

FY2018 JICA Knowledge Co-Creation Program: Improving ICT Policy Promotion Skills Utilizing Standards

— Overcome challenges by deploying ICT infrastructure corresponding to the situation —

International Cooperation Department
The ITU Association of Japan

■ Photo 1: Courtesy visit to MIC



For 12 days from January 24th to February 8th, 2019, the ITU Association of Japan held a group training course on behalf of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

In this training course, we aimed to promote understanding of the importance of new approaches to problem-solving and international standardization of ICT policies using international standards such as government procurement and advanced technology trends, and – through case studies related to the development of ICT infrastructure in Japan – to study and share appropriate ICT solutions to the issues faced by every country (ICT infrastructure development, procurement proposals, social issues, etc.).

With the cooperation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications during FY2016 through FY2018, this is the third year in which we have been able to hold this event, which was attended this year by ten trainees from seven different countries: Ecuador, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Rwanda and Thai-

land.

The training started with a series of lectures on the Japanese government's policies relating to ICT standardization, radio wave utilization and telecommunication business. This was followed by lectures and presentations on problem analysis methods (PCM), country reports, ITU standardization trends, the activities of Japan's standardization organizations, the standardization activities of related companies and groups, and individual reports, as well as visits to related facilities.

There were three lectures relating to Japan's communication policy and standardization policy, on the topics of ICT standardization (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications), radio policy (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications), and telecommunications policy (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications).

With the aim of using PCM (project cycle management) to extract the elements of standardization activities and conduct a preliminary study of Japan's activities, the

trainees saw a lecture on PCM analysis methods, identified standardization-related issues in the country of each trainee, and held group discussions to share the knowledge level among the trainees. This PCM lecture was also delivered just before the announcement of each of the individual reports by the trainees, and in group discussions we gave each trainee the opportunity to draw up problem-solving methods for the standardization of ICT in their own countries, and summarize the state of progress in standardization activities in their own countries.

There were also two lectures relating to *Standardization in ICT Fields and ITU-T / Towards Global Standardization in TTC* (Telecommunication Technology Committee) and *Standardization of Radio Systems* (ARIB: Association of Radio Industries and Businesses).

Regarding the activities of organizations reflecting the standardization of actual equipment, there was a lecture from TELECOM ENGINEERING CENTER (TELEC) on *Certification System for Radio Equip-*

Photo 2: PCM Drill



ment in Japan, and a series of lectures from HATS Conference: *Overview of HATS, IP Camera Security as IoT Sensor, The History of Facsimile Interconnectivity Testing Activity, and Interoperability Test Program for Optical Access System.*

Regarding the standardization activities of communication business groups and the like, there were lectures on *KDDI's ICT Service and R&D Technology Strategies* (KDDI), *Global Standardization of Mobile Communication Systems* (NTT Docomo), and *Introduction of Standardization on Future Network* (NTT).

Among the companies and organizations that conducted facility tours and lectures, we arranged a visit to TELEC (Telecom Engineering Center), where the trainees gained an understanding of the importance of standard certification by attending a lecture on *Certification System for Radio Equipment in Japan* and viewing standard certification facilities for radio equipment. At National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT), the trainees viewed an exhibition of the NICT's lat-

est research, and saw a lecture on *NICT's R&D and Standardization* activities. At the Fujitsu Kawasaki Factory, the trainees visited the Fujitsu showroom (technology hall) and saw a lecture on *Standardization Activities in Fujitsu*. At the NHK Broadcast Center, the trainees were shown around the Technical Operation Center (TOC) and Cross Media Station, and saw lectures on *Setup of Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting Network, The Roles and Convergence of Broadcasting and Communications, and The Current Status of Digital Service*. At the HEMS Interoperability Test Center at Kanagawa Institute of Technology, the trainees were shown ECONET Lite equipment in an actual

smart house, and saw a lecture on *Current Status of Smart-Houses*. At the Tokyo offices of Hitachi Kokusai Electric, the trainees observed production lines and communication equipment (administrative radio for disaster prevention, digital radio for businesses, etc.), and saw lectures on *High-Precision Foreign Object Debris Detection System for Runway - Linear Cell Radar System* and *VHF Band Wireless Broadband Access*.

During the course of this training, we also arranged Japanese cultural visits for the trainees. At the early stage of the event, the trainees visited the Tokyo Tower, and at the end of the training, we arranged English-speaking volunteer guides for a visit to the Meiji Shrine and the Harajuku district (Takeshita-dori).

On the final day, each trainee presented an individual report. These reports included a discussion on the current state and future prospects of standardization in each trainee's home country, which were summarized using PCM methods or the like, and resulted in lively discussions on the progress of ICT standardization in each country.

This training course was highly rated by the trainees, but at the ITU-AJ, we hope to develop this event into a more satisfying experience by gathering the opinions and requirements of trainees based on their evaluations of the lectures, text materials and site visits, and analyzing the results to clarify where improvements can be made to the course from next year.

Photo 3: Closing Ceremony

