



January 31, 2025

We are now calling for participants in the EBA Minamata Fieldwork program for the year 2025: **July 31 - Aug 7 (8 days)**. During the one-week program, participants will be given a special opportunity to enjoy hands-on experience while observing and examining the local issues at the site of the Minamata area, to join minds and hands in groups and to articulate on the issues by making use of the collected data and observations at the field.

*\*Please note that the fieldwork may be rescheduled due to unexpected events.*

## About this EBA Fieldwork Program

**Minamata city** is located in Kyushu island, southern part of Japan. The city is known for Minamata disease, which is caused by mercury pollution from a chemical factory in the 1950's. It is the first disease caused by food chain contamination due to environmental pollution.

Minamata Fieldwork Program 2025 Summer includes workshop and fieldwork related activities. The basic method of Evidence-Based Approach will be introduced to the participants before going to the field. They will then visit various related facilities, such as the factory, workplaces of the victims, museums, and academic institutions for a deeper investigation of the issues faced by the local community and the evolution of the city since the Minamata Disease incident. Through intensive observations and interactions with local residents, participants will have the opportunity to combine and compare the different perspectives from diverse stakeholders in Minamata, from the government, academics, private sector, Minamata Disease survivors, younger generations, etc.

Based on the evidence collected, participants, divided into several groups, will come up with their findings and propose their solutions. Each group includes both Japanese and non-Japanese participants. Participants will receive a certificate from the EBA Project upon the completion of the program.

## Language Requirement

- All lectures will be provided in English. English skills are required, participants should be at least able to carry on conversations in English.
- For Keio students (慶應生),
  - Japanese language conversation skill is also required (水俣市で日本語を使い、現地の方々とのコミュニケーションをサポートしていただきます。)





## Online Common Course Requirement

As indicated in the schedule below, participants must take the online Common Course (real-time sessions and on-demand lectures) prior to the fieldwork. Completion of the course is required to participate in the fieldwork.

## Target and Capacity

This program is for both undergraduate and graduate students. The expected number of recruited students is about :

- SOI Asia, EBA Project partner universities- 14 students
- Keio University - 4 students

*\*If many applicants apply for participation, screening (online interview) will be conducted in early April.*

## Schedule (Tentative) July 31 - Aug 7

April-May	Online Common Course (real-time and on-demand lectures)
July	Online fieldwork introduction sessions
31 July	Arrive at Tokyo / Welcome session
1-2 Aug	Pre-workshop at Tokyo
3-5 Aug	Move to Minamata and conduct fieldwork at Minamata city
06 Aug	Final presentation at Minamata city/ Move to Tokyo
07 Aug	Depart from Japan
End of Aug	Online public presentation

## Credit Earning for Keio students (慶應生の単位について):

Keio participants will be able to earn 2 credits in the Fall Semester 2025 \_ Course name: 国内フィールドワーク AもしくはB (FIELDWORK IN JAPAN A or B) (SFC). More details will be provided later.





## How to apply

- For Keio University Students (慶應生)

Please fill out the following Registration Google form by **March 31, 2025.**

Google Form: <https://forms.gle/J2YBVin5cZwN2tVc8>, or via QR code:

This QR code is for  
Keio students =>



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## Costs and Support

The EBA project will bear the cost of accommodation during the stay in Japan and International airfare, domestic transportation within Japan (except the transport expenses between the airport and Workshop venue (or hotel)).

**Please note that travel insurance and daily expenses (such as food, etc...) are NOT included.**

\*\*We will collect about **30,000 Japanese yen** for several food expenses (for some collective payments) in Minamata.

