will be 10 years from now!  
Internship Program where you will encounter the world —

March, 2022

Issue 21 (Vol.14)

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## *A cat-and-mouse game with COVID-19, the G.echo Program response to the pandemic*



**Dr. MAHARJAN, Keshav Lall**

Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Chairperson, G.echo Program Executive Committee

It has already been two years since a new coronavirus, named COVID-19, started to spread around the world. During that time, many people became infected, were seriously ill, and have died from the virus. In order to prevent infection with this virus, people have been taking measures such as by avoiding the three Cs (closed spaces, crowded places and close-contact settings), wearing masks, washing hands frequently and thoroughly, and disinfecting thoroughly. Nevertheless, the virus has mutated here and there, increasing the severity and mortality of the disease. Meantime, humans are trying to control the spread of the virus by restricting their daily activities through lockdowns, priority measures to prevent the spread of the virus, and state of emergency declarations based on the hammer-and-dance concept. In addition, vaccines were developed, and there was a time when vaccination suppressed infection and allowed freedom of movement. It has been a cat-and-mouse game between humans and COVID-19. Japan has experienced waves of the pandemic with the number of people infected with the virus increasing and then being controlled. We are now trying to deal with the sixth wave. Currently (February 2022), 35 prefectures are under priority measures to prevent the spread of the virus, and certain restrictions on daily activities are being imposed to control the spread of the virus. In addition, as a containment measure, entry and exit movements across national borders are restricted.

There were no overseas internships under the G.echo Program during this period. The fact that students have not been sent abroad for internships for two years is not something to be taken lightly in terms of the internationalization of the university. However, from the perspective of educational effectiveness, G.echo-type internships are not easy to implement online. In the digital age, it may be possible to consider a so-called "virtual internship" in which the contents of the internship are digitized for a simulated experience, but it is not realistic to ask overseas universities or institutions receiving the interns to digitize the contents because that would impose a considerable burden on them. As another option, we may consider sending selected students from our university to projects of companies that offer virtual internships on a commercial basis.

(Cont'd on Page 2 ➡)

## What is the Global Internship Program (G.echo Program) ?

Overseas internships form the core part of this educational program with 'sandwich-style' education and research activities. In this program we aim to produce researchers who can deal with a variety of issues in various fields, and practitioners and highly skilled specialists who can take the lead in international issues.

(Cont'd from Page 1)

In such a case, the content of the virtual internship must be inspected beforehand to make sure that it is compatible with this program. Even if it is implemented based on recognized content suitability, it does not necessarily guarantee the achievement of the purpose of this program, which "mainly aims to grasp the needs of the field, learn, and respond to them in a multidisciplinary manner through problem-solving methods," or its educational effectiveness.

The Omicron variant, which is currently prevalent, is highly contagious, but its severity and fatality rates are said to be much lower than those of the Delta variant. The duration of infection is short, the symptoms are mild, and the fatality rate is tens of times lower than that of influenza, except in the case of the elderly. In the United Kingdom, France, and other countries, regulations such as the compulsory wearing of masks have been eased in order to avoid inconvenience in daily life. Such policies can be thought of as based on the idea that we should regard COVID-19 as a kind of endemic disease and we need to literally try to coexist with it.

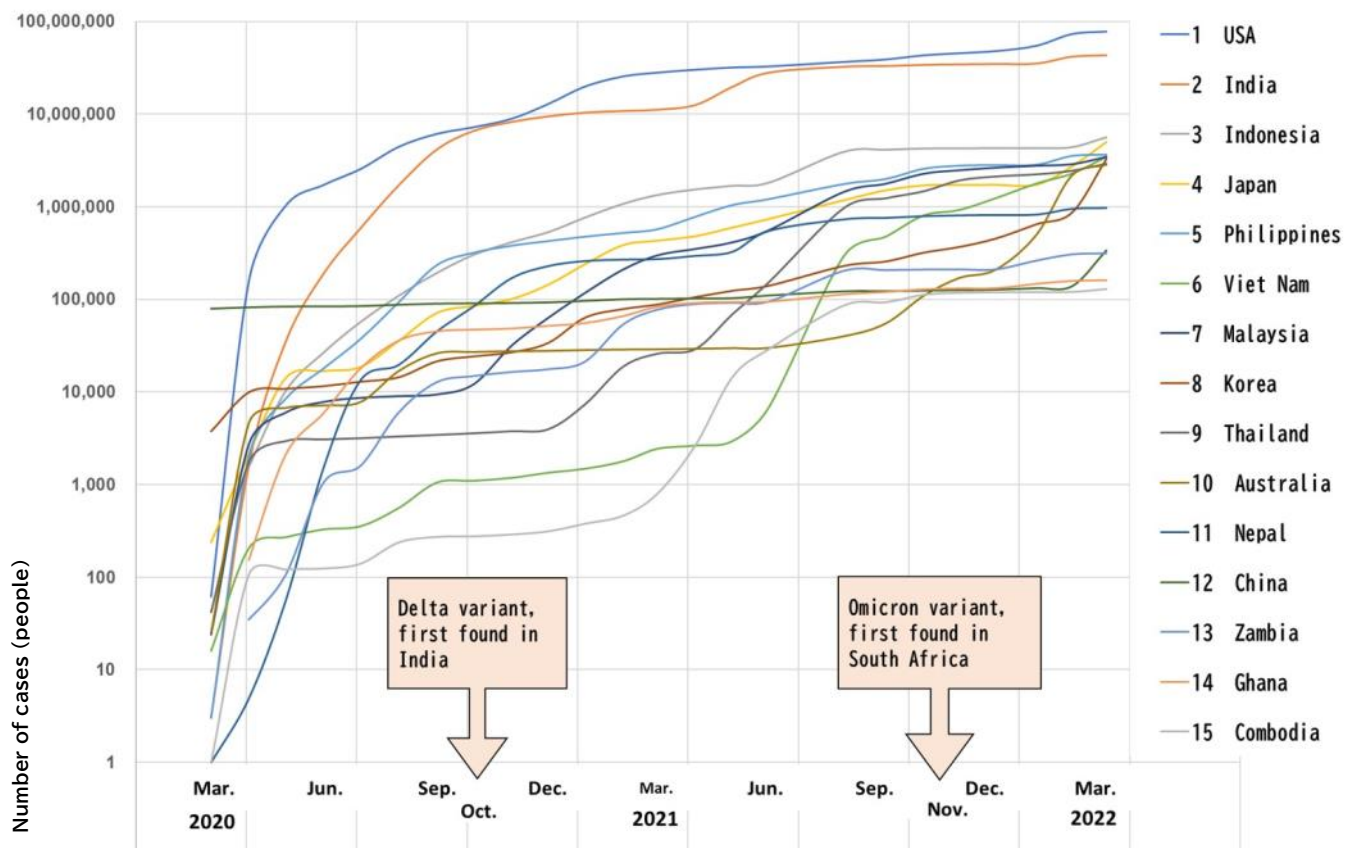
Although we need to be alert about the emergence of more mutants, we now have vaccinations and a drug for the treatment of COVID-19, and the time may soon come when we will no longer have to enforce the strict restrictions on movement we have had in the past. As the organizer of this program, I greatly look forward to the arrival of such a time.

If it becomes possible to send students abroad again under this program, there is a good chance that the number of applicants will increase because there have been no students sent abroad for the past two years. In order to provide future applicants with information after participating in the program, this issue features a special feature article entitled "Expanding the G.ecbo Circle and Connecting Careers in International Cooperation", which includes letters from alumni working in international relations and the current status of alumni and former students who are active in Japan and around the world. Reading these letters and status reports, I am reminded of the educational effects of this program and its contribution to the formation of their career paths.

Be informed, stay safe, stay healthy and be engaged.

Chairperson, G.ecbo Program Executive Committee  
Maharjan, Keshav Lall

### *COVID-19 Infection Cases by Country (As of March 1, 2022)*



※ Extracted from WHO Coronavirus(COVID-19) Dashboard;  
daily data until the end of August, 2020, weekly from September onward.

## [Special Feature!]

### Expanding the G.ecbo Circle and Connecting Careers in International Cooperation



#### 【Internships related to JICA】

Year of Dispatch	Destination(Country)
2006	ALMEC CORPORATION (Philippines ), PADECO Co., Ltd (Bangladesh)
2007	JICA Ghana(Ghana)
2009	JICA Makassar(Indonesia)2名, PADECO Co., Ltd (Cambodia), JICA Recruitment Malawi(Malawi)
2010	JICA Recruitment Senegal(Senegal), PADECO Co., Ltd (Ghana)
2011	JICA Makassar(Indonesia), PADECO Co., Ltd (Cambodia)
2013	JICA Indonesia(Indonesia), PADECO Co., Ltd (Bangladesh)
2014	JICA Indonesia(Indonesia)
2019	JICA Bolivia(Bolivia), NTC INTERNATIONAL Co., Ltd. (Cote d'Ivoire )

#### 【JICA Employment Record】

Year of Completion	Number of people
2006	2
2012	1
2016	1
2020	2

Close to the Higashi-Hiroshima campus you can find these facilities.(^^♪

Many of the G.ecbo Program's overseas internships are related to international cooperation. There are also JICA-related dispatches. Students can directly participate in JICA\* internships, work on joint projects with JICA, or apply for JICA internships and receive financial assistance if they are successful. In addition, some of the students have experienced JICA's Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program, went on to Hiroshima University's Graduate School for International Development to further their research on international relations, and participated in overseas internships through the G.ecbo Program to further their research.

The above graph lists the internships related to JICA in the G.ecbo Program dispatch. There are also alumni who are working in the field of international cooperation after graduation or are active as JICA staff based on their experiences, and their stories are posted on the next page.

\*The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) provides international cooperation to developing countries as a centralized agency for Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA).

#### Hiroshima International Plaza (HIP)

Built in 1997 in Higashi-Hiroshima City, Hiroshima International Plaza (HIP) is home to the Hiroshima International Cooperation Center and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Chugoku International Center, in a combined facility that serves as a hub for international cooperation and international contributions in the Chugoku and Shikoku regions. HIP provides technical, Japanese language and culture training to trainees from overseas, international training to corporate personnel, and support for NGO (private aid organization) activities. There is also a library, with manga translated into English and Western picture books, available for use by the public.





## News from Alumni Working in International Relations 1

This is from an alumna who works with JICA and who wrote to us about her recent situation and her thoughts on G.ecbo Program.

### OKUBO Kaori

JICA Employee, Graduate of Hiroshima University, Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC)  
Dispatch Destination: AY2006 ALMEC Corporation (Vietnam)



For about three years until the end of 2020, I was involved in Cambodia's national development, including roads, ports, and urban development, as an infrastructure manager at the Cambodia Office. In 2021, I gave birth to my third son, and while raising my child, I am also involved in activities related to contributing to the community, such as PTA and women's empowerment.

In the past year, my lifestyle and perspective has taken a sharp turn from being globally involved in large-scale businesses to being locally focused and family-oriented, but I feel that there are some unexpected similarities. It is interesting to think about whether we can make the people in front of us happy, and whether we can realize our dreams through future-oriented co-creation.

Infrastructure development using ODA is often conceived from the Japanese perspective, partly due to Japan's strategy for overseas development of infrastructure, but I feel that it is important to always keep in mind the perspective of whether or not we are providing products and services that our partners, the Cambodian government and Cambodian people, will enjoy in the future. This is also true at home and in community activities. I feel that it is very important to go beyond "what I want to do" and think about "what the other person needs" and "what contribution I can make", in other words, "how I can make the person in front of me happy".

I also feel the importance of involving various actors in realizing a world that will bring joy to the children of the future, as many challenges remain for the future, such as climate change, poverty, and healthy living. I strongly feel that the time has come for us all to make our dreams come true. Looking back, I think that my ability to think from the perspective of consumers and my attitude of involving diverse members has its roots in my experience of blending into local life in Vietnam and Thailand with the G.ecbo Program, before I became a staff member of an aid organization, as well as the time I spent in the university research lab that was full of international students.

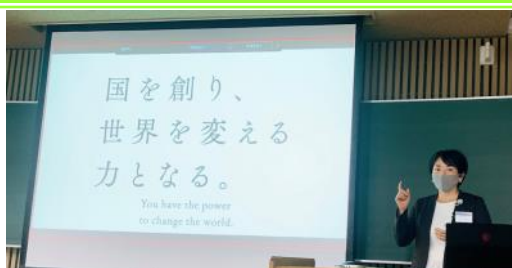
Every day, I challenge myself to think about what I can do for the community as a human being, what impact I can make by involving the people around me, and what kind of world I can leave for the children of the future, transcending my perspective as an employee of an aid organization.



With members of the Ministry of Public Works and Transport during the assignment in Cambodia



As an intern at ALMEC Corporation (Vietnam), 2006.



At a career seminar about social infrastructure environmental engineering, AY2021  
Date : November 15 (Mon), 2021, 13:15-17:50  
Place: Career Seminar held in Lecture Room 103, School of Engineering, Hiroshima University

A graduate of Hiroshima University, Ms. Okubo was invited to speak at a career seminar.

"Your dreams will come true, if you can draw them. Write a profile of who you want to be in 20-30 years!"  
"You can have it both ways, you can do all you want to do, and you can make it."



## News from Alumni Working in International Relations 2

### ASADA Yoshinori

UN Employee(JPO), Graduate of Hiroshima University, Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC)  
Dispatch Destination: AY2011 Grameen Bank (Shakti) (Bangladesh)

After graduating from Hiroshima University's Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC), I worked as a researcher at the Japanese Embassy in Laos, which gave me the opportunity to learn how bilateral international cooperation is formed. After that, I worked as a researcher in JICA's Laos office, which enabled me to work on international cooperation a little more on-site. Based on my experience working in the field of international cooperation in developing countries, I now have the opportunity to work for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which supports the establishment of more effective international cooperation frameworks for developing countries as a whole and from a more global perspective.



#### – Thoughts on the G.ecbo Program

As I have mentioned before, I was scared and anxious to step out of my comfort place when applying for G.ecbo, and to be honest, I was reluctant to apply at first. However, I managed to apply because one of the potential internship sites was Bangladesh, where I had stayed for work before entering IDEC. Bangladesh was a country that had a strong impact on me, making me want to study more about the field of development and contribute to the development of developing countries in some way. I remember that the desire to reconfirm my motivation in Bangladesh turned my fear and anxiety into an exciting and positive feeling. It was a very small piece of emotional struggle, but it allowed me to join G.ecbo, and that in turn led to a specific career for me. In retrospect, I had similar emotional conflicts when I was at the crossroads of my career in Laos and when I applied to the United Nations, and I think I tried to look at each of them with an excited and positive attitude in light of my own motivation. Perhaps it was G.ecbo that helped me learn how to turn the anxiety I felt when taking on a challenge into something positive and enjoyable.



*At a round-table meeting in Laos, 2019*

#### – My experience at JICA

As was the case at the Embassy of Japan in Laos, at JICA's Laos office I learned about various schemes of Japan's international cooperation, and was able to engage in the actual flow of each scheme, from project formation to coordination during implementation and evaluation after completion. In particular, I was struck by the fact that international cooperation must be closely coordinated with partner governments in order to meet the needs of partner countries, and also with other development partners in the field, in order to maximize aid effectiveness. In Laos, the government took the initiative in establishing a framework for aid coordination with the round-table process, within which various development actors worked together to provide assistance. I was able to experience the process of considering how to tackle the development issues in Laos by placing myself in the framework of the project and coordinating with the government and other organizations, which has greatly helped me in my current work at UNDP.

**New! G.ecbo Program website, senior's stories, job hunting experiences & alumni reports are now easier to find!**

① By country

[Internship Experiences | Hiroshima University](#)

② By year of publication

[Job Hunting Experiences & Activities of Alumni | Hiroshima University](#)

①



②





## News from Alumni Working in International Relations 3

### MATSUI Hayao

JICA Employee, Graduate of Hiroshima University, Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC)

Dispatch Destination: AY2015 FORWARD Nepal (Nepal)

After completing my studies at IDEC in 2017, I joined the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Since June 2021, I have been stationed at the JICA Zambia office. Currently, I am in charge of agriculture and rural development, including rice cultivation and irrigation projects. My main work at the office is to manage the progress of the project in the field and to coordinate with the Zambian government.

When you hear the word "Africa," you may have an image of a dangerous or uncivilized place, but in Zambia, people are gentle and kind, and the country is peaceful and easy to live in. The capital city, Lusaka, has a number of modern shopping malls, making everyday life easy and comfortable.

The G.ecbo Program provided me with an opportunity to become involved in the world of international cooperation, as I had never been to a developing country before entering graduate school. I used this program to conduct research in a rural village in Nepal when I was a first-year university student, and I have applied to my current work what I learned from the experience of struggling to communicate with the Nepalese interpreter I worked with then. At the time, I was so eager to keep the investigation on schedule and accurate that I imposed my own opinions on the interpreter. As a result, although the survey itself was successful and we collected the data as planned, he lost his motivation and eventually we had a slight falling out.

In my current job, I need to work with local Zambian staff to get things done. I try to listen to what they have to say, respect their ideas, and then make any decisions. When I work with them, sometimes things don't go the way I want them to and I am tempted to push through my own way of thinking. In such cases, I remember the lessons I learned from the G.ecbo Program and try to be conscious of respecting the initiative of Zambian people.



#### Scenery of Zambia



*Flame tree flowers and jacaranda flowers that bloom throughout cities in Zambia*



*An irrigation project site*



*People eating the Zambian national dish, Sima*



*During my internship with FORWARD Nepal, 2015*

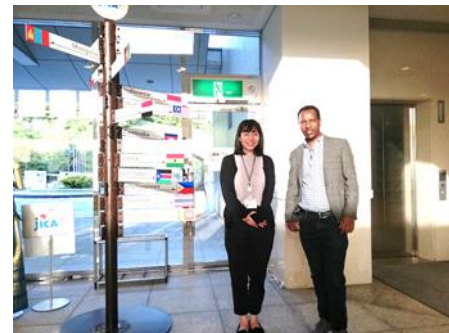
## *G.ecbo Alumni Active in Japan and Around the World*

**MURAKAMI Yayoi** / JICA Chugoku, Training Services Division

*Dispatch Destination: AY2018 Cambodian Mekong University (Cambodia) ,  
Graduate of Hiroshima University, Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC)*

### **—About my work and other news**

After graduating from IDEC, I am now working in the Training Services Division of the JICA Chugoku Center. JICA provides technical cooperation, yen loans, and grant aid as part of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA). I am in charge of the training program, which is a part of the technical cooperation. My main duties are to support JICA long-term trainees (masters and doctoral students from developing countries studying in Japan) when they come to Japan and when they return home, and to manage and coordinate the implementation of issue-specific training (in the fields of education and peace). I usually deal with the relevant parties by e-mail, phone, online meetings, and monitoring, but sometimes I meet the trainees face-to-face. I find it very rewarding to be a go-between for developing countries and Japan.



*@ JICA Chugoku*

### **—Looking back from my internship to the present**

Looking back from my internship at G.ecbo to the present, time has flown by very quickly. This is because my life as a graduate student was filled with daily classes, research, writing papers, job hunting, and many other things. I have challenged myself with various things, and have accumulated many failures and experiences. There were days when I slacked off on my research and writing papers, but my friends, seniors and juniors in the lab and I encouraged each other and I never gave up. I am grateful to my supervisor and my family for their support.



*The Japanese language class  
in progress*

### **—The reason I chose this field of work**

After completing my undergraduate studies, I worked as a teacher and JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) in Ghana for two years. Then I went to graduate school and began my career working for JICA.

I struggled as I desperately tried to keep my focus on the future. But looking back, my main focus has been education and international cooperation. I became interested in developing countries when I learned that there were children who could not go to school to complete their compulsory education. I would like to continue to contribute to international cooperation by utilizing my expertise in the field of education without forgetting my original intention.



*Degree-awarding ceremony @ Hiroshima University*

### **—What I gained from my internship and the impact of my internship experience on job-hunting**

What I gained from my internship was an attitude to take on challenges and the ability to respond flexibly. During my internship at the Cambodian Mekong University, I taught a Japanese language class, but since I didn't have a fixed schedule, I had to consult with the teachers to get a Japanese class schedule, and I also tried conducting an after-school chorus class. The experience of jumping into a new environment and responding flexibly has also been useful in my job hunting.

**—Advice for Juniors** If you are reading this article, you may be interested in the G.ecbo Program. Failures and successes each become building blocks for the future and valuable experiences. I believe that if you have faith in yourself, work hard, and are determined, everything will work out. Why not try an internship where you can experience life and work in a developing country?



## *G.ecbo Alumni Active in Japan and Around the World*

**TAMURA Eka** / JICA Hokkaido, Citizen Participation Cooperation Division,  
Development Education Officer

*Dispatch Destination: AY2019 JICA Bolivia(Bolivia)*

*Graduate of Hiroshima University, Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC)*

### **— About my work and other news**

After graduating from IDEC, I have been working as a development education and public relations officer at the JICA Hokkaido Center. When you hear the name "JICA," you probably have a strong image of working overseas. However, JICA's projects are very wide-ranging, and it is becoming more and more important to work at domestic bases in order to return the knowledge gained overseas back to Japan. Amidst that setting, I am in a much closer position than others to the Japanese general public. Using my experience as a JICA volunteer and the knowledge I gained at IDEC, I plan international cooperation events for citizens and organize seminars for teachers and students. I am also in charge of accepting internship students and managing events together with them.



*Explaining SDGs to junior high school students as part of international understanding education, @JICA Global Plaza*

### **— Looking back from my internship to the present**

The public relations work I was in charge of during my internship was very broad in scope, and to be honest, I could do whatever I wanted! To put it another way, there were no set tasks, so I had to develop my own ideas to get started. I created pamphlets for events, made questionnaires for the center, etc., and now I am engaged in the same work as a PR person. [Laughs] I didn't choose my internship or my current job because I wanted to work in public relations, but because of various connections, I have come this far. It is difficult to create something going from 0 to 1, but I feel that it suits me.



*At an international exchange event in Bolivia @Bolivian Park*



*Commemorating graduation from IDEC*

### **— The reason I chose this field of work**

Bolivia is the first foreign country that I ever lived in, and I returned to Japan with various emotions. I chose to do research on education in Bolivia because I was still in the throes of those intense feelings. I also thought that I would like a job that involved working abroad, since I felt comfortable living outside of Japan and thought that my activities were going well. However, the more I proceeded with my research, the more I began to think about my attachment to the land where I was born and raised, and how I could give back my experiences and knowledge. As a result, I began to think that it would be better to work in Hokkaido rather than overseas. I also began to think that it would be nice to have a job related to international cooperation in the field of education. I was fortunate enough to find an opening for my current position. Because of my family's circumstances, I decided to take this job as if I had been called to it.

### **— What I gained from my internship and the impact of my internship experience on job-hunting**

During my internship, I learned the importance of feasibility in business. As a public relations officer, I have been able to do a lot of things. I have also made suggestions. However, none of them have been realized because we have not taken the steps to actually implement them in our office. I learned once again that in order to carry out our work, we need to expect and achieve an infinite number of requirements, even if they are small.

**— Advice for Juniors** In the previous sentence, I wrote that feasibility of the work is important, but internships are work experience. Because it's a work experience, think of all your failures and successes as your reference material, and be bold about it! I also hope that you will take the initiative to build relationships and learn from your seniors in your career and life outside of work. In both research and job hunting, output is important for input. However, there is no place where you can voice your thoughts before the real thing... In such a case, I recommend that you use the career counseling service at the career center to better organize your ideas.



## *G.ecbo Alumni Active in Japan and Around the World*

**TAGUCHI Taishi** / International development consultant

*Dispatch Destination: AY2019 NTC International (Côte d'Ivoire)*

*Graduate of Hiroshima University, Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC)*

### **— About my work and other news**

For the first time in my life, I am living in a city, and no one is mad at me for buying 1,500 yen worth of craft beer. Just the thought of having expensive beer at home is enough to keep me going. I am currently working on a project related to COVID-19 as a development consultant, and I am communicating with doctors for the first time outside of a hospital. My mother is a medical professional, and I am involved in medical-related cases, so I think my mother will be appreciative of my work. On the other hand, I am working hard on this project on behalf of the people who had their fun internship in Cote d'Ivoire ended early because of COVID-19 and whose life plans were ruined because of COVID-19.



*A man with a smile on his face and focusing on his job*

### **— Looking back from my internship to the present**

After finishing my internship, I wrote my master's thesis while suffering from ill health, and after successfully graduating from graduate school, I returned to unemployment for the third time in two years. Perhaps my low batting average in life also shows through here. After seven months of being unemployed, I was lucky enough to be able to join my current company. It is difficult to get into this field, and I was lucky to make it in. I was even more fortunate to be able to become an international development consultant at the age of 28. I can only express my gratitude to the company for accepting me.



*Meeting with local staff*

### **— The reason I chose this field of work**

After graduating from a multiversity, I was dispatched to Uganda as a member of the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV), and the first Japanese person I met at my post in the countryside was a woman working as a development consultant. It was then that I first learned about this work. Since then, I have had the opportunity to meet with various international development professionals. I thought it was so cool that development consultants had to deal with the government officials of the target country and JICA starting from nothing, so I decided to aim for it.

### **— What I gained from my internship and the impact of my internship experience on job-hunting**

I am an ordinary Japanese person, and I have learned firsthand that I cannot digest coconut oil, just as non-Japanese people cannot digest seaweed. I also got to see first-hand what development consultants do in the field, their relationships with local project members, how they finish projects, and their interactions with the local JICA office. These experiences enhanced my understanding of the job and gave me the confidence to take on the interview even though I had no experience.



*Cross-cultural understanding:*

*Conquering all the beers you can order at a restaurant while interacting with the locals at a bar in Côte d'Ivoire*

**— Advice for Juniors** If I don't think there is anything in particular I can tell you about my career as the path I have taken is a bit different to normal and therefore probably not so helpful. But can I say that I, who have never met you, will view you in a positive light, no matter what you do or don't do, when you read this. You will probably be okay!

## [Column] G.ecbo Internship and Job Hunting: Advice from G.ecbo seniors

It is no exaggeration to say that job hunting in recent years starts with internships. Internships are defined by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) as a period of supervised work experience for students during their studies or immediately after graduation that is related to their major or future career. Originally, this system was created in the U.S. to eliminate mismatches in employment. The G.ecbo Program, as the name Global Explorers to Cross Borders suggests, is characterized by sandwich education consisting of pre-training and post-training research with a global internship as the core or main pillar. An internship is not only a research activity, but also a great opportunity to think about your future career. Therefore, we have included excerpts from articles by our seniors who have flown into the world, and also advice for our juniors, as in the phrase "Find yourself 10 years from now, internship to experience the world." I would like to share with you how their internships affected and were a strong point in the job-hunting activities of students who were dispatched via the program. For those of you who are hesitant, "Let's join the G.ecbo Program!"

Before I participated in this program, I had wanted to work abroad, and after my internship experience, my desire to work abroad became much stronger.

(Interned in AY2019, MORIWAKI Takatoshi: ALMEC CORPORATION(The Philippines))

I had many opportunities to make presentations before the internship through the pre-internship training, so I was able to speak with confidence at the interview.

(Interned in AY2018, SOHARA Aoi: Indonesia University of Education (Indonesia))

I had many opportunities to make presentations before the internship through the pre-internship training, so I was able to speak with confidence at the interview.

(Interned in AY2018, SOHARA Aoi: Indonesia University of Education (Indonesia))

From among the large number of companies in your job search, to find a company with which you feel a connection, it is probably more important than anything else to know just who you are, before striving to be talented and brilliant, and to make a strategy for choosing a company. Perhaps it was my encounter with an uplifting environment that gave me an advantage in my job search.

(Interned in AY2011, NOBEKAWA Yuki: Kenyatta University (Kenya))

"What an amazing experience you had," I was told at every job interview. I threw myself wholeheartedly into my internship, caught up in the moment. But I realized during my job hunting that I had actually had an extraordinary experience, and I reaffirmed how much of an impact that month had on me. (Interned in AY2007, HAYASHIDA Sayaka: ALMEC CORPORATION (Viet Nam))



*Hiroshima University official mascot Hiroty®*

*The Phoenix design, which also portrays the leaves of the palmar plant, symbolizes how the phoenix overcame many hardships, grew large, and flapped its wings into the sky, with this image overlapping with that of Hiroshima University students.*



Studying abroad is becoming more and more common, but I think that during the job-hunting process, rather than easy-to-understand things such as language skills measured by TOEIC scores and the like, importance is placed on how much experience you had there, how you thought, and how you acted; experiences which are difficult to obtain in Japan.

(Interned in AY2016, HIBINO Keito: Griffith University (Australia))

During my visit to government offices, I included my internship experience in my motivation for applying to the Japan Meteorological Agency, and the interviewers listened with interest, as few students seem to think about the development of the meteorological field from the perspective of international cooperation. Although the training period was only one month, I clearly felt the need for international cooperation then, and I feel that it was a really good opportunity to improve my motivation in terms of future development of the meteorological field.

(Interned in AY2008, KATAOKA Yoshihisa: JICA Makassar field Office (Indonesia))

I was able to apply the lesson I learned from my internship, "It is important to know what is going on in the field," to my job search as well. Knowing what is happening on the frontline, I was able to speak clearly about my vision for the company, and I was able to evoke a favorable response from the interviewers as I proceeded with the interview.

(Interned in AY2007, TSUCHIYA Yoshiyuki: ALMEC CORPORATION (Viet Nam))

For those who are interested in a career in international cooperation and aid, what are the required competencies? It is a very rewarding and wonderful job to be involved in nation-building in developing countries. However, before you pursue it, I want you to know that there are many hardships behind the glamour of this job. For reference, the abilities and skills required of young people in the field are as follows.

1. Cross-cultural adaptability and resilience in dealing with the unexpected. (Not easily discouraged and able to maintain a positive attitude)
2. Negotiation skills and the ability to express oneself, (communication skills) and language ability.
3. Curiosity, observation and analytical skills, and ability to take action.
4. Ability to design your own career, and able to maintain a healthy mind and body
5. In addition to the above, it is even better if you can create your own expertise for the future.

I think the G.ecbo Program is a groundbreaking program that offers valuable experiences. I hope you will actively challenge yourself and make use of this program for your academic research and life design after graduation.

(Interned in AY2013, SAKAYORI Akira: PADECO CO., Ltd (Bangladesh))



## Participating in AY2021 Study Abroad Week Online

FUKAYA Yasuka, a participant of two G.ecbo Programs, participated in the online study abroad debriefing session. She gave a PowerPoint presentation with her experiences so that undergraduate students can learn about one of their future options.

Date & Time: May 12, 2021, 18:00~18:45  
Presenter: FUKAYA Yasuka(文学研究科 D3)

Dispatch Destination:

①Indonesia University of Education(Indonesia)  
AY2015(M1)/ G.ecbo Program

②Sina Rang Lemulun Homestay(Malaysia)  
AY2018(D1)/ G.ecbo Follow-up Program



With English language skills cultivated through two overseas internships and other experiences, she was selected as one of the 11 finalists in the English language category of the 2021 3-Minute Competition for Future Doctorate Students.

<p>2. G.ecboでできること (私の場合:言語学)</p> <p>2015 日本語教師の第一歩 言語調査 (Sundanese, Indonesian(BI))</p> <p>修士 ・ インドネシア教育大学 (バンドン) ・ スンダ語話者の居住者</p> <p>2018 進上プログラム BIを使用してケラビット語調査</p> <p>博士 ・ マレーシア (パリク)</p> <p>専門を生かしどう生きるかという答えを探る</p> <p>語学教師 研究者 人材育成 言語学</p>	<p>2. G.ecboでできること (私の場合)</p> <p>2015年度 修士 修士・博士で2回派遣 日本語教育と言語調査</p> <p>2018年度 博士</p> <p>専門を生かしどう生きるかという答えを探る</p> <p>語学教師 研究者 人材育成 言語学</p>	<p>3. こんな人におすすめ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>・ 海外の人と協働したい人</li> <li>・ 現地でしたいこと (実験・調査) がある人</li> <li>・ 専門に関わる職について知りたい・経験を積みたい人</li> </ul> <p>言語や座学、「留学」ですることは準備として、 G.ecboの事前研修で底上げのチャンスがあります!! 次のステップにも進みたい人におすすめ!</p>
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※Some of the presentation slides

## Internships around the world: Introductions and Messages

< West Java Environmental Agency, Indonesia Yulie Budiasih, Government Planner >

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude towards the opportunity to greet you.

My name is Yulie, I am a government planner that has been working in a provincial government institution, West Java Environmental Agency, Indonesia, since 2011. During this period, I have accepted three internee students from Hiroshima University. All of them are men, coincidentally. One took transportation management as the study and the other two took disaster mitigation. All of them were placed under my supervision. The challenge was, somehow, we had to adjust many scopes of work because the internees' background study and our main duty were not necessarily inline. Nevertheless, this is very memorable experience for us because we could share our idea, thought, and life experience during the internship. The students became internee in my office but actually I also learnt many things from them. Moreover, since then, we keep good communication via social media.

In summary, I think the global internship program under i-ECBO (G.ecbo) is a golden chance for those who wants to see how the world works. If you are interested to go to Indonesia and your study concerns about these subjects;  
low carbon development,

- ・ community based environmental conservation,
- ・ environmental law enforcement, or
- ・ environmental control and management,

please feel free to join West Java Environmental Agency.



Internee conveyed a speech



Internee from involved in a workshop

【Dispatch results】  
1 intern in AY2011/ AY2012/ AY2014

## AY2021 Research Assistants Introduction

The G.ecbo Program hires students who have done internships in the past as Research Assistants (RAs) and asks them to assist with training and administration.

Although dispatch of interns was cancelled following on from the previous year, we received cooperation in writing articles and translations, etc. We asked two RAs to write their thoughts on the G.ecbo Program, and so on.

### PHYU PHYU ZAW (Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC), D3)

"Hello everyone! I am a Myanmar PhD candidate studying in IDEC. I am one of the two RAs currently working for the G.ecbo program. Fortunately, I got the chance to join the program twice. Back in 2017, with the support of the G.ecbo internship program, I went to the Florida State University (FSU) in the United States to join the Program of Instructional Excellence (PIE) for fifty-four days. And later, again in 2020, with the follow-up research internship program, I went to the University of California (UCSD) in San Diego, United States, to attend the programs which are related to my doctoral research in the UCSD Center for Mindfulness (CFM) for two months. Both above-mentioned internships are substantially beneficial for me to develop both academically and socially. Essentially, the program helps me in so many ways to get out of my comfort zone and experience new challenges in a very positive way. And gaining a deeper understanding of a different culture sored me to previously unattainable heights of insight both intellectually and linguistically. Therefore, please let me recommend you all to consider joining the program once before you graduate from HU. Hope you all have wonderful and precious experiences with the upcoming programs before your graduation. Have a good one!"



### LILAN CHEN (Graduate School of Education, D3)

I participated in a one-month internship at Florida State University in the United States during my 2017 placement. I feel that all of my experiences, including the presentation before the internship, the report during the internship, the report after the internship, and the current RA training, will be very useful for me as I enter the doctoral program. First of all, the pre and post reports have helped me with the conference presentations and question-and-answer sessions that I now do as a doctoral student. Through this experience, I acquired communication skills for expressing my opinions clearly as well as the ability to express myself in front of others. During my month in the United States, I was able to interact with students from various countries, which helped me improve my English skills as well as my ability to understand and adapt to different cultures. Since my research topic is university internationalization, I need to communicate with people from different backgrounds, so my time in the United States was a great learning experience for me. Although there were many difficulties during my stay in the United States, looking back, I am truly glad that I participated in this program.



### Editorial

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to suspend overseas internships for two years. As I sorted through the past internship dispatch experience stories and the G.ecbo website, I found it very interesting to learn that experiences in the G.ecbo Program have a great deal to do with students' future career choices. Therefore, I have put together this paper, including my perspective as a career consultant. We would be happy to be of help to future G.ecbo Program students in their job search and career choices. I am grateful for this opportunity. Thank you very much. Please check the G.ecbo website for the latest information on dispatches in 2022. (G.ecbo Program Office)



Hiroshima University Student Plaza  
Global Career Design Center  
G.ecbo Program Office

