

December 27, 2018
ASEAN-Japan Centre

AJC organized a workshop on accessible tourism in Indonesia ~ Promoting beach tourism for travelers with special needs ~



Left: Group photo of speakers / Right: Workshop participants

The ASEAN-Japan Centre (AJC), an intergovernmental organization of the 10 ASEAN¹ Member States and Japan based in Tokyo, organized “ASEAN-Japan Workshop on Accessible Tourism” in Tanjung Pandan, Indonesia, to promote accessible tourism on December 7, 2018. The workshop was co-organized with the Ministry of Tourism of Indonesia.

Based on the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) advocated “Tourism for All”, the 21st ASEAN Tourism Ministers’ Meeting confirmed the necessity of inclusive as well as universal tourism in the ASEAN region. The workshop was organized in order to support this initiative. More than 70 people from the local government, tourism industry, welfare related personnel and others, as well as representatives from the tourism related agencies of ASEAN Member States, attended the workshop.

To conduct the workshop, the AJC dispatched two experts from Japan. They briefed the participants on tour products designed for people with special needs and precautions upon their operations in the lectures titled “Rehabilitation Tourism Starts from Accessible Beach” and “Designing Accessible Travel Products”, giving concrete examples of accessible tourism in beaches in Japan. Meanwhile, from the Indonesian side, the country’s new tourism project called “10 New Bali” was showcased,

¹ ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) is a regional cooperative organization established in 1967. The Member States of 10 countries in the Southeast Asia include Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, and the total population counts more than 650 million.

followed by presentations on their barrier-free efforts by representatives from research and welfare institutes, a university, a travel agency and a tourist facility.

The workshop was well received by the participants as many of them commented that Japan's efforts on accessible tourism in beaches have high affinity for the ASEAN Member States, which have affluent beach resorts, and serve as a useful reference. They further mentioned that a beach was regarded as less suitable tourism destination for people with disabilities; however, they wish to take advantage of what they learned in the workshop to make their beach resorts more friendly for the tourists with special needs.

Through this program, the AJC seeks to promote Japan's advanced efforts on accessible tourism in the ASEAN Member State, while diversifying tour products and vitalizing local communities in the countries.

▼ **Workshop on accessible tourism was organized**
<https://www.asean.or.jp/en/tourism-info/20181219/>

<< **ASEAN-Japan Centre** >>

The ASEAN-Japan Centre is an intergovernmental organization established by the ASEAN Member States and Japan in 1981. It has been promoting exports from ASEAN to Japan while revitalizing investment, tourism as well as people-to-people exchanges between the ASEAN Member States and Japan.

URL : <https://www.asean.or.jp/en/>

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