

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL

My commitment: Functional improvement of the Center

Maki Kubo, Director-General, National Women's Education Center



Greetings! In April I became Director-General of NWEC and look forward eagerly to getting to know you and working with you.

I joined the Ministry of Education (now Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science and Technology) in 1982 and have since been assigned to various areas of the administration; including education, science, culture, sports, and public relations. I have had two opportunities to be involved in Gender Equality issues: as subsection chief of the Women's Education Section of the Ministry of Education, and as director of the Gender Equality Promotion Division, in the Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office.

More than any other experience, it was my secondment for almost a year beginning in 2002 to the US National Science Foundation (NSF) that provides subsidies for scientific research, which is very much like the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. This made me aware of the need for promoting gender equality in Japan. NSF is a huge organization with a staff of 1300, many with a scientific research background. At the time, the director was a woman, and three out of seven assistant directors were women. Coming from a country where women in the civil service above the level of division director in the ministries accounted for fewer than 2 percent, it was a shock. The difference between the countries 15th and 54th (at that time) in the Gender Empowerment Measure was only too apparent. With a higher level of participation by women, NSF continues its program to support women researchers, seeing that it was insufficient that women accounted for only 34% of the total pool of researchers. There are research fields in which women's ratio of participation is low.

With 10 years from the enforcement of the Basic Law for a Gender-equal Society, and 30 years from the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, it is clear that there is a further need to promote gender equality, which is advancing in Japan but too slowly from an international perspective.

NWEC will continue to increase its functional capability as the national center of women's education. For this purpose the improvement of our facilities is essential. This fiscal year 1.86 billion yen was appropriated in the supplementary budget for facilities improvement. This is for updating LAN, lighting, hazard prevention and air-conditioning. Since the establishment in 1977, the center will undergo its first drastic remodeling. We plan to make our facility ecologically up to date and energy efficient, by providing our users and clients with a better environment for research and meetings. This should alleviate the high temperature in the seminar hall in summer and the uncomfortable cold of the corridors in winter as well as the lack of Internet access in the residence hall.

By visiting the Women's Archives Center and from what I have learned of the founding of NWEC I have acquired deep respect for members of the women's organizations and groups who have been truthful to their vision and worked hard to open the Center. NWEC will improve and strengthen its programs so that we can continue to serve as the base of your activities. We will update you from time to time as renovation progresses. We are open to your questions and comments, so please get in touch with us. We look forward to welcoming you whenever you come to make use of our facilities.

RECENT NWEC ACTIVITIES

Country-Specific Training-Nigeria (Commissioned by JICA)

Gender-equal Community Development Planning for Staff at Women's Centers

Country-specific Training: Nigeria (Gender-equal Community Development Planning for Staff at Women's Centers) was held from Wednesday, May 6 through Thursday, May 28, 2009. This seminar comprised training in Japan planned and implemented as a part of the "Project on Activation of Women Development Centers (WDCs) to Improve Women's Livelihoods," a project initiated by the Japan International Cooperation Association (JICA) to address the inability of women development centers in certain areas of Nigeria to adequately fulfill their functions due to lack of capital and human resources. This year a total of six individuals: the director of a women's development center in Kano State and five women's development officers who play supervisory roles at the center, visited Japan. At the beginning of the project, trainees frequently voiced problems such as "we have no resources," "we have no money" and "we have no staff" as factors limiting their performance of duties.



NWEC staff (bottom center: President) with trainees from Nigeria

In addition to NWEC, trainees visited the Saitama Prefectural Center for Promotion of Gender Equality, the Aichi Women's Center and the Nagoya City Gender Equality Promotion Center and learned about the functions and roles of women's centers in Japan. Moreover, in addition to learning about some of the venture activities of women farmers in Saitama Prefecture and the roles of promotion and guidance staff, trainees learned about food processing using wheat and indigo dyeing as skills they could take back to Nigeria.

By the end of training, trainees had come to realize that rather than resources and money, what they had lacked was the ability to implement ideas. On the final day, trainees completed their training by presenting what they had learned in a TV conference with Nigeria.



Making *manju* (bean-jam buns) using wheat produced in Saitama

Impression on training at NWEC from Nigerian trainees

Ms. Zainab Ahmed

Women Development Officer

Bichi local government, Kano State, Nigeria



I am among the six participants that attended the training designed for JICA technical cooperation project titled 'Activation of Women Development Centres to improve women livelihood'. During the training, I experienced a lot of things. First of all, I experienced long journey that never happen to me in my life before. I experienced in communication with different people with different language, norms and attitude.

During my stay in Japan, I realized that Japanese people are so kind, honest, obey the rule and regulation of their country. They are always ready to help others.

We visited several Women Centres in Japan. Among them, we stayed and learnt a lot at National Women Education Centre (NWEC). We observed that Japanese women centre were not much concerned with teaching vocational skills like our women centres in Nigeria, instead, they offer lots of services like counseling services on public and private issues such as marital relationships, divorce, family problems and domestic violence by women counselors/lawyers. Also they offer seminars for full time housewives to come back and start up something instead of sitting down idle at home. They also offer leadership training course for leaders at local government level. We also observed that NWEC has a lot of advanced facilities such as seminar room, conference hall, library and fair-trade shop. We don't have those services and facilities at our women centres in Nigeria.

By the knowledge and experience we learnt through the training in Japan, we would like to implement those services in our centres.

Training Course for Leaders of Child Raising and Family Life Support



A Training Seminar for Leaders of Child Raising and Family Life Support was held at NWEC over the one-night two-day period Friday, May 29 and Saturday, May 30, 2009.

Approximately 100 individuals attended the seminar from as far north as Aomori and south as Kumamoto prefecture.

Support for families and parents by society as a whole is needed as a measure to support child raising and family life, and men's participation is regarded to be a key issue.

This year's seminar addressed men's participation in child raising as a core issue and considered support strategies by studying case studies of child raising being supported by society as a whole, including men, and entire communities.

The seminar provided a valuable opportunity for individuals from various walks of life, including officials in charge of support for child raising and family life, leaders of child raising network supporters, individuals in charge of child raising support in companies, individuals in charge of social contribution activities, and staff at women's facilities and social education facilities, to gather together to share information and deepen exchange.

Training Course to Promote Gender Equality for Leaders of Women's Facilities, Groups and Organizations

The FY2009 Training Course to Promote Gender Equality for Leaders of Women's Facilities, Groups and Organizations was held over the two-night three-day period Thursday, June 18 ~ Saturday, June 20, 2009.

Liaison and cooperation among women's facilities such as gender equality centers, which act as hubs for the promotion of gender equality, and local groups and organizations is desirable when engaging in programs designed to realize gender equality in communities. Accordingly, NWEC

used the outcome of its research on women's facilities to hold this seminar with the principal aim of empowering managerial staff at women's facilities and leaders of other organizations, and supporting the building of cooperative relationships between them.

Striving to provide content corresponding to participants' situations, content best shared with everyone such as explanations of policies and measures and lectures were provided as "Shared Programs," and content concerning position-specific issues such as organization management and examples of specific programs as "Course-specific Programs."

The "Course for Managerial Staff" was co-hosted by the NPO, The National Council of Women's Centers.

This intensive training course was attended by some 100 individuals playing key roles in promoting gender equality in their communities, including managerial staff of women's facilities, government officials in charge of gender equality and leaders of groups and organizations nationwide from as far north as Hokkaido and south as Okinawa.

Participants voice comments such as "Overall, the content was both excellent and enlightening," "I was able to gain an understanding of circumstances surrounding the promotion of gender equality nationwide and insight into various solutions" and "I met new people and made new friends."



Summer School for High and Junior High School Girls 2009 ~ Scientists and Engineers of the Future ~



Summer School for High and Junior High School Girls 2009 ~ Scientists and Engineers of the Future ~ was held at NWEC over the two-night three-day period Thursday, August 13 through Saturday, August 15. Commissioned by the Japan Science and Technology Agency, this program aims to convey the appeal of the fields of science and technology to junior and senior high school girls and provide them with an opportunity to think about advancing into scientific and engineering fields. Co-hosted by the Science Promotion

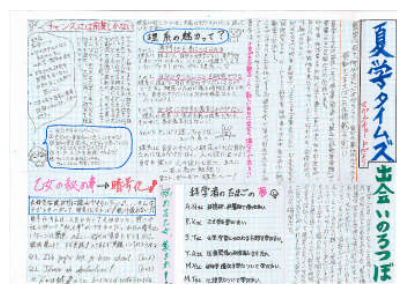
Subcommittee of the Science Council of Japan's Science and Society Committee, this year's summer school was attended by 108 girls and 33 parents and teachers from as far north as Hokkaido and south as Okinawa.

This year's summer school targeted not just junior and senior high school girls, but also parents and teachers - students' most immediate supporters - and offered a program to teach them how to convey the merits of choosing

a career in science and technology.

A joint program for girls, parents and teachers featured a career lecture by a corporate woman researcher and messages from undergraduate and graduate women students. Participants listened earnestly, scribbling notes from time to time. A live show of the star-filled universe via the Subaru telescope was organized, during which participants asked questions and looked at a starlit sky in Hawaii. The international exchange program involved communicating with Korean high school girls via a TV conferencing system. Questions flew back and forth, partly as a result of English conversation lessons.

On the first night of the program targeting the high school girls, participants deepened exchange with others in their group as they visited booths set up in the residential halls while engaging in “Science Battle!?” a game that challenges skills needed as a scientist such as stamina, intellect and teamwork. On the second day, participants spent two hours tackling an experiment/practical exercise personally selected from among 11 options as part of Science Explorer. Participants interacted with researchers and engineers and encountered pioneering research firsthand in the course of viewing 31 poster sessions featuring experiments. The Science Ambassador Lecture taught participants interview techniques and how to summarize things and write engaging texts, and in the training session, each group wrote their own “My Summer School Times.” Each group’s work was of outstanding quality and the girls were able to take their first step as ambassadors. On the third day, “Saien Sugoroku (The Game of Talented Women),” a game involving a simulated world of science and engineering, was met with smiles, laughter and applause throughout.



★Summer School Times★

The Summer School Introductory Meeting provided an explanation of the summer school as part of the program for parents and teachers. Participants watched a DVD and introduced themselves to one another. At the Science Café, they listened to a lecture on the types of jobs women graduating with science degrees find and what is required to succeed. In the evening, participants observed demonstrations of experiments and deepened exchange with researchers from academic societies, corporations and universities. During the NWEC Program, they discussed the roles of immediate supporters. They also observed the programs the girls were experiencing.

All of the junior and senior high school girls were appointed as ambassadors and, upon conclusion of the program, will actively engage in ambassadorial activities to make the fascination of science and technology more widely understood by the people around them.



★ International Exchange with Korean Senior High School Girls program for high school girls★



★NWEC Program for parents, teachers, etc.★



★Experiments & Practical Work★

Development of an Action Learning Program Leading to Practical Activity

National Women's Education Center conducts research and studies regarding the present status of women's facilities that play major roles in promoting gender equality. In FY2008, as a way of wrapping up our three-year-program (FY2006-2008) Action Learning Program Leading to Practical Activity was developed in order to nurture persons who will participate in community development in collaboration with women's facilities, women's organizations and groups, and administrative offices.

Public facilities including women's facilities are increasingly required to assert their *raison d'être* and substantiate their programs against the background of diversification of operating entities, the need to reduce expenses and improve operational efficiency. Of particular importance is the need to redefine their roles as a base for person to person exchange and information access, 'nurturing human resources' for the purpose of 'promoting partnership and collaboration' as well as empowerment of staff at women's facilities, organizations and groups. While in the past there were initiatives to promote bilateral partnerships and collaboration between women's facilities and organizations/groups, and between women's facilities and the government gender equality office the feature of this program was to conduct various workshops for the purpose of 'nurturing human resources' for community development in 'partnership/collaboration' among three entities.

Also in order to redefine women's activities from a social perspective, we have introduced a new concept called 'Social (Activity) Career'. 'Social Career' defines NPO and volunteer activities as career similarly as any professional career at business and other enterprises. This concept enables us to socially evaluate women's varied activities carried out in community building and to promote further nurturing of human resources.

Furthermore, the program is designed to improve and empower practical application. To be concrete, workshop followed by group discussion will be carried out on the following topics: (1) promotion of gender equality; (2) analysis of statistical data; (3) listing issues and identifying priorities that hinder gender equality at community level; (4) challenges concerning nurturing of human resources for community building; (5) analysis of women's 'Social Career' cases; and (6) leading to practical resolution of issues.



With the cooperation of Shizuoka and Chiba prefectures, the program was experimentally conducted with the participation of three entities; women's facilities, organizations, groups and administrative offices. It is fair to say that a certain level of outcome was achieved judging from comments received from the participants, including the following: "the concept of 'Social Career' is effective in the sense it allows re-evaluation of women's initiatives at resolving all sorts of issues encountered in their everyday lives from the perspective of human resources development in community," and "sharing issues among participants was helpful in identifying areas for future partnership and collaboration." This experience gave us the opportunity to appreciate that sharing the time by three concerned parties and the learning process in partnership and collaboration on equal footing contribute to greater possibility of networking leading to practical activity for community building.

This program may have various applications as in consumer education and/or environmental education in response to specific issues of communities. We hope that the promotion of Action Learning, putting to practice what has been learned, will enable women's facilities throughout the country to play important roles as the base for gender equality, energizing activities for the resolution of various local issues and lead to revitalization of local and regional communities.

TOPICS

Conclusion of an Exchange and Cooperation Agreement with the Research Center for Women's Studies at Yanbian University, The People's Republic of China

An Exchange and Cooperation Agreement with the Research Center for Women's Studies at Yanbian University (Director Jin Huashan) was concluded on May 12, 2009.

At the Signing Ceremony held at Yanbian University in Yanji City, Jilin Province, an address welcoming the conclusion of the agreement by Director Jin was followed by one by President Kanda expressing her hope that ensuing mutual exchange and cooperation would lead to further development of both institutions, and the agreement was signed.



President Kanda (right) and Director Jin (left) signing the agreement

Following the ceremony, President Kanda presented a special lecture entitled "Experiences Popularizing Women's Education in Japan and Current Issues" in a classroom in Yanbian University. This lecture was attended by numerous students who asked President Kanda several questions regarding the current status of women's education in Japan and issues common to both Japan and China, and expressed opinions on these topics.

As a result of this cooperation agreement, the two centers are deepening both human interaction and exchange with regard to programs involving education pertaining to gender equality, comparative and joint research, and information exchange, as well as cooperating with the hosting of international conferences and seminars.

Basic Understanding of a New Concept

Social (Activity) Career

Career in its narrow sense of the word means a professional path an individual follows, while in its broader context refers to a continuous experience of an individual throughout life playing her (or his) social role (D. Hall, 2002). Common to narrow and broader definitions is the focus on the personal perspective of one's life and history.

Conventionally, a career generally meant one's professional record, i.e., a 'professional career'. On the other hand, a 'Social Career' focuses on one's engagement in social activity. This term, or the concept, was developed by NWECC through its career research and in the process of the development of learning programs implemented in FY2008 for nurturing persons (human resources) for community development.

To meet the objective of building a vibrant community, nurturing people is essential. From this perspective, one finds many women engaged, with a keen sense of ownership, tackling issues close to everyday life from organizing educational activities related to child rearing and parent-teacher-association (PTA), to promoting gender equality, ensuring food safety as thoughtful consumers and encouraging environmental sensitivities concerning the amount of household garbage, the need for recycling resources, and getting involved in community development through nurturing tourism. These activities have rarely been recognized as career in the past. Due to the prevalence of the narrow definition of career, career was synonymous with a 'professional career'. Given that community activities described above represent continuous involvement in building vibrant communities, it can be considered as a career, one's history and CV, curriculum vitae.

We called it a 'Social Career'. As stated earlier, career here is defined from a personal perspective. It is necessary therefore to establish how it was formed, and how it effected personal development as human beings, their lives, and their family's. Similarly, 'Social Career' can be seen from a social aspect from the view point of social human resource contributing to community development. While 'Social Career' has a personal perspective the other side of the coin can be said to represent the process of nurturing socially-minded individuals.

We have taken issue against detaching 'human resources development' from how individuals live their lives. The concept of 'Social Career' allows us to connect personal life with human resources development.

The concept of a 'Social Career' enables us to take stock of the significance of the many socially relevant activities conducted in communities as well as the accumulated experiences of women engaged in myriads of activities as individuals. The National Women's Education Center has also developed a methodology using a worksheet incorporating the analytical processes of carrying out activities, and ways to overcome difficulties encountered, in order to promote practical understanding of the idea of a 'Social Career' by as many people as possible. While the concept is still in the process of being academically established, NWECC hopes to substantiate the concept of a 'Social Career' by introducing women who are agents of practical activities leading to the resolution of issues encountered by regional and local communities.

INFORMATION FROM NWECC

Databook on Gender Statistics: Women and Men in Japan 2009



Databook on Gender Statistics: Women and Men in Japan 2009 (National Women's Education Center and Yoichi Ito ed. Gyosei, ¥2,500) was published at the end of March 2009.

The book divides social life into 12 categories: (1) Population; (2) Family and Households; (3) Labor Force and Employment; (4) Labor Conditions; (5) Time Use and Unpaid Work; (6) Household Economy and Assets; (7) Education and Learning; (8) Social Security and Social Welfare; (9) Health and Healthcare; (10) Safety, Crime and Violence; (11) Decision-Making; and (12) Gender Consciousness, analyses the current status of women on the basis of various statistical data, and uses numerous charts to provide reader-friendly explanations.

Written in collaboration with specialists in social statistics, this book has been highly valued for providing objective information on gender equality since its first edition was published in 2003. The 2009 edition provides

up-to-date data, appendices such as a glossary, statistical items related to gender equality measures and policies and more comprehensive prefecture-specific data have been included in an effort to better respond to needs in the field.

Grasping the current situation on the basis of data is indispensable to promoting the formation of a gender-equal society. We sincerely hope you will benefit from the use of this databook.

- Inquiries: Office of Research and International Affairs
- Sales Distributor: Gyosei Corporation.
- HP : <http://www.gyosei.co.jp/home/top/>

Special Exhibition at the Women’s Archives Center “The Birth of Women Scientists ~ Women who Met the Challenges ~”

An exhibition entitled “The Birth of Women Scientists ~ Women who Met the Challenges ~” will be held in the Exhibition Room of the Women’s Archives Center, which opened last year, from October 6,2009.

The exhibition introduces five pioneering women who studied at institutions of higher education and went on to challenge careers as a scientist or engineer in the early twentieth century. The exhibition introduces not only the characters of these five women, but also the people who supported them and the circumstances surrounding science and engineering education at that time.

The five women scientists to be introduced are:

- TANGE Ume
(First Japanese woman admitted to an imperial university; recipient of doctoral degrees from both Japan and American universities)
- YASUI Kono
(First Japanese female recipient of a doctoral degree)
- KURODA Chika
(First Japanese woman admitted to an imperial university; first female recipient of a Bachelor of Science)
- TSUJIMURA Michiyo (First Japanese female recipient of a Doctor of Agriculture)
- SUZUKI Hideru (First Japanese female recipient of a Doctor of Pharmacy)

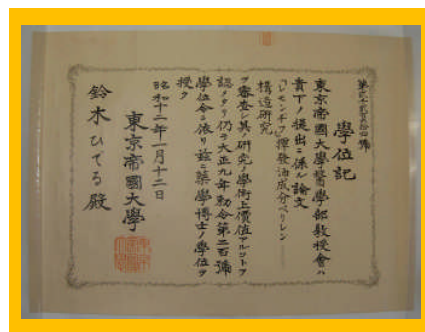


We look forward to your visit.

★Exhibits (examples) ★



TSUJIMURA Michiyo's scale



Certificate of a Doctor of Pharmacy (SUZUKI Hideru)

- Exhibition Period:
October 6 ~ December 13, 2009
- Venue: Exhibition Room,
Women’s Archives Center, 1F,
Main Building
- Opening Hours: 9:00 ~ 17:00
- Admission: Free

FY2009 Programs by NVEC

1 Improvement of capabilities of core leaders for women's education

Program	Targets & Numbers	Date	Contents
Training Course to Promote Gender Equality for Leaders of Women's Facilities, Groups and Organizations 【Course for Managerial Staff】 【Course for Group Leaders】	Managerial staff at women's facilities and leaders of women's groups and organizations, etc. 80 persons	June 18 (Thurs.) – 20 (Sat.), 2009	Conduct advanced and specialized training to facilitate the acquisition of specialized knowledge, management skills, uses of networks, etc. required of leaders who proactively promote gender equality in their communities.

Program	Research Collaborators	Goals & Contents
Research on Women's Facilities as Hubs for Promoting Gender Equality	Researchers in the fields of women's education and lifelong learning; individuals involved in women's facilities; leader of women's organizations, etc.	To further promote gender equality by conducting research that contributes to enhancement and strengthening of the functions of women's facilities as hubs for promoting gender equality by grasping and analyzing the status of women's facilities on the basis of research results accumulated up to and including FY2008.

2 Development and popularization of learning programs related to emerging issues concerning gender equality, women's education and family education

Program	Research Collaborators	Goals & Contents
Research on Promotion of Gender Equality for Revitalization of Local Communities	Researchers, administrators and individuals from groups and organizations involved in the fields of women's education or family life support.	Research policies and measures that will enable both men and women to flourish with the aim of stimulating communities by supporting women's challenges in local activities such as NPOs and promoting men's participation in community activities that support raising the next generation.

Program	Targets & Numbers	Dates	Contents
Training Course for Leaders of Child Raising and Family Life Support Training Seminar for Leaders of Child Raising and Family Life Support	-Officials in charge of support for child raising and family life in prefectures and designated cities -Leaders of child raising supporters, child raising networks -Individuals in charge of corporate social contributions, raising of the next generation - Staff at women's facilities, social education facilities, etc. 100 persons	May 29 (Fri.) – 30 (Sat.), 2009	Incorporate practical case studies in the promotion of men's participation in child raising support activities into the seminar content, and conduct specialized and practical training from a gender-equal perspective.

Program	Targets & Numbers	Dates	Contents
Training Program on the Promotion of Support for Women's Career Building	Staff at women's facilities, social education facilities, etc.; members of organizations, groups, NPOs, etc.; faculty responsible for career education at universities and other tertiary education facilities; etc. 60 persons	October 7 (Wed.) – 9 (Fri.), 2009	Use the outcome of research conducted to date to conduct specialized and practical training in support for women's career building with a view to contributing toward support for women's career building offered by women's facilities, etc., including the kind of support needed as women's lifestyles and the situations they find themselves in diversify and become more complex in the midst of rapid social change.
Forum on Exchange in Research and Practices Promoting Gender Equality	-Leaders of women's groups and organizations -Researchers -Administrators of gender equality, women's education, family education -Staff of women's facilities; etc. 600 persons	August 28 (Fri.) – 30 (Sun.), 2009	Support the building of networks to promote mutual exchange through practice and research, gain the participation of a broad range of age groups, and create opportunities to discover, secure and train new human resources with a view to contributing toward resolving pressing issues such as support for women's diverse career building, child raising support and the work-life balance.
Summer School for High and Junior High School Girls 2009 ~ Scientists and Engineers of the Future ~ (Commissioned by Japan Science and Technology Agency)	3 rd year junior high school girls; senior high school girls; and parents and teachers with an interest in science and technology Students 100 persons Parents & Teachers 50 persons	August 13 (Thurs.) – 15 (Sat.), 2009	Hold a residential hands-on science program with the aim of enabling junior and senior high school girls to discover new possibilities for themselves in the fields of science and technology through dialogue and interaction with scientists, engineers and students at science and engineering universities. Hold a program for parents and teachers in conjunction with this.
Seminar on Support for Victims of Spousal Violence (Commissioned by the Cabinet Office)	【Basic Seminar】 Individuals with less than 3 years' experience as a counselor at spousal violence counseling and support centers, gender equality centers, etc. nationwide 50 persons on each occasion 【Applied Seminar】 Individuals with 3 or more years' experience as a counselor at spousal violence counseling and support centers, gender equality centers, etc. nationwide 50 persons 【Management Seminar】 Supervisors of spousal violence counseling services at spousal violence counseling and support centers, gender equality centers, etc. nationwide 50 persons	Regional Seminars 2009: Osaka: August Kyoto: November Iwate: November December 3 (Thurs.) – 4 (Fri.), 2009 January 28 (Thurs.) – 29 (Fri.), 2010	The following seminars will be held for counselors, etc., at local public entities nationwide that provide spousal violence counseling services with the aim of ensuring smooth and timely counseling procedures, etc., and enhancing the quality of their services. 【Basic Seminar】 A basic practical seminar to facilitate the acquisition of basic knowledge and skills required of counselors. 【Applied Seminar】 A specialized practical seminar to facilitate the acquisition of advanced knowledge and counseling skills. 【Management Seminar】 A seminar designed to enhance the knowledge and skills required of managers.

3 Provision of information, materials and research findings relating to gender equality, women's education and family education

Program	Contents	
Maintenance and Development of the Women's Information Portal "Winet"	Improve dissemination of information by updating the contents of portal sites for women and family and the various databases constructed and provided by the Center that contribute to the formation of a gender-equal society	
Construction of Women's Archives	Collect and organize materials related to women and make the "Women's Digital Archive System" and the Women's Archives Center accessible to the public.	
Collecting, Organizing and Providing Information and Materials on Women and Family	Collect, organize and provide information and materials pertinent to gender equality, women and family.	
Reference Service and Photocopying Service Inter-Library Lending Service	Provide information to visitors and in response to mail, email and telephone inquiries. Provide copying services for materials owned by the Information Center for Women's Education, and lending services through libraries, women's centers, etc.	
Program	Contents	
Exhibitions of Books and other Materials on Women and Family	Deepen understanding in the fields of women and family by displaying materials owned by the Center in exhibitions organized around quarterly themes and special exhibitions.	
Program	Research Collaborators	Goals & Contents
Research on the Use of Statistics in Promotion of Gender Equality	Researchers and experts in the fields of women's studies, gender research and statistics	Conduct research on methods of providing statistical data pertaining to women and men that contributes to the formation of a gender-equal society from the Data Book of Gender Equality Statistics 2009 compiled in FY2008 that can be used as a reference during planning, management, etc. when women's facilities, etc., implement programs.

4 Promote international contributions, collaboration and cooperation related to gender equality and women's education

Program	Targets & Numbers	Dates	Contents
Empowerment Seminar for Women Leaders in the Asia Pacific Region	Administrative officers and NGO leaders (incl. Japan) Around 7 persons	October 22 (Thurs.) – 31 (Sat.), 2009 10 days	Conduct a practical participatory seminar on women's capacity building and personnel training for administrative officers responsible for women's policy and education and NGO leaders in a position to disseminate and popularize the results of training in developing countries etc.
International Forum for Women's Empowerment	Administrators involved in gender equality, women's education and home education; staff of women's facilities; leaders of women's groups and organizations; researchers; individuals involved in international exchange and development assistance;	October 31 (Sat.), 2009	Invite overseas specialists and analyze issues pertinent to the Asian Pacific Region around themes of a global scale such as women's human rights and women's capacity building and training; deepen exchange with researchers, government officials and leaders of women's organizations, etc. overseas; and promote the building of networks.

	business people, etc. Around 40 persons		
Seminar on the Promotion of Education for Girls and Women II (Commissioned by JICA)	Supervisors of women's education in developing countries in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East 12 persons	January 12 (Tue.) – February 5 (Fri.), 2010	Conduct a practical participatory seminar for supervisors of women's education in developing countries with a view to improving their capabilities to formulate programs to promote education that addresses mitigation of gender differences in basic education by recognizing issues prevalent in each country and acquiring the knowledge and skills needed to resolve them.
Country-specific Training: Nigeria (Commissioned by JICA)	Government administrators responsible for promoting gender equality in Nigeria 6 persons	May 6 (Wed.) – 28 (Thurs.), 2009	Conduct training for government officers from the National Center for Women's Development and Kano State, Nigeria, on the functions of women's facilities, the roles of their staff, and the activities of groups of women farmers in Japan with the aim of imparting knowledge and skills that are useful for revitalizing local and regional women's centers.
Program	Research Collaborators	Goals & Contents	
Research on education, awareness-raising and liaison measures for the prevention of trafficking in persons	Researchers and practitioners specializing in fields such as women's education, social education, jurisprudence, information science, social policy, international cooperation, NGOs, etc.	To focus attention on international and multifaceted aspects of trafficking in persons, and conduct research that builds upon research conducted up to and including FY2008 and contributes toward coordination and cooperation with local activities with a global perspective that are necessary for education and awareness-raising conducive to prevention of such trafficking.	

5 Learning Support Programs & Publications

Program	Contents
Learning Support Program	Respond to inquiries about programs planned and implemented by groups and organizations that use the National Women's Education Center. Expand the services provided to users and usage by providing and implementing NWECE programs related to gender equality
Social Education Internship Program PR & Information Dissemination	Aims to enable students taking practical courses in social education at universities to learn the current status of women's education and the roles played by women's facilities through experiential learning in the form of assistant work at sponsored programs. Period: One week including the duration of the sponsored program Acceptance: a few individuals NWECE Newsletter Introduces NWECE activities and updates on the current status of women in Japan to readers overseas in English. Main distribution: Overseas government institutions responsible for women's issues; women's centers and organizations; and international organizations, etc. Information dissemination: On demand (URL: http://www.nwec.jp/en/publish/#head1) NWECE News Provides information on NWECE activities; researches and the ensuing reports and preparation of material; fundamental knowledge about words; users' opinions; and articles related to the Center.

	Distribution: Government institutions; women's facilities; women's organizations; universities; mass media; general, etc. Publication: Biannually (July 2009 and January 2010)
Journal of the National Women's Education Center of Japan (Vol. 14)	Publishes NWECC research on women's education, family education, women's studies and women's information in Japan and overseas as well as selected publicly solicited papers. Theme: Women and Human Rights (Tentative) Publication: Annual (March 2010)

VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO NWECC (April 2009 - September 2009)

President of the Busan Women and Family Development Institute Visits NWECC



President of the Busan Women and Family Development Institute (third from left), accompanying staff and NWECC staff

Ms. Jeon Sang Soo, President of the Busan Women and Family Development Institute of Korea visited NWECC on May 13, 2009. The Busan Women and Family Development Institute was established by Busan Metropolitan City in May 2008 with the aim of fostering healthy families and realizing a gender-equal society, and the purpose of this visit was for President Sang Soo to lay out her own management vision. Everyone involved actively shared opinions and exchanged information on research programs and techniques for international exchange and cooperation to be

undertaken by NWECC which promotes gender equality. Mutual exchange was further deepened while visiting the Information Center for Women's Education and the Women's Archives Center, and receiving explanations about the value of information storage.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The National Women's Education Center (NWECC) -the Independent Administrative Institution strives towards the formation of a gender-equal society. Cooperating with organizations and institutions involved in women's education in Japan and other countries, NWECC functions as a national center for women's education to promote training opportunities for leaders in women's education and others in the field; opportunities for exchange between groups, both women's groups and family education support groups; specialized research into women's education and family education; and the collection, compilation and dissemination of information on women and the family. The NWECC Newsletter is published twice a year to introduce our activities.

NWECC Newsletter has been published since 1984. It includes information on various activities undertaken by the National Women's Education Center as well as women in Japan. The paper-based newsletter was reborn as a digital-based news source to facilitate more efficient and timely dissemination of the information.

We invite you, hereafter, to access information real time from the Center's Home Page as well as read our latest newsletter from the following pages.

○NWECC Home Page(English) <http://www.nwec.jp/en/>

○NWECC Newsletter Top Page <http://www.nwec.jp/en/publish/#head1>

★ In the singing of insects, I feel the coming of Autumn. Thank you for reading NWECC Newsletter.

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