

Japanese Studies Overseas

Promotion of Japanese studies in foreign countries is extremely important for promoting the public's understanding of Japan. This is because the resulting knowledge extends beyond the universities and research institutes to become the intellectual foundation for broadening and deepening the general public's knowledge about Japan through education and publication of books.

The contents of Japanese studies in foreign countries vary according to the range of interest in Japan, but the Japan Foundation believes that the optimal approach is to conduct a variety of research and education on Japan in a broad range of fields, and therefore promotes programs with due consideration given to the balance between human sciences and social sciences as well as the education systems of each region and country.

1. Support for Activities and Educating Human Resources for Japanese Studies Institutes Overseas

(1) Dispatch of visiting professors for Japanese studies

The Foundation dispatches scholars and researchers in various specialized fields to support development of existing courses and startup of new courses in Japanese studies at universities overseas.

In FY2003, the Foundation dispatched a visiting professor from Japan to the National University of La Plata in Argentina (lecture content: "Okinawa Immigrants and Understanding Diverse Japanese Culture"), etc. and granted programs for inviting a visiting professor to the Institute of Asian and African Studies, Moscow State University, Russia (lecture content: "Medieval Japanese History"), etc.

(2) Grant programs for researches, conferences, etc. for Japanese studies

The Japan Foundation aims to reinforce joint researches, conferences, seminars, workshops and intensive courses on Japanese studies conducted by foreign higher education and research institutes and gives grants for part of the project expenses.

In FY2003, the Foundation awards grants for joint research projects including "Confucianism in the Meiji Era at Zhejiang University in China" and "Globalization in Japan and Asia: Measures by Japan on Political and Economic Issues" by the University of Sheffield in the UK.

(3) Grant programs for replenishment of staff in Japanese studies

The Foundation awards grants for the salaries and social security payments for new employees when foreign universities, etc. increase the number of full-time instructors who will be in charge of new lectures related to Japan.

In FY2003, the Foundation gives grants for new installation of assistant professors in Japanese culture and society at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, etc.

(4) Grant programs for base institutes for Japanese studies

The Foundation appoints base institutes to play a core role overseas in

developing institutes for Japanese studies, and grants for the comprehensive expenses of the Japanese studies department for a medium to long term.

The Foundation continued a grant for Japanese studies such as the Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University in Korea; the Japanese studies program at the University of Indonesia Graduate School, and the Institute of Japanese Studies, Nankai University.

(5) Support for reinforcement of organizations for Japanese studies

The Foundation grants programs for the management expenses of network organizations and activity expenses to support horizontal cooperation and coordination beyond borders or specialized fields by researchers or institutes of Japanese studies in Europe.

The Foundation provided support to the European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS), etc. in FY2003.

(6) Scholarship to encourage Japanese studies

The Foundation grants subsidies in support of particularly excellent students majoring in Japanese studies at universities in Asia.

The Foundation granted scholarships to students at Surabaya University in FY2003.

2. Survey of Japanese Studies Overseas

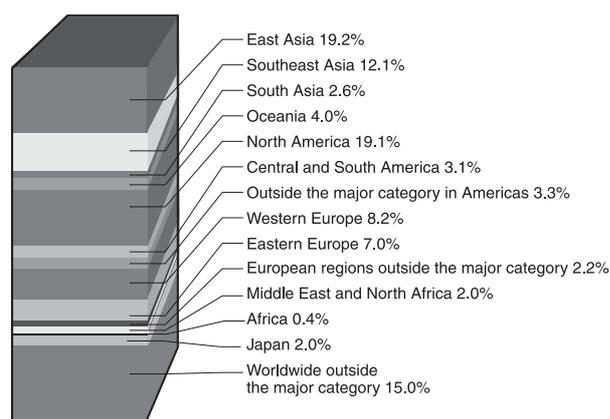
The Foundation has conducted periodical surveys on Japanese studies in foreign countries since its establishment and has created a directory of the researchers and institutes of Japanese studies.

The Foundation prepared and conducted surveys on Japanese studies in Central and South America, North America and the Oceania regions.

3. Management of Special Libraries for Japanese Studies

The library of the Japan Foundation concentrates on collecting documents for Japanese studies in the humanity and social science fields in European languages published overseas, and offers them to foreign researchers of Japanese studies who visit Japan.

Percentage by region



Total amount of operations: 468 million yen



General Meeting of the 10th European Association of Japanese Studies in Warsaw in August 2003