International Development Youth Forum 2018
Final Report

"How should we co-exist with ICT? Does ICT lead to peril or prosperity?"
"How could the use/advancement of ICT contribute to achieving inclusiveness within society?"

11th – 18th , March, 2018

Table of Contents

Introduction

Message from president

The past few decades have brought on life-changing, rapid evolutions in technology, from everyday life to space discovery. One after the other, generations of new technology have penetrated each and every aspect of people's lives across the globe, drastically changing the environment surrounding us one day to another. Some would argue that this makes predicting future trends more difficult now than ever before: forecasts that were once possible are becoming more difficult, such as the surge of positive growth in remote and traditionally destitute regions of the world, or the rapid downfall or entire disappearance of some of the world's oldest professions. Furthermore, such radical alterations to society pose a pressing need for us to entirely reconsidering our way of life. Such things considered, each and every one of us on this planet is are urged to face and answer this challenge, which isn't just limited to financial and political elites. On the contrary, the new, relevant debates about technology offer the opportunity to reach all layers of society, both within sovereign countries and between nations and citizens around the world.

Of course, we are not merely passively subject to technological changes taking place around us: each and every one of us can actively bring about significant changes in the way technologies impact us. These changes considerably vary in terms of both their scale and nature. Some are minor and others are massive. Likewise, some are just positive, some are purely negative and still others are seemingly favourable at first but turn out to be the opposite later on. If we are not careful, we can cause a series of environmental problems such as climate change, several nuclear power plant disasters including the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster and its consequences, to cite a few.

On the bright side, however, technology can have stunning positive impacts on the society, which I reckon outweigh the negative ones if and when we put our utmost passion, knowledge, experience, and energy into conscious and sustainable technology-development. Bearing this in mind, under the banner of "Design Our Future," IDYF brings together youth from all over the world, for a week-long conference on the international development. It is an opportunity for them to dive into a pool of diverse values and norms, which broadens their knowledge and serves as the basis to build strong, long-lasting networks. If anything, we believe that IDYF brings together and serves as a formative experience for future global leaders who will contribute to the realization of a fairer, more sustainable future.

In order to realise such aforementioned ambitions for our 6th conference to be held in March 2018, we are dedicated to work towards two main goals. They are:
To provide an opportunity for participants to cooperate with each other so that they create viable and feasible solutions to theme-related challenges.
To build, maintain and expand the network between participants, before and after the conference.

We also focus on the viability and feasibility of our proposed subjects enables participants to think of realistic solution-making through debate, bearing mind the

interaction among various stakeholders, environmental consequences, societal constraints etc. The strong network, partnership and mutual trust we wish to build among participants is, I believe, most conducive to putting the conference-designed solutions into practice, making IDYF a sustainable initiative that reaches beyond Tokyo, and on the long term.

The IDYF philosophy "Design Our Future" is a point of convergence where both of our goals aforementioned come together. In this sense, we conceive it as essential for the Committee members to fully understand and bear this philosophy in mind when they work. The IDYF 2018 Committee prides itself in choosing participants who truly wish to build a better future, especially through team effort, and starting with local initiatives. We look forward to receiving applications from all those who want to be leaders of their own fate and their own communities.

IDYF   2018   Representative
Rise Nomura

Message from Adviser

Today, roughly 1.3 billion people on the earth, out of the total of 7 billion, live on the daily budget of below one dollar a day (that is, nearly one out of five live below the poverty line). As the 2015 deadline set for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) approaches, the scorecard on the MDG achievements is quite mixed among target categories and among geographical locations within the developing world. It is a duty for those of us who are fortunate enough to have access to education and other means to contribute to the collective effort to build a better world for all, either at the local, national or global level.

IDYF is still in its 6th year since it was established, but human network among its participants and alumni has been accumulating rapidly. Every year, IDYF sets a common theme for discussion, and a group of youth coming from all over the world debate relevant issues from all angles. For those participants from outside Japan, in particular, what they see, discuss and learn through their interactions with Japanese participants and the Japanese society is likely to leave a profound impact for the rest of their lives, no matter what kind of career paths they happen to choose in the future.

Among others, a career in international development is an exciting and rewarding one. As you become a professional in the area of international development, you naturally interact with people with many different backgrounds, such as policy makers of all levels (local, national and international), academics, farmers, workers and laborers, and children. As exciting as those interactions are, they tend to be somewhat constrained by social contexts and social positions where we and they are in. As an academic specializing in development economics, for example, I interact with them as a policy advisor, an academic colleague, an interviewer during field research in an attempt to collect data to be analyzed and to be published in policy reports or academic journals, etc. In fact, it is not easy to interact with all those people free of such social contexts and truly on an equal footing.

Those friends who you initially met as a child or as a college classmate, prior to becoming a professional, are an exception, however. With those friends, you can interact as if you were still college classmates, largely free of social and professional contexts. Academic knowledge, in any discipline, expands at an enormous speed. In the field of development economics, for example, there have been remarkable advances in theories and empirical evidence accumulated in the past decade. This means that the cutting-edge academic knowledge you learn at college may well become obsolete just 10 years after you graduate. On the other hand, the value of your personal networks and friends that you make at college will never depreciate for many years to come.

After some 30 years spent in the international development field since graduating from a university, I cannot overemphasize how important such friends are. As students, we used to debate about social problems and about how to tackle such challenges, often in idealistic (and, one might say, rather immature) terms. Those young days shared with my friends, however, installed in me an attitude towards life of not giving up the ideals and dreams in the face of harsh realities. To the extent that I have been able to persevere in my professional life, I owe it to those my friends at youth. Today, those friends are journalists, public servants, private businessmen, politicians, academics, housewives, and many more. When we meet, however, we still interact, debate and kid each other as if we were school classmates. Such interactions give not only fun time to refresh myself but also some new and fresh viewpoints and a moment to reconsider some of the views taken for granted within the narrow circle of professionals, enriching my professional life.

How exciting it would be to have such friends scattered all over the world for the rest of your life! Had IDYF existed 30 years ago when I was a college student, I would no doubt have joined the forum without hesitation.

Nobuhiko Fuwa
Professor (Development Economics),
Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo

1. Abstract of IDYF

1.1. Our mission

Design Our Future

Our goal is to create a better future based on the diverse values and experiences of youth from around the world. We aim to empower youth, and shape them into leaders of a fairer, more sustainable future, through debates, problem-solving, and networking with peers from a variety of backgrounds.

1.2. Our aims

1. Build a sustainable network among youth who are interested in international development
We create and support long-lasting networks by inviting youth from all over the world in one place, for one week.

We strengthen and build the network of participants, by inviting more participants to the forum every year.
We develop a network among all past participants of the forum by organizing alumni reunion online and in person.

2. Provide opportunities for participants to embrace diverse values and learn from them

We provide the opportunity to broaden one's knowledge and mindset through lectures and fieldwork, according to the theme of the forum.
We foster the opportunity to challenge one's value through discussion in which participants are faced with taking part in general and case study-specific debates.

3. Accomplish realistic goals and bring about change in society

We strive to produce outcomes which can actually profit society, beyond merely satisfying participants.
We wish to make IDYF a stepping stone for participants to refine their knowledge and determine how they can impact international development, wherever they are in their career.

2. Abstract of IDYF 2018
2.1. Theme of IDYF 2018

What IDYF 2018 Aspires to Achieve

<div align="center">

"How should we co-exist with ICT?
Does ICT lead to peril or prosperity?"

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IDYF 2018 addresses the issues of co-existence between human and technology, under our philosophy of "Design Our Future." We cannot live without technology in the contemporary world. Technology are everywhere - medical care, healthcare and welfare, manufacturing, transportation, communications, education, commerce, governance - every corner of the society. The use and prevalence of technology has greatly enhanced quality of life and continuously made life comfortable for us to lead.

On the other hand, there are some gloomy statements such as "Machines are robbing human being of their job" or "AI or Robots have riots and rebel against humans and our civilisation will comes to an end." This indicates that we might need to hold a doubt about the absolute utility of technology.

IDYF 2018 offers a dedicated place for youth, regardless of the place of birth or domicile, to absorb themselves in an intense and exciting discussions. We guarantee that such an experience is enlightening and inspiring, shaping the participants into the leaders in the next generations.

Discussion Theme for IDYF 2018

<div align="center">

"How could the use/advancement of ICT contribute to achieving inclusiveness within society?"

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Nowadays, the world is said to be entering the era of "The 4th Industrial Revolution (IR)" following three precursors - namely, the 1st IR relying on steam, the 2nd IR relying on electricity and the 3rd IR relying on technology, respectively. The 4th IR which we are currently witnessing might be hard to capture as a whole, builds on the 3rd one but still is distinct and different from even its direct predecessor in that it integrates and fuses a variety of technology, bridging all different sectors and subjects together. More notably, it blurs the borders between physical, psychological, material, digital and biological spheres.

This urges us to rethink, redefine and reconfigure virtually every aspect of our lives: we might have passed the point of return in the advancement and dependence on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) since it has permeated into all strata of global society, hardly felt in some places but thoroughly impactful in others. There is no better time for youth to discuss (1) where we are in the middle of such a wide-ranging radical change; and (2) whether we should follow in the current trajectory or redirect it, or even switch to an entirely new track.

2.2. Discussion agenda of IDYF 2018

Case studies

We provided the participants with three themes for our discussion.

1. Introducing ICT into working style reform in Japan

The Japanese government has notoriously struggled with answering its country-specific issue of excessively long working hours and overwork. In recent years, a growing number of overwork-related deaths have further raised serious concerns over Work-Life Balance in Japan, which also includes limited access to labour market for women, and an increased rate of unplanned leave due to elderly care for men. Japan has been making progress towards the enforcement of a policy aiming to reform the existing working culture, to be fully implemented in 2018. Nonetheless, the subject is far from being simply answered by policies, and necessitates further actions in civil society and by private companies.

Meanwhile, a healthy work-life balance, which seems far of reach for many Japanese employees, is being promoted by the birth of AI and adoption of the "telework," both of which enable people to work regardless of time and place. Another virtue of this is that it has brought forward a new evaluation system regarding work environment, which is based on productivity, and not on the total amount of working hours. However, the possibility of ICT use for the sake of a healthier working ethos has only been discussed and carried out by a small number of people. In order to unleash the capability of ICT and exhaust its best sides such as flexibility, the relevant debate should more frequently and widely be discussed by the general public. During the forum, we will encourage participants to reconsider how to utilize IT in the labor market, and discuss solutions based on IT technology against policies and work environments that are interfering with work-life balance.

2. ICT application into Agriculture in Vietnam

Agri-Informatics, a system offering appropriate advice for agricultural production through data analysis, has caught a great deal of attention for its ability to contribute to effective production, cost reduction, professional management, human resource development, and reliability. In Vietnam, the effort to extend the benefits of ICT into rural areas has been conducted based on the 2010 scheme to make Vietnam a country strong in information and communication technologies by 2020. Following the Japan-Vietnam Joint Statement regarding ICT cooperation in 2014, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has fostered Agri- Informatics in Vietnam. To study this subject, participants would be required to analyze this work regarding ICT from many perspectives and think about what kinds of development would be fundamental for further improvement in the field.

3. Role of ICT in post-conflict reconciliation in Colombia

Colombia has been struggling with a civil armed conflict since the early 1960s, and only recently coming to a halt. Two guerrilla groups, the FARCs and ELN, have been actively challenging the government while terrorising the population, running large drug cartels as well as human trafficking networks. Now that the Colombian government has concluded a ceasefire agreement with both factions, it has officially embarked on the long road of reconciliation and development. The Colombian ICT Minister considers that ICT could facilitate the creation of an inclusive society and enhance civil participation and democratisation, thereby accelerating the peacebuilding process. The Colombian national policy "Vive Digital 2018" has four pillars: improving work style; job creation; supporting entrepreneurs; and transforming urban and rural areas. Although successful in some respects, senior citizens and persons with disabilities still encounter greater difficulties benefitting from such programs. Furthermore, despite the national and international initiatives, the youth unemployment rate towers at 17% in Colombia.

The nexus of this case study seems to be whether a zeal for ICT use and promotion in Colombia also addresses the issues of digital divide, youth unemployment, and post-conflict reconciliation. Participants should examine whether the use of ICT is a viable solution to the problems which Colombia has or whether it only meddles the situation, overlooking the various existing and potential gaps within Colombian society.

Our activities' report

We held IDYF 2018 from March 11th, 2018 until March 18th, 2018 as following.

	Morning	Afternoon	Night
March 11th			Welcome party
March 12th	Keynote speech	Discussion	Karaoke night
March 13th	Lecture from experts	Discussion	
March 14th	Lecture from experts	Discussion	Tea Ceremony
March 15th	Discussion for solution	Discussion for solution	Cultural Party
March 16th	Discussion	Discussion	Preparation
March 17th	Rehearsal	Final presentation Closing ceremony	Farewell party

March 18th	Optional Tour

Following shows our activities during the forum. (15th and 16th are omitted since they are used only for the discussion..)

<DAY 1> 11th, March

From this afternoon, we welcomed the participants from each country. Although they must have been tired after their long flight, we talked a lot about each country and their background at the welcome party, which continued until midnight.

<DAY 2> 12th, March

Summary

This day marked an initiation of the discussion during the forum. In the morning, we welcomed a keynote speaker; Mr Taisei Kurino from a certified NPO called Edo Tec Global. He introduced Edo Tec Global to us - who they are, what they do, what they want the world to be and how they empower youth just as old as our participants. The highlight of the afternoon session was a discussion on (1) leadership and (2) inclusiveness. In light of the big theme for IDYF 2018, participants shared and deepened their insights on ideal leadership and greater inclusiveness in the society.

Morning
- Keynote speech from Mr Kurino from Edo Tec Global

Edo tec Global is a certified NPO in Japan. Its vision is "Realizing a peaceful world by Information Technology (IT)" and mission is "Bringing children & youth in developing countries "Global Leaders" with a spirit to realize a peaceful world." He explained how Edo Tec strives to reduce violence and promote peace all over the world using ICT. What they do is to provide an education for students in conflict-affected countries so that they could become leaders in the future generations. Japan, as the only country in the global history to have ever been bombed, should and can lead the world by enabling and empowering youth in war-torn or conflict-probe nations, in their view.

He was emphasizing that behind the visible phenome, there are often hidden and invisible factors which actually triggered conflicts and wars. For example, Rwanda is known for a large scale genocide in 1990s. Most understand this was because of difference in ethnicity (although it was artificially and arbitrary categorized) but famine and food shortage resulting from this escalated the situation.

Although, as some participants pointed out, an assessment is difficult to make on the actual impact of their education, we learned that peace does not appear in the middle of nowhere - quite opposedly, we need to deliberately make it emerge. This was the most important takeaway from him and it was a great kickoff for the forum.

Afternoon
There were 2 major themes; Inclusiveness and leadership. The objectives for this discussion was for participants to holistically comprehend these 2 terms in a real-life situations. They thought about exclusiveness they experienced, witnessed

Research group made a presentation on the Big Theme for IDYF 2018. The outline were already on the website, but this time we got a little deeper.

● Presentations from scholarship recipients

This year, we had 2 scholarship participants; Mashrekur from Bangladesh and Raul from Mexico. We had them make a presentation on the topic they chose. Mashrekur was in an agricultural team. He explored the basic mechanism of agroinformatics and compared the things in Bangladesh and Vietnam. Raul introduced his country Mexico as it is similar to the country for the topic: Colombia. He stressed the significance of ICT in peace building with some possible applications in Mexico.

<DAY 3> 13ᵗʰ, March

The participants were divided into three groups based on case studies and we welcomed the experts from each case study's field on 13th and 14th.

Work style reform in Japan

At the lecture on work style reform, Ms. Tomoka Miho from Deutsche Securities Legal Department visited. Ms. Miho is promoting Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) at Deutsche Securities and also working as a vice chairman of the Women in Business Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan. Speaking of diversity in Japan, its meaning is perceived only in a narrow sense and a lot of institutions and companies in Japan are behind in the world in growing diversity. Therefore Japan is one of the developing countries in that field and it was a valuable opportunity for the participants and committee that we could meet Ms. Miho who is actively promoting D&I in such Japan.
On the first day of this session, Ms. Miho's original text was distributed. Starting with the historical trend of promoting women advancement, we learned how work style reform in Japan was activated. Since it was an interactive lecture, we often got some questions from participants. Every time Ms. Miho answered about women's struggle, the participants shows surprised feeling.
The text include not only the current situation of women outside such as in

companies but also domestic problems such as DV. The participants understand the various problems surrounding Japanese women so that they were able to gain the big picture of women's advancement in Japan. When thinking about the women's advancement into society, we can never avoid considering both work and family as there is a word called "work life balance". Work style reform includes various types of workers. Having a point of view for the life career through the picture of Japanese women is necessary for promoting work style reform because it targets everyone. This session make us realize them.

Peacebuilding in Colombia

On the 1st day of the breakout session, we welcomed Professor Hataya from Sophia University. She has long been researching issues in Colombian society and lecturing at Department of Hispanic Studies, Faculty of Foreign Studies. Since none of us is familiar with situation in Colombia, having an expert in Latin American societies like her was truly an opportunity. In particular, she recently pays a huge attention to solidarity economy and alternative model of development, besides urban studies. This let us through a unique perspective that conflict in Colombia was prolonged actually due to the huge financial disparity within the society. Not-so-straightforward as it may sound, it totally makes sense in Colombia: Professor Hataya explained us in an effective way.

Seeing some economic indicators used world wide, such as GDP or GDP growth rate, Colombia looks like making a constant progress. If you only look at the average or median level of things there, it is not totally, wrong. However, the reality is that a great gap lures, and guerrilla combatants and other anti-societal groups take avail of it. They gave have-nots an incentive to follow them. One example would be as follows. Since the 1990s, the guerrilla groups have been controlling the cocaine business, and the farmers in their influential areas have been involved in growing coca leaves, either "forced to" or "by their own choice", just because there was no better alternative to make their lives. Incidentally, in urban areas we cannot see the similar phenomenon happens. This, in reality, cause a fissure in the feeling and opinions between urban and rural residents on the government' peace agreements with guerrilla groups. As a result, even with the peace agreement, the Colombian society is still volatile - this was the punchline of her presentation.

It should be rather natural to associate the term conflict with the presence of physical violence or actual attack. Which is not the case with the Colombian case. Learning to know of the country's a little untypical circumstances and reaffirm that the concept of "peace" cannot be understood from one standpoint has multiple facets could definitely struck all the participants. Interactive and lively QA part evinced it.

Agriculture in Vietnam

The discussions on the 13th of March in the agriculture team were aimed towards making the participants understand the challenges of the food value chain.

We therefore centered our discussion in the morning on firstly defining the food value chain, then discussing the issues concerning it in Vietnam. There was also a focus on finding questions to ask the JICA representatives who would be coming to make presentations on that afternoon, Ms. Yuko Morita and Ms. Chisa Togo.

The participants therefore firstly defined the food value chain and its main actors, and then started to discuss about the case of Vietnam. The main challenge that they found was that the food value chain in Vietnam is hindered by low-value production. Rice, for example, is produced in high quantities but with low quality, which damaged the Vietnamese rice market. The conclusions which were found from the morning discussions were that, firstly, it was important to focus on the production level of the food value chain, and therefore on the farmers. The participants agreed that the food value chain should not only be shortened, but that the farmers also needed to improve the quality of their crops, and in order to do so, that they needed to protect the ecosystem of their land.

The question that they decided to ask JICA was, « How to improve the quality of crops without increasing their price? ».

In the afternoon was held the presentation given by Ms. Yuko Morita and Ms. Chisa Togo, during which they kept time for questions from the participants, as well as encouraged discussions between them.

The first part of the presentation was introduced by Ms. Yuko Morita, who had extensive experience working in Vietnam, and who talked specifically about the challenges in promoting the food value chain and the use of ICT in Vietnam. Her talk was extremely compelling, as she recounted some of the experiences that she had encountered during her time there.

Ms. Chisa Togo was in charge of the second part of the presentation, in which she talked about a concrete case study using ICT in Vietnam to improve and shorten the food value chain. This case study focused on letting the distribution level know directly, through smartphones, what types of produce was available — and would let the farmers know who they could sell them to. Through this method, farmers would be able to sell their fruit and vegetables, which are very fragile produce, without waste. This brought about an inspiring conclusion to the presentation as it gave the participants ideas to start thinking about their own solution.

Finally, the participants continued to discuss for an hour after the end of the presentation, with new perspectives and more concrete ideas towards improving the situation in Vietnam.

<DAY 4> 14th, March

Work style reform in Japan

In the morning, we visited Yahoo Lodge to know Japan's new working place. Yahoo Lodge is an open working place that anyone can use once they register for use, with the aim of creating exchanges with people of various industries. Many participants reminisced about working style in one workplace when it was

Japanese working style seemed to be new. In the afternoon, following the day before, I went to Ms. Miho for a study session. On this day, I became a study group focused on thinking more specifically about what to do for the discussion toward the idea of solution from the next day. At the same time Miho who first realized that Miho who was aware of the fact that the participants were unresolved at the same time asked the participants at the beginning of the study session actively, Miho asked the participants according to the background It was. On this day, I thought about what is good for employees and workers what to do with working way reforming as a case example of the way of teamwork of a global IT company as a material. Miho encouraged his opinion in each position while taking advantage of the participants' background. Among the participants, students who have internshiped in a Japanese company talked about Japan's long hours of labor and experience that they could not think of in their own countries, and from the experience of interns that require intense work in their countries He talked about the idea of long Japanese time I saw. Also, I asked participants who usually work as a bureaucrat to think about what to do when thinking about what to think when thinking about from the administrative standpoint. Through these interactive study sessions, participants were able to think about how to work as a self as if they were oneself.

Peacebuilding in Colombia

On the 14th of March, we visited Doreming's office in Tokyo. Doreming is a fintech company based in Fukuoka, which aims to reduce poverty and inequality at the global scale. They are currently addressing the unbanked problem that 2 billion workers have lack of access to formal financial services, and they are often being exploited by taking remarkably expensive form of financing.

Masahiro Takasaki, the CEO at Doreming shared with us his recent photo of Saudi Arabia that tens of people are queuing in front of the bank for 1.5 hours at payday. Masahiro said that this photo indicates the problem of exploitation of workers that they have to waste their valuable time for waiting under a strong heat and sun and pay a high fee to transfer money.

Also, he mentioned that waiting until the end of month for payday is difficult for those who live hand to mouth. Many ultimately fall prey to predatory loans that create further problems and vulnerabilities for individual and their families.

Doreming puts an end to this cycle of financial exploitation. With its mobile app, the company helps their workers to smooth cash flow and personal finances by allowing them to gain early access to the wages they have earned to date (accrued) wages at anytime they need with no interest - essentially making everyday payday.

Employers control this pay process through our real-time payroll platform, which calculates each employee's wage and taxes after they clock out for the day. After work, workers can use the Doreming app to make purchases from their phone

at shops with the accrued wages as well as to transfer the wages to their families. Thus, they achieve "financial inclusion."

We shared the view on the money‐ to be concrete, opinions and feeling about the money being converted to the "mere figures" within the digital architecture. Some stated that their families cannot trust numbers on the computer screen and would rather physically hold money in their hands.

Arguably, the world now agrees on the point that we need to use technologies in every corner of our lives since technological advances have benefited us to dramatically increase productivity and reduce poverty although we have to bear in mind that some get uncomfortable with new technologies and we will need the responsible agency and the way to ensure that the new technological development take place to benefit for all, in particular those who are vulnerable or marginalized.

After the session with Doreming, we visited Yasukuni Shrine, the place memorising the WWII. We popped in to Yushukan, a war museum. Since the Shrine itself is a seed for tension between Japan and its neighboring countries, visiting it made us wonder about the definition of peace and the path to it.

<u>Agriculture in Vietnam</u>

On the 14th, the agriculture group started the day with a brisk walk around Yoyogi Park, neighbouring the forum venue. Walking down the spacious lanes leading to Meiji Shrine was a great opportunity to continue group discussions on case studies outside of the venue. In the afternoon, the group headed to the Japanese International Cooperation Agency's (JICA) offices in Yotsuya. There, the participants had the opportunity to sit through three presentations by staff members who presented on various topics related to ICT and development. Firstly, Mr. Yuji Shinohara, working for JICA, gave a presentation on ICT around the world, how it it taken into account in development studies, and what it means for Japanese development. Next, Mr. Kazunori Miyasaka, working for JICA, invited participants to download an app on their smartphones. The app, called Shep Game, has been developed by JICA and is used to educate family farmers in Africa to make reasonable financial decisions. Mr. Miyasaka has been working across Africa for years, and shared his experience with the participants. Shep Game, he explained, is not only made for farmers but also for JICA staff to understand the decisions farmers might face. By playing the game in the role of a rural farmer facing finite resources and financial restrictions, JICA staff and other international employees could get closer to understanding the realities of daily life in the environments they are trying to improve. This goes to show that ICT for education has to be thought out in bilateral terms. While educating a focus group in need is essential, ICT should also serve the higher purpose of making international workers better understand the fields they are working in, to truly put their skills to use in the most appropriate, well thought-out way. Lastly, Mr. Tomonari Takeuchi, formerly working for JICA and at the present for ABeam Consulting, answered many questions of the participants, sharing with them the wealth of his experience working all over the world for JICA

on multiple ICT-related projects. From the use of ICT in fisheries to the ethical issue of state-sponsored international philanthropy, Mr. Takeuchi and his colleagues tactfully engaged in a fruitful discussion that all participants later said was   truly   fascinating.

<DAY 5> 15th, March

On this day, participants discussed solutions for each theme. Although they discussed them steadily at first, their discussion went off the rails and was difficult to be narrowed down because they were worried about their limited time for discussion and failed to decide how to make solutions. Then, they tried to clarity the point of the two-day study session, and we joined their discussion and helped them.

At night, we held a cultural party at which participants put on their country's traditional costume. Also we invited Pacific Consultants Co., Ltd. and Kitaie Co. (株式会社キタイエ) and they gave presentations about thier company. Pacific Consultants Co., Ltd. is one of the construction consulting companies, which produce social infrastructure. And they are the representative one in Japan and play roles not only in Japan but also abroad, especially in developing Asian countries. Kitaie Co. is also energetic company, whose representative is young but play an important role as a member of global shapers. He tries to make young people to find their own passion and help them to bring the passion into their business. As he introduced Japanese traditional dance Awa-odori and they danced together, they seemed to enjoy the party.

<DAY 6> 16th, March

This day was the last day for the preparation for the final presentation. We settled the deadline for the submission of the PowerPoint which was going to be used for the presentation. Each team seemed to face difficulty to make their solution even on this day since they had few days to discuss and went off the rails with desperate. Most teams submitted them just before the deadline. But that showed their seriousness and we were looking for the final presentation.

<DAY 7> 17th, March

This day was the final presentation day and each team gave the presentation. Workstyle reform team focused on "raising wages and labour productiveness" and " Avoiding the long-working hour" as the most serious problem on workstyle in Japan. And to achieve the breakthrough, they suggested companies adopt flexible workstyle and

<DAY 8> 18th, March

After checking out, we were divided into two groups. One team visited

Kamakura, and the other team visited Asakusa on the same day. In Asakusa team, first we had lunch at Japanese traditional restaurant. All of our team members enjoyed various kind of Soba such as Nabeyaki, Zaru and Kaisen soba there. After that, we visited to Asakusa-Sensouji, which is one of the most famous temples in Japan. So, those who were from out of Japan looked to be really interested in this temple and all related customs to it. And then, we dropped off at the one of the Japanese traditional sweets restaurants and ate Anmitsu. Some foreign members were curious about it because they seemed to have never seen this kind of sweets in their hometown. Finally, we walked around Nakamise short street. They were really fascinated with some Japanese traditional goods on this street. Although this tour was short time, we all felt a lot of fun and found Japanese tradition and culture there.

　　　　And some participants were able to visit Kamakura, a seaside town close to Tokyo famous for its many temples and giant Buddha Statue. Around lunchtime, a few committee members guided participants to Kamakura station, and headed straight to the town's most famous shrine, Tsurugaoka Hachiman Gu. There, the group had the chance to witness a traditional Shinto wedding ceremony, bought some omikuji, and enjoyed the sunshine. Afterwards, they headed back down the central shopping street where they tasted some local delicacies, and had lunch in different restaurants before heading back into Tokyo. It was a great way to discover a beautiful town outside of Tokyo, and be exposed to Japanese culture in a lovely setting.

3. The voice from participants

<u>Feedback Form Results</u>

After the forum, we asked all participants to fill in an anonymous feedback form on the conference. Overall, we collected 18 responses, all of which were rich in information and gave us some insight into the successes and shortcomings of the forum. A few points stood out.

1. <u>High and low points</u>

We listed nine elements of the forum, for participants to grade from 1 ("very dissatisfied") to 5 ("very satisfied"). The nine elements are:

- Communication
- Help with visa documents
- Accommodation
- Check-in
- Transportation
- Fieldwork
- Venue
- Icebreaking and evening activities
- Final presentation and closing ceremony

While most were well rated, with most answers ranging from 3 to 5, we could spot both some high and low points of the forum.

Communication, accommodation, icebreaking, and venue received the highest scores, with more than 10 respondents grading them 5/5. While we are glad the participants enjoyed both the accommodation and the forum venue, we are aware that this was less as a result of our own work than communication and icebreaking, both of which were popular.

On the other hand, two categories received less than 10 "very satisfied" grades: final presentation and closing ceremony, and check-in. Check-in received the worst score, and receive a grade of 1 (very dissatisfied) from one respondent. We believe this is due to our check-in process running slightly late, due to issues in logistics, and are aware of the increased effort that should be put into next year's forum for a smoother, faster check-in.

2. <u>Most and least relevant sessions</u>

We asked participants which of the sessions they found most relevant to the theme of the forum, from "not relevant" to "very relevant". The sessions were:

- Day 2 debates on leadership and inclusiveness
- Day 3 Speaker presentations
- Day 4 Fieldwork
- Day 5 Presentation on Powerpoint Skills
- Day 6 Team presentation feedback
- Day 7 Final presentation

By far, the most popular session was "Day 3 Speaker Presentations", which was deemed "very relevant" by all but one participant. The least popular sessions was "Day 2 Debates on leadership and inclusiveness", which three participants graded as "non relevant".

While we are pleased with the participants' engagement with the speaker presentations, which they further praised in an optional comment section, we were surprised by the relatively negative feedback for the "Day 2 Debates on leadership and inclusiveness" given the engagement of participants during the session. However, upon reflection, we think their dissatisfaction might be due to the relatively vague topic they were asked to discuss. We planned it to be a discussion on the definition of development, as a way for participants to approach each others' general mindsets on development before jumping into debate on specific case studies. However, perhaps because we did not make our intent clear enough before the session, it might have come across as too general. In the future, while we wish to continue sessions like this, we will make sure to explain their content better and what we expect participants to gain from it.

3. <u>Comments</u>

We further asked feedback respondents to supply comments on the forum. We can sort their comments into some prominent good points and bad points. Bearing in mind that comments tend to highlight the bad sides of events rather than good ones, we could sort comments into a few distinct points.

Good points	Bad points
- Great guest speakers - Entertaining ice-breaking and evening parties	- Lack of wifi - Slow check-in - Lack of communication

<u>On the good points:</u>

- Great speakers: we received a number of positive comments on the presentations by guest speakers, with many respondents writing that they felt the speaker sessions were interesting, engaging, and a highlight of the forum. However, some participants asked for even more guest speakers to join the forum, which is something we are looking into.
- Entertaining ice-breaking and evening parties: overall, there was no negative feedback on ice-breaking, besides one participant complaining about a lack of food. While we would agree that there was sufficient food at both the opening and the closing party, we were concerned by the lack of labelling for the buffet (whether the food was halal, vegetarian etc.), and will make sure the food is properly labeled next year.

On the bad points:

- Lack of wifi: We were equipped with seven portable wifi boxes during the forum, which all worked adequately during conference hours. However, in the evening, not all participants were able to access the wifi, which is a problem we have not yet found a proper answer to. For next year, we hope to either rent more wifi boxes, or set up a system through which all participants can access the wifi in the morning and evening for their personal use.
- Slow check-in: Due to unforeseen circumstances, check-in was slower than planned and frustrating for some of the participants. Making it smoother next year is one of our top priorities. It will necessitate better communication with the venue, and stricter guidelines for participant fee payments.
- Lack of communication: Despite the overall positive responses about communication in a previous feedback question, we did collect a handful of unsatisfied comments about delay in email responses and confusion about check-in time. We understand these comments and will make sure that all committee members can write faster email replies through setting up email templates and using better software for communication with participants before and during the forum.

4. Would you recommend IDYF 2019 to a friend?

Despite some shortcomings in the forum, 89% of respondents said they would definitely recommend IDYF2019 to a friend, and 11% said they would maybe do so. None said they would not recommend it.

Would you recommend IDYF2019 to a friend?
18 responses

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

11.1%

88.9%
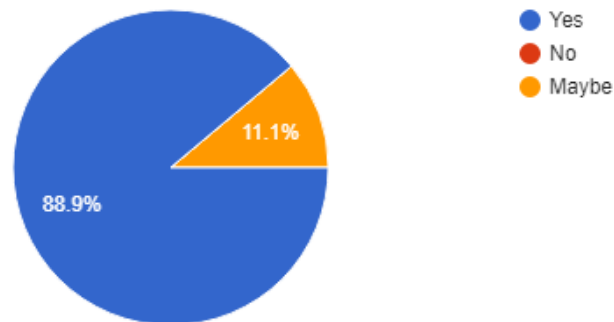
5. Suggestions

Finally, we asked participants for some suggestions to improve IDYF, and received some useful advice. Among others, some interesting points were:

- ID badges "could be a memorable thing for some people".
- Access to a muslim prayer room
- Official award for best presentation, and fun awards (funniest, cutest, most well behaved participant etc.)
- More outdoor activities (karaoke, tours etc.)
- A higher number of participants

Overall, we believe all suggestions to be interesting input and intend to refer to it for the organisation of IDYF 2019.

4.　Report on committee

Schedule of our project

We had prepared for IDYF 2018 according to the following schedule.

August 2017	Committee was established Determined the theme
September-October 2017	Decide the discussion agenda and selection process
November-December 2017	Selection of participants
January- February 2018	visa and other final coordination
11-18th March 2018	IDYF 2018

Supporters & Sponsors

IDYF 2018 was able to be realized by suport from many supportters and sponsors. We appreciate their kind support sincerely.

【Supporter】
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

【Sponsors】
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Committee members

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General Affairs	Eva Nelson
General Affairs	Madeleine Hahn de Bykhovetz
General Affairs	Yuho Sasamori
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Research	Shio Bo
Research	Haruka Matsui
Liaison & Accounting	Mako Kamakura
Liaison & Accounting	Mayu Sato

【Publisher】

The International Development Youth Forum 2018 Committee

This committee was organized for the purpose of International Development Youth Forum 2018. It is consisted of 9 students including undergraduate and graduate students.

HP：http://www.idy-ttokyo-forum.com/
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International Development Youth Forum 2018　Final report

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