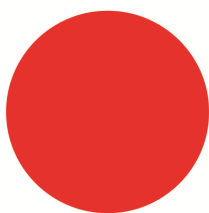


United Nations-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme

Alumni Newsletter



Letter from the Nippon Foundation to the UN-NF Fellowship Programme on behalf of the efforts towards the victim's relief in Japan



東北・関東地方を襲いました甚大なる地震、またそれに伴う津波により被害を被られた方々へ支援を行っております日本財団に対し、世界中の多くの方々より支援金を賜りましたこと、深く感謝し心より御礼申し上げます。日本財団は、被災者の立場に立ち迅速な支援を行うことで、一刻も早い被災地域の復興に全力を尽くしていく所存です。わたしは、今後日本財団が、海洋に対する使命を共有するUN-NF Fellowship Programを通して、皆様と更なるパートナーシップと友情を構築し、現在の難局を乗り切っていく事を希望します。ありがとうございました。

The United Nations—Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Alumni Network expresses its solidarity to the victims of the disaster in Japan and invite friends and the people of the world to help through the available channels.

Please visit
www.unfalumni.org

for more information on how to help.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the many people associated with UN-NF Fellowship Program all around the world who have given warm care and support to The Nippon Foundation's effort to support those who are suffering from the brutal earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Tohoku and Kanto regions in Japan. The Nippon Foundation is committed to continuing to support these regions through relief projects which are responsive to the needs of sufferers, for the earliest possible reconstruction. I hope that we will be able to continue building up our partnership and friendship with you all, through which we share a commitment to the ocean and to overcoming the difficulty that we are currently facing. Thank you.

Mr Mitsuyuki Unno, Executive Director of The Nippon Foundation of Japan



UN-NFF ALUMNI: GLOBAL NETWORK AND FRIENDSHIP



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Editorial

Working with, and for, the oceans is a pleasant activity that unites all alumni from the UN-NF Fellowship. Not just that but also the will to make a change in the world's relation to the ocean.

However, sad events as the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan make us see how small we are in relation to the greatness of the sea. We, the alumni from this great UN-NF family, are also very glad that we could contribute somehow to help the victims of such a disaster. We made a difference and that is only because we care. Our Japanese friends have our prayers with them and we are all concerned on the wellbeing of those who have been affected.

In our website (<http://www.unfalumni.org>) there are different ways to help, and also to get informed about general aspects of ocean governance, please pay us a visit and share your own thoughts through the comments function.

Recently the Alumni Network held elections on our new representation. Following the brilliant jobs of Sampan (Thailand) and Andi (Indonesia), I now assume this pleasant task with the heart full of hope for new and better days. I just hope to be able to do a good job as my fellow fellows have done in the past years!

The network is growing and spreading

its results all over the world. The new fellows are now placed and the alumni are organising themselves in order to better communicate and share knowledge and experiences. We can make a change and a better one!

I present to you all the latest issue of our newsletter. Although it is my first, it is actually our fourth volume! In this issue we dedicate most of the articles to the events in Japan. This because information is a strong tool, if used properly, and can also be a good way to help. We start this issue with a letter that we gladly received from the new Executive Director of the Nippon Foundation of Japan, Mr. Unno. There he acknowledges our efforts as a group and kindly thanks us. We are the ones that have to be thankful. The NF helped us to be better people working for a better future of the oceans.

Thinking about the future, of the oceans made us look at our kids as they extend their love to Japan. In our website you can see drawings that kids from more than a dozen nations sent to the Japanese children as a way to relieve their pain. We hope to be able to help further more, and also to take good care of our children. My two kids appreciate our efforts. And so do I.

Thank you all for your kind contributions to this issue. Let's keep our faith in the future and hope for the best. Please don't hesitate to contact us!

All the best,

Andrei



Fayza Fitri Faatihah—Indonesia
7 years

Andrei Polejack
Alumni Representative
2010-2011 Fellow
Brazil



Japan's Earthquake and Tsunami

I woke up as always and I read the newspaper of my country Colombia and suddenly I found a huge announcement: Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan! From that moment I started to think of all the Japanese friends that I have around the world and here in London where I am doing my PhD. Immediately, I started to contact them in order to ask them about their families, friends etc and I began to realize that all of them told me "it is like the end of the world for us". Since that moment, I started to see many diverse initiatives to send



Tatiana Ome
2007-2008 Fellow
Colombia

help. For instance, my Japanese friends asked for donations in class. They also began to sell cakes, cookies, etc; also many groups in my university started to collect money, clothes, food through arranged events; the red cross asked for donations on our campus, among other things.

At the same time, I remembered that the Nippon Foundation, the one that gave me one of the best opportunities in my life, and all the people that is part of could be really affected because of this. Therefore, supported and motivated by Francois Bailet, we started to work with all the fellows in order to try our best to help! We have been sending emails to all our contacts asking for donations, also we have been collecting drawings from children and some pictures in order to show the world supports them!

So with this simple relation I just want to show to Japan that you are not alone in this and that you are receiving the best energy from the rest of the world!

Environmental concerns about Fukushima

Have you ever imagined your worst nightmare?

Well, the Japan 9.1 earthquake and tsunami was it for all Japanese last March 11. Of all the catastrophic scenes we saw on the news, the one that really scared me was the one of the gigantic tsunami wave moving ahead. The disaster is still indescribable.

Hours later, when we were beginning to comprehend what happened, the situation was compounded by the first explosion in the Fukushima Plant. While I was watching the news coverage of the series of explosions in the Plant, I wondered about the environmental effects of radioactivity. Our worst fears are now confirmed with reports of radiation in the sea off the stricken plant and in some vegetables. Yes, it would take a very large amount of radioactive material in the sea to produce any dangerous effects on seafood. In reality, however, everybody is concerned and taking precautions which have a long-term economic impact on a broad range of activities in Japan. In particular, fish markets are suffering since the sales dropped after the Fukushima crisis. There are also worries about the supply of water to major cities such as Tokyo, although the government has since confirmed that it is safe to drink. Nevertheless people are buying only bottled water just to be safe.

My main concern is the impacts on Japan's marine ecosystems since coastal ecosystems services are among the most economically valuable. We don't know how bad Japan's fisheries and aquaculture will be affected in the short or long-terms by the radiation leak. Also, the impacts on the environment are unknown! In this context, it is important to recall that the United Nations Environmental Programme "Blue Carbon" assessment establishes that maintaining or improving the ability of oceans to absorb and bury carbon dioxide (CO₂) is a crucial aspect of climate change mitigation. Out of all the biological carbon captured in the world, 55% is captured by marine living organisms. This is a significant figure when viewed in the context of the potential and actual pollution of the marine environment by radiation from the Fukushima Plant. Furthermore, the increase of CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions are contributing to climate change. So, the oceans play a vital role in all of this since they contribute in reducing atmospheric CO₂ levels through sequestration and reduction of the marine and coastal ecosystem degradation.

Today, it is generally accepted by the scientific community that the oceans are crucial in the global carbon cycle. They represent the largest long-term sink for carbon since they store and redistribute CO₂. About 93% of the earth's CO₂ is stored and cycled through the oceans. Indeed, one of the great strengths of the ocean is the resilience of the Pacific Ocean to absorb and mitigate radiation pollution from the Fukushima Plant. At this particular difficult time for Japan, we should not forget the sacrificing work of the heroes in the plant who have demonstrated the resilience of the Japanese people in the face of adversity.



Natural disasters of this magnitude are not going to stop them from building a strong and durable society for the benefit of all the people. Some roads have already been fixed. Where in the world do you see this rapid response? Japan must now arise from the ashes of the Fukushima Plant like the phoenix. There is no doubt in my mind that they will succeed with flying colors.

Ana Lilian Yon Bosque

2011—2012 Fellow

Guatemala



Aid campaign for Japan in Galway, Ireland, where the fellow has been placed for her first phase

Impact of tsunami on fisheries and fishermen communities

The 26th December 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami caused considerable destruction and casualties in the coastal regions of the Indian states including Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The impact of the tsunami on the fisheries was catastrophic, impinging on the livelihood of already poverty stricken fisher households.



Non-mechanized and motorized boats were the worst affected in marine fisheries.

Maximum reduction in landings was experienced by plank-built boats with gillnet i.e. motorized and country crafts with gillnets i.e. non-mechanized. Prices of different species of fishes slashed down by decline in demand due to tsunami related apprehensions and reduction

in size of fish. The number of fishing trips in a month came down to less than half of that of the pre-tsunami situation and the most affected was motorized boats. Reduction in average income of boat owners and fishing laborers was highest in the case of non-mechanized sector. In the motorized category, there was also reduction in income.

Coastal communities in Japan with fisheries as their main source of

economic and social activities are the first to bear the heavy ecological and socioeconomic burden of Japan's devastating tsunami on 11 March 2011 just like in the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004. The cost in lives and livelihoods lost is incalculable and the effects are long in duration.

The rehabilitation related issues may be given concerted effort in the light of various localized problems.

Recouping the livelihood of the fisherfolk may also be a primary concern for the government as well as relief agencies in view of the damage to the fishing related assets. There is a need for adequate disaster management system and disaster preparedness plan under the auspicious of the state and district level authorities.

The most effective risk management actions both anticipatory i.e. reducing future risks and compensatory i.e. preparedness to respond may be taken at the local level. The state may set up a disaster management department headed by a senior-level officer. A comprehensive environmental, multi-hazard, coastal zone management may be developed. The early warning systems based on vulnerability assessment and hazard analysis, preparedness and relief, recovery and rehabilitation may be given emphasis. There may be necessary back up designed towards capacity building, by empowering the fisherfolk, providing facilities like alternative income generating avocations and adequate support to restore fishing activities may be undertaken by the government and other agencies to reinstate the standard of living of the fisher population.



Dr. Ansy Mathew N.P.
2008-2009 Fellow
India

Welcome to the UN-Nippon fellowship family!

We would like to give our warmest welcome to this years' fellows who have already started their work. Good luck guys and keep us posted on your developments.

Welcome!

Yetunde E. Agbeja (Nigeria)

Mustafa Darwish Al Nabhani (Oman)

Gian Pierre Campos (Peru)

Abbas Daher Djama (Djibouti)

Elchin Ganjaliyev (Azerbaijan)

Dinah C.V. Kauraisa (Namibia)

Kasem Niamchay (Thailand)

Osama A Rasaa (Yemen)

Liliana Rodriguez Cortes (Mexico)

Ana Lilian Yon Bosque (Guatemala)

Antigua's Southwest Coast Targeted for Eco-tourism and Conservation project

Antigua and Barbuda's Fisheries Division in collaboration with the Forestry Division both within the Ministry of Works, Transportation, and Environment are spearheading a pilot project that will see the revitalization of the South west coast of Antigua. The two governmental agencies are working along with key stakeholders, to establish a co-management system for the sustainable development of the area. The Ridge to Reef Demonstration project which is expected to last through mid 2012, was launched in November '09 is being funded in part though GEF (Global Environmental Facility) in conjunction with other co-financiers.

The project will focus on the coastal and marine areas, wetlands and lush forests of Antigua's Southwestern coastline which has an expanse of flora and fauna. The area has numerous varieties of plant and bird species and is rich in marine biodiversity. Particular attention is being paid to the key assets of the area including, Cades Reef and its surrounding beach area and wetlands, Wallings Forest and Reservoir, Fig Tree Drive Forest and the island's highest mountain, Mount Obama. Each of these assets is of national importance from an economic, social, historical and biodiversity perspective.

According to Ruleta Comacho, Coordinator of the SIRMM project "Eco-tourism is one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry. The project will enhance the key assets of the area through sustainable eco-tourism activities whose revenues can be plugged back into the conservation and protection efforts for the areas." Some of the initiatives to be implemented include developing and improving the hiking trails running through Mount Obama, zoning of Cades Reef and enhancements to Wallings Reservoir/Forest area such as the setting up of picnic benches.

Managing the key assets of the Southwest in a manner that will simultaneously protect their natural environments whilst fostering sustainable economic development is the core objective of the project. To effectively do so, an integrated "ridge to reef" management system will be set-up through the establishment of a co-management working group comprising key stakeholders, representatives from local communities and relevant government agencies and NGO's.

Tricia Lovell, of the Fisheries Division says, "Integrated co-management of all the assets of the area as whole rather than individually, has a number of benefits from the economies of

scale to be achieved by developing and promoting the entire area as an ecotourism destination to being better able to institute the controls and mechanisms needed to manage land based sources of pollution, both natural and man-made, which are negatively impacting the health of the coastal and marine environments of the area."

Other key objectives of the pilot project will include mapping and surveys aimed at arriving at appropriate zoning of marine areas, cross sectoral training and capacity needs assessment, determining carrying capacities for commercial activities in the area and the review of policy and legislation affecting the southwest watershed.

It is envisioned that similar initiatives would be carried out in other areas of the island. Lessons learned and Best Practices that have been established will be used to identify suitable areas and appropriate technologies and methodologies that can be replicated within Antigua and possibly the region.

Tricia Lovell
2007-2008 Fellow
Antigua and Barbuda

SEAFDEC-Sida project

The cooperation project between Southeast Asia Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and the Swedish International Development and Cooperation Agency (SIDA) took place from 2009 to 2012 with the objectives for long-term sustainability of fisheries and reduced vulnerability to impacts of climate change of livelihoods of fisher folk in the ASEAN region and around the Andaman Sea. Human capacity building was conducted for human adaptation from the hazard risks of climate change and for encouraging community involvement in transboundary fisheries management. Thus, on-site trainings were set up in each target countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand) for fisherman and local government level by community lesson learns method. Subsequently, countries Will come together to exchange their experiences and design an action plan for fisheries management in transboundary areas. Involved countries will provide one staff for implementing the project called Regional Fisheries Policy Network (RFPN).

Nopparat Nasuchon

2008-2009 Fellow

Thailand



Tanzania Women in Seaweed farming



Harvesting seaweed



Harvesting seaweed



Carrying seaweed from Farm

Historically, Tanzania coastal communities were the poorest people in the country and the poverty was more pronounced in the most disadvantaged group, the “women”, due to a very common known reason. Tanzania coastal people are well known as “Swahili people”, in Swahili culture, a man was the sole provider for their family, who rely totally on fishing as a fund generating activity. Disappointingly, the ocean currently does not provide fish and related products as it used to.

Seaweed farming was introduced in Tanzania Zanzibar in the early 80s; the first group engaged in this business were women. In recent years the Tanzania Government, together with other stakeholders, promoted seaweed farming as the reliable alternative sources of income generating activities, a means of empowering coastal women economically and as means to reduce fishing pressure in the ocean. More women responded positively and so more groups of women have engaged in this business. Roughly about 85% of all seaweed producers in Tanzania are women. The common seaweeds farmed in Tanzania are *Eucheuma denticulatum* (spinosum) and *Kappaphycus alvarezii* (cottonii). The later has a high farm gate price but it has high mortality due to die off especially during the hot season.

The Tanzania government has assisted to forge a Public Private Partnership (PPP) between farmers and buyers. The private company (buyer) enters into a business contract with groups of seaweed farmers, provides all necessary inputs and culture technology wherever

needed. The seaweed farmers are obliged to sell all the seaweed to the buyers as per their contract. The method used is peg and line off bottom system, in shallow water and protected area. Also there is another method which is floating system needs a relative deep water to make the raft of seaweed to float. The harvesting starts the third week after planting and there after every fortnight. In order for a farmer to realize profit, it was advised by the PPP stakeholders meeting in 2006 that every farmer should have at least 200 ropes 10m in length. However, this differs very much as some farmers have as few as 50 and some as many as 400 ropes depending on the intensity of farming the farmer wishes to have. Take an average 100 ropes per farmer of 10m long planted in a blocks of 25 ropes per block, this makes a possible harvest very week 25 ropes.

money. At times seaweed farming has been more profitable than fishing. However, this business has some challenges like sometimes buyers do not come on time to collect the product, some conflicts with fishermen who were condemned to steal ropes. The seaweed farmers complain that the selling price is too little as compared to tediousness of the work.

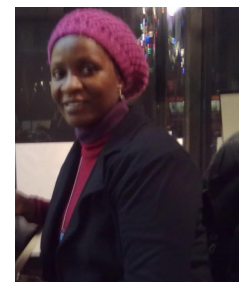
To solve these problems, the Government took the necessary effort to make sure that business flourish well, encourages the villagers through the local government to formulate bylaws, and also together with other ocean users to discuss and make ocean zone demarcation in order to avoid conflicts within ocean users and also to enforce the law. However, this process is still in process, no bylaws has been approved till today. Tanzania is the third country in the world for the pro-

Table1: Amount of Money the Seaweed Farmer Earns per Month with Only 100 Ropes

Farmer	Ropes	Dry Wt per rope	Harvest losses per rope	Real kg per rope	Total kgs per month	Price per dry kg	Earnings per month (TSh)
1	100	5kg	0.5kg	4.5kg	100X4.5=450kg	500	450*500=220,000

This amount is huge as compared to the minimum salary of civil workers TSh. 104,000, in year 2006 Government scale. The business empowers women economically and the traditional phenomenon of women depending on their husband as the family bread winners has disappeared. Many coast seaweed farmers’ women can take several social responsibilities like buying food for the family, paying school fees for their children, taking care of the sick, orphans and many others. Seaweed has given women newfound purchasing power and independence from their husbands for

duction of spinosum after the Philippines and Indonesia .



Gloria Yona
2010-2011 Fellow
Tanzania

Oceans apart – common problems

During the second phase of my fellowship at DOALOS, I had the opportunity to present my paper and discuss with other fellows the challenges in implementing our obligations under international and regional legal instruments. Specifically, my paper focused on the challenges Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Pacific, in particular Tonga, faces in implementing the obligations arising out of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (hereafter: WCPF Convention). The WCPF Convention was adopted in September 2000 and entered into force on 19 June 2004. It established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) which currently has 25 members, 7 participating territories and 7 cooperating non-members.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Ocean (WCPO) is the world's largest tuna fishery accounting for more than 50% of the world tuna catches, most of which is caught in the exclusive economic zones of Pacific Island States. Tuna are highly migratory species and

represent an important renewable resource for food security and economies of these States. As such, Pacific Island States established the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency in 1979 to assist them in the development of their fisheries, in particular tuna, in a coherent and coordinated way. Recognizing the need for cooperation in conservation and management of these resources as articulated in Article 63 and Article 64 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (LOSC) and Article 7 and 8 of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provision of the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA), Pacific Island States and Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFNs) of the western and central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) adopted the WCPF Convention.

One thing that amazes during the discussion and sharing of experiences with other fellows from across the oceans, was that the problems we faced in the Pacific is not unique to our side of the ocean but is experienced elsewhere. In

particular, fighting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is a worldwide problem that requires concerted effort at the international and regional level to be able to curb this illegal activity. Coastal States such as the SIDS of the Pacific, lack adequate human, technical and financial resources to fight these problems alone. But we can all pool together our resources to help curb this illegal activity. In addition, information sharing is paramount to help curtail these activities and manage our fisheries resources. To this end, I found the sharing of experiences and information with other fellows very useful and hope to continue this, for the future of our fisheries resources.



Ana Finau Taholo
2010-2011 Fellow
Tonga

Regional Alumni Meeting to be held in Nairobi, Kenya

The UN-Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellowship Programme has been enhancing its alumni regional networks in the past two years holding meetings and, as a result, the whole alumni network has grown stronger. The Asian-Pacific and the Latin America and the Caribbean Meetings allowed alumni to know each other and start working as a network for the first time. Only one region was missing in this cycle and that was the Africa Region.

We are glad to announce that the Alumni Meeting for the Africa Region will be held in Kenya from July 10 to 16. The Africa Alumni Network meeting has as a major goal to build capacities in specific issues requested by the alumni themselves so they can perform better their duties and enhance the overall ocean governance in their home countries. As a consequence, this alumni network will also be enhanced with this meeting allowing former fellows to build team work. The main issues voted and agreed upon by the alumni were Maritime boundary delimitation; Maritime security, specifically piracy and IUU; Coastal and ocean management/governance strategies, and Environmental Based Fisheries Management.

Alumni from at least 11 African nations along with lecturers from other parts of the world will meet to discuss and exchange information on these subjects. Our alumni network will also be represented and our goal is to achieve the same success of the previous meetings! We are thankful for the UN and also for the Nippon Foundation for providing this amazing opportunity.

**UN-NFF ALUMNI:
GLOBAL NETWORK AND FRIENDSHIP**

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Contributors
Catalina Garcia—Colombia
Tricia Lovell—Barbuda
Sampan Panjarat—Thailand
I Made Andi Arsana—Indonesia



**Capacity Building in Ocean
Affairs and the Law of the Sea**

Website Information:

- www.un.org/depts/los/nippon/
- www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/
- www.unfalumni.org/

Contribution: This newsletter is open for those who are connected to the field of Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea and wish to help in publishing news and best practices applicable to the sea.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the author(s) of each contribution(s) and do not necessarily represent those of the Fellowship Alumni, any Government, the United Nations, or the Nippon Foundation of Japan. Responsibility for any errors and/or omissions lie with the contributor(s).

Suggestions to improve the Fellowship programme

On 23 February 2011, at an informal lunchtime discussion in a restaurant close to the UN Office, several UN Nippon Fellows spoke with Dr. Francois Bilet, program advisor of the UN Nippon Fellowship regarding some issues concerning the UN Nippon Fellowship program. One of the issues they raised relates to the importance of utilizing the UN Nippon Forum as a tool for consultation, as well as for the sharing of information, ideas, and experiences amongst the Fellows. There was also a suggestion for a change in the placement system, with UN Nippon fellows being placed first all together for their first 3 months and afterwards continuing the program in their respective institutions for the subsequent 6 months. The idea behind this is to give a chance for fellows to know each other and provide them with the basic knowledge of ocean affairs and the Law of the Sea, as well as the UN system. This can be accomplished through relevant short courses, after which it is expected that the fellows will have the needed knowledge to develop their own research and the capacity to conduct research in an academic setting.



In the mean time, Dr Francois encouraged all the UN Nippon fellows to participate in the UN Nippon Forum. He emphasized that the topic for the newsletter can be diverse. The topic is not restricted on matters pertaining to ocean affairs and the Law of the Sea, but can also be on any other issue. The most important thing is for everyone to participate in the alumni program to share knowledge, ideas and develop networking among fellows. In this regard, the UN Nippon fellows must realize their important role as representatives of their countries and “agents of change”. Besides their main task of conducting independent research, the UN Nippon fellows are required to continue their responsibility in transferring knowledge as well as creating constructive and innovative ideas in order to support and develop the alumni program. The fellows are also expected to be able to implement what they learn from the Program and to assist their countries in the formulation of ocean policies.

There was debate on the suggestion to change the placement system of the program. One of the fellows argued that it is not good idea for the UN Fellows to sit in a class like students, because it is assumed that the fellows should have basic knowledge before conducting their research. Moreover, such knowledge can also be obtained from the first placement at the University. The other fellows insisted that it was a great idea to be together at the first placement in New York. Based on previous experiences, some fellows also said that not all fellows have an opportunity to have such knowledge at their first placement at the University.

In my perspective, I support the idea. It is good to have basic knowledge to make the writing of the thesis easier. It will also be helpful to know all the fellows at the beginning to allow the fellows to communicate with each other and to share information which will assist them in their research.

However, these are all just ideas from the current fellows for Dr. Francois in order to further improve the program. Everyone is expected to share his or her ideas and contribute to improve the UN Fellowship program. The support and participation from both current and past UN Nippon are needed to ensure a better program.

Polite Dyspriani 2010-2011 fellow Indonesia