

Women Leaders Program, Nagoya University

“Living Together”

The main focus is to identify and understand women’s health issues in Asia and global arena, from policy recommendation to actual health service delivery in connection with gender.

Half of world population is women, but, women are often described as “Voices Unheard”. Active participation of women in all levels is an urgent issue, in order to change the current situation. Strong Engagement in health is the first step toward empowerment of women. Key concept of empowerment of women is, I believe, that more opportunities should be given women to exercise their capacity, because women have naturally obtained the potential.

Sexual and reproductive health/rights, for example, are considered as one of the basic human rights, which can contribute in achieving physical, mental and social well-being for all. If we want to make a global balance between population and development, there is a clear need to be sought, such as, enough information and choices for a couple so as to plan their own life. Appropriate education and communication skills training for adolescents have to be ensured, which leads to continuum of care.

It is important to build both capacity development of women as individual level, and “enabling” society as social system, where women can exercise their capacity to decide and act.

Introduction of UN system, practical issues of women’s health promotion and sharing my personal career development are expected (and hoped) to widen perspectives of participants of this workshop, future leaders on gender and development. Development framework (Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and post 2015 development agenda) are also discussed.

Kiyoko IKEGAMI



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Kiyoko Ikegami is a Professor at the Graduate School of Social and Cultural Studies, Nihon University. Active in the issues of women's health, population, and HIV/AIDS in developing countries. Professor Ikegami is a member of the board of the Japan Association for International Health and of the board of directors of the Japanese Red Cross Society, and also served as a member of the Consultative Committee on ODA Reforms of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She was previously a Programme Officer and Director of Research and Planning at JOICFP, a Japan-based NGO active in the field of population, sexual and reproductive health and rights (1983–2002) and Director of the UNFPA Tokyo Office (2002–11).

She has been selected Nikkei Woman of the Year (2003), one of the “Japanese Women 100” by Newsweek Japan (2006), and Distinguished Alumni of the Year of the International Christian University in Tokyo (2013).

Professor Ikegami received her B.A. in liberal arts and M.A. in public administration from International Christian University, and her Ph.D. in human science from Osaka University.