



【Online】

Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus)

General Information (GI) on

**Early Childhood Care and Education with Regional
Focus on Africa and the Middle East (Online)**

課題別研修

「乳幼児ケアと就学前教育（アフリカ・中東）」(遠隔)

JFY 2021

NO. 202002960J001

Online Program Period: From November 15 to December 10, 2021

Online Connection Test and Program Orientation: 8 November, 2021

Total number of the Online program days: 12 days

(Lecture will be provided on 15, 18, 22, 24, 25, 29, 30, November

1, 3, 6, 8 10, December)

Time for Online program (Live stream): Between 16:30 and 19:30 (Japan time)

This information pertains to one of the JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus) of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which shall be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on a bilateral agreement between both Governments.

JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP)

The Japanese Cabinet released the Development Cooperation Charter in February 2015, which stated, *“In its development cooperation, Japan has maintained the spirit of jointly creating things that suit partner countries while respecting ownership, intentions and intrinsic characteristics of the country concerned based on a field-oriented approach through dialogue and collaboration. It has also maintained the approach of building reciprocal relationships with developing countries in which both sides learn from each other and grow and develop together.”* JICA believes that this ‘Knowledge Co-Creation Program’ will serve as a foundation of mutual learning process.

I. Concept

Background

The critical importance of early childhood cannot be overstated. It is the period in life when the brain develops most rapidly and has a high capacity for change, and the foundation is laid for health and life-long wellbeing. Empirical evidences that keep amounting show that the children adequately cared in their early childhood are likely to have lower rates of stunting, malnutrition, low weight, school dropout and even unemployment in their adulthood. These findings have made it hardly arguable that supporting early childhood is the best investment a government can make.

This is why devising policies and programs to provide young children with best possible care and social services – in terms of nutrition, health, protection, and education – have become more and more important for the policy makers and service providers.

The momentum are gathering since the international community firmly committed in 2015 to a world where all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education by 2030. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its powerful apparatus are the driving force behind the movement for quality, equitable and affordable early childhood care and education (ECCE) around the world.

With this in mind, JICA's Knowledge Co-creation Program for ECCE is designed to provide the participants with a solid foundation of knowledge and insights, drawn largely from the past experiences of Japan, so to facilitate the process of national ECCE policy and program development in the countries participating to the Program.

This Program is in the first year of its three-year program cycle (2021-2023). The main Program contents and cases are drawn on those of the previous Program of "Early Childhood Education for Central and Western Africa" (2006-2017) and "Early Childhood Care and Education with Regional Focus on Africa and the Middle East" (2018-2020).

For what?

The purpose of this program is to provide the policy makers, practitioners and other professionals specialized in childhood care and education with knowledge on designing and developing a national level ECCE policies and programs. The participants will have access to knowledge about the concept of ECCE as well as relevant policies and practices of Japan and other case countries.

For whom?

The program is designed for senior managers of national/regional authority or government ministries that are in charge of early childhood care policies and implementation, as well as educational inspectors or educators at the central or local level, teachers of schools of teacher training, etc. responsible for early childhood education.

How?

Participants are to broaden their scope of knowledge in early childhood education policies through online coursework. The participants are also expected to share experience of their own through discussions to enrich mutual learning process among the participants. The program will be provided both On-demand and Online.

II. Description

1. Title (Course No.):

Early Childhood Care and Education with Regional Focus on Africa and the Middle East (202002960J001)

2. Online Course Period:

November 15 to December 10, 2021

Online connection test and program orientation: 8 November, 2021

Total number of the Online program days: 12 days

(Lecture will be provided on 15, 18, 22, 24, 25, 29, 30, November
1, 3, 6, 8 10, December)

Time for Online program (Live stream): Between 16:30 and 19:30 (Japan time)

3. Target Regions or Countries:

Burkina Faso, Egypt, Jordan, Madagascar, Malawi, Senegal

4. Eligible / Target Organization:

Central or regional government in charge of ECCE, Administrative Organizations in charge of early childhood education or pre-school education; Organization of the training of teachers who engage in the field of education of the early childhood.

5. Course Capacity (Upper limit of Participants):

13 participants

6. Language to be used in this program:

English

7. Course Objective:

Each participant will develop the plan of improvement corresponding to the challenges of the country by referring to the specialized knowledge in ECCE, the experience, the methods of Japan and the exchange of information from the opinion of other participants. It will be shared to the organization membership and other stakeholders.

8. Overall Goal:

Participants will utilize their expertise and experience acquired from this program to improve their early childhood care and education through sharing feedback with their affiliations and relevant stakeholders.

9. Output and Contents:

This program consists of the following components. Details on each component are given below:

(1) Preliminary Phase (October 18 to November 14, 2021) <i>Participants prepare for the program in the respective country.</i>	
Expected Output	Subjects/Activities
1. Inception report	(1) Drafting and submission of Inception Report *to be submitted by November 5
2. On-demand learning	Expected subjects of On-demand learning are shown below. (1) Learning Through Child-centered Education Within Your Own Culture and Environment (2) Five areas of Early Childhood Education especially in "Words"
3. Connection test / Program orientation	(1) Internet connection test and program orientation will be held on November 8 from 17:00 to 19:00 (Japan Time)

(2) Core Phase (November 15 to December 10, 2021) <i>Participants attend the program in the respective country.</i>		
Expected Output	Subjects/Agendas	Methodology
1. Identify the challenges each participant faces in their professional capacity, make hypotheses to overcome the challenges	(1) Presentation on the Inception Report (2) Problem Analysis	Lecture / Exchange of views
2. Broaden the scope of knowledge on the concepts, contents and the trends of ECCE	(1) Concept of ECCE, the overall international trend in ECCE (2) Experience in supporting ECCE from different regions and lessons learned	Lecture / Exchange of views
3. Gaps in access and quality of ECCE, and how to fix them	(1) ECCE in Japan (2) Support to ECCE (3) ECCE and community participation (4) ECCE for children with disabilities	Lecture / Exchange of views
4. Methods of early childhood care, multi-phased approaches according to the stage of child development	(1) Principles and methodology of education for infants and young children (2) Methodology of child-centered approach (3) Methodology of Early Childhood Education according to the stage of development of children	Lecture Discussion

5. Teacher training and the training system	(1) Training system for the teachers of early childhood education in Japan (2) Training for nursery teachers	Lecture Discussion
6. Evaluation of the ECCE	Evaluation in Early Childhood Education and Care: Child Development and Children's Quality of Life (QOL)	Lecture Discussion
7. Discussion with ex-participants	(1) Presentation by ex-participants about the activity after the past program in Japan (2) Exchange of opinions between participants and ex-participants to deepen their knowledge and experiences	Discussion

**Program contents can be changed. Detailed program schedule will be shared at the time of Acceptance Notice (18th October, 2021).

10. Place and Time to attend:

(1) Place

The place to take the program (On-demand/Online) should be determined by the internet environment. Please inform JICA which place you would like to take part in the program (e.g. home, office) by submitting ANNEX2. If you cannot find the proper place to take the program, please consult with JICA Office.

(2) Time for Online program (live stream)

Time for Online program is between 17:00 and 19:00 (Japan time). Please prepare extra 30 minutes before and after the program (between 16:30 and 19:30 in Japan time). The time in each participating country is as follows.

Country	Expected meeting time	Online program	Expected dismissal time
<Middle East>			
Egypt	9:30	10:00 – 12:00	12:30
Jordan	9:30	10:00 – 12:00	12:30
<Africa>			
Burkina Faso	7:30	8:00 – 10:00	10:30
Madagascar	10:30	11:00 – 13:00	13:30
Malawi	9:30	10:00 – 12:00	12:30
Senegal	7:30	8:00 – 10:00	10:30

11. Circumstance for Internet Connection

The program is conducted through a platform “Zoom Webinar and/or Meeting”. It's necessary to ensure a stable and secure internet connection to access the platform. Internet speeds of downloading and uploading are recommended approximately 3 to 5 Mbps. (0.5 to 1.5 Mbps at least).

Please refer to this URL for how to measure internet speed.

<https://www.speedtest.net/>

Mobile phones are not recommended due to screen size and functions. Every participant need to make Final Presentation with his/her own device.

【Note】If you are not able to arrange internet connection or necessary devices, please consult with JICA office in your country.

12. Attendance requirement

Participation in the all online programs is an essential requirement for the completion of the course. Partial attendance is not allowed.

III. Eligibility and Procedures

1. Expectations from the Applying Organizations:

- (1) This course is designed primarily for organizations that intend to address specific issues or problems identified in their operation. Participating organizations are expected to use the program for those specific purposes.
- (2) This course is enriched with contents and facilitation schemes specially developed in collaboration with relevant prominent organizations in Japan. These special features enable the course to meet specific requirements of applying organizations and effectively facilitate them toward solutions for the issues and problems.
- (3) As this program is designed to facilitate organizations to come up with concrete solutions for their issues, participating organizations are expected to make due preparation by carrying out the activities of the Preliminary Phase described in section II -9 .

2. Nominee Qualifications:

Applying Organizations are expected to select nominees who meet the following qualifications.

(1) Essential Qualifications

- 1) Current Duties:** be in a position to play a leadership role in the field of early childhood education (educational inspectors, educators in the field of central government level)
- 2) Experience in the relevant field:** have more than 5 years' experience in the field of early childhood education
- 3) Educational Background:** hold a university degree or equivalent (teacher training schools, etc.) and specialized in the field of early childhood education
- 4) Language:** have a competent command of spoken and written English
- 5) Health:** must be in good health, both physically and mentally, to participate in the Program.
- 6) Internet Connection:** have to meet the condition described in section II-11.

3. Required Documents for Application

(1) Application Form:

The Application Form is available at the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan)

* If you have any difficulties/disabilities which require assistance, please specify necessary assistances in the QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDICAL STATUS RESTRICTION (1-(c)) of the application form. Information will be reviewed and used for reasonable accommodation.

- (2) Photocopy of passport:** to be submitted with the application form, if you possess your passport. If not, you are requested to submit alternative official identification.

*Photocopy should include the followings:

Name, Date of birth, Nationality, Sex, Passport number, Expiry date.

(3) English Score Sheet: to be submitted with the application form, if the nominees have any official English examination scores. (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS)

(4) Questionnaire (ANNEX 2): to be submitted with the application form.

4. Procedures for Application and Selection :

(1) Submission of the Application Documents:

Closing date for applications: **Please confirm the local deadline with the JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan).**

(All required material must arrive at **JICA Center in Japan** by **October 1, 2021**).

Note: Please inform JICA office of your preferred place to take part in the program.

(2) Selection:

Primary screening is conducted at the JICA overseas office (or the embassy of Japan) after receiving official documents from your government. JICA Center will consult with concerned organizations in Japan in the process of final selection. Applying organizations with the best intentions to utilize the opportunity will be highly valued.

The Government of Japan will examine applicants who belong to the military or other military-related organizations and/or who are enlisted in the military, taking into consideration of their duties, positions in the organization and other relevant information in a comprehensive manner to be consistent with the Development Cooperation Charter of Japan.

(3) Notice of Acceptance

The JICA overseas office (or the Embassy of Japan) will notify the results **not later than October 18, 2021**.

5. Additional Document(s) to Be Submitted by Accepted Candidates:

Inception Report - to be submitted by **November 5, 2021**:

Only accepted candidates will be required to prepare an Inception Report (detailed information provided in the ANNEX 3 "Inception Report".) The Inception Report should be sent to JICA by **November 5, 2021** preferably by e-mail to **ticthdop@jica.go.jp**.

6. Conditions for Participation:

The participants of KCCP are required

- (1) To strictly adhere to the program schedule.
- (2) Not to change the program topics.
- (3) In principle, a completion certificate will be given to participants who have achieved certain results by participating in all programs.
- (4) To respect copyright and portrait rights. To refrain from recording and sharing the video material, audio material, text, images, graphics and other content available during the program except for cases with specific permission.

IV. Administrative Arrangements

1. Organizer (JICA Center in Japan)

- (1) **Center:** JICA Tokyo Center (JICA TOKYO)
- (2) **Program Officer:** Mr. HASHIMOTO Yuho and Ms. MIYAMOTO Sumi
(tichdop@jica.go.jp)

2. Implementing Partner:

- (1) Name: Ochanomizu University
- (2) Contact: Prof. HAMANO Takashi (hamano.takashi@ocha.ac.jp)
- (3) URL: <http://www.ocha.ac.jp/en/>

3. Expenses:

JICA will provide the following expenses. Please kindly ask details at JICA office.

- (1) Expenses for program implementation, including materials
- (2) Necessary expense for the participation

4. Others:

- (1) In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that there is still a possibility the course period will be changed, shortened, or the course itself will be cancelled.
- (2) YouTube of “Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan” and “Introduction of JICA Center” are viewable from the link below.

Part I: Knowledge Co-Creation Program and Life in Japan	
English ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLurfKugrEw
Arabic ver.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1iBQqdpXQb4
Part II: Introduction of JICA Tokyo	
JICA Tokyo	https://www.jica.go.jp/tokyo/english/office/index.html

V. Other Information

1. Inception Report

For detail of the report, please see the ANNEX 3. All participants are required to give a presentation on their Inception Reports during the program.

- (1) Each presentation should be 15 minutes (including 5 minutes for Q and A)
- (2) “Microsoft Power Point” is preferable, but “Microsoft Word” are also acceptable.

2. Program Evaluation

By the end of the course, each participant is expected to answer questionnaire to review the program.

3. Final Presentation

JICA and implementing partner require participants to sum up what he/she learned during the program period and present them in the final day of the course. This final presentation should be shared with the organization of the participant. Each final presentation will be done within 7 minutes.

VI. ANNEX

ANNEX 1

Please find the expected schedule of the Online program for your reference.

Expected Program Schedule

Date	Online session (Japan time)			
	16:30	17:00~19:00		19:30
1 st week				
Nov.15 (Mon.)	Expected meeting time	Opening Ceremony	<Lecture> Outline of Early Childhood Education in Japan I	Expected dismissal time
Nov.18 (Thu.)		<Presentation> Inception Report Presentation		
2 nd week				
Nov.22 (Mon.)	Expected meeting time	<Lecture> Development of Logical Thinking - Observed from Infants and Children Forming Number Concepts-		Expected dismissal time
Nov.24 (Wed.)		<Lecture> Philosophy of ECD and its International Trend		
Nov.25 (Thu.)		<Lecture> Teacher Training System of Early Childhood Education in Japan	Sharing Time	
3 rd week				
Nov.29 (Mon.)	Expected meeting time	<Lecture> Child-centered Care and Early Childhood Education		Expected dismissal time
Nov.30 (Tue.)		<Lecture> Content and Program of Early Childhood Education - Focusing on Environment Field -		
Dec.1 (Wed.)		<Discussion> Discussion with ex-participants		
Dec.3 (Fri.)		<Lecture> Evaluation in Early Education and Care -Child Development and Children's QOL-		
4 th week				
Dec.6 (Mon.)	Expected meeting time	<Lecture> ECCE for children with disabilities		Expected dismissal time
Dec.8 (Wed.)		<Lecture> Outline of Early Childhood Education in Japan II	Sharing Time	
Dec.10 (Fri.)		Summary / Final Presentation / Evaluation / Closing Ceremony		

*Program contents can be changed. Detailed program schedule will be shared at the time of Acceptance Notice (18th October, 2021).

ANNEX 2

Questionnaire (Internet learning environment)

Name:
Country:

Please answer the following question. If you need any assistance for preparation of the learning environment, please consult with JICA office.

1. Learning Place (From where are you going to attend this online program?)

- () Home
() Workplace
() Other place ()

2. Device & Network (Please describe your device and network.)

- (1) Device: ex) Personal Computer, Tablet, etc.
()
(2) Operating System: ex) Windows10, MacOS X, MacOS 10.9.X, etc.
()
(3) Browser: ex) Internet Explorer11+, Edge12+, Chrome 30+, etc.
()
(4) Network: ex) Wi-Fi, WiredLAN, etc.
()

3. Application (Please let us know about the application.)

- (1) You can download and sign in to “Zoom” online meeting application. ☐ Yes ☐ No
Download from <https://zoom.us/download>
(2) You can view “YouTube” videos. ☐ Yes ☐ No
Sample: [JICA-Net Library] 100 years since “Safety before Everything”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJkyQZRmSes>

4. Other information

If you have any specific online environment, please describe them in detail.

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ANNEX 3

Early Childhood Care and Education with Regional Focus on Africa and the Middle East

Inception Report

Participants must prepare an inception report on the following articles and submit it to JICA by **November 5, 2021** through email to tictbdop@jica.go.jp. The report must be written in English with a single-spaced on A4 paper (21 cm x 29.5 cm) in no more than 20 pages. Also, the participants need to make a presentation of this report during the Online program.

- (1) The objectives of writing the report are to:
 - 1) grasp the current situation of the field of early childhood care and education (ECCE) in your country and your organization and
 - 2) identify the problems your country or organization is facing after have grasped the above situation.
- (2) For the purpose of writing the report, you are requested to discuss the following with your collaborators and your supervisor before the program and summarize the discussions in the report:
 - (A) Missions of your organization and your work
 - (B) Statistical data on ECCE in your country
 - (C) Curriculum of ECCE in your country
 - (D) Current situation, issues and challenges of ECCE in your country
 - (E) Current situation, issues and challenges of ECCE in your organization
 - (F) Method of application of what you learned through the Online program
- (3) You are requested to prepare for the presentation of the inception report that will take place during the program.

Profile

Last name and first name:
Country:
Organization:
Job Title / Function:
Specialty:
Email address:

A: Missions of your organization and your work

- A-1.Missions of your organization
- A-2.Missions of your function
- A-3.Your professional career and CV
- A-4.Subjects or topics you wish to discuss with Japanese or other people nationalities responsible for ECCE

B: Statistical data on ECCE in your country

Specify the gap (between large cities and rural areas, between regions, between girls and boys, among ethnic groups) in access to ECCE in your country as well as their difference in the quality of early childhood services with as concrete data as possible.

C: Curriculum of ECCE in your country

Briefly describe the aims and content of ECCE in your country.

D: Current situation, issues and challenges of ECCE in your country

With regard to the challenges in ECCE in your country, among the problems mentioned below (a to k), choose 3 that you think are the most important to address and specify the situation of each problem you have chosen with statistical data following the questions below. Apart from the problems (a to k), if you find others, explain the (them) as a problem (l). Specify the policy your government has taken with respect to each problem,

- a) Pre-school education is not sufficiently developed. (Many children have not accessed to ECCE.)
- b) Establishments for teacher education of ECCE are not numerous or do not exist.
- c) Teacher training system of ECCE is not sufficient.
- d) Human and material resources are lacking particularly at the local level.
- e) What needs to be done to improve the quality of teachers of ECCE
- f) The idea of giving importance to ECCE is rare in all the countries.
- g) Parents do not understand and do not participate in ECCE no more.
- h) There is a lack of cooperation between the people involved in the education of the early childhood as the concept of multi-sectoral early childhood development (ECD) is not yet popular.
- i) The gap in access to pre-school education exists. (Access to pre-school education is reserved for children in certain major cities, families and limited ethnicities.)
- j) Since the principle / methodology of child education places too much emphasis on the reading, it is not possible to educate children according to their stage of development, focus the interest on the children, to teach the children through the games.
- k) The monitoring and evaluation method for ECCE is not established (insufficient).
- l) Other challenges (in particular, problems under the influence of COVID-19)

E: Current situation, issues, challenges of ECCE in your organization

E-1. Briefly describe a problem (s) that your organization or yourself should addressed (multiple answers possible)

E-2. Specify the actions that are taken (or to be taken) to resolve the issues aforementioned in E-1.

F: Method of application of what you learned through the Online program

F-1. Specify the way / method of passing on your knowledge gained through the Online program to those concerned with ECCE in your country.

F-2. If a former participant (s) of the program has passed on their knowledge acquired in Japan, specify what was communicated to you and by what means.

For Your Reference

JICA and Capacity Development

Technical cooperation is people-to-people cooperation that supports partner countries in enhancing their comprehensive capacities to address development challenges by their own efforts. Instead of applying Japanese technology per se to partner countries, JICA's technical cooperation provides solutions that best fit their needs by working with people living there. In the process, consideration is given to factors such as their regional characteristics, historical background, and languages. JICA does not limit its technical cooperation to human resources development; it offers multi-tiered assistance that also involves organizational strengthening, policy formulation, and institution building.

Implementation methods of JICA's technical cooperation can be divided into two approaches. One is overseas cooperation by dispatching experts and volunteers in various development sectors to partner countries; the other is domestic cooperation by inviting participants from developing countries to Japan. The latter method is the Knowledge Co-Creation Program, formerly called Training Program, and it is one of the core programs carried out in Japan. By inviting officials from partner countries and with cooperation from domestic partners, the Knowledge Co-Creation Program provides technical knowledge and practical solutions for development issues in participating countries.

The Knowledge Co-Creation Program (Group & Region Focus) has long occupied an important place in JICA operations. About 400 pre-organized courses cover a wide range of professional fields, ranging from education, health, infrastructure, energy, trade and finance, to agriculture, rural development, gender mainstreaming, and environmental protection. A variety of programs is being customized by the different target organizations to address the specific needs, such as policy-making organizations, service provision organizations, as well as research and academic institutions. Some programs are organized to target a certain group of countries with similar developmental challenges.

Japanese Development Experience

Japan, as the first non-Western nation to become a developed country, built itself into a country that is free, peaceful, prosperous and democratic while preserving its tradition. Japan will serve as one of the best examples for our partner countries to follow in their own development.

From engineering technology to production management methods, most of the know-how that has enabled Japan to become what it is today has emanated from a process of adoption and adaptation, of course, has been accompanied by countless failures and errors behind the success stories.

Through Japan's progressive adaptation and application of systems, methods and technologies from the West in a way that is suited to its own circumstances, Japan has developed a storehouse of knowledge not found elsewhere from unique systems of

organization, administration and personnel management to such social systems as the livelihood improvement approach and governmental organization. It is not easy to apply such experiences to other countries where the circumstances differ, but the experiences can provide ideas and clues useful when devising measures to solve problems.

JICA, therefore, would like to invite as many leaders of partner countries as possible to join the program, to mingle with the Japanese people, and witness the advantages as well as the disadvantages of Japanese systems, so that integration of their findings might help them reach their developmental objectives.



Contact Information for Inquiries

For inquiries and further information, please contact the JICA overseas office or the Embassy of Japan. Further, address correspondence to:

JICA Tokyo Center (JICA TOKYO)

Address: 2-49-5 Nishihara, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0066, Japan

TEL: +81-3-3485-7051 FAX: +81-3-3485-7904