

The Skills Evaluation System Promotion Program (SESPP) implements seminars and Skills Evaluation Trials (SETs), conducted by Japanese experts, in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Indonesia, in order to transfer Japan's skills evaluation know-how to these countries.

JTB Corporation has been entrusted with the project and has established the SESPP Secretariat at the Kasumigaseki Branch.

J-Skills News, published three times a year, covers issues such as approaches taken by the project, in order to promote the utilization of Japanese standards-based skills evaluation.

□ Training Report

■ Collaboration Training Course in Japan – Skills Competitions Seminar (Information Network Cabling)

For the first time in three years, participants were invited to Japan for the collaboration training course in Japan, from November 2 (Wed) – 11 (Fri), 2022. This time around, a total of six instructors from training institutes attended from Cambodia; two from the Preah Kossamak Polytechnic Institute (PPI), two from the National Polytechnic Institute of Cambodia (NPIC), and two from the National Technical Training Institute (NTTI). All the participants this time had experienced the Assessment and Marking Method seminar (Information Network Cabling) implemented online in FY2021.

■ Training schedule

November 1	(Tue)	AM	Arrival in Japan
November 2	(Wed)	AM	Opening ceremony
		PM	Overview of public vocational training (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
November 3	(Thu)	AM	Overview of skills test and skills competitions (SESPP)
		PM	Principles and method of marking for skills evaluation (SESPP)
November 4	(Fri)	AM	Country paper presentation (Cambodia)
		PM	Visit (1) Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd. Yokohama Works
November 5-6	(Sat/Sun)	All day	Visit (2) Polytechnic Center Kanto
November 5-6	(Sat/Sun)	All day	National Skills Competition (Makuhari Messe)
November 7	(Mon)	All day	Preparation of documents
November 8-10	(Tue – Thu)	All day	Skills competitions seminar
November 11	(Fri)	AM	Skills competitions seminar
		PM	Wrap-up/Closing ceremony
November 12	(Sat)	AM	Departure from Japan

Implementation overview of training in Japan

● Overview of public vocational training

Mr. Tomohiro Uchino (Chief Officer for Overseas Cooperation Negotiation and Technical Cooperation Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare JAPAN) gave a lecture providing an overview of public vocational training in Japan. Participants asked questions and exchanged opinions regarding the employment support activities by educational training institutions.

● Lecture by the SESPP Secretariat

Mr. Fumio Inagawa (Technical Advisor, SESPP Secretariat) provided a lecture on an overview of skills test and skills competitions in Japan, and the marking principles and methods for skills evaluation.

● Country paper presentation

Participants gave a presentation regarding Electrical Installation in Cambodia, and shared information on current situation.

● Visits to vocational training facilities and information network cabling job-trade related companies

• Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd. Yokohama Works

A talk on the history of optical fiber and the production process was followed by a visit to an optical fiber plant, and introduced to the production processes, etc. Explanations were given as the visitors examined apparatuses on display, such as connectors, closures, and fusion splicers, etc.

Participants put forward various questions related to optical fiber cabling.

•Polytechnic Center Kanto

A talk on the services and projects of the center was followed by a visit to a training facility where the visitors were able to observe the real on-site trainings, such as the Mechanical CAD Design department and the Electronic Circuit Technologies department. Participants expressed their surprise at the cooperative structure between curricula and companies that allows a job-seeker to find employment via a short-term training course.

● Visit to the National Skills Competition

Over a period of two days, participants visited the National Skills Competition held at the Makuhari Messe with a focus on information network cabling, the subject of the skills competitions seminar to be implemented in the latter half of the training period.

In addition to information network cabling, participants were highly interested in electrical and robotics technologies.

● Skills Competitions Seminar

Over a period of three and a half days, instructions on skills competitions operation and technical instruction was provided in relation to the information network cabling job-trade. The experts for this seminar were Mr. Yoshitaka Matsumoto (Polytechnic Center Kansai), Mr. Susumu Ito (Kinden Corporation), Mr. Takafumi Koizumi (Kandenko Co., Ltd.), and Mr. Yosuke Maeda (MIRAIT ONE Corporation).

Participants engaged with actual exercises of skills competitions, ended with evaluation work.

Each expert provided comments such as those given below.

“While it was their first time engaging in assignments /evaluations, the participated instructors from Cambodia worked in an eager and proactive manner, being quick to ask questions concerning points that were unclear or debated them amongst themselves in their efforts to learn techniques and evaluation methods. (Mr. Matsumoto)”, “Participants engaged earnestly, and further growth is expected. I was surprised to learn that they had even taken the ribbon fiber, which they had encountered for the first time during the training, back to their rooms to continue practicing. (Mr. Ito)”, “Although eight months had passed since the last online training sessions, I was surprised to find that their skills had improved remarkably since then. While there is a language barrier, we were still able to achieve understanding because of our mutual desire to teach and learn. (Mr. Koizumi)”, “I was impressed by the manners in which the participants continued to ask questions about something they didn’t understand, until they fully understood. I strongly felt their drive to realize the implementation of their own skills competitions. (Mr. Maeda)”.

● Action Plan Presentation/Closing Ceremony

The participants from Cambodia presented an action plan based on the results of the ten-day training period. The presentation covered the implementation of “Modules 1 and 2 evaluation sheet creation”, and “the creation of assignments/evaluation sheets to facilitate the implementation of mock competition, the selection of competition/competition committee members, procurement of equipment”, etc. in Cambodia after they returned. Mr. Uchino (MHLW) gave a comment, stating, “This job-trade involves maintenance and does not end with construction, so there is a need to aim for construction with maintenance in mind. I truly hope that the results of this training session can be adapted to the reality in Cambodia and fully utilized.”, etc.



Lecture on public vocational training



Lecture on overview of skills tests and skills competitions



Country paper presentation



Visit to Sumitomo Electric Industries, Ltd.
Yokohama Works



Visit to Polytechnic Center Kanto



Visit to the National Skills Competition



Skills competition seminar implementation



Action plan presentation



Closing ceremony

■ Grade 2 Skills Assessor Training (SAT)/Skills Evaluation Trials (SET) for Power Distribution and Control Panel Assembly in Cambodia)

Grade 2 SAT and SET for Power Distribution and Control Panel Assembly were held at the Industrial Technical Institute (ITI) from December 19 (Mon) to 23 (Fri), 2022. These were attended by a total of ten participants; two from the National Polytechnic Institute of Cambodia (NPIC), two from the Preah Kossamak Polytechnic Institute (PPI), two from the Industrial Technical Institute (ITI), two from the National Technical Training Institute (NTTI), one from Cambodian-Thai Skills Development Institute (CTSDI), and one from the National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Innovation (NIEI).

There were ten participants in the SAT, and four examinees for the SET. Participants were mainly comprised of participants who had completed Grade 3 in FY2018 (including four Grade 3 certified assessors).

The expert was Mr. Yukio Hagiuda (Kowa Electric Industry Co., Ltd.).

The training for SAT implemented “Explanation on Practical Test Questions”, “Explanation on Practical Test Implementation Procedure”, “Explanation on Practical Skills Scoring Criteria/Guideline”, and “Scoring Method Training”, while the SET were implemented with “theoretical test”, “practical test”, and “scoring/summing up”.

The expert, Mr. Hagiuda, gave a comment stating, “This was held on-site at the ITI for the first time in four years. The exercises became Grade 2 from last year, and this is the first implementation of Grade 2 SET since the implementation of SAT. Being able to hold SET on-site was meaningful. As the exercises for Grade 2 SET are of a much higher level compared to Grade 3, examinees seemed to struggle with both theoretical and practical tests, and I felt a need for greater effort to improve skills levels. In addition, participants were earnest and worked hard, and they understood and learnt SET”.

Participants put forward their opinions such as; “There were many who had experience of participating in this project’s training, so the teamwork was good, and training progressed smoothly”, “I was able to gain a lot of new knowledge”, “I would like to observe skills assessments in Japan”, and “I would like the training to continue up to Grade 1”.



Lecture by expert



Practical test



Skills evaluation by assessors

□ Implementation of Local Program Evaluation for FY2022 in Indonesia

With an aim towards the effective and efficient implementation of the SESPP projects, a session of the Joint Public-Private Committee was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, the country for which these activities are intended, with the session held on December 19 (Monday), for the purpose of understanding the needs of skilled workers in the target country, verifying PR techniques and the job-trades/grades involved, and understanding the medium/long-term issues, etc.

Committee members were comprised of participants from Badan Nasional Sertifikasi Profesi (Indonesian Professional Certification Authority) (BNSP), Lembaga Sertifikasi Profesi-Logam dan Mesin Indonesia (LSP-LMI), Indonesia Mold & Dies Industry Association (IMDIA), Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, local training institutes, the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare, the SESPP Secretariat, and other stakeholders related to the project, and the agendas for the meetings covered implementation status and achievements of this fiscal year's projects, suggestions for the implementation in the next fiscal year, and exchanges of opinions, etc.

■ Indonesia

Date/Time Participants	December 19, 2022 (Monday) 09:00 – 12:00 (Indonesian time) (Badan Nasional Sertifikasi Profesi (Indonesian Professional Certification Authority) (BNSP), Lembaga Sertifikasi Profesi-Logam dan Mesin Indonesia (LSP-LMI), Indonesia Mold & Dies Industry Association (IMDIA), Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, local training institutes, the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare, the SESPP Secretariat, and other stakeholders)
No. of participants	18
Achievements for job-trades implemented in this fiscal year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical Drawing (CAD Drawing) Grade 2 Skills Evaluation Trial (SET), Skills Assessor Certification (SAC) (Four new assessors were certified)
Main discussion related to job-trades for the next fiscal year	<p>«Skills Test»</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets: Establishment of skills tests, and improvement of levels of implemented trades. • Activities: Follow-up of FY 2022 program • FY2023 project implementation proposals <p>Follow-up of projects up to FY2022 (selection of job-trades with the consideration for the needs and prioritization) “Plastic Injection Molding Grade 2 SET/SAC (assessor certification)” or “Mechanical Drawing CAD work Grade 2 SAT/SET”</p>
Approaches between the two countries for the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretariat shared information pertaining to Plastic Injection Molding, that the former IMDIA Secretary General requested to increase the numbers of Grade 2 certified assessors, and for Mechanical Drawing (CAD Work), experts requested to increase the numbers of Grade 2 examinees through examination preparation/training. • BNSP requested that the project should take on not only the metal working field, but also the job-trades in the information technology field, robotics, mechanical systems maintenance, etc. • BNSP stated that the meeting and communication this time were truly meaningful and important, and proposed the implementation of regular meetings and exchanges, not just the once-a-year Public-Private Joint Committee, to find issues and their solutions.

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