

News Letter No.26 (March, 2014)
- MHLW HRD Information -

1. ASEAN-Japan Technical Meeting on Competency Standards

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan (MHLW) has been implementing various support programs for ASEAN countries. The ASEAN-Japan Technical Meeting on Competency Standards is one of these support programs and relatively new. This meeting was launched last year for the first time, aim of which is to provide information and experience of Japanese competency standards to ASEAN countries and to offer an opportunity to exchange the views.

This year, 2nd ASEAN-Japan Technical Meeting on Competency Standards was held from February 18th to 20th in Tokyo, Japan in collaboration with Japan Vocational Ability Development Association (JAVADA) and was attended by 9 government officials from 8 ASEAN countries, namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

During this 3 day meeting, participants learned Japanese competency standards of 4 industries - Metal Stamping, Light Metal Product Manufacturing, Food Service Industry and Home Care Business. The participants not only attended classroom lectures on competency standards, but regarding Food Service Industry and Home Care Business, they also visited companies which actually utilize competency standards.

As many of ASEAN countries are now developing their competency standards, MHLW thinks that this meeting would contribute to such activity in these countries. Therefore, we would like to continue to hold this meeting next year.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all the participants who must have had hard time in Tokyo's cold winter weather.



(photo session)



(company visit)

2. Development of ASEAN Vocational Training Instructors Manual

Since FY2013, MHLW in collaboration with JAVADA has been developing a manual for ASEAN's vocational training instructors called "GAIN" (Guide for ASEAN Vocational Training Instructors). The purpose of this manual is to improve the quality of vocational training to upgrade the workforce, because upgraded workforce will promote more smooth labour mobility among ASEAN countries after ASEAN integration in 2015. The whole manual is planned to be developed over the three years.

We would like to announce that we have developed Vol.1 (Revision 1.0) of "GAIN" and this Vol.1 can be downloaded now at the following JAVADA's website:

http://www.javada.or.jp/kokusai/ap/index_e.html

In order to disseminate "GAIN" to vocational training instructors and to contribute to the improvement of the administration and evaluation of vocational training in the ASEAN countries, we held ASEAN Vocational Training Instructor's Manual Seminar from December 2nd to 13th 2013 in Shah Alam, Malaysia (see News Letter No.25 (February, 2014) : http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/employ-labour/human-resources/news_letter.html)

3. Graduation of international students from Polytechnic University

A graduation ceremony was held at Polytechnic University (PTU) in Tokyo, Japan on March 20th 2014. 14 international students graduated from bachelor course under a scholarship program funded by MHLW.

This program was started in order to contribute to the enhancement of the vocational training system in Asian countries in FY1992. This program accepts students from Asian countries who are expected to become vocational training instructors after returning to their home countries and has sent off 254 graduates, 234 bachelor course students and 20 master course students so far.

We sincerely wish a great success of the 14 new graduates.

Country	Graduates FY2013
	Long-term Bachelor Course
Cambodia	2
Indonesia	4
Laos	1
Malaysia	3
Sri Lanka	1
Thailand	2
Vietnam	1
Total	14

4. Results of the Fiscal 2012 Basic Survey of HRD in Japan

MHLW conducts the Basic Survey of Human Resources Development every year since FY2006 and publishes its results. This survey aims to show the current state of the country's companies and business establishments, and human resources development of their workers, categorized by regular and non-regular employees.

From the results of FY2012 survey, it was concluded that the trend in expenses spent by companies for HRD was expected to continue to be upward as it had been last year.

We translated the results of the Fiscal 2012 Basic Survey into English and posted it on our homepage. If you are interested to read it in detail, please go to the following URL:

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/policy/development/01/pdf/11.pdf>