



About 4th AUF (Agricultural Youth Forum)

1. Background

In 2020, because of the pandemic of the COVID-19, our ever lives completely have changed to online lives all over the world. In the field of agriculture, we can see export control on grain and sharp rises in grain prices from the macro viewpoint, and surplus food and confusion in a production line because of a decrease in eating out and inbounds from the micro viewpoint. Besides, insect damages have happened in the world.

From these things, it is about time the world recognized the importance of the global food chain. BRIDGE consider such situation a good chance and plan the Agricultural International Students Online Forum (4th AUF) with the agricultural students, such as, Russia, a global export country of grain, Thailand, a famous country for rice, and Indonesia, the third much in rice products, which are the overseas partner schools with the University of Niigata, so we can use the human and intellectual network which we ever cultivated.

In this forum, based on the SDGs, the keyword in the 3rd AUF held last year, we understand about the global chain, looking hard at the post-COVID-19. Furthermore, the purpose is to discuss the problems and solution strategies about agricultural education in online classes with the students in the overseas partner schools.

2. The Theme “Strong global good chain for the Post COVID-19”

We set up this theme from the importance of the global food chain and the impact on the field of agriculture, because of the pandemic of the COVID-19.

3. Contents

This forum consists of five parts; interview of each country, presentation based on investigation, conference, workshops, introducing Human Resource for agricultural international cooperation by graduates of BRIDGE.

At the conference, students from participating colleges will have a thematic presentation, question and answer session, and debate.

At the conference and workshop based on prior learning, we are going to make groups with students from different countries, solve problems, and announce our own opinions to each other. Based on our suggestions, we are going to be able to obtain opinions from experts (college teachers) and acquire more knowledge.

At the introducing Human Resources for agricultural international cooperation, we ask graduates of BRIDGE to explain how does the activity be useful for their present success. It will lead us to our achievements.

4. Date and schedule

On either 15th, 16th, 22th or 23th, August

9:00	Self-introduction
9:30	Ice-breaking
10:00 - 12:00	Conference
13:00 - 18:00	Workshop
18:15 - 19:30	Introduction of OB • OG

*After determining participating colleges, we may change these schedules considering time difference

5. Invited University

- 1) Chiang Mai University (Thai)
- 2) University Putra Malaysia (Malaysia)
- 3) Bogor Agricultural University (Indonesia)
- 4) Primorskaya State Academy of Agriculture (Russia)

If you would like to participate, please apply from the attached the application form.

About us, BRIDGE

Our vision is to become a global human resource who shows leadership in international society.

Our aim is developing English proficiency, communication skills and expertise in agriculture, and deepening understanding of other cultures.

BRIDGE was established in 2011 by agricultural students who participated in IASS in Malaysia, Niigata university GP (Good Practice Program), and so on. They fully realized Asian students had been fluent in English and had great planning ability, presentation ability, discussion ability, and advanced expertise. On the other hand, Japanese students lacked the abilities. BRIDGE was established and started activities from such backgrounds.

Facebook: @bridge.niigata

Previous AUF (Agricultural yoUth Forum)

◆1st AUF: September 2016

Theme: Regional revitalization×To earn

Niigata city held up “Niigata new food valley plan” in 2010 and proceeded with the policy which promotes farmland partition enlargement, sixth sector industrialization (primary producers’ diversification into processing and distribution), and strategy of added value. The effort of added value spread over the countryside and generated profits. It related to regional revitalization. And then, depopulation in the countryside and decreasing the food self-sufficiency ratio in South-East Asia have progressed. We thought we introduce these cases to

students of other countries and discuss how to generate profit for regional revitalization, so such problems would be solved.

Participant: IPB University (Indonesia) 7 students, University Putra Malaysia 3 students

◆2nd AUF: September 2018

Theme: Good Agriculture (Financial, Tasty)

The aim of this Forum was thinking and finding an appeal and possibility of agriculture in Niigata. At the conference, students of each university made a presentation to understand every agricultural situation. At the field-trip, we visited companies that get GGAP through various activities, conduct environmental circulation-type agriculture, manufacture agricultural machines (Rice planting machine). At Workshop, we thought and discuss events for the appeal of agriculture.

Participant: Primorskaya State Academy of Agriculture (Russia) 4 students

◆3rd AUF: September 2019

Theme: Sustainable food system ~Stories on one plate~

The goal of this forum was understanding of food problems and considering of sustainable food system from a point of view of SDGs.

At the conference, students of each university gave a presentation about food problems, and we deepened understanding of the present conditions which were different from each other. At the field trip, we visited companies and groups which conducted unique activities from the aspect of sustainability. At the Workshop, we discussed how to involve the food system, considering these programs.

Participants: Primorskaya State Academy of Agriculture (Russia) 2 students, National Taiwan University (Taiwan) 1 student, PIM: Panyapiwat Institute of Management 1 professor

Picture1: Workshop



Picture2: Fieldtrip

