



2021 WISE YOUTH GLOBAL July 22-24, 2021

Japan Institute for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship (JSIE) organized Women's Initiative for Sustainable Empowerment (WISE) Youth Global program on July 22-24, 2021, Online. This program is designed to promote entrepreneurship and collaboration toward innovative solutions against various social challenges related to Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs). At the program, 29 participants from the U.S., Canada, and Japan had opportunities to shape ideas into plans through group work and to learn leadership and communication skills.

Under the theme of "Creating New Social Values for Sustainable Community", 2021 WISE Youth Global was co-sponsored by Pnyx with the cooperation of the United States Department of State. We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your support.

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"



Asuka Derfler Morinaga



Tasuke Furuichi



Nonhlanhla



Caitlin Puzzar

Ms. Chihiro Ishikawa, a WISE fellow, shared her gender project Harvard Global WE story & experience; Ms. Nonhlanhla from South Africa presented her Township Project, empowering women for studio engineers; and Ms. Caitlin Puzzar, a WISE fellow, also presented her Child abuse detection project with support of JSIE. Sharing their journeys, students learned hints for their own projects.

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



Akiyo Higaki



Chihiro Ishikawa

2021 WISE Youth Global “Creating New Social Values for Sustainable Community” by JSIE x Pnyx



Kick-off speaker

Mr. Tsubasa Nozawa

Mr. Nozawa started his own business in his hometown of Kumamoto at the age of 15. He started an IT and education support company. At the WISE Youth program, he talked about the episode and management when his company was launched.

Mentors were providing different perspectives, asking critical questions and encouraging continued effort for shaping plans. Mentor Mr. Kunihiro Ohno, an IT engineer, a Ph.D. candidate at Kyoto University and an entrepreneur provided a broader perspective to tackle problems. Ms. Chihiro Ishikawa advised perspectives on gender and women empowerment. Ms. Caitlin Puzzar provided practical perspective from her own hands-on experience. JSIE staff Fumiko Sasaki from NY provided unique views on Academia as well as experience from working with African education NGO. JSIE facilitator Hiromi Murakami also joined as mentor to stimulate thinking and minds.



The 1st prize went to “Period Poverty” team. (Above) Project idea is about providing means to share knowledge about period and women’s health in community level. The 2nd prize went to “Food Loss” team (below) that proposed bento box business using near expiration ingredients gathered from supermarkets so solve both food.



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



Guest speaker Ms. Yuki Kondo-Shah of the US Consulate Fukuoka said that the experience of different cultures strengthens herself and helped her overcome difficulties. Mr. Paul Christie joined the program as a judge on the final day. Paul runs “Walk Japan” a unique travel company located in Kunisaki, Oita, to show foreign travelers to enjoy rich resources and beautiful countryside scenery of Japan. Paul is re-finding very attractive side of Japan and preserve farming in local villages.

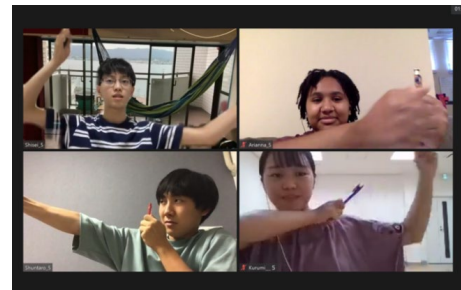


Ms. Yuki Kondo-Shah

Five teams presented their business ideas and implementation plans in the end of 3-day program. All of presentations were very impressive and fascinating.



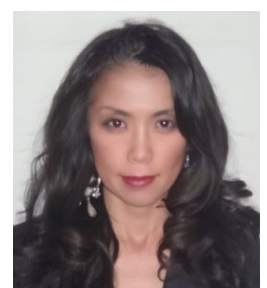
Mr. Paul Christie



Each group had brilliant presentation and great ideas, and people with very diverse background, enjoyed the unique & rich communication opportunity, and working together online. They worked hard on creating sustainable mechanisms and shared great time discussing how, why, what and when to come up with new project plans. Everyone should be very proud to develop such a high-quality project within such a short time! Very impressive.



Facilitator
Hiromi Murakami

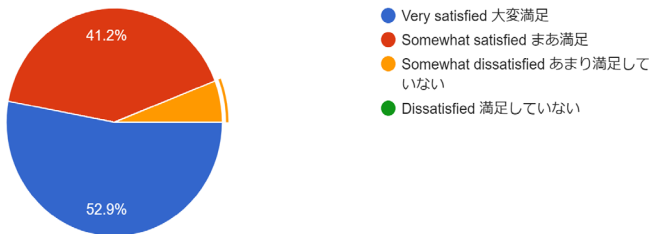


Lecturer
Fumiko Sasaki

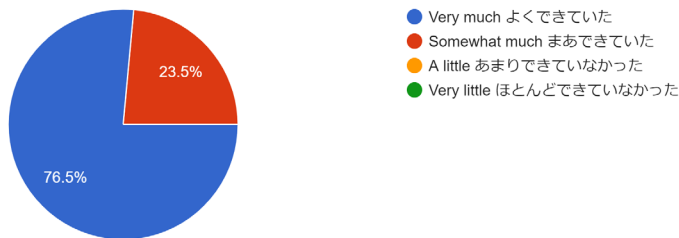


Evaluation Survey Result

1) Rate your level of satisfaction



2) How effective were the facilitators?



Q: What is it that you liked the most about WISE Youth Global?

I was able to know the opinions and ideas of people in various positions.

I was able to learn ways of thinking differently by interacting with people with diverse, which you can never experience if you are with only Japanese people.

Since the group was small, it was easy to ask questions and make comments. Also, the mentors advised us so much detail that I was able to learn what I need to think about when starting a business.

Being able to interact with people of the same age in various countries.

Able to discuss global issues with others and listen opinions from people around the world.

I liked that I was able to meet different people and mentors and discuss many different topics with them. I am very grateful for the experience and look forward to the next one!

The interactions with other students from across the world and how that brought different viewpoints into our project.

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

Youth have the power to make a difference now.

I realized that there are people who have various ideas based on their different experiences. At the same time, I found that some people had similar awareness of the problem!

I learned that it was important to think if the service/product is really needed by people and also what is the uniqueness of the service/product that differentiate from others.

To think concretely and implement the idea seriously. In school discussions and classes, I was given the opportunity to think, but I didn't have the opportunity to really take action.

Working with my group mates inspired me the most, because it was challenging to work on a project together with unfamiliar people within three days. I challenged myself and my potential possibilities in this program.

I think what inspired me the most was the diverse array of thoughts I was able to hear and simply because it opened me up to understand different perspectives in critical analyzing a problem.

