UTokyoOcean Alliance
Participating Divisions
Ocean Alliance works with seven graduate schools, five research institutes, and one research center to implement activities related to information dissemination, ocean think tank, and human resources development.

Ocean Alliance Collaborative Research Organization
- Asian Research Center for Bioresource and Environmental Sciences
- Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute
- Historiographical Institute
- Institute of Industrial Science
- Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia
- Earthquake Research Institute
- Graduate School of Public Policy
- Graduate School of Frontier Sciences
- Graduate School of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Graduate School of Engineering
- Graduate School of Science
- Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- Graduate School of Education

Japan as a maritime nation contributing to the world/oceans

Overseas Internship Project
for International Marine Human Resource

Ocean Alliance Collaborative Research Organization Secretariat
5-1-5 Kashiwanoha,Kashiwa-shi,Chiba,277-8564 JAPAN
Tel : +81-4-7136-6416
E-mail : education@oa.u-tokyo.ac.jp URL : http://www.oa.u-tokyo.ac.jp/

This document is current as of March 2023. Subject to change without notice.
For International Marine Human Resource

Overseas Internship Project Concept

The University of Tokyo established an interdepartmental organization called Ocean Alliance on July 3, 2007 to investigate interdisciplinary scientific problems related to marine affairs. The Ocean Alliance activities include three project studies under the Marine Affairs Basic Program established in 2014. One project, Overseas Internship Project for Development of International Marine Human Resources, aims at forming an effective mechanism, a network, for developing human resources that possess a high level of expertise in marine affairs and that show leadership in international organizations and in other global arenas.

In this project, graduate students are sent to international organizations and research institutions for two to three months with financial support from the Nippon Foundation. The project is expected to contribute to encouraging students to work in these organizations and societies, which are all related to the oceans in one way or another: oceanography and fisheries, and others such as maritime matters. This project is deeply connected with the Interdisciplinary Education Program on Ocean Science and Policy education program started in 2009. More than 50 students enroll every year, and interns are selected mainly from the program students.

I am doing an internship program at IAEA Marine Environment Laboratories in Monaco, as a member of the radioecology laboratory from February to June 2022. I have decided to do this internship program because I wanted to gain experience at an international organization while working with professionals who lead and collaborate with many countries to mitigate the environmental impacts on the marine environment. So far, I’ve learned so many things from the technological skills such as using nuclear and isotopic techniques, which are rarely done in Japan, and to the culture in France. I am really grateful for this opportunity and I will try my best for the rest of my internship period.

Yuki Mark
Second year master’s student in the graduate school of frontier science in the department of natural environmental studies
Ocean Network

Ocean Alliance has strived to forge deep connections by publicizing the results of student internships through symposiums and by constructing a network with international organizations and research institutions through holding lecture meetings.

1. Symposia

Representative students make presentations in an Ocean Alliance symposium held in July every year.

2. Lecture meetings

Members of the international organizations and research institutions that accept students as interns are invited to attend lecture meetings that the Ocean Alliance hosts in an effort to form networks in fields related to ocean research. A secondary aim of the meetings is to encourage students to become interested in working in international organizations in their future careers.

Ten organizations collaborate in accepting our students as interns. Ocean Alliance supports all or part of the associated airfares and living expenses in such cases.

Collaboration among International Organizations

International organizations to which students were sent:

- International Hydrographic Organization (Monaco)
- International Maritime Organization (London, United Kingdom)
- International Telecommunication Union (Geneva, Switzerland)
- Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (Honomu, Hawaii, USA)
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (Paris, France)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Rome, Italy)
- Asian Development Bank (Manila, Philippines)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (Vienna, Austria)
- Japan National Research Institute for Earth Sciences and Disaster Prevention (Tokyo, Japan)
- Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (Bangkok, Thailand)

International organizations

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- International Atomic Energy Agency
- United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

Table 1: Number of students sent to organizations from fiscal year 2014 to fiscal year 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITU</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JASCO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1*</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAEA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO/WHO</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OIEW/FAO</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizations' choice</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Change in the number of participants for the education program and the domestic internships.

Because the purpose of the overseas internship project is the same as that of domestic internships in terms of students’ career paths in the future, Ocean Alliance operates both internships integrally. Therefore, the students who participate in overseas internship earn the 2 credits of “Practice in internship for ocean law and ocean policy.”

Introduction of the internationalization subject

Domestic internship programs have been conducted since fiscal year 2009 in the Interdisciplinary Education Program on Ocean Science and Policy. The name of the subject is “Practice in internship for ocean law and ocean policy”. Students are mainly sent to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, and Northwest Pacific Region Environmental Cooperation Center (NPERC) for two to four weeks in principle. We send some 15 to 20 students every year shown in Table 2, and they can obtain 2 credits by for participating internship and submitting a prescribed report. Students can also participate in an internship operated by the ministries, agencies, and related organizations which make policy. The internship program has proved effective in establishing career paths for graduate students whose majors are ocean-related. (Yamamoto and Kimura, Journal of Japan Society of Ocean Policy, 2016 (in Japanese)).
1. **Practical experience on the international stage**

Students can engage in actual projects related to their own research (business practice), and promote their master or doctor theses (promotion of own studies). They can also discuss issues with members of these organizations.

2. **Forming human networks**

Students can communicate directly with members of the organizations and interns from other countries.

---

**Education Effects**

Through internships, students gain valuable experience that will promote their research and will be instrumental in determining their future career paths. In particular, the following two items are major features of this overseas internship project.

---

**Internship Topics Examples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Mapping shark species distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Rural nutrition in Antsirabe, Madagascar field work preparation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Analysis of the trade in tuna distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNESCO/IOC</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Suggested improvements in Arctic literacy frameworks and products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAEA</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Development and maintenance of Marine Information System (HARIS) and Global Marine Radioactivity Database (GLOMAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eNO</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Improving monitoring and evaluation of IHHP Capacity Building Programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMO</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Project concerning IMO’s mandate on maritime security matter and training package on civil liability in IMO Conventions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITIC</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>ITIC Internship contributes to new proposal for enhancing tsunami education system in Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEADEC</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Community-based resources management/co-management facilities information gathering on fisheries activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEADEC</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>CBRM Project - Community-Based Resource Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Complying with standards and technical regulations: Critical factors in exporting fishery products to Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Assessing artisan/fish processing with in a sea cluster development approach to identify best management modalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Researched information needed for future project in Africa in collaboration with Japanese government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIDO</td>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>Study on compatibility between biodiversity conservation and Indonesia’s fisheries exports (SMARTFish Indonesia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>