



# JDS Application Guidelines



The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship in Kenya 2024



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### For Inquiries

#### JDS Website

<https://www.jds-scholarship.org/country/kenya/index.html>

#### JDS Project Office in Kenya

Email: [jds.kenya@jice.org](mailto:jds.kenya@jice.org)

TEL: +254-799 565360

Office Hour: 8:30-12:30 / 13:30-17:00, Monday to Friday

Floor 7 Embarkment Plaza, Longonot Rd, Upperhill

P.O.Box 37562-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

# I. Application Guidelines

## 1. About JDS Scholarship

The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) was launched by the Government of Kenya with the assistance of the Government of Japan in 2020.



JDS is funded by the Government of Japan through its ODA (Official Development Assistance) budget.



JDS targets young government officials and others who are expected to play a leadership role in the development of their countries.



JDS provides scholarships to Kenya government officers to study at two-year Master Degree courses (instructed in English) of Japanese universities.\* Some courses are completed in one year.

### Objectives of JDS

#### ■ To support for Human Resource Development

JDS's objective is to strengthen the government's administrative capacities in Kenya through providing the opportunity to obtain the Master's degree to the young capable government administrators who are expected to engage in formulating and implementing social and economic development plans and to play a leadership role in the development of the country.

#### ■ To Enhance Bilateral Relationships

JDS fellows are expected to solidify foundations to further bilateral relations with Japan by utilizing their human network developed through academic and social activities while in Japan.

### Beneficiaries of JDS

#### ■ For the participants (JDS Fellows)

JDS Fellows will acquire expertise to use for policy making and institutional building for the development of their country, and also build human network in and out of Japan through the two-year study in Japan

#### ■ For the organizations (The Fellows' workplace)

The Fellows' workplace will attain highly-capable and motivated returnees (JDS Fellows) who can effectively contribute to the organizational missions

#### ■ For the Country (The Fellows' country)

The Fellows' country will improve institutional capability of the target organizations which leads to foster country's development

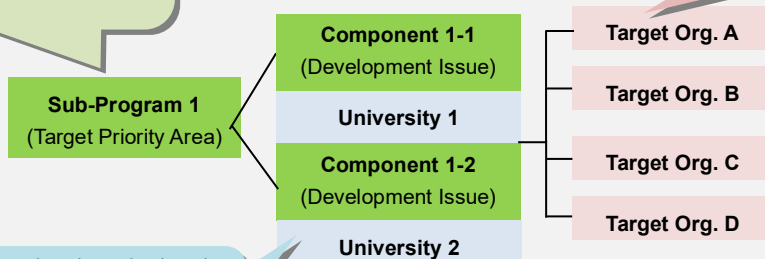


## 2. System of JDS Kenya

The JDS Project was introduced to Kenya in 2020. It gives its importance on "selection and concentration" on the target priority issues to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of the program. A single program (One phase) is designed to accept four batches of Fellows (Fellows in each fiscal year constitute one batch).

The JDS Project consists of the sectors called "Sub-Program" and "Component", which correspond to and deal with the selected target priority areas and the relevant development issues, which were confirmed as indispensable to the economic and social development of the country.

The Fellows of the JDS Project are selected from the "Target Organizations" whose mission is closely related to the target priority areas (Sub-Program) and the relevant development issues (Component).



Accepting universities are also determined under each Component, which offers educational programs relevant to the needs of Kenya. The degree to be pursued is **master's degree (2 years course)**, and the medium of instruction is **English**.

For further details

P10 Framework of JDS Kenya  
P10 Information on each Component

### 3. JDS Operating Committee (OC)

JDS Operating Committee (OC) is the decision-making committee of JDS Project. It consists of both members of Kenya and Japanese governments. The OC not only sets the framework and selection policies but also evaluates candidates in final selection.

#### JDS Operating Committee (OC) Kenya



##### Government of Kenya

State Department for Public Service & Human Capital Development (SDPS),  
Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development & Special Programmes

The National Treasury and Economic Planning



##### Government of Japan

Embassy of Japan in Kenya

JICA Kenya Office

### 4. Applicant Eligibility

Nationality	Citizens of Kenya
Age	<b>Below the age of 40</b> as of April 1st, 2025 (=Born on/after April 2, 1985) * Below the age of 45 for the central government who have experienced/will involve <u>in policy making and evaluation process</u> .
Occupation	Public Servants at Target Organization
Work Experience	Applicants must have both of following experiences; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently employed in the <b>Target Organizations</b> as a permanent and pensionable employee (Except contract staff).</li> <li>Required at least <b>2 (two) years of work experience as public servants</b> including a period of probation as a permanent and pensionable employee at the time of application (Part time jobs and volunteer activities are not counted as work experience).</li> </ul>
Academic Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possess a Bachelor's degree from universities authorized by the Government of Kenya or other countries.</li> <li>16 years of formal education is required (in principle), however, relevant academic/research career or working experience can be considered as the alternative to meet the requirement.</li> </ul>
English Proficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have a good command of both written and spoken English.</li> <li>IELTS 6.0 or higher is preferable (not required)</li> <li>※ JDS office will arrange IELTS test for those who do not have valid score.</li> </ul>
Health Condition	Mentally and physically in good health. Note: Applicants need to take and pass all medical check-up prior to the technical interview. This medical check-up is arranged by JDS Project Office. Applicant who cannot take or pass all medical check-up will be disqualified from JDS scholarship.
Others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidate has to understand the condition of the scholarship of JDS program, and must return and work in their organization in order to make a contribution to the development of Kenya and be willing to contribute to the partnership of Kenya and Japan.</li> <li>Applicants are expected to have special interest in studying in Japan as well as motivation to utilize their experience and human network developed through JDS in their career.</li> <li>Female officers are encouraged to apply.</li> </ul>
Ineligibility	<b>A person falls under the following items is not eligible for apply.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Those who are currently receiving (or is scheduled to receive) another scholarship (including other scholarships of Japan).</li> <li>Those who have obtained a master's or higher degrees overseas under the support of foreign scholarship.</li> <li>Military personnel and military civilian employees registered on the active list, and also personnel on temporary leave from the active list</li> </ul>

## 5. Selection Process

Schedule	Steps	Description
May 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025,	Application	Closing Date: <b>2:00 p.m. on May 30<sup>th</sup> (Fri), 2025</b> <b>To Principal Secretary Office in State Department for Public Service &amp; Human Capital Development, Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development &amp; Special Programmes</b> Further details → P6“Application Documents”
	▼	
Late May-June, 2025	Academic aptitude test	<b>IELTS and Math tests<sup>1</sup>.</b> The test results will be reviewed by Japanese universities in later selection stages.
	▼	
Early June 2025	1 <sup>st</sup> Selection	<b>Document Screening:</b> Application Documents and research plan will be examined by Japanese universities.
	▼	
Late May-June, 2025	Health Checkup	The health checkup will be arranged at a hospital in Nairobi.
	▼	
June-July, 2025	2 <sup>nd</sup> Selection	<b>Technical Interview:</b> Faculty members of Japanese Universities will conduct interview exams by online.
	▼	
Mid of July, 2025	3 <sup>rd</sup> Selection	<b>Comprehensive Interview:</b> The Operating Committee members will conduct the interview exams.
	▼	
Mid of July, 2025	Approval by the OC	Successful candidates will be approved and notified.
End of July, 2025	Admission Procedure	JDS Project Office will support admission procedures for each Japanese university.
July-August, 2025	Orientations	Provided by JICA, SDPS and JDS Project Office.
End of August- Early September, 2025	Departure for Japan	JDS Project Office will arrange air-ticket, visa, and also support after the arrival in Japan.

### <Important Notes>

- ✓ All the selection costs will be covered by JDS project.
- ✓ Limited transportation and accommodation allowance will be provided to candidates coming from provincial areas for the selections.
- ✓ Application Documents will not be returned (Please keep a copy of your documents for yourself).
- ✓ Application Documents with false statements or plagiarism will be immediately disqualified.
- ✓ A result of each selection will be announced to all candidates by Email.
- ✓ In principle, reasons of the selection-results will not be disclosed.



IELTS & Math test



1<sup>st</sup> Selection  
Document Screening



2<sup>nd</sup> Selection  
Technical Interview



3<sup>rd</sup> Selection  
Comprehensive Interview

<sup>1</sup> **Applicants for the following components will be exempted from the Math test.** Capacity Building for Legal Development and Operation (Kyushu University), Capacity Building for Urban and Regional Development Plans/ Policies (Toyo University)

## 6. Selection Criteria

Selection process	Criteria	Intent and Purpose
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Selection</b> Document Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic records and background</li> <li>Possibility of future contribution by utilizing acquired knowledge</li> <li>Contents of Research Plan</li> <li>Relevance between Research Plan and Sub-Program / Component (Development issues set by JDS)</li> <li>Reference Letter (Annex in the Application Document)</li> </ul>	The Japanese universities evaluate applicants' basic knowledge, ability and academic background. Compatibility to the university course will be also examined.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Selection</b> Technical Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic background and learning ability</li> <li>Capacity for completing the study in Japan</li> <li>Possibility of contributing to the development of the country</li> <li>Compatibility to the university course</li> </ul>	The universities mainly evaluate <u>academic knowledge, candidates' idea about research plan</u> , etc. Communication and logical thinking skills are also checked through the interview.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Selection</b> Comprehensive Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity for completing the study in Japan</li> <li>Capacity to utilize outcomes of the study over the long term</li> <li>Possibility of contributing to the development of the country</li> </ul>	After the universities check the candidates' academic abilities, the Operating Committee evaluates the <u>candidates' capacity of future contribution to the development of the country</u> such as purpose of study in Japan, career plan after the study, etc.

\* The English and math test results will be reviewed by the universities in the selection stages

## 7. Award Benefits

The awards are offered for the minimum period necessary for the individual to complete the academic program specified by JDS project. The following benefits generally apply:

- Full tuition fees
- Air fare
- Arrival allowance
- Accommodation allowance
- Monthly scholarship
- Book allowance
- Travel and seminar attendance allowance
- Overseas travel insurance
- Supports from the agent
  - Finding accommodation
  - Initial settlement of your life in Japan
  - Emergency situation, etc.



## 8. Important JDS Rules

JDS has specific rules in order to realize its project goals and to ensure favorable study environment for the Fellows.

### Before departure

- JDS Fellows must submit a JDS pledge to the Operating Committee to commit themselves to follow JDS Rules.

### During the stay in Japan

- It is recommended to bring their family members to Japan only after 3 months from the date of arrival in Japan and after the date of admission.
- The Fellows are prohibited from
  - Working
  - Driving motor vehicles, and
  - Applying for further studies such as a doctoral course in Japan
- The Fellows must complete the study within the predetermined period of study, and return to his/her country immediately after the study completion.

### After returning to home country

- The Fellows must attend a report back meeting held by the Operating Committee.
- The Fellows are obliged to **return and work within Kenya in the Target Organizations in compliance with the Training Bond set by each ministry.**

Further details will be explained in an orientation conducted after the selection.



## II. How to Succeed in Application

### 1. Application Documents

#### 1) List of Required Documents

You are required to upload the following documents in the online application system.

Please make sure that you have prepared all the documents before you start your application.

- Only **one file** can be uploaded for each document, therefore if you have a file of more than one page, please combine them into a **SINGLE document** in advance.
- All documents written in other languages than English need official English translation. (Self-translation is not acceptable.)
- Submit "Reason Letter" in case where wrong information (eg. wrong spelling of name, birthday, etc.) is contained in the ID and official documents due to administrative errors.
- As for University Certificate/Transcript, Reference Letter, and IELTS certificate, you may be requested to submit the original (or attested original) if you are selected as a final candidate.

Doc No.	Required Documents	File Type	Remarks
1	Short Essays	PDF (One file only)	* <i>Prescribed form</i> - Short essays on "Responsibilities of your work", "Reason for applying the Graduate School", and "Future Contribution"
2	Research Plan	PDF (One file only)	* <i>Prescribed form</i> * <i>Applicants for GRIPS are required to use designated form ("Research Proposal / Statement of Purpose")</i>
3	All university degree certificate(s)	PDF (One file only)	- Upload the scanned copies of the original certificate/ transcript - Must be <b>Officially Certified</b> . A copy of "Officially certified copies of the original" is acceptable - Must contain all the grades earned from the university. - Must be written in English or be accompanied with official translation in English
4	All university transcripts	PDF (One file only)	
5	Reference Letter (Annex)	PDF (One file only)	* <i>Prescribed form</i> - Obtain from a direct supervisor at workplace
6	Employment Certificate	PDF (One file only)	- Obtain from responsible department at workplace
7	Copy of passport or ID	PDF (One file only)	Submit bio data page of the passport. If passport is not available, submit an attested National ID (or Birth certificate)
8	Passport-size photo	JPG, JPEG, PNG, GIF	- A Color photo, taken within the last 3 months - 4:3 (height: width) aspect ratio - Must be taken against a plain background
(9)	[If any] Valid Official Certificate of IELTS	PDF (One file only)	- Should have the test date after October 1st, 2023. - Certificate other than IELTS will not be accepted. - If not, JDS Project Office will inform you the process after receiving your Application Documents.

### 【Notes for GRIPS Applicants】

In addition to completing JDS online application form, those who apply for GRIPS are required to submit **the original hard copies** of the following documents to **JDS Project Office in Kenya** by the designated date.

- 1) Research Proposal / Statement of Purpose (GRIPS prescribed form)
- 2) Reference Letter from a supervisor at workplace (Doc No.5 / JDS prescribed form)
- 3) Letter of Recommendation from a professor in sealed, unopened envelopes with the stamp of university logo and address noted. (GRIPS prescribed form)
- 4) Original Graduation / Degree Certificate(s) and Academic Transcript(s) in sealed, unopened envelopes with the stamp of university logo and address noted.
- 5) IELTS Certificate [if any] (Doc No.10)

- University degree certificate and transcripts must be documents issued by the university and bearing the seal or signature of the registrar, and they must be submitted in sealed, unopened envelopes with the university logo and address noted; the envelopes must be signed or stamped across the flap by the issuing school authorities.
- If a university has a policy not to issue more than one official certificate / transcript, you may submit official photocopies certified by the university. To be official, these must bear the institution's official stamp or the signature of the registrar.

### 【Notes for Kyushu University Applicants】

In addition to completing JDS online application form, those who apply for Kyushu University are required to submit **the original hard copies** of the following documents to **JDS Project Office in Kenya** by the designated date.

- 1) Application Form (Kyushu University prescribed form)
- 2) Reference Letter from a supervisor at workplace (Doc No.5 / JDS prescribed form)
- 3) Letter of Recommendation from a professor in sealed, unopened envelopes with the stamp of university logo and address noted. (Kyushu University prescribed form)
- 4) Original Graduation / Degree Certificate(s) and Academic Transcript(s)
- 5) IELTS Certificate [if any] (Doc No.10)

## 2) Online Application (Flow)

### 1. Access to following site to get JDS Application Guideline and the prescribed forms

JDS Online Application website: <https://jice.form.kintoneapp.com/public/jdskenya-formdl>

### 2. Prepare the required documents

Make sure to start preparing the documents well in advance



### 3. Access the online application system

<https://jice.form.kintoneapp.com/public/jdskenya-apply>

Complete your application by filling out the necessary information and uploading the required documents.

### 4. Receive an email (system email)

**[Submission Succeeded]** You will receive a confirmation email.

**[Submission Failed]** You will receive an error message - please contact JDS Project Office immediately, and make sure to complete your application before the deadline.



This process is the first stage of the procedure (not completed).

### 5. Submit to Principal Secretary Office

- ① You will receive your Application Documents in PDF from JDS Project Office. (First stage of the procedure)



- ② Obtain the Nomination letter and Minutes of HRD Training Committee supporting nomination as may be required from your organization (Consult to your Training Officer) **(Highly recommended)**.
- ③ Submit your Application Documents accompanied by the minutes of HRD training committee supporting nomination to Principal Secretary Office for State Department for public service & Human Capital Development, Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development & Special Programmes (SDPS).
- ④ JDS Project Office receives your application from SDPS **(Successful submission and final stage of the submission)**

**Principal Secretary Office for State department for public service & Human Capital Development,  
Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development & Special Programmes**  
**Address:** Harambee House 10th Floor, Harambee Avenue P.O Box 30050-00100 Nairobi

### 3) Important Notice

- If you cannot access the online application system, or you have any problem filling out the form, please contact JDS Project Office.
- Once you submit your application, you will not be allowed to modify it.
- Application lacking necessary documents will not be accepted.
- Application after the deadline will not be accepted.
- Application will be disqualified in case any false statement or plagiarism is found.

#### ■ **Deadline for Application**

**14:00 on 30<sup>th</sup> May (Fri), 2025**

**JDS Project Office in Kenya**

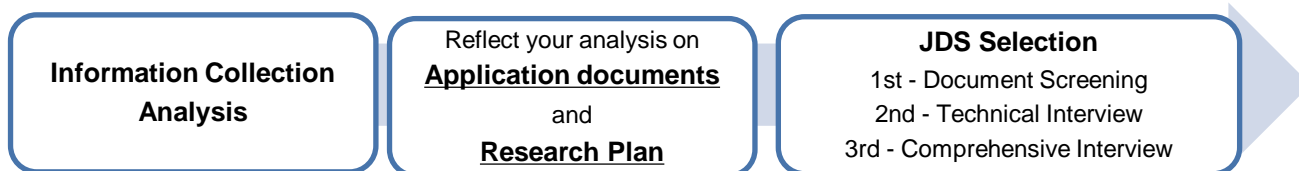
**Address:** Embankment Plaza 7th Floor, Longonot Rd, Upperhill, P.O. BOX 37562-00100 Nairobi

Office Hour: 8:30 - 16:30, Monday to Friday

## 2. Tips on Application and Selection (Reference)

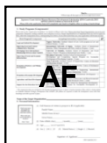
The better you prepare for the Application Documents, the more chances to pass the selection you have.

Here are some tips on the preparation of Application Form (AF) and Research Plan (RP).



Before making the Application Documents, you are advised to...

**Collect information, Analyse the information, and Analyse yourself!**



**Q6.** Responsibilities of your work  
**Q7.** Research Plan  
**Q8.** Reason for applying the Graduate School  
**Q9.** Future contribution

In answering the questions, it is very important to keep in mind that **those questions are NOT separate questions** - they are very coherent in the sense that each question asks [who you are / what you are doing now], [what you want to do in Japan] and [what you can / want to do after your study]. Therefore, those questions ask how you relate your career and the study in the context of the development of Kenya

For further details, the video is available on the website.

 [Tips for the selection](#)



## 3. Guidelines for Writing a Research Plan

The tips on how to prepare a research plan are available in this video. It is recommended you watch it for your preparation.

 [How to write a research plan](#)

- ✧ *What is research?*
- ✧ *How important is the research plan in the JDS selection?*
- ✧ *How and what theme should be addressed?*
- ✧ *How to review the previous studies? What is "hypothesis"? etc.*

### Warnings about "Plagiarism"

**"Plagiarism" is a serious offense in the academic field.** Plagiarism means using other person's ideas and words without explicitly acknowledging the source of that information.

You may be disqualified from the selection, or even be discharged from the university, if the plagiarism is found in your research plan, or academic work at the university.

#### Such cases are deemed as plagiarism:

- Copying from books or articles written by other authors without permission
- Copying from an internet source without referring to the attribution text or information
- Misrepresentation of someone's work as one's original

#### To avoid plagiarism, you must cite sources and give credit whenever you use:

- Other person's idea, opinion, or theory
- Any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings – any pieces of information – that are not common knowledge
- Quotation of other person's spoken or written words, or
- **Paraphrase\*** of other person's spoken or written words



## 4. FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

### Q1. What is the Sub-Program (SP) / Component (CP)?

They are the fields of study determined according to the priority development issues of each JDS recipient country. JDS Fellows are expected to prepare the research plan in line with the stated issues. You are encouraged to study in advance the Sub-program/Component under which you apply for JDS.

### Q2. How should I count my age, the way of counting is different from Japanese way?

The age should be counted in Japanese way. It should be one year when you are exactly reached 12 months after you were born. (Ex.) If you were born on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 1984, you are 39 years old as of 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2025.

### Q3. How should I count the period of schooling if I attended more than 2 schools at the same time?

Please do not count it separately but based on the years you studied. See an example below.

9/2005-6/2009 School A (4 years)

9/2006-6/2009 School B (3 years)

In this example, the total school year is NOT 7 years but 4 years (9/2005~6/2009).

### Q4. I have already received a scholarship from other country. Am I eligible to apply for JDS?

No. The following persons are NOT eligible to apply for JDS.

- Persons who are currently receiving or is scheduled to receive other scholarship
- Persons who had already obtained master's or higher degrees oversea under the support of foreign scholarship.

(\*) However, persons who are studying in master's course or obtained master degree without foreign assistance in local/foreign universities are eligible.

### Q5. I graduated from more than 2 universities. Which diploma/transcript should I submit?

If you write down both universities as Educational Background in the Application Form, please submit both of them.

### Q6. How do I write a research plan?

Please refer to page 8. The tips on how to prepare a research plan are available in the video. You can also refer to many literatures about how to make a research proposal on the Internet. Please pay attention to avoid "Plagiarism".

### Q7. Do I need to take English and math test? And do these scores affect the JDS selection?

For the English test, those who already hold an IELTS score of 6.0 or higher can exempt themselves from the exam by submitting their score at the time of application. Regarding math examination, it depends on your applying university. The scores of English and math examination will be reviewed by the accepting universities in the document screening and afterwards.

### Q7. How can I know the each selection result?

JDS Project Office will notify the result of each selection to the candidates by Email

### Q8. Is JDS a full scholarship?

Yes. All the costs to study in Japan will be fully covered by JDS. For further details, please refer to "Award Benefits" in this booklet.

### Q9. How should I travel to Japan, and how to start to live there?

JDS Project Office will support all JDS Fellows during their stay in Japan. Fellows' air-ticket and visa to enter Japan will be arranged by JDS Project Office. In Japan, JDS Project Office will also assist the Fellows in apartment hunting and university entrance procedure. JDS Project Office will support JDS Fellows all the time from your departure to return.

### Q10. Can I extend my stay after the completion of Master's program?

No. Every JDS Fellow MUST return to their country by the designated date after graduation in compliance with the Pledges/ Training Bond required by the JDS Operating Committee as well as the Government of Kenya. JDS Fellows have an obligation to return to the belonging organization and contribute to the socio-economic development of the country with acquired knowledge and skills.

### Q11. Is Certified documents necessary? How can I get certified documents?

Yes. Certified documents by Commissioner of oaths OR Ministry of Education OR University is Mandatory. BUT GRIPS has different rules, please refer to page 7. Any uncertified document shall automatically be disqualified.

### Q12. How can I obtain general information about Japan?

Living Guide: <https://www.isa.go.jp/en/index.html>

Japan in general: <http://web-japan.org/>

### III. Sub-Program (SP) / Component (CP)

#### 1. Framework of JDS Kenya

Fields of study, so called “Sub-Programs” and “Components”, correspond to and deal with the target Priority Areas for the social and economic development of Kenya.

The participants of JDS shall be selected from the “Target Organizations” whose mission is closely related to the respective “Sub-Program” and “Component”.

This approach gives its most importance on “Selection and Concentration” on the development issues of the country, securing further effectiveness and efficiencies of the JDS Project.

#### 2. Sub-Program/Components

Sub-Program (Target Priority Area)	Component (Development Issues)	Accepting University Graduate School	Number to be Accepted	University Information
1. Improvement of Administrative Function	<a href="#">1-1. Improvement of Administrative Capacity of Central and Local Governments</a>	<a href="#">National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)</a> <a href="#">Graduate School of Policy Studies</a>	2	
		<a href="#">Hiroshima University</a> <a href="#">Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences/</a> <a href="#">Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society</a> <a href="#">* See footnote (1) below</a>	2	
	<a href="#">1-2 Capacity Building for Economic Planning/ Policy and Public Financial Management/ Public Investment Management</a>	<a href="#">International University of Japan</a> <a href="#">Graduate School of International Relations</a>	3	
	<a href="#">1-3 Capacity Building for Legal Development and Operation</a>	<a href="#">Kyushu University</a> <a href="#">Graduate School of Law</a>	2	
	<a href="#">1-4 Capacity Building for Urban and Regional Development Plans/ Policies</a>	<a href="#">Toyo University</a> <a href="#">Graduate School of Global and Regional Studies</a>	3	

#### Note

**(1) Newly enrolled students are to be assigned to one of the graduate schools according to their research plan and the academic advisor assigned to them.**

#### Notes in application

- ✓ In application, check if your workplace is assigned as a Target Organization.
- ✓ Also, check obtainable degrees of the university you are applying for.

## 2-1 Information of Sub-Program / Component (Hiroshima, GRIPS)

<b>Sub-program (Target Priority Area)</b>	1. Improvement of Administrative Functions
<b>Component (CP) (Development Issues)</b>	<b>1-1 Improvement of Administrative Capacity of Central and Local Governments</b>
<b>Expected Research Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political Economy, Governance/ Public Administration</li> <li>• Local Administration, Decentralization of Authority, Local Autonomy</li> <li>• International Relations</li> <li>• Health Policy</li> <li>• Food Security</li> </ul>
<b>Accepting University</b>	<p><b><u>National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)</u></b> (2 slots)</p> <p><b>Graduate School of Policy Studies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two-year Master's Program of Public Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Master of Arts in Public Policy</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Hiroshima University</u></b> (2 slots)</p> <p><b>Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, International Economic Development Program, Special Educational Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Master of Economics</li> <li>➤ Master of Business Administration</li> <li>➤ Master of International Cooperation Studies</li> <li>➤ Master of Philosophy</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Area: Social Innovation Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Master of Philosophy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Direction of Study (Background of CP)</b>	<p>The Kenyan government has been engaged in reform through socio-economic growth following the launch of its Vision 2030 long term development plan and promotion of the Big Four agenda encompassing key policy initiatives to be achieved by 2022. However, the administrative organs handling each development issue are operating in a silo structure, and in addition, generally speaking the administrative personnel implementing the plans have insufficient experience and expertise.</p> <p>Therefore, improvements in the administrative capabilities (including improvement in management capability within the government) through training of administrative personnel in a wide range of fields, as well as building of an administrative systems are required. Providing support for the training of young administrative personnel who will become active as key members of the administration in the future is also consistent with Japan's fundamental foreign policy which supports the rule of law (enhancement of governance capacity) and pursuit of economic prosperity (human connectivity)</p>

## 2-2 Information of Sub-Program / Component (IUJ)

<b>Sub-program (Target Priority Area)</b>	1. Improvement of Administrative Functions
<b>Component (CP) (Development Issues)</b>	<b>1-2 Capacity Building for Economic Planning/ Policy and Public Financial Management/ Public Investment Management</b>
<b>Expected Research Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theoretical Economics (Macroeconomics, Microeconomics)</li> <li>• Public Financial Management/Public Investment</li> <li>• Industrial Policy</li> <li>• Monetary Policy</li> <li>• Debt Management</li> <li>• Health Finance</li> </ul>
<b>Accepting University</b>	<p><b>International University of Japan</b> (3 slots)</p> <p><b>Graduate School of International Relations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Development Program (IDP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Master of Arts in International Development</li> <li>➢ Master of Arts in Economics</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Direction of Study (Background of CP)</b>	<p>The Kenyan government has been engaged in reform through socio-economic growth following the launch of its Vision 2030 long term development plan and promotion of the Big Four agenda encompassing key policy initiatives to be achieved by 2022, vigorously promoting the establishment of economic and social infrastructure that is the foundation of growth.</p> <p>However, with the constant current account deficit and high level of public debt, strengthening of financial management capabilities is an issue, and this issue is also affecting the various projects implemented with the support of development partners. In view of this situation, it is imperative for the Kenyan government to improve the expertise of administrative personnel who will formulate policy and systems in the fields of economics and public finance, and public finance management and undertake effective implementation of related initiatives.</p>



## 2-3 Information of Sub-Program / Component (Kyushu)

<b>Sub-program (Target Priority Area)</b>	1. Improvement of Administrative Functions
<b>Component (CP) (Development Issues)</b>	<b>1-3 Capacity Building for Legal Development and Operation</b>
<b>Expected Research Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrative Law</li> <li>• Business-related Laws</li> <li>• International relations Laws (Business Laws, Law of the Sea, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>Accepting University</b>	<p><b>Kyushu University</b> (2 slots)</p> <p><b>Graduate School of Law</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The International Economic and Business Law (IEBL) LL.M Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Master of Laws</li> <li>➢ NOTE: Possessing a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) is preferable</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Direction of Study (Background of CP)</b>	<p>The Kenyan government has been engaged in reform through socio-economic growth following the launch of its Vision 2030 long term development plan and promotion of the Big Four agenda encompassing key policy initiatives to be achieved by 2022.</p> <p>However, in the promotion of various policies including economic and social infrastructure initiatives, there are an increasing number of cases requiring greater expertise in legal affairs on the government side including expertise in the formulation and operation of laws, and other matters. In addition, given the increasing interest in doing business in Kenya in recent years, it is imperative that expertise in business-related legal affairs is also improved. In view of this situation, it is anticipated that the expertise of administrative personnel who will formulate and implement administrative related laws, international laws (business-related, ocean related laws, and others) will be strengthened.</p>

## 2-4 Information of Sub-Program / Component (Toyo)

<b>Sub-program (Target Priority Area)</b>	1. Improvement of Administrative Functions
<b>Component (CP) (Development Issues)</b>	<b>1-4 Capacity Building for Urban and Regional Development Plans/ Policies</b>
<b>Expected Research Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban Planning</li> <li>• Regional Development/ Local Development</li> <li>• Urban Infrastructure planning (Transportation, Water and sewage, Waste, etc.)</li> <li>• Environmental Management, Climate Change Countermeasures</li> </ul>
<b>Accepting University</b>	<b>Toyo University</b> (3 slots) <b>Graduate School of Global and Regional Studies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course of Regional Development Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Master of Regional Development Studies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Direction of Study (Background of CP)</b>	<p>Due to rapid urbanization and urban population growth, Kenya is experiencing problems including an increase in demand for access to water supplies and sanitation services in cities, a worsening of public sanitation due to an increase in the amount of rubbish generated, health problems associated with environmental pollution, and severe traffic congestion due to lack of urban transport. In addition, 80% of the land is arid or semi-arid land (ASAL), and the preservation of environmental resources such as water resources and forests is a critical issue. Response to damage due to droughts which have become even more apparent in recent years due to the effects of global warming has become an urgent issue.</p> <p>Given these circumstances, it is anticipated that the expertise of administrative personnel who will formulate policy and systems in the fields of urban planning and urban infrastructure planning and undertake effective implementation of related initiatives will be strengthened.</p>

### 3. Target Organization

- Central Bank of Kenya
- Counties
- Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
- Kenya Revenue Authority
- Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
- Ministry of Co-Operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Development
- Ministry of East African Community(EAC) Affairs, The ASALS and Regional Development
- Ministry of Energy and Petroleum
- Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry
- Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs
- Ministry of Gender, Culture, the Arts and Heritage
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry
- Ministry of Interior and National Administration
- Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development
- Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development & Special Programmes
- Ministry of Roads and Transport
- Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation
- National Environment Management Authority
- National Land Commission
- Office of Attorney-General and State Department for Justice
- Office of Director of Public Prosecutions
- The National Treasury and Economic Planning
- Water Resources Authority

## IV. Special Trainings and Events

JDS Program provides the following opportunities for JDS Fellows only in addition to research at university.

### Government Leaders Networking Event

This special event aims to establish long-term cooperative relationships between JDS Fellows and Japanese government officials by providing opportunities of interaction and mutual learning. JDS Fellows participate in the event and expand their personal networks with Japanese government officials, who would become their counterparts in the future.



### Japanese Language Training

All JDS Fellows participate in Japanese language training after their arrival in Japan. This training provides Fellows with the lessons on Japanese characters (*hiragana*, *katakana*, and *kanji*), greetings, and how to introduce themselves. In addition, they deepen their understandings of Japanese culture, lifestyle and manners, and learn the procedures necessary for staying in Japan such as government office, post office, and bank.



### JDS Pre-return Program

JDS Pre-return Program is held half a year before returning home, inviting all JDS fellows from each university.

During this program, the Fellows have opportunities to attend a series of programs, including leadership program and a special lecture given by a prominent scholar. It also helps them build a network with JDS fellows from various countries

## V. Voice of Graduates from Japanese Universities

Here comes a voice of graduates from Master's course in Japan!



**Mr. Kevin Okemwa**  
**JDS Kenya 1st Batch (2021)**  
**International University of**  
**Japan (IUJ)**  
**Masters in International**  
**Development (Economics)**  
**National Construction**  
**Authority**

My name is Kevin Okemwa currently in my final year of the master's program in International Development (Economics) at the International University of Japan (IUJ). Studying abroad is an exciting and enriching experience. However, it can be challenging, especially if it is your first time living abroad. Here are a few things that made my experience exciting. I hope sharing them will make yours better.

To begin with, IUJ hosts students from dozens of different countries every year. Therefore, the student fraternity encompasses diverse backgrounds, cultures and working experiences. Interacting with such a rich diversity has enabled me to comprehend exciting cross-cultural aspects that are otherwise widely misunderstood. IUJ provides a unique learning experience, turning class discussions into UN-like seminars.

Moreover, the University offers a range of courses, including training programs by International Agencies such as JICA and IMF and a variety of field trips to leading local companies to promote the hands-on experience outside the classroom.

Regarding travelling, and the feeling of the 'Japanese Culture', Japan is geographically, culturally, and demographically diverse. Each of the 47 prefectures is unique. These turns travelling to different prefectures during the breaks into a refreshing "national world tour". Though travelling in Japan can be costly, JDS's facilitation through JDS Project Office makes it possible for the scholars to fully immerse and experience Japan through great weekend trips and tours into selected World Heritage sites.

Apropos of academics, IUJ is in the countryside. A serene, beautiful, and conducive environment for studying. The faculty comprises professors with rich corporate and academic backgrounds, making learning enjoyable by sharing actual career experiences.

Finally, along with these exciting experiences, there are always some challenges in studying abroad. Some key points to consider while planning your study abroad journey is a clear understanding of the field of study and a clear map of how you will apply the skills gained in Japan in formulating and implementing development policies in Kenya. This should be encapsulated at the core of your research plan. Then, you must do prior research and identify your professor whose research interests are aligned with your research plan. With this focus, I am confident you will successfully enjoy yourself and love studying in Japan, just like me!



**Ms. Caroline Syombua Kimeu**  
**JDS Kenya 1st Batch (2021)**  
**Hiroshima University**  
**Masters in Business**  
**Administration**  
**Ministry of Agriculture and**  
**Livestock Development (State**  
**Department for Livestock)**

I got knowledge of The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) program through circular issued by the Ministry of Public Service and Gender (State Department for Public Service). The recruitment process included research proposals that to a wide extent was meant to articulate my understanding of the Kenya's development challenges and how working in my sector and with improved capacity can contribute to solving them. Subsequently there was an online interview by Japanese university faculty, comprehensive interview by JDS staff, language and health tests.

We began studies in Kenya through online platform due to Covid-19 related travel restrictions to Japan which was quite challenging bearing in mind the six-hour time difference between Kenya and Japan. However, we travelled to Japan by end of October 2021 and underwent a fourteen-day mandatory quarantine in Tokyo.

Our arrival to Hiroshima university coincided with winter period yet we had to attend the ongoing lecture cycle. The classes consisted of students from a wide variety of nationalities especially from Asia, Europe and Africa. Under the International Economic Development Program (IEDP) that I was admitted in, the courses were of predominantly economic background as well as management, engineering, environment, law, peace, culture and education. The course is multi-disciplinary, in that it equips the learner with latitude to discern challenges from a broad view point so as to formulate diverse solutions to societal challenges.

The teaching faculty are quite supportive and dispense knowledge in English. Further, they encourage team work among students over and above lecture tutelage. This has helped me to form links with many international students, networks that I hope to sustain into the future. For purposes of executing academic research, every student is allocated academic supervisor. Several students under the same supervisor make up a lab and the lab meet once a week to discuss every students' research progress. This has been very helpful to develop research ideas, understanding of my research, how to analyze my data and boost my presentation confidence. As a Human Resource Officer, I believe my employer and general Public Service will benefit from my research that has highlighted the contribution that investment in employee training has on achievement of organization Objective.

In addition, the university encourages all round student growth by hosting cultural events, internship programs and conferences for all students. This helps appreciate other cultures, traditions and even understanding Japanese work ethics. I am grateful for the scholarship opportunity and given a chance I would further my studies more and I therefore recommend the scholarship to all Kenyans.





**Mr. Hussein Inganga**  
**JDS Kenya 1st Batch (2021)**  
**National Graduate Institute for**  
**Policy Studies (GRIPS),**  
**Master's in Public Policy**  
**County Government of**  
**Kakamega**

The master's program in Japan had a great impact on both my career and my professional development. Through this great experience, I can confidently advise any individual aspiring to develop their academic path to choose Japan as the country of destiny. Similar to other countries, Covid-19 had pushed the entire globe to embrace the new normal. In Japan, life was both exciting and challenging. Face-to-face classes were impossible at the beginning of my academic year. Both professors and students struggled to adapt effectively and efficiently with technology to ensure learning was not restricted, even though classes were primarily online.

The Japanese education curriculum is designed in a friendly way, allowing learners to attend and present at global conferences, thereby networking from different areas of the world. With Kenya still in the process of implementing devolved government, the public policy course I completed at GRIPS was excellent and relevant to my field of work and country as a whole.

I can honestly attest that Japan has high educational standards, technological advancements as well as a rich cultural heritage, making it a better place for anyone to live even without knowing their language. In addition, there are many courses offered by both the university and JDS Project Office to promote the Japanese language, healthy skills and knowledge. Indeed, both in my field of work and as an academic researcher, the opportunity has set me on a path to open and strengthen knowledge. The professors and teaching assistants go above and beyond to help you in all aspects. If they are not available, you will surely meet many people from all over the world to help you and they will soon become your colleagues and lifelong friends.

Finally, I would like to recommend all public officials to show their interest in being part of the JDS Scholarship fellows. This is truly a great opportunity for anyone to expand their knowledge and immerse themselves in an intense learning experience. I look forward to doing my PhD in one of the Japanese universities.



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