

Strategy on Accepting Foreign Students to gain from the advancements of other countries (Intermediary Report)

22, August 2013, Working Group for the Strategic Promotion of Exchange between Japanese and Foreign Students

1. Basic concept

- Receiving foreign students will improve education and research, strengthen friendly ties between nations, and greatly contribute to Japan's development.
- Amidst heightened competition to secure high-level foreign students, in addition to promoting measures to improve education and research and strengthening friendly ties between nations, it is necessary to develop a strategy to accept foreign students which allows Japan to gain from the advancements of other countries and eventually leads to its further future development.

2. Main points to be considered upon developing strategy

- Increase number of foreign students to be accepted (plan to realize accepting 300-thousand foreign students).
- Collaboration between other ministries and other organizations.
- Develop a strategy to receive foreign students defined per objective area and region.
- Network foreign students who have already been educated through government support.

3. Strategy plan

Define specific areas which will particularly bear fruit from this plan

Define priority regions which will particularly contribute to Japan's development

[Points to consider when defining priority regions]

- ① Areas Japan can contribute in.
- ② Define characteristics per country and region such as economic ties.
- ③ Government policies based on ① and ②, measures by Japanese relevant organizations.

【Areas】

①Engineering ②Medicine ③Law ④Agriculture

【Priority regions】

①ASEAN ②Central Asia ③Southwest Asia including India ④Russia and CIS countries ⑤Africa ⑥Middle East ⑦South America ⑧Central and Eastern Europe ⑨USA

4. Measures to realize strategy

- Strategically accepting foreign students
 - Assign study in Japan coordinators, secure top-level students, and so on.
- Expand scope of MEXT scholarship program, establish strategic framework to accept foreign students.
- Organize environment which enables students to receive credits and diplomas in a foreign language.
- Assisting foreign students with cooperation of local community.
- Corresponding to foreign students educated in Japan
 - Create opportunities for students and companies to meet, by collaborating with alumnus of foreign students who studied in Japan, etc.
 - Create online communities utilizing SNS.
 - Introduce career opportunities through former foreign students who studied in Japan.

5. Points in need of further discussion

- Upon continuing hearings with relevant organizations, priority regions will be selected, and the strategic measures to accept foreign students will be summarized.
- In addition, pending issues related to immigration procedures will be further examined.