

FY2023 START Program Post-Report

Department・Course・ Year	Economic・Second
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(1) What you learn from participating START Program. How do you want to make the most of this experience in the future?

My main goals during my study abroad were to understand the energy situation in Egypt, to understand Islamic culture, and to improve my English skills through communication with local students. E-JUST, a university I visited during my study abroad, had large solar panels installed, and the university campus also had a simple roof to prevent the heat island effect and the ground from storing heat. In the lecture, students learned about global warming and energy conservation from an architectural perspective and learned that the amount of electricity needed to maintain proper temperatures can vary greatly depending on which part of a room is designed to allow wind to pass through. We also learned that most of the country is desert, with high room for solar power, and that the goal is to export power to Greece and other European countries across the Mediterranean Sea. Regarding Islamic culture, I saw firsthand how different it is from Japan, as most women wear a scarf and there are mosques and places to pray everywhere. I thought it would be good if Japan would set up places for prayer and provide halal food so that Muslims can spend their time comfortably. When I asked my local friend if it was difficult for him to pray five times a day, he said that he felt rather at ease because it is part of his daily life. I felt that we were able to accept cultural and religious differences and respect each other.

As for English proficiency, a foreign professor from Hiroshima University accompanied us as a guide, and we were able to actively communicate in English during the trip. At the universities I visited, I had many opportunities to interact with students who were studying Japanese, and we were able to teach each other Japanese and Arabic using English. The desire to talk more with local students and get to know them better motivated me to learn English. This experience sparked my interest in Arabic and global south, so I will apply for some program which is related to that theme.

(2) What you thoughts on this program

I researched and presented basic information about the energy situation in Egypt, such as the country's dependence on fossil fuels, its ongoing shift to renewable energy, and its very high potential for solar and wind power generation, during my pre-study abroad training. I was surprised that I was not allowed to use electricity at E-JUST dorm from 7:00 to 8:00 pm every day. It is because a marked increased of electricity demand during summer seasons and Egyptian government decided to implement scheduled power outages. I thought that Egypt has a huge potential to produce more energy by utilizing solar and wind power but after final presentation, I was advised to think more critically about that so I will continue to research about this fields.

What was the most interesting was interaction with Egyptian students because we have both common and difference. It was really meaningful me to know the custom of Egypt and Muslim. I strongly believe that we can achieve any global issues cooperating and make a partnership all over the world and I want to contribute to make the sustainable society.

(3) Advice for students who are interested in this program

I'm so glad to participate this valuable program and strongly recommend other students to join this program. You can improve your English skills, discussion, presentation skills, understand and accept different culture through this curse. Some students may say that it would be hard for them to join e-start course because these classes are conducted in all English, but you have enough time to hone your academic skills for next e-start classes and Hiroshima university has a wide range of support for students who are keen to interact with English. However, I regrated that I didn't know much about Japan and bring many souvenirs, so please be well prepared about that.

FY2023 START Program Post-Report

Department・Course・	Economics
Year	Second year

(1) What you learn from participating START Program. How do you want to make the most of this experience in the future?

I realized Egypt is developing country again through participating START Program. Before participating START Program I knew Egypt is developing country, and I want to help to develop Africa especially Egypt. But by participating START Program, I found there are a lot of poverty people in Egypt, and Egypt has poor sanitary environment. Concretely speaking, A skinny kid was desperately trying to sell stuff, also there were a lot of wild cats in restaurant. So, I strongly think I want to help to develop Africa especially Egypt. To realize this, I will study English hardly, and then I want to work in international cooperation. In addition I realized Japan is blessed country again, and eating flesh food every day is not obvious. So I am grateful to have been born in Japan and wanted to become a person who can contribute to the development of the world in any way possible in the future.

(2) What you thoughts on this program

I think this is groundbreaking program. Also I think this program lowers the hurdle for Hiroshima University students to study abroad. That's because students who have not been to abroad don't know what they should do to go abroad. But in this program Hiroshima University staff tell them how to go abroad and what they should do to go abroad. So students who have not been to abroad are able to participate in this program with confidence. Also students who want to participate in this program are able to get scholarship if they are filled with requirements for receiving. From this financial coseran of students are reduced. For these reasons I think this program lowers the hurdle for Hiroshima University students to study abroad. Finally, I was honores to be a part of the START Program and hope that it will continue for the younger students in the future.

(3) Advice for students who are interested in this program

I strongly recommend this program for students who are interested in this program. This program is optimal for students who have not been to abroad. For students who have never been abroad before, the idea of going abroad may seem unknown and intimidating. However, this program provides very generous support for students who are going abroad for the first time, making the hurdle of going abroad smaller. Also to participate in this program students have to submit their English examination score, and high score needs to participate in this program. So I think students who are interested in this program should study English hardly, and then they should get high score before participating this program.

FY2023 START Program Post-Report

Department・Course・	School of science・Biology
Year	2 nd year

(1) What you learn from participating START Program. How do you want to make the most of this experience in the future?

I was able to learn about the current situation in Egypt, which I had not been able to learn from TV or books. I was also able to learn about food problems and education in Egypt from the lectures. Moreover, I learned that there are various differences between Egypt and Japan, and that there are problems that are difficult to imagine in Japan. And, in the session to think about solutions to the problems, I found myself sometimes confronted with things that I could not have thought of on my own due to differences in ideas and values. However, from these things, I was able to learn about understanding others. Through this program, I think I was able to experience firsthand the good and bad points of Japan, as well as the good and bad points of Egypt. In other words, the learning was gained by comparing each other's countries, and not that Japan is superior in various points. I also realized how poor my English and communication skills and these were frustrating for me. That's why I would like to use these experiences to motivate my language and daily studies, to connect them to my daily life, and to develop myself so that I can be active on the international stage, which is my goal. Finally, since I was able to gain valuable experience, I would also like to share this experience with as many people as possible. Finally, I want to thank everyone involved.

(2) What you thoughts on this program

It was a really good program and I felt very happy to have applied for this program and to have been admitted to Hiroshima University. This program gave me a valuable experience that I could never have had alone, and I would like to thank the people in Egypt, the coordinators, the faculty and staff of Hiroshima University, and the other Hiroshima University students took part in this program. As I mentioned before the part, I want to make the most of this experience and become a person can

play an active role in society. If I were to mention points that need to be improved, they would be, for example

- There were a few people who got sick, so I felt they should have basic medical knowledge.
- Furthermore, I felt that there should be opportunities for students to take the initiative in planning and events.
- In Cairo, I felt that there should be a little more time for each program, even if it was late at night.
- If I had a wish, I would have liked to have visited the universities when classes were actually being held there, and to have had the opportunity to attend classes and interact with the students.
- In terms of the price, I would be glad if the price could be a little lower.

I would be very happy if my opinion is helpful for upcoming Programs.

(3) Advice for students who are interested in this program

Although communication in English can be a challenge for us, so it is important not to be concerned about speaking perfect English, but try to speak something words anyway. However, the program will be even better if you improve your English and learn more about the countries(such as languages, culture or something) you will visit. In fact, there were many times when I did not understand the lectures correctly, and I regretted that I should have acquired more English skills and knowledge about the country. Also, in terms of health standpoint, bring enough medical supplies, especially more medicine for stomachaches and diarrhea, because we often had stomachaches and diarrhea. Egypt is a very different culture and value from Japan, so we learned a lot things we cannot learn in Japan. And, Egypt is also an attractive country because the people are kind, the food is delicious, and the cost of living is very low. Actually, I had a lot of fears before I went there, but most of the time it's ok, so don't worry too much. It is a very good program because you will make new connections and have experiences that would be difficult to have individually. I would recommend this program. If you are interested, I think you should apply anyway.