

Initiatives for Foreign Workers

1. Motivation behind Research Paper

I have been working on the theme "Thinking about what we can do to support foreign workers to work better" in our group in Global Exploration class. I chose this theme because I wanted to learn more about the situation of foreign workers because we have a lot of foreigners around us like Assistant Language Teachers and foreign teachers, and I wanted to help make a better environment for them.

2. Introduction

Aim:

With the increasing number of foreign workers in Japan, we have been thinking about how we can help Japan to accept foreign workers.

Research:

We interviewed a company called Oven, which employs foreign workers, in order to hear the voices of actual foreign workers. After considering what we can do, we researched smartphone applications that support foreign workers' life and study in Japan, targeting companies that employ foreign nationals such as technical intern trainees. Based on the information we obtained from our own interviews, we would like to describe the support actually provided to foreign workers.

3. Results and Analysis

One had difficulty filling out forms and other documents because he could not speak Japanese when he first joined the company. The other person had trouble due to differences in minor nuances. And this company has Japanese language classes within the company to solve these problems as much as possible. They have a system in which all employees are given 10,000 yen per month to use for lessons, which is very helpful. In this way, Auben is actually making efforts to make it easier for foreign workers to work there. I decided to look into an app called Musubu Connect produced by SoftBank, which I happened to see on Yahoo News. This app provides hospital visit support, disaster information notifications, Japanese language learning content, manner of living learning content, international money transfers, food EC, message delivery, and emergency contact information for users. We realized that many places are actually implementing initiatives like this. I now want to do more research and expand the initiatives for foreign workers who are actually working.

We were able to hear about these actual problems. From this interview, I realized that there are many places that are actually making efforts. Therefore I now want to do more research and expand efforts to help foreign workers who are actually working.

4. Conclusion and Future Problems

As you can see, there were various efforts and measures being taken in many parts of Japan. However, our posts about the current situation of foreign workers did

not receive much attention. Although there is not much we can do, we hope that these posts and our efforts will help the foreign workers and the displaced people in Ukraine.

Our goal for a better working future is a society in which women and foreign workers are active and well-received in Japan. We have been working with the goal of realizing such a future. To achieve this goal, we need to learn more about the current situation of foreign workers' problems that are occurring in Japan today and communicate this information to many people in other ways as well. I think it is a point of reflection that our Twitter efforts this time did not produce actual results. However, I would like to continue with my current Twitter activities and find other ways to disseminate information. What we are planning to do is to create posters with information that anyone can see and understand, and that can be used on a daily basis, and to keep spreading them on Twitter. I hope to deepen the relationship between countries through cross-cultural understanding and communication.

5. Reflection

Through this global exploration, I have gained the ability to connect small issues around us with international issues. I realized many times that small problems that we used to think about casually can be seen as global problems. This ability has allowed us to get closer to solving problems and to actually work on solving them. I have also gained the ability to research the world and actually listen to stories about it, which have brought up a series of issues that I was completely unfamiliar with, and I have gained the ability to think about various things with great interest and look for ways to solve them. I would like to think about what I can do in my personal life

and actually take action. Lastly, I would like to make the most of what I have learned through the Global Exploration program and apply it after graduation. While studying English at a foreign language school, I would like to become a person who can always think about international issues in a familiar way by utilizing what I have learned through the exploration program.

6. Work Cited

"SoftBank official Website."One-Stop Support for Foreign Workers' Living and Learning Launched "Musubu Connect," a smartphone app for companies.15 Oct 2022.

"Nara Prefecture Official Website."Information on assistance for displaced persons from Ukraine.15 Oct 2022.

"Chiba Prefecture Official Website"Support for evacuees from Ukraine.15 Oct 2022.

"Nagano Prefecture Official Website"Support for evacuees from Ukraine.15 Oct 2022.