Varied Projects to Implement “Leave no one behind”:
Use of ICT, Provision of Sanitary Goods, and Support of Immigrants Language Learning

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Outline

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Introduction

Background

To achieve the SDGs implementing the “Leave no one behind”, JAUW has worked on the theme “Education, Gender and Inclusion” since 2018, even before the COVID-19 pandemic.

The whole world including Japan was devastated by COVID-19, revealing the existing inequality in education, gender and by the origin/roots. It further has expanded the economic, digital, educational and gender divides.

JAUW and its members, then, have explored the main theme by developing various projects taking new approaches under the conditions of pandemic. This presentation reports their actual practices and results, with recommendations for reaching our ultimate goal!
JAUW’s National Seminar 2021
“Education, Gender, and Inclusion—Discussing How to Build an Inclusive Society in Post COVID-19”
Premise for “Leave no one behind”

Individualization

How to meet individual needs
Project 1

To Survey the Public Opinions on “The Use of IT/Digital Media for Realizing the Inclusive Society in Post-COVID-19”
Summary of Methods

- By the Planning & Executive Committee of JAUW

- A Preliminary Survey was conducted from late Aug. to Sep. 2020, to understand the actual situations of education in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- A Full-Scale Survey focusing on the Digitalization at the primary & secondary education levels was carried out in late Sep. 2021.

  150 respondents: 115 (77%) JAUW members; 137 (91%) women; 82 (55%) 60s and younger; 123 (82%) via Google form; 103 (69%) teachers; from 23 out of 47 Prefectures

- 10 big questions
Results: What We Need for the GIGA School Plan

- To support teachers to improve digital literacy: 107
- To supply competent personnel for securing children's individualized support: 82
- To improve the networking conditions at home: 80
- To enhance teaching materials: 75
- To deal with children's psychological problems: 30
- To revise the evaluation method of children: 23
- To offer necessary info./training to parents: 20
- Others: 6
- No idea: 4
- NA: 2

N.B.: GIGA is an abbreviation standing for Global and Innovation Gateway for All.
**Results: Relationship between Equal Opportunity in Education and DX in Education**

- **DX in Edu as a tool for individualization is effective to attain equal opp. in education**: 70%
- **To reduce regional/economic disparities is more important for equal opportunity in edu., apart from DX in education**: 65%
- **DX in edu. is effective for equal opp. in edu., which requires individualization**: 47%
- **DX has no connection with equal opp. in edu., which needs to meet individual difference**: 40%
- **DX in Edu can be effective, since to reduce regional/economic disparities is essential for equal opp.**: 34%
- **No idea**: 12%
## Results: What is Important in Education in Order to Implement the Inclusive Society

- To enforce the support system for teachers: 104
- To develop the education of information literacy: 102
- To reduce the economic disparity affecting education: 92
- To enhance the support system for students learning: 87
- To improve the ICT environment at homes: 81
- Education for democracy, human rights and welfare: 76
- To build the network between teachers: 67
- To develop digital materials for education: 67
- To support extra-curricular activities: 43
Recommendations from Project 1

1. To enforce the support system for teachers to utilize the digital media in education

2. To introduce measures for reducing the regional and economic disparities in using digital media

3. To construct an educational environment where Face-to-Face and Online types classes can work together being connected closely in an inseparable way
Project 2

Responding to “Period Poverty”, revealed during COVID-19 pandemic

A Joint Project of 6 NGOs in Nagasaki Pref.; JAUW’s Nagasaki Branch is one of the 17 supporters for the 6 NGOs
Summary of the Project

- Ms. Yasuko Yasuhi*, a gynecologist and Ms. Asami Nakayama*, a nurse committed to sex education together with their friends called for colleagues of the same wish to solve the problem of “Period Poverty” in Nagasaki.

- Six NGOs joined to organize the project and started a crowdfunding to collect the expenditure for distributing free sanitary napkins at restrooms of certain model schools and community buildings.

- The project has succeeded in fund-raising and in attracting the public attention to this issue including related root problems, by being taken by the media.

*These initiators are not JA UW members
A sample scene to show how the napkins and the info. of consulting services are provided at a ladies’ room of a community center by the project
Recommendations from Project 2

1. To directly supply the poor families with sanitary napkins as part of social infrastructure

2. To widely publicize this issue and related problems due to gender inequality by holding a public forum, etc.

3. To drastically transform the government to take into consideration the gender equity in policy making of economy, welfare, education and human health
Project 3

A Study on How to Support People with Foreign Roots in Order to Make Japan a Really Inclusive Society, Consisting of Two Phases: Survey and Study Meetings
Summary of the Fact-Finding Survey

- By the Research Committee, in cooperation with 14 branches of JAUW
- A Fact-Finding survey was nationally conducted in 2019: July 8th – September 8th
- 38 local governments answered 4 big questions by interviews in principle

**Questions:**

- **Q1.** Do you provide special support to parents having their origins in foreign countries with regard to their children’s future courses?
- **Q2.** If your answer to Q1. was “Yes”: Could you explain what kind of special support do you provide?
- **Q3.** If your answer to Q1. was “No”: Could you explain the reasons for not providing special support?
- **Q4.** What should be prioritized by the educational institutions for supporting the primary/secondary school children with foreign roots?
Advocacies
Based on the Results of the Fact-Finding Survey

1. To assign a professional Japanese language teaching staff to every primary & secondary school

2. To enhance the guidance system for future courses, including the choice of higher educational institution: High school/college/university

3. To provide each local government with a professional coordinator who can link schools, parents and educational districts and can make effective use of these resources

4. To review the situations and systems from a gender perspective
   - Situations of the mothers in the context of parents support
   - Situations of the Japanese language (mostly female) teachers
Summary of the Study Meetings

1. Lecture by a specialist on “The Present State and Issues of the Japanese Language Education in Japan: How we should design and operate its teaching and learning system” (Aug. 8, 2021)

2. Lecture by a specialist on “The Present State and Issues of the Children with Foreign Roots: The necessity and the actual situations of support for their parents” (Sept. 5, 2021)

3. Lecture by a specialist on “How to Design and Operate the Jap. Lang. Edu. for the Children in Need: For supporting their language and learning development” (Sept. 19, 2021)

4. Public meeting of exchanging opinions with university students having the origins in foreign countries, in order to find “What we can do for the children in need” (Jan. 23, 2022)
Recommendations from Project 3

1. To penetrate the Japanese language education aiming at mutual understanding, not one for integrating the language learners into Japan!
2. To enhance their native language education for the children with foreign roots to grow their identities
3. To build a society in which everyone is respected
4. To provide teachers with trainings to acquire the basic skills of teaching the children in need
Future Prospects

Centering our concern on the gender equality/equity, we JAUW will keep pursuing our mission to make our society and the world much better, by working on any critical issue as a project.

The results and outcomes of a project are to be shared widely with the public as recommendations or advocacies.
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Our Team

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References


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Thank you for listening to my presentation.

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