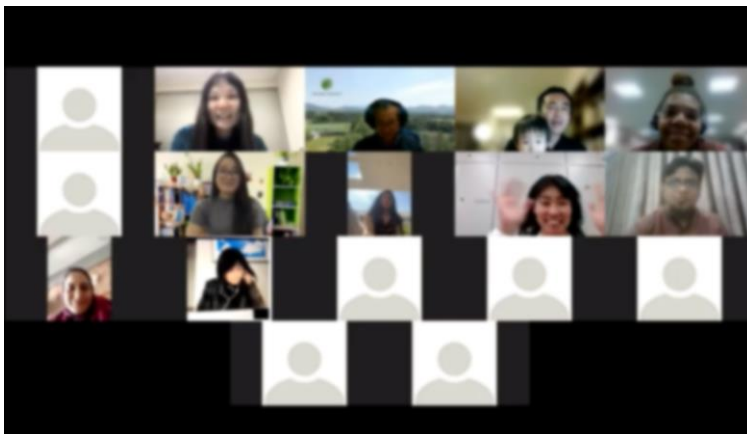


JICA training, 3. Central and Local Administration in Education, Reflection  
2021. 11. 05 17:00-18:00

### **Discussion on ESD Projects in Okayama Prefecture**

In this meeting, two groups of research students had a joint discussion based on the case study of ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) promotion project in Okayama Prefecture. In addition to the research students from outside Japan, the presenters, Mr. Kosaka from Okayama Prefectural Board of Education and Mr. Asakura from Hiroshima University participated in this meeting.

First, Dr. Nakos led the discussion, sharing what the trainees had learned through the lectures so far. Dr. Hanem from Egypt raised two issues: first, in a country like Egypt, where children still have low cognitive skills and need to be trained to become citizens; and second, in a country that receives many immigrants, it is necessary to provide not only education but also support for building a sustainable society. Mr. Kosaka asked the question, "Is there any way to address these issues? Mr. Kosaka pointed out that Japan should be able to learn from other countries because Japan will eventually face the same environment as Egypt.



So, under what circumstances are countries working on "education for sustainable development"? For example, in Cambodia, a situation was shared where community and parental interest in education is low, making it difficult to involve them in school management. In Papua New Guinea, 85% of the islands own the resources, and each island can use the resources for development at its own discretion. The Egyptian trainee shared the scene of the children's shock when he introduced the Egyptian education in Japan. They were surprised at the gap because they had taken the situation in their own country for granted. From this experience, it was suggested that children should be linked to the world to gain a broader perspective. This was raised as an opinion.

In the above discussion, Dr. Yoshida, who is involved in international educational development, emphasized the overall message that education is a long-term investment for a nation, and that it is an activity that forms all kinds of capital for the creation of a nation.