



Linking to the Future by Enhancing the Sister-City Relationship with the Province of Benguet Utilising the LGOTP Program



Situation

Kochi Prefecture has been continuing exchanges with Benguet Province in the Philippines for more than 40 years since their sister-city relationship was established on 28 July 1975.

Program

1. Number of trainees and training duration: One person per year for six months

2. Schedule:

August: Send an inquiry to the Benguet Provincial Government to gauge their interest. The deadline for reply is October.

January: A trainee and a host institution are selected.

May: Arrival of the trainee in Japan

Mid-May to mid- (or late) June: Japanese-language training in Shiga Prefecture

Late June (or early July) to early November: Specialized training at facilities in Kochi Prefecture

Early November: Return of the trainee to home country

3. History of receiving trainees

In the fields of public administration, agriculture, livestock technology, civil engineering, etc.

Since 2005, Kochi has accepted one trainee from the Benguet Provincial Government for the LGOTP every year. The fields of training are agriculture, landscape gardening, stock farming and civil engineering.

Impact

1. Training in agriculture

Since 2011, the Kochi Agricultural Research Centre in Nankoku City started receiving trainees every year.

2. Training in landscape gardening

At present, a plan is underway to construct a sister-city commemorative park in Benguet. The park is to symbolise the friendship between

Kochi and Benguet. To maintain and manage the park, Kochi has hosted trainees to develop their skills in landscape gardening since 2016.

