

JICA Programme Participants from South Africa Visit Sumida Area

On November 11, Mr ANDO Yoshikazu, Director of Business Planning, International Business Department, UR guided 10 JICA South African participants of Public Finance Management for Development Programme to the downtown of Tokyo, Sumida ward, where dense residential areas have been dissolved by UR and local government since 1979.

Participants are responsible for urban planning and development in Cape Town, Ekurhuleni, Tshwane, Mangaung and National Treasury Intergovernmental Relations, and were invited to “JICA Public Finance Management for Development Programme”. They are facing rapid urbanization characterized by inequality and poverty, and the resulting fiscal pressures.



Holding lecture before site-visit

UR held an online lecture introducing “Outline of UR” in October 2021 and participated a review session in January 2022. Through this process, first batch could visit Japan waiting for deregulation of immigration.

Director Ando introduced Kyojima 3-choume, Hikifune and Oshiage by walk. These town had narrow streets before redevelopment. He told them how the land was rezoned, and how the road widened. Finally, we went up Tokyo Sky Tree and looked down the redevelopment areas.



Left: In front of a housing complex constructed by UR for relocation. /Center: Visited dense residence area in Kyojima. /Right: Reserved land for land readjustment in Kyojima

For cities with dense urban areas in South Africa, Sumida Area’s redevelopment is good practice such as disaster prevention project in a dense resident area based on dialogue with residents and attracting a large-scale commercial facility utilizing land readjustment and urban redevelopment.

Participants asked a lot of questions such as how to reach consensus with residents and how to raise budget. They expressed that they hope to strengthen relationship with UR and learn tips of coordination with community.

UR will receive second batch of participants from Johannesburg, eThekweni (Durban) and Nelson Mandela Bay next March.

End



In front of Tokyo Sky Tree