

Considering Climate Change Strategies Rooted in the Indo-Pacific Region: 16 Emerging Researchers and Leaders from Japan and 11 Other Countries to Visit Tokyo, Okinawa and Miyagi

The Japan Foundation will invite 16 emerging researchers and leaders from Japan and 11 other Indo-Pacific countries to join a study tour based on the theme of “Climate Change and Adaptation” from September 9 to 14 as part of the Japan Foundation Indo-Pacific Partnership Program (JFIPP).

The tour will be the final phase of the “Indo-Pacific Leadership Lab,” a yearlong program co-organized by the Japan Foundation and the East-West Center (EWC), a think tank headquartered in Honolulu, that provides research and networking opportunities for next-generation researchers and leaders.

The participants from 12 countries (Japan, the United States, India, Nepal, Pakistan, New Zealand, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Papua New Guinea) already completed weeklong workshops in Honolulu in January and in Fiji in April, where they shared insights regarding the threats to island regions posed by climate change and deepened their networks of experts from diverse backgrounds.

The upcoming study tour in Japan will also be joined by EWC President Suzanne Vares-Lum. The itinerary in Tokyo will include visits and exchanges of views with researchers and members of the media, a general presentation of findings by participants, and a reception with officials hosted by the Japan Foundation. In Okinawa, exchanges with researchers and leaders at the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST), observation of coral reef conservation activities and coral gardening in Onna Village, a courtesy visit to the Okinawa Prefectural Government Office, and an exchange with an NPO in Naha City are also planned. On the final day, participants will visit Higashimatsushima City in Miyagi Prefecture, where they will engage in exchanges with farmers, fishery workers, and community members and experience rice harvesting, along with learning about efforts aimed at the conservation of woodland and coastal areas, climate adaptation, and environmental education.

Press inquiries :

The Japan Foundation, Public Relations Department: Kumakura (Ms.), Ozutsumi (Ms.)
Tel: +81-(0)3-5369-6075 / Fax: +81-(0)3-5369-6044
E-mail: press@jpf.go.jp



Program Title: The Japan Foundation Indo-Pacific Partnership Program (JFIPP) Network Fellowship (Climate Change and Adaptation) Study Tour in Japan

Organizers: The East-West Center (United States) and the Japan Foundation

Main Itinerary:

Monday, September 9, to Tuesday, September 10

Study tour in Tokyo Metropolis (visits to relevant agencies: Ministry of the Environment, NHK, etc.)

Wednesday, September 11

Visit to Onna Village, Okinawa Prefecture: observation and exchanges of views (planned destinations: Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology; Sea Growth)

Thursday, September 12

Courtesy visit to the Okinawa Prefectural Government Office; discussion with the NPO "Chiiki Support Wakasa" in Naha City

Friday, September 13

<Tokyo Metropolis> Morning: meeting with the NPO "People for Rainwater"; afternoon: presentation of findings; evening: reception at Meiji Kinenkan

Saturday, September 14

Visit to Higashimatsushima City, Miyagi prefecture: observation of General Incorporated Association ODYSSEY and rice-harvesting experience

Advisor: Norichika Kanie (Professor, Graduate School of Media and Governance, Keio University)

Overview of Program:

https://www.jpff.go.jp/e/project/intel/exchange/jfipp/network/leadership_lab.html#fellows

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Honolulu workshop in January



Fiji workshop in April

About the **Japan Foundation Indo-Pacific Partnership Program**

The Japan Foundation launched the **Japan Foundation Indo-Pacific Partnership Program (JFIPP)** in FY2023.



The JFIPP Network Fellowship provides research and networking opportunities for next-generation leaders in the Indo-Pacific region who will help shape policy to resolve regional concerns. The program seeks to promote regional dialogue and cooperation on shared issues by providing opportunities to build long-lasting relationships and new platforms for intellectual cooperation. The participants already completed workshops in Honolulu in January 2024 and in Fiji in April, where they built international partnerships and personal networks for climate change strategies through visits to relevant agencies and discussions with the other fellows. Over the course of the program, participants will outline shared threats to the region posed by climate change, identify barriers to effective leadership on this issue, co-create solutions, and test them in real-world settings, thus addressing challenges to implementation in the Indo-Pacific region.



This program has been accredited by the 10th Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM10).

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