ICT Innovator Course
Master’s Degree Program
Kobe Institute of Computing
Graduate school of Information Technology
Department of Information Systems
Infinite chances of active involvement for persons who understand development issues and ICT

Kobe Institute of Computing
Graduate School of Information Technology

President Toshiki Sumitani

PROFILE
Completed a master’s degree in physics from the Graduate School of Science, University of Tokyo
Visiting Professor at the Kenichi Ohmae Graduate School of Business (Business Management, Problem Solving)
Managing Director of the Learner Global School

The Kobe Institute of Computing, with the support of JICA, held a training seminar on “Tankyu (Inquiry) Practice,” a method that involves formulating plans utilizing ICT and that in this case were designed to solve development challenges in African countries such as Rwanda. At the same time as we were deeply impressed by how eager these leaders from Africa were to learn and by their ability to assimilate new concepts, our faculty was also truly inspired by the results of this seminar. I myself have travelled to Rwanda and Nepal, and during those visits I observed that, despite the fact there are multiple problems for which solutions could be found using ICT, these issues remain unsolved because specialists involved in the various fields of education, health care, welfare, agriculture and so on, are not necessarily familiar with ICT technology. If only there are human resources that are capable of understanding both the development challenges and ICT, then opportunities for them to make a valuable contribution are infinite. Even if graduates of our program do not become directly involved in work related to developing countries, there is no doubt they will be highly sought after by corporations seeking employees with a global perspective.

The ICT Innovator Course is a cutting-edge graduate program we are proud of and already boasts an excellent track record. Our faculty is comprised of what could be described as the best line-up of lecturers in the field. Our vision is to see KIC nurture as many future leaders as possible.
ICT4D is Attracting Attention in Developing Countries

In developing countries such as those in Africa, a multitude of problems including poverty, improving efficiency in agriculture, education and health care, remain unsolved. Even electricity and water supply, parts of the infrastructure that are taken for granted in developed countries, are not adequately available. Although developed countries including Japan have extended considerable support in the form of financial aid, human resources and technology, their effects have yet to spread far enough.

In these circumstances, an approach using ICT (Information and Communication Technology) to develop the social economy of developing countries is gaining attention.

This approach has been coined as ICT4D (Information and Communication Technology for Development). In recent years, even in developing countries, Internet and mobile phone networks are rapidly coming into wide use. Further, OSS (Open Source Software) has become widespread on a global basis, making software development possible at no cost providing there is access to a computer. By putting these resources to practical use, it is becoming possible to develop systems useful in solving problems in developing countries both quickly and at low cost.

Case Studies of ICT4D

Information terminals are placed in each rural community. ICT solution center will deliver programs of fundamental education and increase the literacy rate there. Also services for remote medical and regular medical checkup are provided rural people through this information delivering system.

To create job opportunities, information for increasing productivity of primary industries is delivered as web contents. The maintenance of ecosystem and monitoring environmental conditions are established as new industries.

Learning from Japanese experience in ICT4D

It was in 1960s when Japan entered the era of economic development using ICT such as computer and network. Then in 1980s, technically advanced ICT started to be used on daily basis in office and at home. That is, ICT has become an effective tool in the area of social development. ICT is now widely applied in various sectors such as financial service sector such as banking, transportation sector such as railway ticket, and other social services such as medical and education sector.

Since mobile phone and internet has been widely used, we cannot now live without ICT. ICT is a power to trigger social innovation that leads to new appealing products and service. By learning ICT4D in Japan, you will be able to learn/understand the advanced ICT implementation widely applied in Japan. Learning from Japan’s ICT4D experiences will equip you with the ability to create your social innovation utilizing ICT.
**Program Concept**

*With the ICT Innovator Course, The Tankyu School Makes Practical Use of ICT to Solve Problems in Developing Countries*

Regardless of the opportunities available, in actual fact there is insufficient qualified talent capable of adequately understanding and putting into practice the concepts of ICT4D. KIC (Kobe Institute of Computing; Graduate school of Information Technology) has since its foundation trained ICT human resources highly skilled in making free use of OSS, and in light of the above situation, KIC has established the ICT Innovator Course, which is designed to foster human resources capable of a pragmatic approach to finding solutions to social issues through utilizing ICT. This is the first course of its kind in Japan.

The three main features of the course content are outlined below.

![Tankyu (Inquiry) Practice to Tackle Solving Real Problems in Developing Countries](Tankyu)

Domestic students and overseas students sent from developing countries study together to put problem solving into practice. Based on “Tankyu (Inquiry) Practice,” students cooperate to devise plans aimed at solving problems facing the international students in their own countries. The students then engage in system development designed to put these plans into practical use.

![OSS Acquiring 'System Development Know-How Using OSS](OSS)

Students learn how to implement systems using OSS, one of the distinguishing features of Tankyu School. In the case that a student does not have sufficient implementation skill, through cooperation with someone skilled in implementation, it is still possible to fulfill a leader-type role in projects that promote development.

![Innovation Acquiring 'Innovation Techniques](Innovation)

Students uncover actual problems in society and learn an approach to innovation that allows them to devise completely new solutions. Also included are techniques from Tokyo University i.School, an innovation school with which the Tankyu School President has leads.

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**Human Resource Development**

**Features of the Tankyu School and its education**

In this program, students from various backgrounds, including developing countries and Japan, can learn in earnest the practical knowledge, expertise and know-how of "ICT4D" (Information and Communication Technology for Development - social development by utilizing ICT). After completing the program, they can be expect to be active in global companies and social entrepreneurship, in addition to at NPOs, national and international public institutions.

- All courses are offered in English
- The curriculum is based on KIC’s original “Tankyu (Inquiry) Practice”
- In addition of KIC’s faculty, teachers include some of Japan’s leading experts in ICT4D
- The program takes advantage of the know-how in ICT4D acquired through KIC’s joint venture with JICA Kansai: “Solving Development Challenges by Utilizing ICT for African Regional Training”
- Supported by a collaboration environment of governments in developing countries, JICA, universities and global companies

**Develop global human resources with human power**

**ICT Innovator**

1. People who can see society from a new perspective, and can change society by utilizing ICT
2. People who can carve out a BOP business
3. Company people who can actively challenge overseas growth markets

03 Kobe Institute of Computing
The axis of the program is the sequence of ‘Tankyu (Inquiry) Practice’ through ‘Specific Theme Study A’ to ‘Specific Theme Study B’, with the support of the theoretical and applied subjects that are required to this practice, including social development and innovator courses, together with ICT-related courses.

The hands-on exercises and experiments have their focus on group work, targeted at improving the acquisition of professional practical knowledge and human skills.

**Tankyu Pyramid for ICT innovator**

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<th>Optional subjects for foreign students</th>
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<td>Japanese language</td>
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<td>Japanese culture, custom</td>
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**Instruction in Tankyu (Inquiry) Practice**

Teaching of ‘Tankyu Practice’ is achieved by absorbing the core theory and practical methods through the repetition of the cycle of ‘Lectures → Exercises → Presentations’. It is an active learning model, centered on case studies so students experience a practice close to practical problem-solving. Exercises and experiments are also basically carried out in this form.
Course Offering

■ Foundations of Computer Systems
Data representation, logic circuits, basic structure and function, I/O devices, hardware, software, OS (Operating Systems)

■ Fundamentals of Open Source Software
OSS overview (history, philosophy, current status), Linux, Apache, Tomcat, JBOSS, OSS community theory, analysis of Linux kernel code

■ Fundamentals of Information Networks
Network overview information, IP networks, communication protocols (such as TCP/IP), basic Internet technology, communication services (such as cloud services), wireless LAN, technological foundations of mobile communications, information security

■ Computer Programming Exercises
Open source programming (such as C, Java, Python), structures of program, development methods, development environment, etc

■ ‘Tankyu’ Practice
Discovering issues, testing, creating hypotheses of derivative value, field surveys, researching ICT resources, costing simulations, hypothesis validation, review and rebuilding, create proposals

■ ICT Solutions
Case studies of ICT solutions (such as the ERM/SCM/cloud/smart systems), and evaluation of the applied ICT solutions, such as ICT investment/return calculations

■ Software Engineering
Data structures and algorithms, software development processes and methods, requirements specification, basic design, quality control, test methods

■ Special Programming Exercises
Open source platform of embedded systems (examples: Arduino, Raspberry Pi), external equipment (such as sensors, actuators, and telecommunications equipment), system development exercises including real-time programming

■ Requirements Analysis Exercises
Outline of BA (business Analysis: Strategic Analysis and requirements definition), organize customer needs, demand modeling

■ Application Development Exercises
Web application development exercises using HTML and Integrated Development Environments (Eclipse), (examples: home page, blog site, DB system etc.)

■ Project Management Special Experiments
Basic and practice of PM (Project Management), PMBOK practice

■ Specific Theme Study A
Problem-solving practice based on ‘Tankyu’ practice 1 (Theme setting: issue discovery - create a hypothesis of solution - deciding the method of validation)

■ Specific Theme Study B
Problem-solving practice based on ‘Tankyu’ practice 2 (implementation of the solution - verification and evaluation - improvement)
Fundamentals of ICT4D
ICT4D telecenter business overview, ICT4D process, self-reliance and sustainability, rural information infrastructure, communities, case studies of success or failure.

Fundamentals of Social Development
Development strategies, research and needs analysis, statistical analysis techniques, e-business, business concepts and planning, revenue model structure, model and social development, funding, response table, BOV business.

Fundamentals of Intercultural Communication
Communication in the field of international business, presentation techniques (such as "Presentation Zen"), for example: information creation, information presentation: Japanese culture.

Fundamentals of International Cooperation
Theory of international cooperation, support of developing countries, IICA & ODA policy overview.

Leadership Development Exercises
Leadership development theory, the theory of action, exercises.

ICT4D Exercises
Telecenters, mobile communication.
Case studies in the field of mobile communications utilizing ICT (e.g., communications infrastructure using smartphones, mobile network construction, low-cost wireless LANs, Wi-Fi, mobile phones, Android mobile devices, etc.).

Practice of Creativity Development
Idea creation, KJ method, development methodology of creativity, transformational methodology of creativity, theory of knowledge creation, SCIC model, new business creation.

ICT4D Special experiment 1
Welfare, health care, education.
Case studies utilizing ICT in education, health care and social welfare (e.g., A+1 literacy universities, e-learning, e-IE, eE and education using electronic whiteboards).

ICT4D Special experiment 2
Agricultural, administrative, environmental and disaster prevention.
Case studies utilizing ICT in environmental, disaster management, administrative and agricultural fields (e.g., environmental monitoring, rescue bike, e-government, weather information).

ICT4D Special experiment 3
Social infrastructure.
Case studies utilizing ICT in the field of social infrastructure (e.g., backbone communication networks, use of ICT in transportation, energy, etc.).
Sandor Markon  professor
Graduate of Budapest University of Technology and Economics, PhD in Engineering (Kyoto University)
Fujitsu Inc., National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) Research Fellow
Regular Member of The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc. (IEEE)
Better Living Ansestor (Elevators)
There is a lot of debate about what kind of IT technology is suitable for application in developing countries. Since numerous companies require commercial software skills (Windows, MS Office, and so on), some people say it is necessary to learn the skills required for those types of software. That is quite correct, but it does not end there. At KIC, students begin with studying the fundamentals of open source software (OSS), for example, Linux, Apache and Android. By acquiring those skills, students are able to become active participants as opposed to passive observers. Instead of simply "utilizing" software developed by other people, students with OSS skills are capable of launching new projects and "creating" new concepts for society. In the future, such students will also be in a position to give guidance on the use of OSS. KIC students themselves can become the seeds for growth in new industries.

Hisato Shima  professor
Masters of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering, Osaka University, Japan
Masters of Science in Computer Science, Stanford University, USA
Worked for Sony Corporation in Network technology and Networked device development
Information and Communication Technologies are getting widely available in worldwide, including countries under development. Especially, Cellular networks and inexpensive smart phones enables many people to access information, and to communicate with other peoples. For example, weather and climate information, market information are essential for farmers. For merchants, access to bank services or money transfer services are necessary.
Network services and its portable terminals can be used in developed countries to to solve social issues, to improve live and to save time.
Let's study to become an innovator who solve problems utilizing information and communication technologies.

Ryuji Matsunaga  professor
Special contract professor, Yokohama City University
International Cooperation Manager, Hokkaido University
Deputy Managing Director, Office of Climate Change, JICA
Deputy Director, environment bureau, Ministry of Environment
Problems in developing countries are (1) Absolute lack or uneven distribution, (ii) Deterioration of quality and environment, (iii) disaster such as flood and landslide, (iv) Disorderly development of resources. To tackle these problems, JICA cooperates in four fields, (1) Safe and stable supply, (2) Conservation of environment, (3) Enhancement of disaster control capacity to protect lives and property, (4) Promotion of comprehensive resource management. JICA has been providing cooperation, Prepare short- and long-term plans, Conduct investigations and design for constructing facilities, Develop human resources and increase the capacity of organizations as a whole, Improve facilities. I lecture those JICA’s activities, experiences, and strategy in all sectors.

Mamoru Ito  professor
M.S. in Instrumentation Engineering, Kobe University, Japan
Worked for Panasonic Corporation in embedded systems development and software project management
Project Management Professional (PMP®), Project Management Specialist (PMS)
Software plays an increasingly important role in the evolution of ICT systems. However, it is actually hard to develop software on time, on budget, and on target. It is widely believed that many of software development projects fail or are challenged. It may be due to the fact that software development is made up of a complex combination of various factors. Understanding the nature of software projects is a key to success. We will provide comprehensive and interdisciplinary learning opportunities for those who wish to tackle with the challenges of software projects.

Teruaki Yokoyama  lecturer
Ph.D. degree in engineering from Nara Institute of Science and Technology (NAIST)
Asia Internet Interconnections Institute project (AI) member
Cyber Kansai Project (CKP) member
I'm a lecturer who researching about the Internet itself and its related technologies. One of the greatest benefits of the Internet is its openness. Almost of the technologies are opened in public. You can see and touch them freely. The Internet has become very popular and quite useful communication infrastructure among the various kinds of things on the Earth. If you learn how to use the Internet technologies, you can create your own services on the Internet and employ the Internet communication for your service. Let's join in and play with the technologies together.
Atsushi Yamanaka  lecturer
MA, International Political Economy, The American University (Washington DC)
BS, Physics, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy)
ICT for Development professional experiences include UNDP, WHO, CSO, Private Sector, and ICT Advisor at Government Institution of Rwanda – supported by JICA.
Currently holding position as Senior ICT Advisor at Ministry of Youth and ICT (MITYC) of Republic of Rwanda and Executive Advisor of Rwanda Private Sector Federation ICT Chamber (PSF ICT Chamber)
I have chosen my professional career as an ICT for Development practitioner and have devoted more than 15 years of services with various International Organizations, Private Sector, and Civil Society Organizations.
I have been supporting, both directly and indirectly, over 100 countries’ clients. The experience of witnessing ICT’s tangible impacts in the client countries provided me with substantive understanding of challenges and emerging opportunities of using ICTs in the developing countries which I would like to share with the prospective ICT4D practitioners.

Jeremiah Mock  lecturer
BA, International Relations, University of California, Davis
Masters in Science, International Agricultural Development, University of California, Davis
PhD, Medical Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley and University of California, San Francisco
Visiting Associate Professor, Osaka University Center for the Study of Communication-Design
My work with students focuses on addressing social problems through practice-based experiential learning. Part of my work focuses on helping students understand how cultural differences can create opportunities and also how cultural differences can cause problems. To a considerable degree, everyone’s culture shapes their personal communication on style. So, I work to help students develop their intercultural communication skills to communicate more effectively with people from other cultures, and with people within their own culture.
Additionally, teach a capstone course on project cycle management methodology: my experience, planning in a major cause of success and failure of development projects. Good planning requires working effectively in partnership with people in communities and civil society organizations. The course on project cycle management helps students learn to conceptualize, design and plan an ICT development project.

Tomonari Takeuchi  lecturer
BA in Political Science, Keio University, Japan
MSc in ICTs for Development, University of Manchester, UK
After working for an IT company in Japan, participated in JOCV (Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer) and worked as an IT teacher in Ethiopia Embassy of Japan in Ethiopia
JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)
When I was an IT teacher in Ethiopia as JOCV, satellite network distance learning system was introduced in high schools all over country by Ethiopian government. It inspired me to work for ICT4D. Currently, I work for various kinds of ICT4D projects in JICA such as projects for ICT infrastructure improvement and projects utilizing ICT as a tool for development in developing countries. ICT is a powerful tool for development as well as business. However, there are not many experts who understand both development and ICT. This course provides a valuable opportunity for you to acquire knowledge and skill in both fields. Such a Master Degree course is very few in the world.

Ioshiyuki Yamanaka  lecturer
Master of Business Administration, Business Breakthrough University, Japan
Doctor of International Public Policy, Osaka University, Japan
Bachelor of Law, University of Tokyo, Japan
My expertise is HRD and Cross-Cultural & Global Understanding. I believe that KIC Tanka course is a wonderful place where many leaders gather to innovate the societies through ICT. I am going to deal with not only with practical skills but also ethics in my lecture.
I experienced very different culture in Egypt at the age of 23, as a diplomatic trainee, when I lived with an Egyptian family. I learned a huge gap between the rich and the poor, Islamic culture, and the way of thinking of Arab people. Even though I had already lived with an American host family for a short time, the experience in Egypt affected me to a great deal. I have visited more than 60 countries and discussed various issues with global leaders. I look forward to meeting you.

Samiullah Paracha  assistant professor
Completed PhD program in Engineering, Waseda University, Japan
Research Associate, ICT4D, Waseda University, Japan
ICTs are critical drivers of development in the world today, and are shaping the future to be knowledge and information focused. It is commonly recognized that of all the various paths to the future, ICTs are amongst the most influential and paradigm-changing. It follows, therefore, that emerging ICTs to be strategically and wisely designed and modeled to ensure their cumulative effects bring positive benefits to societies. In the case of KIC, an increasingly complex global information environment has given rise to this unique institute dedicated to the studies of ICT4D. It symbolizes a novel amalgamation of ICTs with the metaphor of ‘sustainable development’, in recognition of the imperative of appropriating positioning ICTs within living dynamic societies. Representing a new style of teaching, KIC is destined to venture where others dare not by exploiting the distinctiveness of its curricula, internationally-oriented academic staff, vigorous research portfolio, and focused network of vision. Academic challenge, cultural diversity, and a fabulous environment await foreign students who want to shape their future through ICTs at KIC.
I came to Japan in September 2013, to be a part of the ‘ICT Innovator Course’ at Kobe Institute of Computing (KIC). I believe that research in ICT and education can usher in a promising new era of fraternity, peace, prosperity and harmony in Afghanistan. I hope my research will ignite the fire of transformational change in the hearts of Afghan youth through empowerment, motivation and education thereby, creating change agents for a prosperous Afghanistan. My major motivation is to increase my understanding of the social issues and to improve my ICT know-how to be able to find out creative solutions of the existing problems. Furthermore, Kobe is one of the most cosmopolitan, modern and multicultural cities in Japan with foreign residents from over 110 countries. Interacting with people has always fascinated me. We have so many people (Muslims, Japanese, Hindus, Christians etc.) living side by side peacefully. Today is an era of globalization and English is known as universal language of this increasingly globalize world. Hence, reading, writing, and speaking English is very important for communication. I’m also taking full advantage of KIC English club and working tirelessly to improve my English proficiency. I envisage KIC as a key venue for fostering people with not only analytical and technological skills, but with individual expressiveness as well.”

During my childhood I dreamed to become a pilot and not only that also wished to have skills that will enable me to help people in various ways. Do I ? Yes, I have completed undergraduate program but! By the time I started assessing universities in Asia, I was looking for a graduate school program that would raise my technology background while exposing me to other vital areas of interest such as ICT for Development (ICT4D), Solving social problems through ICT Solutions and business management by applying Tankyu Practice, etc. But for sure I won’t be pilot as I changed the career, however nevertheless my dream to help citizens is still on top priority and I believe I will get to it through ‘Kobe Institute of Computing Graduate School of Information Technology’ as I am gaining knowledge. As Poverty remains a major concern for many developing countries as people do not have adequate educational and healthcare opportunities. Considering the role of ICT and education in poverty alleviation, I have decided to move to Japan to be a part of the ‘ICT Innovator Course’ at KIC. My greatest desire is to acquire ICT skills at the same time increase my knowledge of social issues to usher an era of fraternity, peace, prosperity and harmony in Rwanda. I truly believe that KIC can help me achieve all my dreams—a place where I can grow and play to my strength.

Hello, I am NSABIYUMVA Willy, from RWANDA, Completed a Bachelor Degree in Computer Engineering & Information Technology (BCE & IT) , KIGALI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (KIST), Network Security & Administration at National Identification Agency. KIC ‘ICT4D Innovator Master Course Program is one of powerful tools for accelerating economic growth and a sustainable development which can be used to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDG). This one also can be taken as Universal Education serving Program and my wish would be to learn this course at highest level of it and use it as precious tools to solve human well being development needs. My Future Plan will be to use ICT4D Innovator course and Tankyu skills as Human brilliant ideology method for a sustainable development in order to achieve RWANDA ICT4D vision. The important thing for those two courses mentioned above is that they can be applied also practically and be evaluated using Project Management component and get the expected results according to our country Vision. As Student coming from developing Country we need this skills from ICT4D Innovator and Tankyu Course because the World is driven by project lifestyle and those are key course to accelerate economic growth for our developing Country.

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Kobe Institute of Computing (KIC) has 54 years of rich history. It is now one of the major institutes for professional, vocational, practice-oriented education in IT and digital technology-related industrial fields in the Western part of Japan. KIC is the alma mater to more than 17,000 students and has 1600 students as for May 2012. KIC Graduate School of Information Technology is founded in 2007, as one of the few graduate school which provides ‘IT professional Master’s degree’ in Japan. The students are valued for their skills and the knowledge of IT, and as a result they are on a high demand from various firms.

Kobe is blessed with natural beauty such as Mt. Rokko and the Seto Inland Sea. This city is located almost in the center in Japan. The average yearly temperature is 16.8 °C (max. 34.5 °C /min. -3.5 °C in 2003). Annual rainfall amount is 1,538.0 mm in 2003. It means that it is very comfortable, namely, warm in winter and cool in summer relatively in Japan where the four seasons are very distinct. Its population is about 1,520,000, which is the 6th-largest in Japan. Over 44,500 foreigners and over 1,800 students from 117 countries including Afghanistan. China, South Korea, U.S.A. Arabic countries live here. It has flourished as a representative trading port of Japan with the world. It is conveniently located, for example it takes about three hours from Tokyo. The Kobe Airport has opened in Feb. 2006 to fly to various cities in Japan.

Also, Kobe is very friendly for international students. There are a Mosque and the churches around our campus, Halal meals are available at the restaurants and Halal foods can be found at groceries.
Department: Department of Information Systems
Degree awarded: Master of Science in Information Systems
Course duration: 2 years
Enrollment: 30 persons/year
Conditions for Application: Bachelor’s Degree in any field
(with or without computer background)

Kobe Institute of Computing
Graduate School of Information Technology

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