



INTERNSHIP ON WILDLIFE HEALTH

Name: Miyako Suzuki

Country: Japan

University / Position: Nihon University / Undergraduate student (5th grade)

Date of the Internship: From 15th February 2021 to 5th March 2021 (Virtually)

My main tasks during internship period were helping organize wildlife webinar held by the OIE Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific (RRAP) and summarizing wildlife related report on sub-regional meetings in Asia and Pacific countries. Although all the tasks were conducted online due to the restriction posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it made me easier to arrange my schedule participating in several additional online meetings of other topics too. This opportunity has deepened my understanding on animal health issues and what kind of approach each related organization is taking.

One of the most memorable events was the wildlife strategy meeting with governmental organizations and researchers of one of OIE Member. I could learn how difficult inter-ministerial and multi-sectoral collaboration are and how these cross-cutting strategies and policies are made with all government, researchers and international organizations cooperating with each other. In addition, I was lucky to be able to participate in the sub-regional Pacific wildlife meeting and work on its summary report at the same period, so I could see how the overall approach are taken in other countries and compare with them. It was an honored and exciting experience to be able to see this startup and milestone moment of the project.

“

Message for future interns

I had actually never thought about having a Ph.D. or going on a higher education, but my idea changed after listening to stories of people working in international organizations. Any tasks in the OIE, governmental agencies or wildlife issues require high profession and good ability of co-working. Watching how the OIE RRAP staff handle their jobs made me think about the necessity of a profession and it has broaden my perspectives to reconsider academic field as one of a possibility for my future. I believe the internship in the OIE RRAP would be such a fruitful experience especially for those who are interested to work in an international field with their profession (such as veterinary medicine) and wonder how to pursue their first step for their actual career paths.

