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## “CO-OP core non Smile School Project” donation presentation held

JCCU and its member Co-ops in cooperation with the Japan Committee for UNICEF had launched a UNICEF donation campaign under the theme “CO-OP core non smile school project” to raise funds to help improve the education environment for the school kids in the Republic of Angola since 2010.

One yen from the sale of each pack of CO-OP brand toilet paper “core non roll” is donated to UNICEF for the project.

The fifth phase of the project was executed from November 1 2014 to October 31, 2015.

During this one year period, a total of 11.1 million packs were sold yielding an amount of 11.1 million JPY.

On December 17, 2015, the fifth donation presentation ceremony was held at the UNICEF House in Tokyo, where the amount was presented to the Japan Committee for UNICEF to support the “children-friendly” school project for the Angola children.

Mr. HAYAMI Ken, Executive Director Japan Committee for UNICEF (R), received the donation from Mr. WADA Toshiaki, Managing Director of JCCU (L).



## JCCU participates in workshop on pollutants management after nuclear accident

On November 12 and 13 2015, NERIS (The European Platform on preparedness for nuclear and radiological emergency response and recovery), held a workshop on “pollutants management after nuclear accident” in Paris – France.

The workshop was an opportunity to discuss and exchange views with NERIS members, international organizations and researchers regarding the various dimensions and challenges of the long-term rehabilitation process after a nuclear accident.

Mr. NONAKA Shunkichi Managing Director of Co-op Fukushima and the manager of JCCU Product Inspection Center took part.

At the workshop, in relation to the accident of Tokyo Electric Power Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, the various activities that Co-op Fukushima and JCCU and member co-ops have organized such as, organizing study session for radioactivity, external radiation exposure

investigation, decontamination volunteer activities, radioactive material intake investigation from domestic meal, investigation for internal exposure amount, fundraising activities, soil screening activities and the children recreation activities in Fukushima Prefecture were reported.

In addition, there were reports from organic agriculture farmers in Nihonmatsu city, Fukushima Prefecture Japan and researchers from Fukushima University followed by panel discussions by panelists consisting of experts from the government and consumer groups across Europe, producers and business organizations.

Through the ties formed it was possible to share the Japanese experience after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant that resulted from the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011.

The future expansion of a dialog between business organizations was also confirmed at the workshop.

## JCCU supports WFP school meal program in Ghana

JCCU and its member Co-ops in cooperation with the Japan Association for the World Food Program (JAWFP) launched the “CO-OP × Red Cup campaign” in 2014 to extend support to the “school lunch program” in the Republic of Ghana for a period of 3 years ending 2016.

In this campaign one yen from the sale of target CO-OP products is donated to WFP for the WFP School Meal program. This year’s campaign was executed from October 1 to November 20 realizing a total amount of 3.86 million JPY which is estimated to support the yearly meal supply of about 773 children.

Last year’s donation amounted to 2.52 million JPY which was estimated to have supported 70,000 meals for the school meal program.

Through social contribution from the sale of CO-OP products, JCCU and member co-ops as well as co-op members and producers will continue to support UN agencies to offer various assistance to developing countries.

## Tottori Co-op forest conservation activities

Tottori Prefectural Government and the municipalities have cooperated to carry out forest conservation activities in the prefecture which will run through till 2019.

Tottori Co-op which is operating in the region is collaborating in this activity as part of its commitment towards environmental conservation since 2009.

On November 11, Co-op Tottori held the seventh "Tottori symbiosis of forest" event to show their commitment in protecting the forest. The event was participated by 150 people including co-op staff, co-op members and their family, citizen from Tonomi district, government officials and related organizations. After greetings from the Chairperson of Tottori Co-op participants were divided into three groups, and while strolling through the forest they experienced tree thinning and tree branch sweeping.

The main purpose of the activity is to protect the forest environment by carrying out afforestation and silviculture activities, thus contributing to the development of the region.

As part of the activity, exchanges with local residents are being carried out, fostering cooperation and mutual understanding between the local government, NGOs and the people regarding forest conservation.

The activities focus primarily on promoting sustainable forest management through voluntary participation, expanding forest protected areas and providing locals with the tools and knowledge to sustainably manage their own resources.



## JCCU participates in "Eco-Products 2015"

JCCU participated in Japan's largest environmental exhibition "Eco-Products 2015" held in Tokyo Big Sight (Tokyo International Exhibition Center) from December 10 to 12, 2015.

The yearly exhibition is organized by Japan Environmental Management Association for Industry with the support of various Government Ministries and organizations, and this year's event was the 17th of its series. The theme for this year's event was: "The Cool Future that I choose".

JCCU took part in this exhibition to showcase its efforts towards a sustainable society.

JCCU set up a booth with the theme "What you can do in life in order to realize a low-carbon society".

In the booths three separate subthemes "reduce CO<sub>2</sub>", "quiz rally", and "product making rally" featuring CO-OP products development, logistics, product use and introducing ideas that leads to better living.

An introduction of how to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> was made which attracted many visitors including young students and the business people.



## Food Action Nippon Award 2015 Excellence Award

In 2008, the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries instituted "Food Action Nippon" which is deployed to improve the food self-sufficiency rate of Japan and to leave a sound food culture to the next generation.

Many organizations through their business practices have been working towards the realization of this goal and an effort rewarding award "Food Action Nippon Award" has been organized every year since the launch of the program.

The "Food Action Nippon Award 2015" was organized in Tokyo to recognize the best organization who has contributed positively towards the ministry's goal.

Co-op Sapporo, a consumer co-operative, was announced the winner of the 2015 award for its commitment to the sale of Japanese deer and for its effort in promoting local production for local consumption.

This year is the seventh time the award ceremony has been held with 61 projects having been rewarded.

Co-op Sapporo has received the award for four consecutive years with project themes:

"Golden grew up", "restaurant in the field", and "fish cooking classroom".

In recent years with the increasing number of Japanese deer and the resulting social problems that accompanies, Co-op Sapporo in cooperation with Hokkaido Japanese deer measures division and the Japanese deer meat business cooperative started the sale of the animal as meat in 6 Co-op Sapporo store outlets in Hokkaido in 2013 after ensuring the safety and quality of the meat.

In 2014 the number of store for the sale of the deer meat was increased to 10 with total sales of 700 animals.





## Okayama Co-op receives award for the employment of persons with disabilities

Okayama Co-op won the "2015 fiscal disabilities workfare in Okayama award" at a ceremony held on November 10, 2015 to honor companies and organizations who have contributed to the employment of people with disabilities.

The ceremony was organized by the Prefectural and National Institute of elderly and disabled job seekers employment support mechanism, Okayama branch with the aim to encourage organizations to expand their room for disabled employment and to create a workplace which is barrier free for the disabled employees.

At the ceremony, Okayama Co-op was honored as a company actively addressing the employment problems of people with disabilities based on effective regulatory compliance and having offering employed facilities for them for many years.

The award recognized the social contribution effort of the co-op.

In Okayama Co-op, employment of people with disabilities is positively advanced through the cooperation with the local government and public institutions such as the local job placement office and local NGOs which support employment of disabled persons.



## News in Brief

### ICA-AP Training Program for Managers of Consumer Co-ops

The second batch of the 2015 training program for managers of consumer co-operatives organized by ICA-AP in collaboration with Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU) was held from November 23 to December 6.

Co-op Kobe and the Co-op Net Business Association provided the training grounds, the facilities and resource persons.

It was attended by five co-operative staff from NTUC FairPrice Singapore (Mr. Ong Jianhui, Mr. Chia Jingwei & Mr. Sng Wee Young) and Saigon Coop (Ms. Vo Thi Ngoc Huong & Mr. Do Le Binh).

The training program consisted of different training modules that together covered all the training proposals requested by the trainees.

At the Co-op Net Business Association, the group received explanation on the structure of the business association and paid visits to the eco recycling center and one of the eco-friendly stores to familiarized with the environmental initiatives by Japanese consumer co-ops to realize sustainable business.

In Co-op Kobe trainees received various lectures including home delivery business, private brand product development, quality assurance, merchandizing support system, customer service staff education and Co-op Kobe next generation development.

There were various useful discussions between the trainees and the resource persons for the training program.

It is hoped that the experience of the training will improve trainees skills and enhance their work performance in their respective job disciplines.

At the end of the program trainees made presentation to the board members of Co-op Kobe. They expressed their ideas about how they could use the training experience to solve practical

solutions in their respective co-ops upon returning to their home countries. They returned home on December 6.



Visit to Home Delivery center of Co-op Net



Store training at Co-op Kobe



Co-op Kobe staff and trainees pose for a group picture

### Season's Greetings to all our readers

As this is the last newsletter before the New Year, it seems a good opportunity to thank you all for your interest and reading of JCCU News over the past years.

In this season of gratitude, we are thankful for your friendship and support.

All of us at JCCU especially the International Department join in saying "Thank you" and wish you all a Happy Holiday and Fruitful New Year.

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