

30 STORIES OF SERVICE

JOINT JAPAN WORLD BANK Graduate Scholarship Program

MEET NISWATIL MOUNA, INDONESIA
YOKOHAMA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (2015),
JAPAN

How has the JJWBGSP help you contribute to your country once you have completed your program?

The JJWBGSP has widened my views both in academics and non-academics. I obtained knowledge by learning the new courses related to public policy, taxation, and economics.

In addition, I also had new experiences of studying abroad in Japan, learning its culture, meeting new people from around the world. I bring back these knowledge and experiences back to my country and apply the knowledge to my job.

What motivated you to pursue a career in a development-related field?

I graduated from the Indonesian State College of Accountancy, a state college being funded by the country. My country has done a lot for me by funding my education through this college; therefore I have the obligation to do something for the country by pursuing a career in a development-related field, precisely taxation. I may not be the best but I want to give my best contribution to this country as a tax officer.

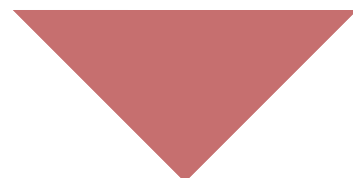
In addition, I was also inspired by JFK quote:

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country".



What has been the most rewarding and challenging part of your study abroad experience?

The most rewarding yet challenging part was during my thesis writing phase in the second year. I learned new knowledge during the thesis writing, but I struggled to understand the data processing application, and I encountered new friends and teachers in order to help me. I thought that was the best time for me although it was challenging because that was the time when I realized that I love studying and doing research, and I could overcome my fear of meeting new people. As the reward of my hard work, I finished my thesis and graduated. In addition, the university awarded me with an Award for Outstanding Academic Performance.



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What was the best part about your university?

The best part about my university is that it gave me a chance to have 9-months internship at the National Tax College, Japan. I learned a lot from the internship because I could understand Japan's tax administration systems, which in some ways are different from my country's current tax administration systems. The differences have broadened my understanding of tax administration systems, which is important for my job as a tax officer.

Why do you think were awarded this scholarship?

I was awarded a JJWBGSP scholarship because I had an intention to learn new things, knowledge, and experiences. In addition, I am someone with a dream, I dare to dream high, and I dare to make my dream come true.

What role did your family, friends, and/or employer played in your study abroad experience? How has this helped or hindered your journey?

My family, friends, and employer supported my decision to study abroad. Without their support and help, I think it will be harder for me to leave my comfort zone to study abroad.

What did you learn about yourself during your experience?

I learn that I haven't learned that much and didn't know that much. There are many new things that I didn't know before, different people with different views and cultures. I can only understand those things by studying abroad, and not only staying in my country and my comfort zone.

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.....”

As an alumnae, what advice would you offer to others who are considering applying for the JJWBGSP?

JJWBGSP is a golden opportunity for you to upgrade yourself, it will broaden your knowledge and experiences, and it will increase your networking around the world, so take the opportunity because the same opportunity will not come twice.



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