On-the-Job research capacity building for Sustainable Agriculture in Developing Countries
(Funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan)

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan has contributed funds for the United Nations University Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP) to implement “On-the-Job Research Capacity Building for Sustainable Agriculture in Developing Countries” since the first day of August 2011.

(Background)
Real and sustainable dissemination of newly developed technologies to farmers in developing countries depends on its adaptation to local environment and the presence of competent local scientists in developing countries who lead the extension of the technologies on the field. Hence MAFF launched this project in which UNU-ISP acts as a global coordinator for training of young agricultural researchers in developing countries.

(Outline of this project)
In this project, UNU-ISP coordinates the training programs designed and conducted by leading scientists and consisting of on-the-job training (OJT) for capacity building for young researchers in developing countries.

The APEC Ministerial Meeting on Food Security in Niigata held in November 2009 agreed, in the Action Plan on Food Security, to provide researchers of developing economies with training on agricultural research. This program is an implementation of the Action Plan by Japan through its contribution to UNU-ISP.

In addition, this project was endorsed as a new partnership project of ASEAN+3 Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry meeting held in October 2011.

In 2011, UNU-ISP selected 18 training programs and based on a contract with the host...
scientist’s institutions, each host scientist is conducting its training program. In this project, 35 developing countries’ scientists will be trained (9 of APEC countries’ trainees, 12 of ASEAN+3 countries’ trainees) and the term is generally 1~3 months. The host institutions spread around the world and the total number of host institutions is 17 (6 institutions in Asia, 8 in Africa, 2 in Middle East and 1 in South America). Furthermore, as four of the host scientists are Japanese, by Japan thus contributes to capacity building of young researchers of developing countries not only by funding to UNU-ISP but also by personnel.