



知をつなぐ。世界をつなぐ。未来をつなぐ。  
JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CENTER

# **APRACA CENTRAB** **in partnership with** **Japan International Cooperation Center**

*invites nominations to the*



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*International Study Visit Program*  
*on the Role of Finance in*  
*Agricultural Production and Modernization*  
**Tokyo, Japan**

**May 27 - 31, 2019**

**(excluding travel time)**

**International Study Visit Program on  
Agricultural Finance, Japan Perspective  
Tokyo, Japan  
May 27 – 31, 2019  
(excluding travel time)**

**BACKGROUND**

Realizing the need for a favorable agricultural environment is imperative to manage well the agricultural businesses. Some new projects have already been launched such as 1) Full-scale financing for agricultural business by financial institutions, 2) Agricultural sixth industry, and 3) new agricultural businesses by large enterprises. In the midst of changing world economy and globalization, Japan cannot afford but to transform agriculture as a competitive sector.

“Smart Agriculture” is one of the strategies promoted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery. They believe that this strategy will somehow solve agricultural issues in the country. The ministry is also promoting export of Japanese agricultural products to global markets.

Japan Prime Minister Shinzō Abe’s administration identified agriculture as the “new engine for growth” in 2014. One of the goals of this initiative is the significant increase of export of agricultural products. They plan to enhance international competitive edges by improving efficiency of Japanese agriculture. They will promote large-scale integrated or mechanized agriculture by easing some regulations.

For the Asian countries which are in the rapid growth, there is a possibility to face the same kind of challenges in the future. Thus, showcasing the best practices as well as issues of agriculture in Japan will provide the participants the necessary inputs on how to address the challenges in the agricultural development in their respective countries.

Japan is currently facing the decrease of agricultural labor due to the aging society and drain of labor to other industries. To tackle these challenges, various initiatives in the agricultural sectors are undertaken by the government and the private sectors such as the followings:

- ✚ Adding some value to the products by practicing organic farming. This strategy is welcomed by most customers because of the growing awareness on safe food and healthy diet;
- ✚ Improving efficiency in agricultural works with the help of information technology;
- ✚ Enlarging the scale of the cultivation with the cooperation of large enterprises;
- ✚ Collaborating between farming and tourism.

This study visit program will provide the participants with an overview of Japanese agricultural finance as well as current circumstances of agriculture in Japan. Moreover, the combined field visits and interactions with the key players in the industry coming from various governmental agencies, agricultural cooperatives, financial institutions, private companies, will bring about an enhanced learning experience for the participants.

### **FOCUS**

The program aims to provide the participants with useful and relevant knowledge on the following points through discussions and field visits:

- ✚ Agriculture and Agricultural finance in Japan: Japanese government's basic policies, systems (the reform of the nation's agricultural cooperative system), regulations and measures to support domestic agriculture;
- ✚ Agricultural mechanization, farm loan, debt recovery, and so on; e.g Yammar (Agricultural machinery)
- ✚ Risk management (typhoon/flood/drought index insurance); e.g Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance Inc.,
- ✚ Agribusiness (distribution, sales and planning). e.g The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery
- ✚ Smart Agriculture e.g Innovatus Inc.

### **DURATION**

**May 27 – 31, 2019**, excluding travel time

### **BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR NOMINEES TO THIS PROGRAM:**

- (1) Male or Female officers of governments, governmental agencies or financial institutions at middle management position who are engaged in the fields of agriculture, agricultural finance, MSME finance, or other related sectors with 5 years or more of working experience;
- (2) Sufficient English skills to understand lectures and participate in sessions;
- (3) Healthy to undergo an intensive training course in Japan.

**Note: No accompanying spouse/person will be allowed**

### **LANGUAGE:**

This program will be conducted in English (or Japanese with translation into English).

### **Dress code:**

Business attire is suitable during the lectures.

### **TRAINING FEE:**

The participation fee for the program is **US\$3,120.00** per participant. This will include domestic transportation (airport limousine bus, chartered bus, JR line, Metro and others), travel insurance, lecture fee and other administrative costs. The participation fee should be remitted by telegraphic transfer to APRACA CENTRAB. All bank charges including that of the intermediary bank shall be for the account of the remitter.

### **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATION:**

Nomination form should be received by APRACA CENTRAB on or before **March 15, 2019, Friday.**

### **CONTACT PERSONS:**

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### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

**A. Hotel Accommodation**

The name of the hotel will be announced later.

**B. Visa support**

Participants are expected to obtain visa to Japan in their respective countries prior to their departure. The host partner shall send appropriate invitation letters and related documents for the visa application after confirmation of the participant's nomination to attend the program.

**C. Medical and travel insurance**

Participants will be covered by overseas travel insurance during their stay in Japan. The insurance cannot cover a chronic disease (diabetes, allergy, etc.), dental treatment, pregnancy related problem. Insurance covers only illness and injury which they get during their stay in Japan.

#### **D. Airport Pick-Up and Send Off**

Pick-up (May 26, 2019): The host partner will meet participants outside of the exit area right after custom clearance of Haneda International Airport. Please find the staff holding a placard "APRACA-CENTRAB". The staff will assist participants in getting on the airport limousine bus bound for the hotel as well as during their hotel check in.

Send-off (June 1, 2019): The host partner will assist participants in going to take one of the following airport limousine buses according to their own international flights  
- Airport limousine bus (departure time from Hilton Tokyo Hotel, nearest limousine bus stop. For your reference. )

To Haneda International Airport 04:15, 05:15, 06:25, 07:05, 08:05, 09:05, 10:05, 11:05, 12:05, 13:05, 14:05, 15:25, 16:25, 17:25, 18:05, 19:05, 20:15, 21:25, 22:25

#### **E. Weather/clothes**

Early Summer (Late May to June)

Mild weather (average 23°C in Tokyo), with pleasant heat. Comfortable time with generally sunny skies. Pleasant time to travel and tend to be uncrowded. What to wear: Short and long sleeves, depending on the temperature, Jacket if raining or cool weather, comfortable clothing.

#### **F. Wi-Fi rental**

Those who need to rent a Wi-Fi are recommended to do so at Narita or Haneda International Airport since it is difficult to find rent-a-Wi-Fi shops in downtown Tokyo.

#### **G. Money exchange**

There are several banks for money exchange at the Narita or Haneda International Airport. It is better to exchange the currency to Japanese YEN on arrival at the airport rather than at the Hotel since the currency exchange rate is better at the airport. Please do not expect banks will be open after lectures or field visits. Banks usually close at 15:00 pm on weekdays, and they are closed at weekends and holidays.

# Japan Endless Discovery

Sensoji Temple, Asakusa area,  
Tokyo



Senso-ji temple is one of the must-see landmarks of Tokyo. 30 million people visit the temple annually. This is the oldest temple in Tokyo established in the 7th century.

Kaminari-mon, literally means Thunder-gate is the front gate of Sensoji-temple. The official name of the gate is Thunder and Wind Deities gate. On your left, you will see the Thunder-deity who has drums on his back to create thunder. On your right hand, you will see the Wind-deity who has a sack of wind on his back to create wind.

Shinjuku area, Tokyo



Shinjuku skyscraper with Mt. Fuji

West of the station is Shinjuku's skyscraper district, home to many of Tokyo's tallest buildings, including several premier hotels and the twin towers of the Metropolitan Government Office, whose observation decks are open to the public for free.



Northeast of the station lies Kabukicho, Japan's largest and wildest red light district, while department stores, subterranean malls and electronic shops surround Shinjuku Station on all four sides, including the redeveloped Southern Terrace.

## Imperial Palace,

### Tokyo



Double bridge, Imperial Palace

The current Imperial Palace (Kokyo) is located on the former site of Edo Castle, a large park area surrounded by moats and massive stone walls in the center of Tokyo, a short walk from Tokyo Station. It is the residence of Japan's Imperial Family.

From Kokyo Gaien, the large plaza in front of the Imperial Palace, visitors can view the Nijubashi, two bridges that form an entrance to the inner palace grounds. The stone bridge in front is called Meganebashi (Eyeglass Bridge) for its looks. The bridge in the back was formerly a wooden bridge with two levels, from which the name Nijubashi (Double Bridge) is derived.

**and more places to see.....**