

The Japan-IMF Scholarship Program for Asia (JISPA) is celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2023.

As part of the International Monetary Fund's capacity development efforts, the JISPA invites promising young officials from key economic policymaking agencies for graduate-level study in Japan. With the long-running financial support from the Government of Japan, the program has received around 930 officials from over 20 emerging and developing economies in the Asia and the Pacific region, including some in Central Asia, since its inception in 1993. IMF Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (OAP) in Tokyo has been providing various operational supports for the program since 2000.

Many JISPA alumni have assumed key positions in macroeconomic agencies in the region, including central banks and ministries of finance. The achievements of the alumni and their contributions to their countries continue to inspire young officials into applying for the JISPA. The JISPA has thus developed a solid reputation and established itself as a prestigious program among Asian officials.

OAP continues its efforts to enhance the program, in collaboration with partnership universities. The JISPA curricula aim at striking the right balance between theory and practice, to meet the evolving needs for macroeconomic management in an increasingly interconnected world. The curriculum offered by each partnership university provides a greater focus on emerging issues, such as various financial sector issues, in addition to the core macroeconomics subjects. Each university clearly indicates a set of skills that can be developed under their respective courses, to help potential applicants identify the program best suited for their career and needs. In addition, JISPA scholars can rely on strong support from the faculty and staff for their academic consultation and their adjustments to life in Japan. The Orientation Program (OP) is offered to ensure that all new entrants have sufficient capability in English and mathematics/econometrics for their master's programs.

JISPA scholars are also invited to various activities, including policy dialogues on topical policy issues presented by IMF staff and Japanese policy makers, and an annual thesis presentation. Welcome and farewell receptions are held for all scholars in the program. OAP offers a summer workshop for scholars who are finishing their first-year of studies to provide a better understanding of the IMF's work and analysis.

JISPA alumni are well connected even after they graduate, including through the online alumni networking system and the continuing education program. I hope the 30th anniversary of the program this year will serve as additional impetus for more active networking among the JISPA alumni.

Please take a look at the material in this brochure and do not hesitate to contact us directly if you have questions about the scholarship program.



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