

# Internship Program for Trans-disciplinary and Trans-regional Problem Oriented Research in Asia and Africa (7 - 17 January 2020)

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From 7 to 17 January 2020, the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies (ASAFAS) conducted an “Internship Program for Trans-disciplinary and Trans-regional Problem-Oriented Research in Asia and Africa”, as a Wild & Wise Collaborative Learning Program supported by Kyoto University.

Taking part were six international students, one each from Chiang Mai University (Thailand), IPB University (Indonesia), Vietnam National University, Hanoi (Vietnam), Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia), Manipur University (India), and Jawaharlal Nehru University (India), who were joined in the program by eight participants and seven faculty members from ASAFAS.

Each international student was assigned one or two Japanese counterparts, who supported the interns in adjusting to academic and daily life in Japan, and actively discussed their research interests throughout the fieldwork in Minamata and Kyoto with them. More importantly, by exploring issues that are varied but interconnected — such as pollution and environmental degradation — the students learned through these trips how to conceive and construct effective approaches toward solving trans-disciplinary and trans-regional problems.

Program participants — both international and Japanese — made presentations on multiple occasions, including at the “Wild & Wise International Workshop: Perspectives on Next-Generation Area Studies”, held by ASAFAS’ Center for On-Site Education and Research. The students discussed a wide variety of topics related to trans-disciplinary research challenges, in the process honing their skills to present research output in an international setting.

- Wild & Wise Collaborative Learning Programs (2019-2020)

[https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/education\\_and\\_admissions/non-degree-programs/international-education-initiatives/wild\\_and\\_wise](https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/education-campus/education_and_admissions/non-degree-programs/international-education-initiatives/wild_and_wise)



Group photo at Minamata station



Fieldwork in Minamata



Interview with a fisherman in Mnamata Bay



Presentation in the workshop at Kyoto University



Free talk after the workshop



Group photo in the workshop