



SEISA Africa Asia Bridge 2020

SEISA Africa Asia Bridge 2020
was Held Online for the First Time!

On Saturday, November 14th, 2020, the 6th annual of SEISA Africa Asia Bridge 2020 (SAAB) was held. This year's theme was "Chikei (to know and to connect)" to serve as a bridge between Africa and Asia. SAAB has been attracting thousands of people every year by expanding the circle of learning and interaction both domestically and internationally.

This year, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, all programs were delivered simultaneously via six online channels (Main Venue, JICA Yokohama Second Venue, Chikei Project, LINK, SEISA Channel Nationwide, sTED). With online access to SAAB from all over the world, 20,000 participated according to the official record, the highest number of participants in the history of SAAB. It opened the door to the new possibility. In addition to SEISA High School

in Yokohama, which has been the venue for the event in previous years, JICA Yokohama presented some programs as a second venue. Many special guests were invited, including members of the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) and JICA, as well as ambassadors from various countries. A talk show was held on international cooperation through sports by featuring former Japanese women's Olympic marathoner, Yuko ARIMORI (won two consecutive medals: silver at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics and bronze at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics), tennis player Kimiko DATE (Grand Slam runner-up, highest WTA ranking #4), and current Paralympian Kenta SHINATO (2019 Japan Para Athletics Championships 100m Winner), together with the international students of sports scholarship of SEISA Group and FGC.

SAAB×SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

Many of the activities implemented by FGC and SEISA Group over the years have been a precursor to the SDGs of the United Nations. SDGs have become one of the key concepts in SAAB. Through SAAB, students and staff members of SEISA have realized our connection to the world and learned what is necessary to realize the KYOSEI (living together in harmony). Students of SEISA always think, learn, and act based on the 5Ps (People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, and Partnership), which support the 17 goals of the SDGs, and the three principles of SEISA, "Understand Each Other, Leave Nobody Out and Make Friends."

This year's program was even richer, as it was broadcast on six channels simultaneously. In the main venue, guests from around the world discussed about the future of the world and our roles in that future. In the Chikei Project, Bhutanese students made a presentation titled "Bhutan Judo Today." In addition, the current educational situation in Bangladesh was introduced while there was an online exchange with a school in Myanmar to deepen mutual understandings.

On the SEISA Channel nationwide and sTED, students of SEISA introduced the climates and histories of countries around the world, as well as the connection between Japan and the rest of the world,



What are the SDGs: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are goals adopted at the United Nations Summit in September 2015. The SDGs are a set of 17 development goals, 169 targets, and 232 indicators to achieve a sustainable, diverse, and inclusive society where "no one is left behind" by the year 2030.

and how each student can do something environmentally friendly in their daily lives.

Every year through SAAB, we reaffirm our connection with the world and the efforts we make in our daily lives, to continue to search for things we can do for the future. By continuing to take action for the world, we will be able to achieve SDGs goals.

(Yuka Kimura, FGC)



Online discussion was held between UNDP, JICA and SEISA by connecting New York and Japan



Talk session with Kenta SHINATO at "Para-athlete Dream Talk"



Online exchange with students in Myanmar



International students also help FGC's exhibition area



International Students Activity Report

Online Archery Tournament “Bhutan’s First Indoor Tournament”

On 21st and 22nd of November, the 2nd Bhutan & Japan Friendship Virtual Archery Tournament was held between Bhutan Archery Federation (BAF), FGC and SEISA Group. It utilized Zoom to connect two countries online same as the first tournament in August. 14 from Bhutan, ten from Japan including seven archers of JOC Elite Academy and three archers of SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan, competed in the event to deepen interexchange through the archery. This time for the first time, two para-athletes from the BAF competed in the event, while the JOC Elite Academy competed at the National Training Center in Japan and SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan Archery Club competed at the SEISA Oiso Campus. The competition was a unique combination of real and virtual. With the cooperation and support of the All Japan Archery Federation, we were able to hold the first indoor archery tournament in Bhutan's history.

In the indoor event, participants shoot ten times from a dis-

tance of 18 meters with three shots each within a time limit of two minutes, for a total of 60 rounds. The indoor targets are smaller due to the shorter shooting distance. The most difficult part of the preparation for this event was that Bhutan was unable to prepare an official 18-meter target, and there were no shooting ranges for the 18-meter range, so the event itself was in question. With the cooperation of the All Japan Athletics Federations, we were able to send 18-meter targets directly from FIVICS in Korea to Bhutan. Then Bhutan Badminton Federation helped by offering their badminton arena for the first time indoor competition. This initiative was widely introduced in the local media in Bhutan. The result was that BAF Kinley Tshering won the tournament with a score of 1161 out of 1200 points. Nidup and Sonam also played well, Sonam tied with BAF Karma for the same score. After the match, archers both sides praised each other's good performance through Zoom.

(Hiroaki Ishida, FGC)



Bhutan team compete in the first indoor archery stadium in Bhutan



Archery club of SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan



Zoom exchanges between Japan and Bhutan

Online Karate Competition

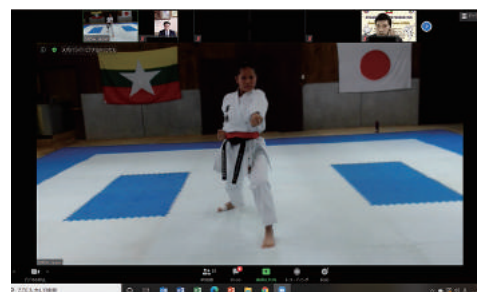
On Saturday, November 26th, 2020, Yamin, Su and Kaung, international students from Myanmar, currently studying at SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan, participated in the online Karate competition hosted by Myanmar Karate Federation (MKF). The online competition was held via Zoom. Each athlete performed Kata individually in front of the camera and competed for points.

The competition is divided into five categories: Under 12, Under 14, Cadet, Junior and Under 21. Three athletes of SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan competed in the Junior category with total ten male athletes and five female athletes. Although the competition was completely different from the usual one, all the athletes showed their practiced Kata to the best of their abilities. The results were as follows: in the women's division, Yamin came in the 3rd place and Su came in the 5th place. Kaung came in the 3rd place in the men's division. More than anything else, it was very meaningful

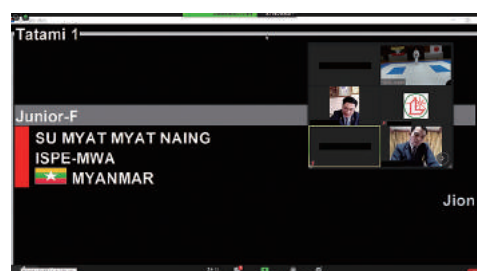


International students discussing with MKF

to be able to participate in such competition hosted in their home country while they are in Japan. We will continue to search for the best possible things that we can do, and work to our utmost. (Shota Miyagawa, FGC)



Su performs Kata online



The first online Karate competition



Challenge Japanese Language Proficiency Test!

On Sunday, December 6th, 2020, international students of SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan, SEISA university and SEISA Dohto University took the exam of Japanese language Proficiency Test (JLPT). Sponsored by the Japan Educational Exchanges and Services (JEES) and the Japan Foundation, JLPT certifies the Japanese language proficiency of non-native speakers of Japanese. International students challenged each level, from N5 to N2, as the opportunity to prove the results of their daily studies and to test their Japanese language skills. The students have been studying Japanese from various angles including kanji, vocabulary, reading long sentences, and listening comprehension towards this day. Some were relieved when the test was over, some sighed and said, "It was difficult," and some gave a confident V-sign. Whatever the outcome of the test, their hard work will surely benefit them in the future. The international students of SEISA will continue to study and improve their Japanese skills.

(Ai Onogi, FGC)



Before the test (From the left: Natnael, Kaung and Daimon)



After the test (From the left; Merhawi, Yamin and Su)

Mr. Daimon Won a Special Award in the Speech Division of SEISA Olympics!

On Friday, December 4th, 2020, Mr. Daimon, a student from Eritrea studying at SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan, won a special award for his speech entitled "What I learned from SEISA" in the speech division of the SEISA Olympics. Prior to the speech presentation, he went over and over the special manners and timing of Japanese greetings. At first, he seemed to be unaccustomed to speaking. However, he could give his speech in Japanese as dignified as that of other Japanese students.

"I want people to feel what Japan is like from a foreigner's point of view. Also, it was a great honor to be able to make a presentation on such a large stage. I would like to brush up my speech skills through this opportunity", says Daimon in the interview conducted after his speech.

Although it was a big challenge for him to give a speech in Japanese, he seemed to have grown in confidence through this experience. FGC will continue to support international students so that they can grow and shine through events like this.

(Yuka Kimura, FGC)



Mr. Daimon with the award certificate



Mr. Daimon during his speech presentation



Award ceremony held both in-person and virtual (Zoom)



Winners pose after the awards ceremony



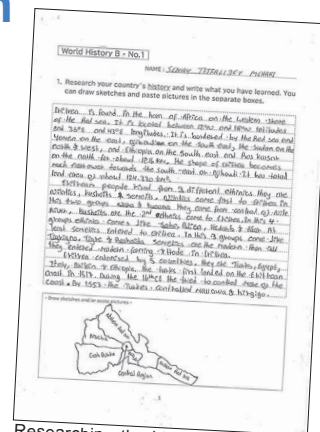
International Students Activity Report

New International Students from Eritrea and Myanmar to prepare for Japan

In the article of FGC News vol. 23, we introduced expected international students, six students (track and field, basketball) from Eritrea and two students (karate) from Myanmar. In Eritrea, Myanmar and Bhutan, where FGC and SEISA Group conduct support activities, the number of COVID-19 infection has been kept at a low level, but the situation has not yet returned to normal. The number of infected people in Eritrea has been on a slight upward trend since the beginning of 2021. Because of this situation, the students mentioned above have not been able to come to Japan yet, and are still waiting for their time to come, but they continue to practice and study in their respective countries despite the restrictions on their activities. In terms of study, worksheet reports of English, math, science, world history, and Japanese were sent from Japan to earn the school credits. It also aims to help them to adjust to Japanese

schools as smoothly as possible when they come. Here are the photo and message from Mr. Senay from Eritrea.

When FGC staff visited to Eritrea in 2019, Mr. Senay showed remarkable running ability that even SEISA's track and field coach was surprised. We look forward to seeing his performance in Japan. (Yosuke Ishii, FGC)



Researching the history of Eritrea for a world history report

Message from Senay Tesfaldet Mehari (Middle distance, Track & Field, Eritrea)

I am very grateful for the opportunity to be a scholarship student in Japan to pursue athletics and studies. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, my visit to Japan has been delayed, but I am making positive preparations. I am looking forward to the day when I will join SEISA family.



Mr. Senay (right side person) is eating Injera, a traditional meal of Eritrea, with his family



Training in the vast field in Eritrea

Information

• FGC Calls for Supporting Member of Individual and Corporate in the fiscal 2021

The new fiscal year of FGC started in January.

Supported by 54 corporate members and 366 individual members, FGC pursued our activities in the last fiscal year. FGC is seeking more members to join us in reaching out to the children of the world this year as well. Would you like to join us in our efforts to create a future for children?

• Supporting Member

Individual Annual Member Fee

6,000 yen/unit

Corporate Annual Member Fee

120,000 yen/unit

• Donation

Bringing dreams and hope to children around the world!

FGC accepts donations of any amount at any time.

For more information, please visit FGC's website or feel free to contact our office.

• Request for installation of donation-type vending machines

FGC is actively promoting "donation-type vending machines" in partnership with various beverage manufacturers. A part of the sales of each drink purchased will be donated to FGC, thus helping the future of children. There is no installation cost or management and operation. Please contact FGC, if you have any interest in this project, or if you are willing to install it.



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