

QC Grade 4 Pilot Test Held in Vietnam

July 13, 2022

Japanese Standards Association



On the day of the pilot test

1. Overview of this project

The Japanese Standards Association (JSA Group), utilizing the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) project, is implementing the "Development of ASEAN Common Qualification Scheme for Quality Control Experts" based on the Japanese Quality Control Examination (QC KENTEI) from January 2020.

This project is divided into two phases: a feasibility study (FS) for 10 ASEAN countries and a pilot test of the QC KENTEI (Grade 4) in the ASEAN countries selected through the FS.

Although the progress of the project has been delayed due to the global spread of the COVID-19, four countries (Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Indonesia) have been selected for pilot testing through the FS in summer 2021.

Vietnam was the first of these four countries to conduct the pilot test, and the pilot test for QC KENTEI was held in Hanoi on Sunday, June 19, 2022.

2. Background and Significance

This project was applied for and adopted by the JAIF project in October 2019 with the support of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) with the aim of developing an ASEAN common qualification scheme for quality control experts using the QC KENTEI conducted in Japan, as we believe that providing quality control (QC) education and training to people working in ASEAN and improving their knowledge level on QC can improve the competitiveness of private companies in ASEAN countries.

The JAIF project requires one ASEAN country to be the Proponent, and the contact point for the project is the Vietnamese government agency, the Directorate for Standards, Metrology and Quality (STAMEQ). The JSA group is acting as the Implementing Agency for the project.

3. Overview of Pilot Test in Vietnam

a) The pilot test was held on the morning of Sunday, June 19, 2022 at Vietnam Japan University in Hanoi.

b) Before the test began, an opening ceremony was held to celebrate the first QC KENTEI in Vietnam. Mr. Le Minh Tam, Deputy Director of STAMEQ Quality Training Center (QTC), the project director in Vietnam, gave an overview of the project. In addition, Dr. Ha Minh Hiep, Deputy Director General of STAMEQ, read a message about his expectations for the project, and a message from Mr. Takenami, President of JSA Solutions Co., Ltd., was read on behalf of the Association.



Scene of the Opening Ceremony

(left end : STAMEQ Dr. Ha Minh Hiep, Third from right : STAMEQ/QTC Mr. Le Minh Tam)

c) The test was conducted for Grade 4, the basic level of QC KENTEI, and 85 of the 100 applicants took the test on the day of the event.

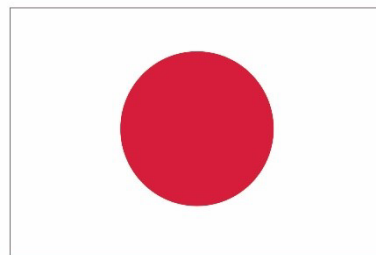
d) The Vietnamese examinees followed the instructions of the local staff and took the test very seriously and in an orderly fashion, just as they do in Japan.

e) When we later checked with STAMEQ to see what the examinees had to say, they generally gave high marks, saying that the Japanese-style test was very new to them, with its solid procedures and other features.

4. Upcoming plans

We plan to hold pilot tests in Malaysia (October 2022), the Philippines (April 2023), and Indonesia (to be coordinated) by the end of June 2023, the deadline for the completion of this project.

※This project on Development of ASEAN Common Qualification Scheme for Quality Control Experts is supported by the Government of Japan through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF).



【About JAIF】

The Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) was officially established in March 2006. JAIF aims at supporting integration efforts to create the ASEAN Community by facilitating the implementation of the ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together, which consists of the blueprints for the ASEAN Political Security Community (APSC), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), as well as the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV and the Master

Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025. JAIF also aims at promoting greater cooperation between ASEAN and Japan by implementing various projects in the areas of disaster management, counter terrorism, maritime cooperation, economic integration, small and medium-sized enterprises development, youth exchanges, Japanese language training, and others.