

The FUKUSHIMA Global Seminar 2012: Brief report

Every year, in collaboration with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Fukushima prefecture International affairs division organizes “Fukushima Global Seminar” which aims to raise people's awareness of global issues, such as the environment, poverty and human rights and nurture human resources to be engaged in measures towards a solution.

This year, the Fukushima Global Seminar took place at the training center in JICA-Nihonmatsu on September 29th and 30th. The event registered more than 200 participants in total with 10 lectures sessions covering a wide range of topics.

The Global Seminar started on Friday 29 in the morning. Following the opening ceremony, a JICA representative delivered a special lecture entitled: “The role of JICA and private sector initiatives regarding international cooperation.”

The afternoon was dedicated to lectures divided into 2 sessions and our team presented during the session 2 on the Epidemiological Research Training Course organized at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The lecture was divided into 3 parts: in the 1st part, Dr. Minori Hasegawa from Fukushima Medical University, Department of Public Health briefly introduced Ho Chi Minh City and this was followed by a video session with Dr. Aya Goto, the project leader currently at Harvard University as a Takemi fellow, explaining about the historical background of the project. Dr. Alain Ngoma, in the 3rd part and in easy-to-understand words, explained about the training courses. Overall, after the lecture attendants said that they learnt a lot not only about Ho Chi Minh City but also about the Epidemiological Research Training Course.

At the end of the first day, a small banquet was held for participants to have a chance to meet each other. International exchange and some other activities such as Global Seminar Café, “Enjoy a Fun English Conversation Time with the CIRs (co-ordinators for International Relations)”, took place in the evening and morning of next day.

Overall, the gathering offered a great opportunity to meet people with different backgrounds and share international experience. We thank the Fukushima prefecture International affairs division and JICA for inviting us and look forward to next year's Fukushima Global Seminar.

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