

UNAFEI's training seminar has had a great impact on my career. My experiences meeting Volunteer Probation Officers (VPOs) in Japan are helping me in engaging the VPOs in my country who are very crucial in my work, especially with the COVID-19 pandemic, which came with lock downs hindering free movement in visiting offenders' homes. Since VPOs live near the homes of offenders, they are able to reach them and help in working towards achievement of offender treatment plans and preventing reoffending.

Additionally, I am happy to share the good news that I have been promoted from Senior Probation Officer to Principal Probation Officer. I am highly motivated at work, and I have brought UNAFEI's training materials to the attention of my fellow officers to read and gain knowledge. In a competitive promotional interview, I was able to explain my contribution to the Department: I represented the Department successfully in the 174th International Senior Seminar in Japan. While in Japan, I learned a lot about the importance of professionalism, and I was so smartly dressed in the business suit I bought in Tachikawa with the help of Miya-san, one of the Japanese participants.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to JICA and UNAFEI for the life changing training which has highly impacted my career and my professionalism.

Ms. Lilian Akinyi Otieno (Kenya)

