OISCA BULLETIN BOARD

NO. 143
June 30 2021

OISCA and CAPACITY BUILDING

Together with all other living beings, we human beings are living on the planet earth. Our first ancestor - Homo sapiens - are believed to have appeared on the earth about 300,000 years ago. All other living beings might have appeared earlier than Home sapiens. Humans are the latest heir of Home sapiens, meaning the youngest living beings. 13.8 billion years old Grand Universe granted "Intelligence" to these latest born beings with a hope that they will continue to sustain atmospheric environment of the planet earth without hurting her. OISCA-International firmly believes it as "the universal truth".

WHAT does INTELLIGENCE mean?

As long as human beings are equipped with "intelligence" it is their most important moral responsibility to explore every possible way and means to make advancement while sustainably maintaining the peaceful environment of the planet earth.

This is the genesis of OISCA version of "capacity building" (human resources development). Ever since its foundation in 1961, OISCA-International has been giving a high priority to CAPACITY BUILDING of potential young nation builders based on its principal philosophy – Agriculture, the great education of mankind – where humans live in harmony with soil and the nature (ref: Bulletin Board No. 122). Production of safe and healthy food is essential for life.

Crucial importance of ORGANIC FARMING

Organic farming implies sustainable utilization of available land and resources to maintain productive power of soil. With regard to food safety, it is very clear that OISCA has been taking actions long before SDGs were adopted by the UN Summit meeting in 2015. For human beings to keep on living, safe agricultural products need to be guaranteed. Safe livelihood represents organically produced food, such as grains, vegetables and fruits, leading to the crucial importance of organic farming. It is very clear that basically organic farming does not depend on chemical pesticides and fertilizers indicating that the expansion of the area of organic farming leads to combating carbon dioxide emissions in producing essential needs of humans. It equally applies to animals and other living beings whether or not visible to human eyes.

The United Nations predicts, human population on the planet earth would reach 9700 million by 2050

and poverty reduction is one of the key targets of SDGs. In reality, however, increase of people with malnutrition may not be avoided. Nobody is able to deny this awful potential fact. A reliable information further indicates that one percent of humans occupy 46 percent of wealth with more than one million US$ each. This fact also implies that increasing population will lead to increasing malnutrition and poverty despite the fact that "no one is left behind" in global target. The importance of organic farming to produce safe and healthy, and comparably affordable food for less privileged great majority of global human community will naturally grow to effectively combat malnutrition and poverty.

A reliable information also indicates, 10kg of feeds is needed to produce 1kg of animal protein. 22,000 litter of water is needed to increase the weight of a cow by 1kg and at the same time, 2,800grams of greenhouse gas is discharged. For instance, if soybeans are made as artificial vegetable meat, it emits greenhouse gas 1/25th of a cow. These may be true, too. The advantage as well as importance of organic farming is very clear.

FACT: low level practice of Organic Farming

However, reality seems to be different. For instance, *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, one of the most respected economic dailies in Japan, has reported on June 7th 2021 a shocking fact that less than one percent of farming families are engaging in organic farming in Japan indicating that 99 % the Japanese farmers are doing conventional farming utilizing such chemical components as fertilizer, insecticide, pesticide and antibiotic, to name a few.

This article further indicates the country having the highest percentage of organic farming households is Italy with about 16%, followed by Spain 10%, Germany 9%, France 7% and England 3 %. China and USA rank the lowest, about or lower than 1 % just as Japan. Then, where the truly safe livelihood come from? Judging from this article, great majority of the people on the planet earth have been obliged to consume non-safe food every day. In most developing countries, production of truly safe food may be at a marginal level. It is imperative that the crucial importance of capacity building on organic farming is instilled to young farmers of developing countries.

This fact implies the greater importance of letting young farmers of developing countries to practice organic farming to produce safe agricultural products. However, in practice, organic farming is not so simple nor easy and very often more costly than conventional farming even if chemical components are marginally used. Skill training is essential to overcome these kinds of negative factors as well. Further strengthening of public information on food security is equally important and urgent. However, frankly speaking, OISCA's capability on public information has not been in parallel with its field action programs, at least during the past 50-odd years. OISCA welcomes potential collaborators in international public information. Therefore, we welcome offer of collaborations from individuals and organizations, who have field experience in international development cooperation activities, in particular, with organic farming and food security.

OISCA has always been implementing its programs "sustainably"

OISCA-International is proud of registering, as part of international development cooperation activities over half a century of field experience, offering organic farming skills training to young farmers of more than 50 countries while utilizing locally

available resources as much as possible to economize production cost. It is a never-ending challenge as long as human beings continue to survive.

Statistics on page 6 shows 5,058 young people from 55 countries and regions have gained access to OISCA's training courses in Japan from March 1963 to May 2021. There are 22 OISCA and the affiliated training centers in 13 countries as the photos on pages 3-6 show. The exact number of trainees who got access to in-country training centers are not known, it is estimated to be more than 30,000 as of May 2021. More and more young people need to be involved in practical skill training and practice of organic farming, so that more people, in particular, children and their mothers, may get access to safe food for truly sustainable future. What else is possible other than organic farming to meet the big challenge of increasing malnutrition and poverty?

Let's respect MICROORGANISMS

Organic farming can continue successfully if supported by microorganisms in the soil. They are also the essential beings to produce safe agricultural products. Invisible to human eyes, microorganisms, too, have been supporting all other living beings without expecting anything in return just as the Sun and the Moon have been to each other. Microorganisms are also essential to make compost (organic mature). Understanding on the importance of microorganisms is also an integral part of OISCA's agricultural training program. Earthworms, too, are very important for organic farming. Both microorganisms and earthworms help organically produced grains, vegetables and fruits to be safe and palatable.

Both microorganism and earthworm are integral ingredients of "*Bokashi*", organic composts. "*Bokashi*" is a Japanese word, but it is used to mean organic composts globally. "*Bokashi*" is not an OISCA invention, but many have come to believe that it is OISCA's creation!

Training Centers in Japan

OISCA Chubu-Nippon T.C.

OISCA Shikoku T.C.

OISCA Nishi-Nihon T.C.

Bangladesh - OISCA T.C.

Fiji – Youth T.C. - Nasau

Bangladesh – Woman Agricultural T.C.

India – OISCA Wayanad T.C.

Brazil – OISCA Cotia T.C.

Indonesia – Sukabumi T.C.

China – OISCA Alashan Desert Ecology Research T.C.

Indonesia Karanganyar T.C.

Malaysia - KDB Youth T.C.

Philippines - OISCA Davao Training Center

Myanmar – DOA – OISCA Agriculture & Rural Development T.C.

Philippines - OISCA Bago T.C.

Myanmar - DOA-OISCA Agriculture & Leadership T.C.

Philippines - OISCA Abra Agroforestry T.C.

Philippines - OISCA Palawan T.C.

Philippines - OISCA Nueva Ecija TC

OISCA Trainees (March 1963 ～ May 2021)

No	Country	Total
1	Afghanistan	17
2	Bangladesh	239
3	Brazil	4
4	Cambodia	36
5	Czech	2
6	East Timor	17
7	Egypt	4
8	Ethiopia	1
9	Federated States of Micronesia	40
10	Fiji	133
11	Ghana	4
12	Haiti	1
13	Honduras	2
14	India	87
15	Indonesia	544
16	Israel	1
17	Kenya	9
18	Kyrgyzstan	3
19	Laos	7
20	Lesotho	3
21	Madagascar	2
22	Malawi	2
23	Malaysia	1051
24	Marshall Islands	3
25	Mexico	11
26	Mongolia	28
27	Myanmar	132
28	Namibia	2
29	Nepal	44
30	Nigeria	1
31	Pakistan	33
32	Palao	23
33	Panama	1
34	Papua New Guinea	159
35	Paraguay	3
36	Peru	1
37	Philippines	1376
38	Samoa	1
39	Solomon Islands	3
40	South Korea	24
41	Sri Lanka	241
42	Sudan	1
43	Swaziland	1
44	Tajikistan	4
45	Tanzania	4
46	Thailand	113
47	Togo	1
48	Tonga	9
49	Turkey	1
50	Uruguay	13
51	Vanuatu	2
52	Vietnam	73
53	Zambia	5
54	Taiwan	482
55	Tibet	54
	Total	**5058**

Papua New Guinea – Rabaul Eco-Tech T.C.

Sri Lanka – OISCA Sri Lanka T.C.

Thailand – GGAT Surin T.C.

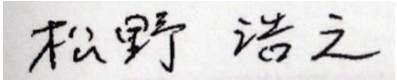
Matsuno Hiroyuki
松野 諾之

Deputy Director
Human Resources Development Division
OISCA Japan
18th May, 2021
matsuno@oisca.org

Training Subjects of OISCA Training Program

Agriculture
1. Organic farming
2. Facility Agriculture
3. Rice culture
4. Vegetable growing
5. Fruit growing
6. Hog raising
7. Poultry farming
8. Dairy
9. Sericulture
10. Extension service
11. Leadership and administration
Fishery
12. Fishery
13. Fishery machine
Women
14. Organic farming
15. Facility Agriculture
16. Rice culture
17. Vegetable growing
18. Healthy food cooking
19. Food processing using non-GMO products
20. Sawing
21. Home economics
22. Nursing
23. Rural Life Improvement for Women
Industry
24. Freezing and air conditioning apparatus installing
25. Carpentry
26. Frame working
27. Reinforcing bar construction
28. Tiling
29. Tile roofing
30. Plastering
31. Interior finishing
32. Application of construction equipment
33. Pavement work
34. Car maintenance
35. Computer engineering
36. Dress making
37. Electric wiring
38. Grass production
39. Laundry cleaning
40. Textile
41. Casting
42. Die casting
43. Machining
44. Metal press
45. Iron work
46. Factory sheet metal work
47. Electroplating
48. Machine maintenance
49. Printing
50. Plastic molding
51. Painting
52. Welding
53. Corrugated card board box making
54. Industrial manufacturing of pottery
55. Care worker

Matsuno Hiroyuki



Deputy Director

Human Resources Development Division

OISCA Japan

10th June, 2021

matsuno@oisca.org

Effective collaboration of solar energy and underground power

Furthermore, a great advantage of organic farming is that it can get double benefits, i.e. solar energy to accelerate photosynthesis functions of crops in addition to underground energies. Expected result is very clear. Solar energy and underground power supported agricultural products become not only safe and palatable, but also healthy. OISCA trainees are fortunate, for they can experience the selfless mercy of the Sun and the Earth, as well as underground friendly powers, through learning practical organic farming skills. Agriculture is de facto the great education itself.

Organic farming vis-à-vis TREE PLANTING

In order successfully to carry on organic farming, tree planting is also needed. Trees generate and preserve underground water resources. Underground water supports microorganisms and earthworms to be active in addition to protecting atmospheric environment. Certainly, trees support not only natural ecosystem, but also play vital role to combat global warming and climate change. OISCA's LOVE GREEN drive, sailed off in 1980 (ref: Bulletin Board No.122, page 3) has closely linked with popularizing organic farming. OISCA-International has been learning lessons itself, one after the other, through implementing its action programs during the past 60 years, Children's Forest Program (CFP) that began in 1991 and have reached 37 countries (ref: Bulletin Board No.134) is also supporting organic farming by means of encouraging participating school children to be aware of soil-water-nature-environment-biodiversity integration.

Organic farming and BEES

Pollinating function of bees is also essential to produce safe food. Bees are so sensitive to chemicals that they don't reach crops that are grown with chemical components. It is a globally known fact that "no-bees, no-food, no-humans." This clearly implies how important is the role of bees in farming. Bees produce honey no doubt. Female bees produce eggs that are themselves potential source of vitamin-rich food. For instance, pickle-like bee eggs and larvae are marketed in Japan. Bees are essential for organic farming. But, bees are free agents. They fly around following their queen bees. They don't move around according to human's wish and crop's need. So, it is important to attract queen bee's interest to organically grown crops. Here comes, too, the importance of capacity building of young farmers.

Multiple training subjects with ONE PHILOSOPHY

As shown on page 7, OISCA training subjects are multiple, not exclusive to agriculture. But, basic spirit of OISCA style of capacity building is one and common. The principal philosophy of OISCA-International, "Agriculture, the great education of mankind" (ref: Bulletin Board No.122) applies to all the subjects by means of having the trainees grasp in their minds the message of this principal philosophy advocated by the Founding President and succeeded by his successor. For OISCA, this principle is universal and will continue to be pursued regardless of the change of ages. OISCA believes production of safe and healthy livelihood is in line with SDGs.

Next issue: No.144

OISCA-International
Izumi 2-17-5, Suginami-ku
Tokyo, 168-0063 Japan
http://www.oisca.org/
E-mail: oisca@oisca.org