

ICCAE



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The 11th Open Forum of ICCAE An attempt to create a new discipline: International Agricultural Cooperation

The Open Forum took place at the Noyori Conference Hall on October 20 and 21, 2010. The Forum's purpose was to explore how Japanese agricultural sciences could assist in the discovery of solutions to global problems. To this end, the 2-day meeting facilitated discussions among many participants seeking answers.

To begin the conference, Dr. Takeshi Horie, Director of the National Agriculture and Food Research Organization, and Dr. Shawn McGuire, Senior Lecturer of University of East Anglia, delivered the keynote speeches. They emphasized the high expectations that the extension of the agricultural sciences to international cooperation has generated: international agricultural cooperation could integrate the currently fragmented agricultural sciences and thereby contribute to the development of a new generation of human resources. Universities will doubtless play an essential role in this process.

The next session featured 7 case reports that described examples of agricultural universities and institutions furthering the cause of international cooperation. Dr. Yuka Sasaki of Yamagata University and Dr. Hiroshi Ehara of Mie University reported on initiatives such as special programs that send

young scholars overseas and international student exchanges. Dr. Hiroshi Kanagawa, emeritus professor of Hokkaido University, provided an interesting and suggestive story of how international cooperation established the Veterinary School of the University of Zambia. Dr. Riri Kiminami of Niigata University emphasized the theoretical importance of knowledge governance and supply. Dr. Kasumi Ito of Nagoya University introduced the assembly to her work on building capacity in Cambodia's agro-processing industries through the establishment of a rice liquor production system. Finally, Dr. Masahiko Maekawa of Okayama University spoke of his application of basic research to plant production in East Africa.

On the second day, Dr. Kazuo Ogata of Kyushu University moderated a panel discussion (consisting of all the conference's speakers and Dr. Kunihiro Tokita of the JICA) after wrapping up the previous day's reports and describing the discussion's objective. Dr. Yoshiaki Nishikawa from the Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University began by questioning the difference between international development and international agricultural cooperation. The subsequent discussion successfully focused on the present and future of capacity development in the areas of agricultural sciences and international development, following Mr. Kei Umezu's brief explanation of the MEXT Program (or the "International Cooperation Initiative").

The 2-day meeting demonstrated the extensive international engagement of Japan's agricultural sciences and convinced us of the need for a platform to integrate the knowledge we are collecting. (Kei-ichiro Maeda)



Panel Discussion

The Japan Intellectual Support Network for Agricultural Sciences (JISNAS) Holds Its Second General Assembly

The second General Assembly of the JISNAS, comprising member universities; advisory organizations such as the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS); and other observers interested in the JISNAS, took place on October 22, 2010, at the Noyori Conference Hall, Nagoya University. The 33 attendees participated in a discussion of the vision and activities since the establishment of the JISNAS.

The Secretariat of the JISNAS proposed a plan of activities comprising 3 categories: (1) organization, (2) publication of research results and PR, and (3) formation and implementation of international cooperation projects. The 1st task, organization, will help JISNAS acquire more members and better cooperate with ODA stakeholders in expanding the network. The 2nd task involves enhancing the communication of international cooperation issues through our homepage, newsletter, and the *Journal of International Cooperation for Agricultural Development*¹. The 3rd task requires the facilitation of project through the domestic and international networks. The general assembly attendees approved all of these proposals.

The Secretariat then explained the basic framework of the JICA's technical cooperation project in Afghanistan. Attendees exchanged opinions about what conditions of acceptance should apply to Afghan students seeking to study in Japan. These, together with the opinions of other JISNAS members, were subsequently submitted to the MEXT and JICA as proposals for the project's framework.

The JISNAS Steering Committee meeting was held before the General Assembly. It confirmed that each member of the Committee would be assigned to one of the above-mentioned tasks in order to clarify the role and responsibilities of Committee members and strengthen the organizational function of the JISNAS as a whole. The Committee then introduced a new member of the Secretariat, Mr. Keisuke Ito, who has been engaged in international cooperation as a JICA staff member.

It has been a year since the official establishment of the JISNAS in November 2009. The JISNAS has been strengthening its organizational functions and accelerating its efforts to promote the participation of universities in its international science and technology cooperation program. The ICCAE will continue to support the activities of the JISNAS as a Secretariat. (Shuichi Asanuma)

¹ The *Journal of International Cooperation for Agricultural Development* is a scientific journal that systematizes the scholarly field of international agricultural cooperation and establishes its theoretical ground



Second General Assembly of JISNAS

Projects sponsored by external funds (Approved proposals for FY2010)

Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research: Creation of an Area study-based New Method for the Promotion of Irrigation Rice Cultivation in Africa (2010-2012)

With the TICAD IV held in Yokohama in 2008, the Japanese Government initiated promotions designed to support rice cultivation in Africa. Supports such as the maintenance of irrigation facilities and dam construction have begun in Kenya, a target area of this study. The maintenance of associations that manage irrigation facilities is indispensable to the continuation of rice cultivation in the area.

However, information about African irrigation associations is so limited that nobody knows who staffs the local communities' associations or how they are maintained. Thus, this study will collect information on the irrigated paddy rice cultivation (especially as it occurs in Kenya) by using the area study technique. The study hopes to isolate the current problems attending the irrigated paddy rice cultivation so that we may create suitable methods of support that improve the situation. (Yuko Yamane)

Bio-oriented Technology Research Advancement Institution · Promotion of Basic Research Activities : Analysis of the Role of Metastin in the Control of Reproductive Functions

This research project aims to clarify the role of metastin, a newly found neuropeptide, in the regulation of the reproductive system and to develop a more efficient method of animal production in collaboration with the National Institute of Agrobiological Sciences and the University of Tokyo. The peptide is present in the brains of a wide variety of animal species and plays a central role in the mechanism regulating gonadotropins. The present study will enable us to develop a drug that stimulates ovarian and testicular activities and a new therapy for reproductive disorders such as polycystic ovarian syndrome, a common disease in cattle and pigs.

(Kei-ichiro Maeda)



Zebu is the most popular beef cattle in tropical areas.

MEXT's "International Cooperation Initiative" of FY 2010

1. Promotion of International Science and Technology Cooperation through the Organization of JISNAS

The Japan Intellectual Support Network for Agricultural Sciences (JISNAS) was established in November 2009 by nearly 30 universities and research institutes and other individual university faculties who had a common interest in agricultural research and education for international cooperation, with the strong support of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT). It promotes international cooperation in education and research by meeting the needs of developing countries through the systematic use of intellectual resources and the experiences of its member organizations and individuals. This year, it is focusing on the development of collaborative science and technology (S&T) projects and the strengthening of its collaboration with the JICA: the JICA's group training course, the JST/JICA program on Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS), and Capacity Building for Rebuilding Agriculture in Afghanistan are examples of such projects. The JISNAS is trying hard to stimulate university collaboration in the promotion of international S&T cooperation towards sustainable global development.

(Shuichi Asanuma)

2. Modeling of Agro-industry Promotion in Cooperation with Core Universities in Developing Countries and its Dissemination

This study aims to develop and disseminate a model of agro-industry promotion through the university's practical research and education. The ICCAE is promoting the Royal University of Agriculture (RUA), a core university in the field of agriculture in Cambodia, to establish a practical education and research system by helping to identify issues of significance to farmers and other rural inhabitants and to improve the quality of traditional processed products.

Rice liquor, one of Cambodia's traditional processed products, featured as a case study: most of its producers are in deficit because of their product's low quality. By the end of fiscal 2009, producers had achieved quality improvement and begun to prepare for commercialization (by stabilizing quality and production volumes and by putting members into groups), had produced a trial product after bottling and labeling, and had begun trial sales. By 2010, the commercialization phase of the modeling will have been completed when the legal registration, market cultivation, and the strengthening of the RUA's practical research and education system have taken place. The results will be shared with and disseminated to neighboring countries as an example of good practice.

(Kasumi Ito)

MAFF 2010: Japan Capacity Building Program for African Agricultural Researchers

This program has been under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries of Japan (MAFF) since 2006 and is in the fifth run of its implementation this year. Through this program, Japanese researchers working at the international agricultural research centers (CG Centers) in developing countries, universities or research institutions located in Africa will invite promising young African researchers to give OJT or group training for 1 to 4 months. The goal is for African researchers to learn Japanese ways of tackling agricultural problems and research and experimental techniques. This year, seven Japanese researchers trained 21 Africans at the Africa Rice Center (AfricaRice: Benin), the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF: Kenya), the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA: Nigeria), the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT: Colombia), the National Center for Agricultural Mechanization (Nigeria), and the Lolldaiga Institute (TLI, Kenya). We hope these African scholars will contribute to the agricultural and rural development of their countries through their research. (Shuichi Asanuma)

JICA Sponsored traing programs

Friendly GIS Software, OSGeo4W7-GRASS, Is Developed: JICA GIS Group Training Course, FY 2010

The JICA GIS Group Training Course "Information Management Technology for Land Use and Natural Resources Analysis FY 2010," using free and open source GIS software (FOSS-GIS), took place over 5 weeks from August to September at the JICA Chubu International Center, Nagoya, Japan. The ICCAE has coordinated similar training courses since fiscal year 2000 . The LINUX-GRASS software in use over the past 10 years required the reformatting of Windows PCs before its installation and was often troublesome to use. This year, thanks to instructors from Osaka City University, the OSGeo4W7 (including WINDOWS-GRASS) was developed, which has made the software friendlier and easier to use for trainees returning to their countries. Six trainees from 5 countries (Argentina, Tuvalu, Cambodia, India, and Myanmar) analyzed their own GIS subjects under the guidance of experienced instructors during the course. They will disseminate this technology widely to their colleagues and others. (Shuichi Asanuma)

Second year: JICA Training Program, "International Course on Bioagricultural Sciences"

In 2010, the Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences at Nagoya University accepted 4 students into the JICA's International Course on Bioagricultural Sciences. This training program aims to build the capacities of staff at universities, research institutes, and administrative offices involved in policy-making and to enhance the implementation and management of agricultural and rural development in developing countries. (Shuichi Asanuma)

Name	Affiliation in mother country	Specialty	Research subject	Class	Supervisor
Magdaraog Peter Magan	Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, the Philippines	Insect Control	Interspecific competition of parasitoids	M1	Prof. Toshiharu Tanaka
Wainaina Cornelius Mbathi	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya	Network Development	QTL analysis of some agronomical traits in NERICAs for adaptation to Kenyan rice production	M1	Assoc. Prof. Daigo Makihara
Shelley Israt Jahan	Bangladesh Agricultural University, Bangladesh	Plant Genetics and Breeding	Analysis of genes involved in the maintenance of root apical meristem in rice	D1	Assis. Prof. Yoshiaki Inukai
Mostari Mst. Parvin	Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute, Bangladesh	Reproductive Science	Neuroendocrine mechanism controlling reproductive function	D1	Assoc. Prof. Hiroko Tsukamura

New staff

Osamu Ito Director, Crop Production and Environment Division, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS)
Visiting Professor (1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011)



I took the ICCAE's visiting professor position on April 2010, wishing to do something helpful for the ICCAE through my experience with the CG centers, such as ICRISAT and IRRI. In order to make the Japanese presence in international agricultural research more visible, it is very important to establish a system where all the players involved-such as the universities, the research centers related to MAFF, the JICA, and private institutions-work together rather than independently. We need to improve our performance in our target regions through information exchanges, the exploitation of a research agenda, and project planning that uses the network developed among the partners. I had the chance to interact with the students at the open seminar and intensive course last September and was very impressed by their earnest attitude and strong capacity to understand and absorb new knowledge.

Profile Born in 1950. PhD from the Univ. of Tokyo in agricultural chemistry. Post doc. fellow in IRRI and C.F. Kettering Res. Lab. Currently in JIRCAS from 2000 after NIAES and NIES. During that time, seconded to the ICRISAT and IRRI as a project leader and head of the agronomy, plant physiology, and agroecology divisions. Board member of the ICRISAT and IFDC.

Keisuke Ito Deputy Secretary General, Japan Intellectual Support Network in Agricultural Sciences (JISNAS)



I was appointed as a deputy secretary general of the JISNAS on October 1, 2010. I had been engaged in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of technical cooperation for agricultural and rural development as a JICA staff member.

I have high expectations that encouraging Japanese universities to participate in development cooperation and enhancing networking among stakeholders will improve the quality of Japan's development cooperation.

Making full use of my experiences, I intend to promote the JISNAS's activities. I look forward to your active participation in that mission.

Profile Born in December 1971 in Nagoya. Graduated from Faculty of Agriculture, Hokkaido University in 1996; Employed by the JICA since 1996 (Overseas Office in Bolivia, in charge of the agricultural and rural development sector, Rural Development Dept., Operation Strategy Dept., etc.); Graduated from the Post-Graduate School of NUR University of Bolivia in 2004.

Masafumi Nagaishi Professor, Global Environmental Leaders Program (NUGELP), Nagoya Univ. and JISNAS Secretariat Member



I joined the JICA after leaving a private company before I was 30 years old. I have been involved in various activities, in particular, the grant aid and development study schemes, urban environment, disaster management, and Mindanao issues. My overseas experiences include 3 years in Sri Lanka and 4 years in the Philippines (including 2 years in Mindanao). When in Mindanao, I moved to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and was assigned as the expert for reconstruction and development. My experiences in the JICA made me keenly aware of the urgent need to foster young engineering human resources in the discipline of international cooperation both in Japan and overseas. I would like to help build the framework of the relationship between Nagoya University and the international cooperation community (such as the JICA) in order to foster young professionals.

Profile Born in 1963 in Oita. Completed MEc. in Development Economy at Hosei University in 2003. After graduating from Keio University with a bachelor's degree in sociology, I worked in a private company for 6 years. Then joined the JICA and was assigned to the Grant Aid Study Department, Sri Lanka Office, where I also served as the Deputy Director of the Social Development Study Division, the Director of the Water Resources and Disaster Management Team, etc. In 2006, I moved to the MOFA and was assigned to the First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in the Philippines, then attached to the Senior Advisor for Reconstruction and Development of Mindanao (a member of the International Monitoring Team). My last assignment was as the Senior Representative of the JICA Philippines Office. I have been working as a professor in the Global Environmental Leaders Program at Nagoya University (NUGELP) since October 2010.

Farewell

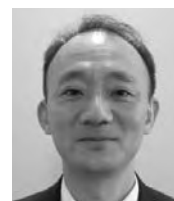
Dr. Elijah Miinda Ateka Senior Lecturer in Plant Pathology at the Department of Horticulture of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT)
ICCAE Visiting Research Fellow (16 April - 15 November 2010)



I formally reported at the International Cooperation Center for Agricultural Education (ICCAE), Nagoya University, on April 19, 2010, and was introduced to the rest of the ICCAE staff by Assoc. Prof. Daigo Makihara. My 7-month stay at Nagoya University was fruitful and stimulating. I wish to acknowledge a few of those who made my stay and research enjoyable. First, my special thanks to the director of ICCAE, Prof. Akira Yamauchi, for inviting me as a visiting research fellow. I would also like to thank Prof. Shuichi Asanuma, Assoc. Prof. D. Makihara, Dr. Yoshiaki Inukai, Prof. H. Kitano, and all of Nagoya University for supervising my research work on "development of Kenya's differential system for rice blast pathogenic races using standard reference varieties" and for the immense interest they showed in it. I gratefully acknowledge Drs. Yasunori Nakajima and Yuko Mizukami, both from the Mountainous Region Agricultural Research Institute, Aichi Agricultural Research Center, for the many practical skills I learnt from them, especially in rice crossing and rice blast resistance evaluation. Finally, I wish to thank Dr. Nagao Hayashi of the National Institute of Agrobiological Sciences (NIAS), Tsukuba, Japan, for his help in fungus isolation and race determination.

Profile Born in 1972. Graduated with a BSc in Agriculture in 1995, MSc in Plant Pathology in 1999, and a PhD in Plant Pathology in 2005, all from the University of Nairobi. Worked as a research officer at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) until 2006 before moving to JKUAT as a lecturer in the Department of Horticulture.

Masahiro Tawa Senior Coordinator, Global Environmental Leaders Program (NUGELP), Nagoya Univ. and JISNAS Secretariat Member
(1 October 2008 - 30 September 2010)



After 2 years at NUGELP and JISNAS I returned to JICA as an Advisor at Operations Strategy Department since October 1.

I was very happy to assist in coordinating NUGELP and establishing JISNAS, Nagoya University, during my term at Nagoya University. It was difficult but satisfying. Back at JICA, I will be planning for emerging issues and the Academe-JICA partnership. I am looking forward to working with you again in the future. Thank you.

Profile Born in 1963 in Osaka. Joined JICA in 1990 after graduating from Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Osaka Prefecture University. Engaged in planning new activities at JICA and in project management at the Indonesia office; also having made contributions to the Planning Dept., Grant Aid Dept., Rural Development Dept., and Dept. of Human Resources for International Cooperation.

Open seminars (Jan 2010 - Nov 2010)

No.	Date	Theme	Lecturer	Affiliation
FY2009 7	2-Mar-10	JICA's support for Afghan's reintegration & reconstruction : Now and expectation for the future	Nobuhiko Hanazato	Chief Representative, Afghanistan Office, JICA / ICCAE Visiting Professor
8	23-Mar-10	Improvement of Alcohol Beverage Processing : A Case Study of Rice Liquor in Cambodia	Chay Chim	Researcher & Technique Assistant, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Royal University of Agriculture, Cambodia / ICCAE Visiting Research Fellow
FY2010 1	6-Jul-10	Effect of Striga infection on NERICA rice cultivars and farmers' perception on its control mechanisms in the sub-Saharan Africa	Evans A. Atera	Agronomist, Lake Basin Development Authority, Kenya / Graduate Student (M2), Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Kobe University
2	30-Sep-10	International research collaboration on improvement of agricultural production through crop and natural resource management	Osamu Ito	Director, Crop Production and Environment Division, JIRCAS / Visiting Professor, ICCAE
3	2-Nov-10	1st Presentation Development of Kenya's differential system for rice blast resistance 2nd Presentation Cutting-edge technologies and international cooperation in the agriculture	1:Elijah Miinda Ateka 2:Kei-ichiro Maeda	1.Senior Lecturer, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya / ICCAE Visiting Research Fellow) 2. Professor, ICCAE