

APPENDIX 6

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

THE JOINT JAPAN/WORLD BANK GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The goal of the Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program (JJ/WBGSP) is to create a community of highly qualified professionals in economic and social development in developing countries. Wholly sponsored by the government of Japan, JJ/WBGSP is the largest graduate degree program in the United Nations system. Now in its twentieth year, the program has received more than 50,000 applications and awarded 3,700 scholarships to mid-career professionals from developing countries to pursue graduate studies leading to master's degrees in development-related fields.

Currently, the program has some 330 scholars studying around the world in Regular and Partnership segments.

Regular program

For the 2006/7 academic year, 98 Regular Program scholars representing 78 countries were selected from 3,379 applicants. Of the new scholars:

- More than 42 percent are female.
- 75 percent have humble backgrounds (parents with no more than a high school education).
- More than 45 percent are from Africa (Africans accounted for 66 percent of applications).
- More than 50 percent are from low-income countries under stress and WBI focus countries.
- More than 84 percent work in the public sector.

Major fields of study are economics (36 percent); environment (17 percent); and public health (16 percent).

Partnership program

JJ/WBGSP supports 11 Partnership Programs leading to a master's degree in universities in Africa, Japan, and the United States. These programs enable scholars to receive specialized training in key areas of development. During the academic year 2005/6, the partnerships supported 120 scholars.



Graduates of the JJ/WBGSP Columbia University Program in Economic Policy Management, class of 2005

In collaboration with the African Capacity Building Foundation, JJ/WBGSP supports four programs in economic policy management in Africa: two francophone programs (at Cocody University in Côte d'Ivoire and Yaoundé II University in Cameroon) and two anglophone programs (at Makerere University in Uganda and the University of Ghana). Five additional partnership programs are ongoing at four Japanese universities: University of Tsukuba (policy management), Yokohama National University (two programs: infrastructure management and public policy and taxation), Keio University (tax policy and management), and the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (public finance).

In the United States, Harvard University offers a program in international development, and Columbia University conducts a program in economic policy management.

Program finances

JJ/WBGSP was initiated by the government of Japan in 1987 as part of its Policy and Human Resources Fund. Japan has contributed more than \$160 million to JJ/WBGSP since its inception, showing the country's strong commitment to capacity development in developing countries.

“ABOUT 90 PEOPLE FROM VIETNAM HAVE RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIPS FROM JJ/WBGSP. MANY OF THEM ARE NOW IN HIGH POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT, WHERE THEY INFLUENCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SECTORS IN WHICH THEY WORK. THE JJ/WBGSP, WHICH HELPED THESE PEOPLE TO BECOME WHAT THEY ARE TODAY, IS THEREFORE VERY HELPFUL.”

—(MR.) CAO DUC PHAT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, VIETNAM

Impact

The program has enhanced capacity in the developing world in critical areas such as public management and finance, infrastructure planning and management, urban and rural development, agriculture and water resources management, environment protection, and public health. The program is building a body of skilled development practitioners who serve the economic and social development of their countries and regions.

- 87 percent of scholars surveyed in 2005 were back in their home countries.
- Program alumni constitute a Who's Who in the developing world; many occupy senior positions, including ministerial portfolios.
- Alumni comments in group discussions initiated on the JJWBGSP Web site are overwhelmingly positive.

Scaling up activities

FY06 saw the launch of a new program to make better use of the knowledge acquired by JJ/WBGSP scholars. The program, which fosters a network of those scholars and other development stakeholders, held its first regional conference in May 2006 in Nairobi. A second conference followed immediately in Hanoi.

The conferences included presentations on development by the Japanese ambassador, the Japanese executive director to the World Bank, country directors, faculty from partner universities, and outstanding recent alumni. The conferences established a solid framework in which to sustain and share the knowledge fostered by the program, in part by forging links with World Bank country offices and Japan's embassies.

THE ROBERT S. MCNAMARA FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM (RSMFP)

RSMFP was established in 1982 with a \$1 million contribution from the World Bank and \$1.8 million from the governments of Bangladesh, China, India, Kuwait, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, and Yugoslavia.

The program awarded some 250 fellowships to development researchers and practitioners from all regions of the World Bank for research or study on a wide variety of topics in development-related fields. In 2001, the program was restructured into a master's degree program in public policy at the Woodrow Wilson School of International and Public and Affairs, Princeton University.