



JENESYS Phase III -Japan-ASEAN Network of Exchange for Sustainable Partnership- Application Guidelines

1. Objective of program

This program has the objective of deepening the mutual understanding and strengthen human networks between Japan and ASEAN by jointly inviting and dispatching future leaders from both regions. Through intensive shared experiences and exchanges of views in the economic and social fields, the program aims to foster a partnership that enables Japan and ASEAN to prosper together.

Theme: "Social Business" (Solving Common Social Issues between Japan and ASEAN)

This is a hybrid invitation-dispatch program that promotes exchange in the economic and social fields between Japan and ASEAN. Participants will engage in site visits in both Japan and Thailand, contributing to the continuous development of friendly cooperation between Japan and ASEAN. They will also formulate business plans aimed at solving shared social issues.

A hybrid initiative combining invitation and dispatch programs to promote exchanges in the economic and social sectors between Japan and ASEAN. ASEAN youth will first visit Japan to engage in joint site visits, hands-on experiences, and learning activities with Japanese youth. Subsequently, both Japanese and ASEAN youth will travel to Bangkok, Thailand for further joint activities. Through shared recognition and identification of common challenges, the participants will cultivate a deeper understanding and a spirit of cooperation toward mutual prosperity.

The social issues addressed in this program are **"Climate Change and Environmental Issues"** and **"Digital Infrastructure Development"**. Applicants will choose one of these two themes at the time of application. Within each thematic group, participants will be further divided into smaller subgroups to engage in site visits, discussions, and other activities. On the final day, each subgroup will present a **social business plan** based on their chosen theme. Grouping will be conducted by Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE), and we cannot accept requests.

2. Program Overview

Online Pre-Exchange Program

Date and time: Approximately three online sessions will be held between December 2025 and February 2026, each lasting around two hours.

Contents: Orientation, lectures related to the program themes, and other preparatory content.

Program Type: Online Program with Zoom



*Detailed Information will be sent to participants later.

Main Program

Date: February 8 to February 22, 2026

Place: Tokyo, Fukuoka in Japan and Bangkok in Thailand

Number of Participants: 30 university or graduated school students and young professionals from ASEAN countries, and Japan (24 from ASEAN, and 6 from Japan)

Language: English

Contents:

- **Lectures** related to ASEAN-Japan relations and economic/social fields.
- **Site visits and exchanges** with organizations, companies, educational and research institutions, advanced technology centers, traditional industries, exhibitions, cultural heritage sites, and local governments related to the theme and participants' areas of expertise. These will include opinion exchanges and workshops with experts and stakeholders.
- **Experiencing Japanese culture** and visiting local area in Japan aligned with the theme and participants' fields of study.
- **Presentation of social business plans** at a final reporting session.

3. Qualifications for Participations

- (1) Applicants must understand and agree to the aims of this project.
- (2) Applicants must be bona fide citizens or permanent residents of ASEAN countries or Japan.
- (3) Applicants should be the university student, graduated school student or the young professionals (up to 30 years old as of the program participating period) from Japan and ASEAN.
- (4) Applicants must be interested in/majoring in/engaging in related work as follows;
 - Addressing economic and social issues
 - Policy making in economic or social area,
 - Start-up, Business and Trade between ASEAN and Japan
 - Activities for economic development.
- (5) **Applicants who have studied in Japan for a long term are NOT ELIGIBLE (e.g; MEXT scholarship).**
- (6) Applicants have certain English conversation skills to communicate with other participants and staff in English throughout the program.
- (7) Applicants should be physically capable of keeping up with a busy program schedule requiring extensive walking each day.
- (8) Applicants must follow the measures for prevention of infectious disease in Japan and Thailand.

*Please see the Annex3 "Letter of Understanding" for the details.



- (9) Applicants must have a sufficient internet condition to have access to the online pre-exchange program.
- (10) Applicants need to bring their PC to Japan and Thailand.
- (11) Passport must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of return to your country.

4. Flight and VISA

- (1) Applicants from Cambodia, Indonesia (except those with an IC passport), Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Viet Nam and Timor-Leste should submit the Visa Application Form to take the Japanese visa. JICE will support to obtain their visa by providing the necessary documents to the Embassy of Japan in each country. Please note that the latest border control policies will be applied to your Japan trip.
- (2) Applicants must be able to take full responsibility for applying for a visa to enter Thailand at their own expense and within the designated deadline (only for those who require a visa).
- (3) Unlike other JENESYS programs, this program requires participants to cover their own travel expenses to the program's starting point in Tokyo (e.g., flights) and from the program's final location in Bangkok, Thailand, to their home (e.g., train, flights). Participants are therefore expected to take full responsibility for arranging their own transportation to the designated meeting point and from the dismissal point, ensuring they arrive by the time specified by JICE. Participants will be required to submit their schedules before and after the program in advance.

5. Mandatory Assignments for All Participants

(1) Participation in Pre-programs

The program is designed for the participants to input the basic knowledge about social business before the main program. Even though participants may have a busy schedule for study or work, it is important for them to fully participate in the pre-program and complete the pre-assignments between the sessions, such as the theme-related research.

(2) Pre-assignments

Participants will be asked to research and share examples of initiatives and social businesses from their own countries related to the program theme. In addition, they will be expected to draft a preliminary social business plan and participate in online meetings with team members and advisors. These meetings may be scheduled outside of the official online program dates. Further details will be provided to successful applicants at a later time.

(3) Make Social Business Plan and Report Implementation



Participants are required to make social business plans in line with the program theme or their specialties after the completion of the whole program (pre-exchange program and face-to-face program) and report their implementation to JICE. Within three months of the program, they will be requested to send a Progress Report on their implementation of the social business plan and attend the online post-program sessions.

(4) Complete Questionnaires

Participants are required to complete a questionnaire at the end of each program. Additionally, three months later, they will be asked to complete an online follow-up questionnaire, which will be sent to their email addresses.

6. Submission for participation

(1) Passport copy

Applicants must submit a copy of the photo page of their passport (color or black and white). The copy should be clear, complete, and large enough to find everything on the page legible. Those who will apply for a new passport must submit its copy by no later than the date below. These document(s) should be uploaded when they fill out the Online Entry Form mentioned below.

(2) Letter of Understanding, Handling of Personal Information

Applicants must carefully read and sign the “**Letter of Understanding**” and “**Handling of Personal Information**”. If the applicant is under 18, the signature of their parent or guardian is also required. The document should be uploaded when they fill out the Online Entry Form mentioned below.

(3) Visa Application Form for Japan*

Applicants must carefully read the sample of application and fill out the form. The detailed information to apply for a visa would be informed by the designated travel agent in each country.

* The following do not require a visa to enter Japan.

Brunei, Singapore, Malaysia (IC passport), Thailand (IC passport), Laos/Vietnam public passport holders, Indonesia (If you have an IC passport and have pre-registered at Embassy of Japan in Indonesia)

(4) Proof of Affiliation

Applicants must submit a document that certifies their current affiliation. Examples of acceptable documents include:

-University/Graduated school Student: Student Status Certificate, Student Identification Card etc.,



-Young professionals: Proof of Employment, Employment Verification Letter, Employee ID Card, Staff Identification Card

(5) **Online Entry Form**

Applicants must fill out the **Online Entry Form** completely with their correct information and upload necessary documents mentioned above.

Notice

- Applicants must fill out the Online Entry Form (5) by themselves. They must also submit required documents ((1), (2), and (4) above) via the Online Entry Form to JICE.

The deadline: November 24, 2025.

- The selection process consists of two stages: document screening and an online interview, which is scheduled on December 2nd to 5th. Only those who pass the document screening will receive an email with details about the online interview.
- Notification of the document screening results is scheduled for late November, and the results of the online interview are expected to be announced in mid to late December. Please note that these dates are subject to change.
- In addition, please understand that the selection results are final and cannot be appealed.

Implementation Agency

JICE (Japan International Cooperation Center) is an official agent for JENESYS Phase III conducting the program schedule, travel arrangements and acceptance of the participants. JICE is a guarantor for their identity during the program in Japan.

Official Website: <https://www.jice.org/en/index.html>

Terms and Conditions

(1) The following expenses are covered by the program.

- **International Flight from Japan to Thailand (one-way flight only)**

*As it is mentioned above on 4. Flight and VISA, (3), this program requires participants to cover their own travel expenses to the program's starting point in Tokyo (e.g., flights) and from the program's final location in Bangkok, Thailand, to their home (e.g., train, flights). Participants are therefore expected to take full responsibility for arranging their own transportation to the



designated meeting point and from the dismissal point, ensuring they arrive by the time specified by JICE.

➤ Meals and transportation during the program in Japan and Thailand

*Some meals during the stay in Japan may not be covered by the program. In such case participants will be responsible for the cost.

* Transportation during the program is covered by JICE. However, participant is required to travel between the designated gathering point and the airport at your own expense on first day (in Japan) and final day (in Thailand). Please note that the designated gathering point may change depending on the program schedule and accommodation arrangements.

➤ Admission fees for scheduled activities in Japan and Thailand

*Participants shall pay for their personal expenses, including passport, travel cost between their home and the designated airport, accommodation and meals in their home country, and purchase of souvenirs/personal goods before or during the program.

*No cash allowance is provided to any participants.

➤ Overseas travel insurance in Japan and Thailand

Chronic diseases, dental diseases, pregnancy or those already ill or injured prior to the program are NOT covered. In such cases and in some other cases when the insurance company disapproves the payment request, the participant shall be responsible for medical expenses in Japan. Any loss or damage to personal belongings is NOT covered.

In case a participant gets positive for COVID-19 or other infectious disease during the period covered by the insurance, the cost for quarantine, flight re-arrangement, and so on could be covered as long as those procedures are conducted under a doctor's instruction and medical note.

The insurance coverage period begins when participants leave their home and ends upon their return. However, the coverage paid by this program only applies to the official main program period—from the program start date to the end date.

If participants arrange personal activities before or after the program in Japan, Thailand, or elsewhere, the insurance will still be automatically applied. However, as mentioned, this program will only cover the insurance costs for the official program period. Therefore, insurance fees for any additional days outside the program will be charged to the participant.

Participants planning personal activities must submit a detailed schedule in advance. (The cost is approximately 300 yen per day, subject to change depending on the number of days.)

Insurance	Coverage	Benefit (Unit: 1,000 JPY)
Accident	Accidental Death	25,000
	Physical Impediment Benefit	25,000
	Medical Expense	10,000
Sickness	Medical Expense	10,000
Rescuer's Expense		3,000
Personal Liability		50,000

Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Co., Ltd.

(2) Cancellation Policy

If a participant chooses to no-show, cancelation for whole/part of program for any reason or drop out of the program for reasons other than a medical emergency or a family funeral, the participant shall be fully responsible for any costs associated with this cancellation. The cancellation fees will be charged to the participant if their application have already been accepted and the all the related bookings are completed.

In the event of cancellation due to a medical emergency or a family funeral, cancellation fees may be waived upon presentation of a medical certificate or evidence of the funeral requested by JICE.

(3) The following are NOT permitted.

- To change accommodation (hotel or room assignment) designated by the program.
- To skip any elements of the official program, including scheduled meals or visits, for personal or business reasons such as meetings with relatives, friends, business partners in Japan or Thailand, etc.
- To be accompanied by anyone including family members, friends, business partners, etc.
- To disobey the infectious disease-related contents of the Letter of Understanding and to disobey instructions from JICE.

(4) Conditions in Japan and Thailand

- All participants must attend all scheduled programs and follow the rules/guidelines/directions given by JICE.
- Participants who are disruptive to the program may be dismissed and are responsible for leaving Japan or Thailand at their own expense.
- Participants will stay in a twin or triple room at a hotel.
- When requested, JICE will try to arrange the following* for religious reasons. However, JICE cannot guarantee their availability in all locations.

*time and place for prayers



*meals suitable for food restriction for religious reasons

(5) Photos/Videos taken during the Program

The participants must agree to grant permission to JICE and organizations participating in the program to use their voice and likeness in any writings, photographs, films, and recordings collected during the program. The participant authorizes the publication of, for all purposes, their name, pictures in film or electronic (video) form, sound and video recordings of their voice, and printed and electronic copy of the above in any and all media including, without limitation, cable and broadcast television, the internet, and the brochures and other print media for promotion, advertising, meetings, or educational conferences. This permission extends to all languages, media, or formats now or hereafter devised and shall continue forever unless the participant revokes the permission in writing to JICE.

(6) Japanese and Thai Laws and Regulations

The participant must observe the laws and regulations of Japan and Thailand. Offenders are subject to penalties under Japanese or Thailand law. Any dispute arising out of the application for, or participation in, or anything relating to, the program between the participant and the Japanese government or JICE should be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Japan or Thailand, without regard to the principles of conflict of laws, and should be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the applicable courts in Japan or Thailand.

(7) Attribution of responsibility during the program

The participant agrees to release and indemnify JICE (including its employees and agents) from any and all claims, demands, damages, losses, liabilities and expenses including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses (collectively, "Claims") arising from or relating to the participant's participation in the program or violation of Japanese/Thai laws or the Application Guidelines, except for Claims resulting from JICE's gross negligence, bad faith, or willful misconduct.

(8) Post-Program Questionnaires

Participants will be asked to complete a questionnaire sent to their email address three months after the program.

(9) Others

Any costs for vaccinations and/or other medical documents are not covered by the program.



*Facebook of Youth Exchange Program of MOFA:

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Youth-Exchange-JFTP-MOFA-JAPAN/100086143020661/>

** JICE Youth Exchange Program (KAKEHASHI Project / JENESYS / MIRAI / Juntos!!)

<https://www.jice.org/en/index.html>

Personal Information Protection Law (See Annex 1)

Personal information obtained in JENESYS program shall be treated in compliance with the Personal Information Protection Law. JICE ensures the appropriate handling of personal information. JICE may provide personal information to travel agencies, publishers, cooperative organizations, schools, host families, and so on in order to operate and report the program by means of post, fax or email. Personal information will not be used for any purposes other than operating and reporting of the program.

Annex

- 1- Handling of Personal Information (separate document)
- 2- Letter of Understanding (separate document)
- 3- Visa Application Form & Its Sample (separate document) *No need to submit to JICE.
- 4- Model Schedule (separate document)