

Short Summary of Staying in Turkey

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What I gained through activities during the program

I went to Istanbul that is a big economic city in Turkey in order to attend a project, Japan-Turkey Cooperative Education Program on Resilience Engineering for Energy and Urban Systems, from February 21th – February 28th.

Presentation and Poster Session

When I gave my research presentation in English in front of Japanese and Turkish students who had various backgrounds, respectively, I keenly realized importance and difficulty of being understood by the others. In the later poster session, I received some questions and opinions from professors and students. These discussions were very useful and exciting for me to perform more complex and valuable study.

Ersel Heavy Machinery

I was able to notice the difference between Turkish company and Japanese company which we visited when some Turkish students had come to Japan, from the view of their culture, policy, and procedure. In addition, we could see the large machine made by the Japanese company in the manufacturing process of the factory and were impressed.

The Eurasia Tunnel Construction Site

The Eurasia Tunnel is a road tunnel under construction in Istanbul, Turkey, crossing the Bosphorus strait undersea. The project's completion is expected by October 2016. The 5.4km double-deck tunnel will connect Kazlıçeşme on the European and Güztepe on the Asian part of Istanbul on a 14.6km route. It will cross the Bosphorus beneath the seabed, with the aim to alleviate Istanbul's traffic jam.

Through a visit to the tunnel construction, we could see the place which we usually could not visit. And we could understand how to construct the tunnel beneath the strait, various techniques and methods of construction.

I felt that this tunnel could alleviate the heavy traffic jam. I found the rapid growth of Turkish economy. Taisei Construction Company, one of top construction company in Japan, had already

constructed the tunnel under the Bosphorus strait for the subway. This tunnel tells us the relationship based on not only history but also from government level to person level.

AFAD Disaster Management Center Technical Facilities

Turkey ranks third in the world in terms of earthquake-related casualties and eighth with regard to the total number of people affected. Every year, Turkey experiences at least one 5+ magnitude earthquake.

The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency of Turkey was established in 2009 to take necessary measures for effective emergency management and civil protection nationwide in Turkey. The presidency conducts pre-incident work, such as preparedness, mitigation and risk management, during-incident work such as response, and post-incident work such as recovery.

This facility looks very new and is similar with Japanese counterpart.

Energy Institute Civil Engineering

In the Istanbul Technical University of engineering, we observed a strength examination of the concrete and the vibration experiment of the building, and the small research reactor. We were told the summary of the study carefully in Civil Engineering and observed the height of the level of the study.

Suggestion for improvement / any other comments

The interchanges between Japanese and Turkish students were able to be satisfied very much. Despite we had many gaps, for example culture and religion, I thought that we could appropriate mutual understanding.

Because of the current situation in Turkey, we have to obey the limitation with own activities. That was regrettable for me.

The places that we visited through this project gave us very interesting and careful explanation. I thought that discussion between Japanese and Turkish students should be conducted in order to mutual understanding more.

I want a choice to stay in the Turkish family if possible. Because this choice can enhance the mutual understanding in terms of Turkish family.

Without Ms.Harada's guidance and persistent help staying in Turkey, this safe and interesting visit would not have been possible.

I would also like to express my gratitude to everyone related to this project for their all support.