



2024 WISE in Nagano, May 24-26, 2024

Japan Institute for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship



Japan Institute for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship (JSIE) organized Women's Initiative for Sustainable Empowerment (WISE) in Nagano on May 24-26, 2024 at Zenkoji Yakuoin and the University of Nagano. Co-hosted by the University of Nagano school of Social Innovation, this program is designed to promote entrepreneurship and collaboration toward innovative solutions against various social challenges related to Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs). We welcomed 29 participants from various countries, including the Madagascar, Tunisia, Thailand, Czech Republic, Indonesia, Venezuela, Colombia, Vietnam, Namibia, Kenya, Spain, and Japan. They had opportunities to shape ideas into plans through group work and to learn leadership and communication skills.

Under the theme of "Global x Inclusive x Leadership ~ Creating New Social Values for Sustainable Community," 2024 WISE in Nagano was co-sponsored by the University school of Nagano Social Innovation and supported by Nagano prefecture, Globalgiving, Servicenow, Flower Robotics, Impact Hub Tokyo, K.K. nabetomo, and K.K.Guardian. We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your support.



JSIE has invited ideas that help to make our society better for the next generation. Participants shared their ideas tackling social problems and six groups were formed based on participants' interest. Participants pitched their ideas on the first day and voted, and top 6 ideas are selected. 6 ideas turned into 6 cross-border groups. Group members worked throughout 3 days of the program. WISE program is supported by United States Embassy of Tokyo, and we are honored to welcome Mr. Joshua Gonzalez for sending a kind message for our program, saying that the experience of different cultures strengthened himself and opened his eyes for more opportunities.

JSIE supports fostering global talent, and offers global networking opportunities for participants, including students, young and experienced professionals, with an emphasis on helping women and minorities realize their greatest potential. Women's Initiative for Sustainable Empowerment (WISE) program is to provide opportunities to shape our life mission and work toward social challenges.

JSIE particularly focused on the following points and asked participants to consider such principles.

- *Identify and define problem(s)
- *Present and explain your ideas to others
- *Negotiate, collaborate, and involve with others
- *Accept different values and be flexible
- *Play leadership and bring "the best outcome"

2024 WISE in Nagano “Global x Inclusive x Leadership ~ Creating New Social Values for Sustainable Community” by JSIE



Mr. Tatsuya Matsui



Ms. Shino Tsuchiya



Mr. Michael Brown

Six teams presented their project ideas and implementation plans in the end of 3-day program. Each group had brilliant pitch and unique ideas as a result of working in very diverse environment. All enjoyed the unique and rich communication opportunities. They worked so hard on creating sustainable mechanisms and shared great time discussing how, why, what and when to produce new project plans. Organizers are very proud of all teams’ high-quality project plans within a short period!

Mentors were providing different perspectives, asking critical questions and encouraging participants to take continued effort for shaping plans. Mentor Mr. Tatsuya Matsui, an artist and CEO of Flower Robotics who currently is working on Osaka Expo design and was chosen to be Todaiji temple artist in 2023, provided a broader perspective to tackle problems. Ms. Shino Tsuchiya advised perspectives from a professional community builder who has in-depth experience in rebuilding local communities. Mr. Michal Brown, co-founder of KK nabetomo emphasized practicality. Ms. Caitlin Puzzar, a WISE fellow (2019 Kumamoto) and CEO of a newly incorporated K.K. Guardian. She presented her kimino micata system, an SOS communication support tool to detect child abuse and bullying. With sharing her journeys, participants learned hints for their own projects.



2nd prize: Not miles away team

1st prize winner: Wellness theater



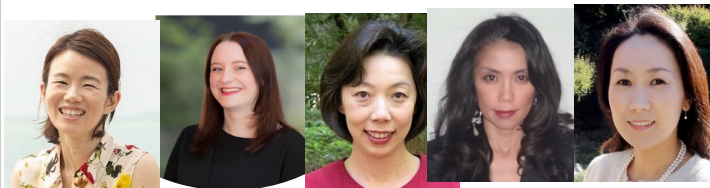
3rd prize: You(th) Empowered team

The 1st prize went to “Wellness theater” team (Above) presented avatar-based anonymous consultation service for people who suffer menopause. The 2nd prize went to “Not miles away” team (upper right) that proposed a sustainable system for vanilla farmers in Madagascar to improve their quality of life and business through micro-financing. Third prize went to “You(th) Empowered” team (further right) that presented activities to reach out to peers of younger generations in disadvantaged areas to empower through peers’ voice.

With a tremendous support from Prof. Sayaka Watanabe, participants enjoyed working at the beautiful campus of the University of Nagano. JSIE also wants to thank student helpers of Kai, Hinako, and Sumei.



JSIE staff Fumiko Sasaki from NY provided keynote with life stories on Academia as well as experience from working with African education NGO. JSIE facilitator Hiromi Murakami also joined as mentor to stimulate thinking patterns and innovative minds.



Sayaka Caitlin Hiromi Fumiko Mayumi

We the organizer and staff also want to thank talented Participants gathered at WISE in Nagano!

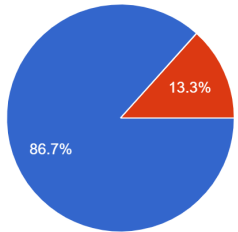
JSIE is committed to support those WISE fellows for their activities. Please see www.jsie.net/en for more information.





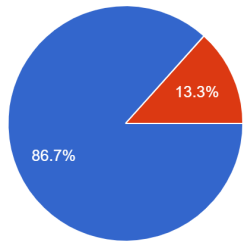
アンケート結果

1) WISE2024の満足度について教えてください。



- Very satisfied 大変満足
- Somewhat satisfied まあ満足
- Somewhat dissatisfied あまり満足していない
- Dissatisfied 満足していない

2) ファシリテータは効果的でしたか？



- Very much よくできていた
- Somewhat much まあできていた
- A little あまりできていなかった
- Very little ほとんどできていなかった

Q: What you've learned from this program, and what inspired you the most during the program?

・ 普段体験できないような貴重な経験をいただけたことに非常に満足しています。若い世代の話聞いたことや、バックグラウンドが異なる人の考えを吸収できたことは非常に良かったです。

・ Super collaborative program designed for groups who have really deferent background. It was so inspiring for me because I rarely make conversation with younger generation.

・ 多様な世代や国の方の参加と、力を合わせて1つのプロジェクトを磨き上げることが、とても面白かったです。この場にいる全員から、たくさんの学びをいただきました。

Q: WISE in Nagano プログラムで最も刺激を受けたことは？

・ 英語で行われたプログラムであること。フラットな関係性が築きやすいのと、英語力で助けてと言う必要があった環境。助け合うことで新しいアイデアが出てきたり、仕事でも抱え込むのではなくそうあっていいのだと気づきました。

・ 同年代の子たちがやりたいことをみんなの前で堂々と発表していたこと。

・ 各メンターの話から、社会貢献=非営利だけではない。社会貢献をして利益を出しながら、またそれを社会に還元できるいいサイクルを作ることができるを知れたこと。

・ バックグラウンドや年代も異なるメンバーと意見交換をして一つのアイデアを創り上げ、それに対して様々な分野でご活躍されているメンターやスタッフの方々からフィードバックをいただいたこと。

・ One of the things that inspired me the most is seeing aged people actively participating in the program ; that inspired me to understand that having a positive impact on the world doesn't depend on your age.

・ Enthusiasm of all young people/students and their passion, as well as diversity of ideas to be always open-minded.

・ 意見が言いやすい環境が常にあったこと。

・ The diverse community, mentors unleashing the best out of teams, critical thinking and the team work was amazing.

・ I really liked the fact we had so much diversity not only in terms of nationalities but also in terms of knowledge and age .

・ Getting to meet different people from all over the world and coming together to make our idea work well.

・ 様々なバックグラウンドの方々との意見交換ができた点、素晴らしいメンターやスタッフの方々とお話しができた点がよかったです。

