

Re-Inventing Japan Project

【Name of project】 Type A-I CAMPUS Asia Pilot Program (Adopted FY 2011)
“Program for Careers as Risk Management Experts in East Asia”

【Aims, Ideals of Global Human Resource on the project】

- (1) Fostering technical knowledge and practical skills for risk management-related matters at times of not only natural disasters but also economic and social crises;
- (2) Building expertise in social sciences, including economics, political science, human resources, and development management, mainly related to Japan, China, and South Korea;
- (3) Imparting a level of communication skills sufficient to support policy implementation in English and the local language in addition to their own native language; and
- (4) Promoting understanding of different cultures; capability of working at a public institution, international organization, or NPO to analyze issues and situations at the time of crises; and abilities in global leadership in policy formulation and in decision making with courage and determination in the face of crises.

【Project summary】 Kobe University Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies (GSICS), Fudan University School of International Relations and Public Affairs (SIRPA), and Korea University Graduate School of International Studies (GSIS) have formed a consortium that aims to develop risk management experts in East Asia through the world-class graduate school education offered at these three universities.

Forming a University Network with Quality Assurance

Agreeing on the mutual recognition of credits, the management of academic records, and the accreditation process: A method for calculating credits among the three universities and the basic principles for obtaining a master’s degree in one year were agreed upon at a steering committee and were established as specific bylaws in the student exchange agreement and the double-degree agreement. The future course of action and a foundation for faculty exchanges among the three participating universities have also been established. Additionally, we have nine double-degree students who were accepted in 2013 (five inbound and four outbound students), seven out of them successfully obtained and two out of them expected to obtain their Master’s degree from their host university.



Program Content and Preparation

Organizing an international symposium: Joint international symposiums were held annually by the three universities in Shanghai on November 9, 2012, and in Seoul on November 1 to 2, 2013, and in Kobe on November 20 to 21, 2014. The next symposium is planned to be held in Bangkok in November 2015.

Frequent holding of risk management seminars: Experts in various field of risk management from international organizations such as the UN to NPOs working in Kobe were invited, and seminars were frequently organized at the GSICS, Kobe University (six seminars in 2012, five in 2013, eight in 2014). This facilitates the development of professional networks and the sharing of research and practical results.

Researching and interacting with universities outside of the consortium: The activities of the other CAMPUS Asia consortiums’ programs were researched and referred through interaction with the participating universities such as Peking University and Seoul National University.



Student Mobility

Outbound (including three foreign national students) :

In 2014, Kobe University sent four double-degree students and one exchange students (one year) to Fudan University, and three double-degree students and three exchange students (half a year) to Korea University.

Inbound : Since September 2014, Kobe University has accepted three double-degree students and three exchange students (half a year) from Fudan University and two double-degree students and two exchange students (half a year) from Korea University.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Accepted number in Japan	0	C3, K5	C5, K5	C6, K4	C8, K8
Accepted number in China	0	J3, K4	J4, K7	J5, K8	J8, K4
Accepted number in Korea	J1	J3, C4	J5, C6	J6, C5	J8, C0

Note: FY 2011–2014 actual results, FY2015 planned

Promotion of the Student Mobility Environment

Attentive support to students through the CAMPUS Asia Office: The CAMPUS Asia Office was launched with dedicated personnel who have education experience in China, South Korea, and the United Kingdom to provide multilingual academic and personal support to CAMPUS Asia students and potential candidates.

Development of a pre-education curriculum: The CAMPUS Asia office offered students pre-education programs, such as language training programs and seminars for research plan preparation. Its curriculum is designed each year based on the individual needs expressed by students.

Launching of risk management-related courses and the issuing of certificates: The GSICS of Kobe University launched new courses titled “Risk Management”, “Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy for Mega Earthquakes” and “Disaster Management” as risk management-related courses to enhance the content of the educational program. In addition, the three universities issue a certificate in a common format as proof of program completion.

Internationalization of the university

Information disclosure and Publication of outcome

Setting up an information sharing platform: The program’s brochure and newsletter were published in both English and Japanese. The program’s website (<http://www.edu.kobe-u.ac.jp/gsics-cp-asia/index.html>) has been developed in four languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean) to serve as a platform for publishing and promoting results.

Holding the 4th meeting of the External Evaluation Committee: The forth meeting of the external evaluation committee was held in February 2015 to share the knowledge of globalization practices in higher education across the world. Also, the issues to consider about the future operation of the CAMPUS Asia Program in Kobe University were identified through feedback from evaluation committee members.