

UNAFEI NEWSLETTER

UNAFEI

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AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is my privilege to inform readers of the successful completion of the 188th International Training Course on Theories of Offender Rehabilitation and Their Effective Implementation, which took place in Tokyo from 27 August to 18 September. In this Course, we welcomed 4 Japanese participants and 14 overseas participants: 3 from Africa, 5 from Asia, 3 from Oceania, 2 from the Caribbean and one from Europe. The participants included corrections officers, probation and parole officers, legal professionals, and other criminal justice officials. As this newsletter demonstrates, the Course was extremely productive. It consisted of lectures by visiting experts, expert lecturers, UNAFEI faculty members, study visits, individual presentations and interactive discussion sessions.

Since the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Kyoto in 2021, there has been renewed global momentum toward reducing reoffending as a key component of crime prevention. In this context, it is increasingly important to enhance the effectiveness of offender rehabilitation practices through the development and refinement of evidence-based rehabilitation strategies by deepening understanding of risk assessment, effective treatment interventions and evaluation methodologies. Therefore, this training course primarily explored the Risk-Need-Responsivity model as a theoretical framework for offender rehabilitation due to its extensive empirical support and worldwide adoption while also addressing key concepts from the Good Lives Model and Desistance Research.

UNAFEI, as one of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network, held this Course to offer participants an opportunity to clarify and analyse the current situation of offender rehabilitation and reintegration in each participating country and to explore more effective practices. Additionally, the participants were able to share experiences, gain knowledge and build a human network of counterparts.

During the Course, the participants diligently and comprehensively examined the main theme, primarily through a comparative analysis. The participants shared their own experiences and knowledge of the issues and identified problems and areas in which improvements could be made. With the academic and practical input from the visiting experts, expert lecturers and UNAFEI faculty – and the in-depth discussions they had with each other – the participants are now better equipped to enhance the policies and practices related to offender risk assessment and treatment.

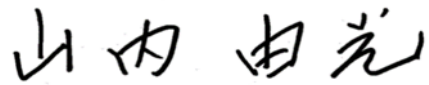
I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to all the participants upon their successful completion of the Course, made possible by their strenuous efforts. My heartfelt gratitude goes out to the visiting experts and expert lecturers who contributed a great deal to the Course's success. Furthermore, I appreciate the indispensable assistance and cooperation extended to UNAFEI by various agencies and institutions that helped diversify the Course.

I would also like to express my great appreciation to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for its immeasurable support throughout the Course. At the same time, a warm tribute must be paid to the Asia Crime Prevention Foundation (ACPF) and its branch organizations for their substantial contributions to our activities. Lastly, I owe my gratitude to all the individuals whose unselfish efforts behind the scenes contributed significantly to the successful realization of this Course.

With the knowledge and perspectives gained through this Course, I genuinely believe that, like their predecessors, the strong determination and dedication of the participants will enable them to work towards the improvement of their respective nations' criminal justice systems, and towards the benefit of international society as a whole.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my best regards to the participants of the 188th International Training Course. I hope that the experience they gained during the Course proves valuable in their daily work and that the bonds fostered among the participants, visiting experts and UNAFEI staff will continue to grow for many years to come.

October 2025



YAMAUCHI Yoshimitsu
Director, UNAFEI

THE 188TH INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE***THEORIES OF OFFENDER REHABILITATION AND THEIR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION***

Course Rationale

I. INTRODUCTION

In order to promote the effective rehabilitation of offenders and ensure public safety, it is essential for each country to implement evidence-based interventions grounded in sound theoretical frameworks, and to continually evaluate the effectiveness of such practices, and develop more effective measures of treatment for offenders.

Various theoretical models have influenced offender rehabilitation efforts over time; however, since the 1990s there has been growing international recognition of the value of empirical research-based offender treatment practices. Among these models, the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) Model has emerged as particularly influential. The RNR model provides a structured approach to reducing the risk of reoffending by targeting criminogenic needs and tailoring interventions to individual characteristics. It facilitates the prioritization of resources and clarifies intervention objectives, and has demonstrated a high degree of compatibility with structured, evidence-based approaches to offender treatment. As a result, the RNR model has been widely adopted across jurisdictions, particularly in North America and Europe, and it continues to underpin many countries' rehabilitation programmes. In the 2000s, the Good Lives Model (GLM) was introduced in response to perceived limitations of the RNR approach—particularly the criticism that RNR's emphasis on risk and deficits did not fully account for offenders' personal strengths and life goals. The GLM is a strength-based approach to offender rehabilitation that emphasizes not only the management of criminogenic risks, but also the active promotion of personal well-being by helping individuals build lives that are both personally meaningful and socially constructive. It has seen practical application in the treatment of certain offenders, such as sexual offenders. Both the RNR model and the GLM have continued to evolve, and in some jurisdictions, they are being implemented concurrently. Additionally, Desistance Theory, which focuses on the processes of personal change and social support that enable offenders to move away from reoffending, has gained prominence, particularly in Europe.

On the other hand, the degree of development in offender treatment practices based on these theories varies by country, depending on the development of the treatment and broader socio-cultural contexts. In some countries, evidence-based treatment frameworks have not yet been formally adopted or integrated into national policy.

However, since the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Kyoto in 2021, there has been renewed global momentum toward reducing reoffending as a key component of crime prevention. In this context, it is increasingly important to enhance the effectiveness of offender rehabilitation practices. Therefore, this training course primarily focused on the RNR model as a theoretical framework for offender rehabilitation due

to its extensive empirical support and worldwide adoption while touching upon features of other theories. This course aimed to support the development and refinement of evidence-based rehabilitation strategies by deepening understanding of risk assessment (particularly related to reoffending), effective treatment interventions and evaluation methodologies.

II. KEY TOPICS

This programme focused on the following topics:

1. Background of Offender Rehabilitation and Basic Theories of Treatment
Understanding the background and priority areas of treatment in each country promotes smooth mutual understanding and discussion among participants from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. In countries that implement structured treatment based on theoretical models, comparing how those theories are applied in practice and identifying areas for further development serves as a foundation for discussing more effective treatment approaches.
2. Key Indicators in Assessing Risk and Utilization of Results
Understanding the characteristics and tendencies of each offender is essential for determining appropriate treatment policies. This course focused on sharing and discussing the timing of assessments, key indicators to be measured, ways to utilize the results, and information-sharing with relevant stakeholders. Special attention was paid to the linkage between reoffending risk assessment and the planning of treatment interventions.
2. Implementation of Effective Treatment
Based on assessment results where applicable, this part examined the content of treatment or education programmes conducted in each country, their target groups, implementation formats (e.g., locations and frequency), cooperation with external specialists or peer groups, and treatment techniques. The goal was to explore effective treatment measures for reducing reoffending.
3. Measuring Outcomes and Evaluating Effectiveness
Measuring how treatment interventions impact the improvement of offenders' issues and verifying their longer-term effects not only enhances efforts to prevent reoffending but also allows for more efficient allocation and redistribution of limited resources. This part aimed to deepen understanding of outcome measurement and evaluation methods and to explore how results can be effectively used.
5. Capacity-Building for Staff and Collaboration with Stakeholders
To effectively implement treatment, it is essential that practitioners fully understand the theoretical background and actual procedures, can address issues that arise in practice, and coordinate with partner agencies and community organizations when necessary. Therefore, the course also explored effective strategies for capacity-building and follow-up support for staff involved in offender treatment.

Course Summary

Lectures

During the Course, the participants attended a variety of lectures, presentations and discussion sessions, including 4 presented by the visiting expert, 4 by expert lecturers and lectures by faculty members of UNAFEI. The distinguished lecturers addressed issues relating to the main theme of the Course and contributed significantly beyond their lectures by answering the participants' questions during the question-and-answer sessions. The visiting expert was from Southern Illinois University. The expert lectures from Japan included lecturers from the Family Court, the Correction Bureau, the Rehabilitation Bureau and the Training Institute for Correctional Personnel. The lecturers and lecture topics are listed on pages 6 to 8.

Individual Presentations

Toward the beginning of the Course, all participants delivered individual presentations which introduced the situation, problems and future prospects of the participants' countries. These papers were distributed to all the participants. Each presentation was followed by a Q&A session, in which additional information was shared. See "Individual Presentations" for more information. The Individual Presentation topics are listed on pages 8 and 9.

Group Workshop Sessions

Group workshop sessions provided the participants with the opportunity to further examine the sub-topics of the main theme through in-depth discussions. In order to conduct each session effectively, the UNAFEI faculty selected individuals to serve as group members for the sub-topics. Selected participants served as chairpersons, or rapporteurs, and faculty members served as advisers. Each group's primary responsibility was to explore and develop their chosen topics in the group workshop sessions. The participants and UNAFEI faculty studied the topics and exchanged their views based on information obtained through personal experience, the individual presentations, lectures and so forth. The group members are provided on pages 10 to 12.

Lecture Topics

Visiting Expert's Lectures

Raymund E. Narag
Associate Professor
Criminology and Criminal Justice
School of Justice and Public Safety
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

- Theories of Offender Rehabilitation: RNR Model
- Theories of Offender Rehabilitation: Good Lives Model and Desistance Model
- Treatment Program Methods of Evaluating Effectiveness: RNR and GLM
- Introduction of Overseas Implementation Examples: RNR in the Philippine Parole and Probation Administration

UNAFEI Professors' Lectures

- 1) Deputy Director SUGANO Naoki
 - Overview of the Japanese Criminal Justice System
- 2) Prof. OHTONARI Katsutomo
 Prof. HANDO Mayumi
 - Institutional Corrections in Japan
- 3) Prof. ABE Yuta
 - Community Corrections in Japan

Experts' Lectures

- 1) KAWAMURA Satoru
Family Court Investigating Officer, Tokyo Family Court Tachikawa Branch
 - Social Investigation by Family Court Investigating Officers in Criminal Cases Involving Juveniles

- 2) TSUKAHARA Akihiro
Specialist, Policy Coordination Section, Prison Service Division, Correction Bureau, Ministry of Justice

KUMAGAI Wataru
Official in the Ministry of Justice, Education and Classification Section, Prison Service Division Correction Bureau, Ministry of Justice
 - Enhancement of Correctional Treatments Tailored to Inmates
- 3) NAKANO Tomoyuki
Deputy Director, Supervision Division of the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice
 - Community Supervision and New Assessment Tools in Japan
- 4) AOKI Osamu
Correctional Training Analyst, Correctional Training Institute for Correctional Personnel, Ministry of Justice
 - Motivational Interviewing (Basic Introduction)

Individual Presentation Topics

Overseas Participants

- 1) Monysophea MONG (Cambodia)
 - Community Service Penalty in Cambodia
- 2) Kacivi Nunuvaki Gadekiniusiladi TUAPATI (Fiji)
 - Theories of Offender Rehabilitation and Their Effective Implementation
- 3) Shadrack Kyengo KAVUTAI (Kenya)
 - The Role of Correctional Facilities in Enhancing the Rehabilitation of Non-Custodial Offenders in Kenya
- 4) Adam SHAKIR (Maldives)
 - Management of Correctional Facilities and Rehabilitation of Offenders
- 5) HASSAN Abbas Adebimpe (Nigeria)
 - Digital Learning and Vocational Training in Nigerian Custodial Centres: Theoretical Frameworks, Impact and Challenges
- 6) Marina MILEVA (Republic of North Macedonia)
 - Management of Correctional Facilities and Rehabilitation of Offenders
- 7) GARANG Malong Majak (South Sudan)
 - Management of the Facilities and Rehabilitations of Offenders in South Sudan Prisons Service
- 8) Thepsuda FOOMUANGPAN (Thailand)
 - Drug Rehabilitation Programmes in Probation Services in Thailand
- 9) Maria Helena DOS SANTOS (Timor-Leste)
 - The Importance of Effective Correctional Facility Management and Rehabilitation Programme of Offenders in Timor-Leste
- 10) Ilaisaane Lepolo FIFITA (Tonga)
 - Theories of Offender Rehabilitation and Their Effective Implementation and Relevance for the Kingdom of Tonga

11) Arthur Gath EUGENE (Saint Lucia)

- Offender Rehabilitation of the Bordelais Correctional Facility–Saint Lucia

12) Shermine DAVID (Saint Lucia)

- Enhancing Correctional Rehabilitation through Evidence-Based Policy and Practice

13) Miranti Nilasari (Indonesia)

- The Role of Probation Officers in the Juvenile Criminal Justice System in Indonesia

14) John LOKO (Papua New Guinea)

- Strengthening Papua New Guinea's Offender Rehabilitation and Reintegration Policy 2025–2029 Through Strategic Justice Sector Alignment

Japanese Participants

1) KICHIMA Shinichiro

- Support for Social Reintegration by the Public Prosecutors Office

2) SHINZAKI Yuki

- The Significance of Assessment Tools Related to Recent Issues in Correctional Education

3) TORIUMI Rieko

- The Use of the CFP in Probation Treatment in Japan

4) YANO Tetsuya

- Specialized Treatment Programmes in Probation Offices in Japan

Group Workshop Sessions

Group A***ENHANCING OFFENDER ASSESSMENT TO REDUCE REOFFENDING***

Chairperson	Thepsuda FOOMUANGPAN (Thailand)
Rapporteur	Arthur Gath EUGENE (Saint Lucia)
Co-Rapporteur	KICHIMA Shinichiro (Japan)
Members	HASSAN Abbas Adebimpe (Nigeria)
	Miranti Nilasari (Indonesia)
	Ilaisaane Lepolo FIFTA (Tonga)
Adviser	Prof. ABE Yuta (UNAFEI)

Group B***CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR STAFF AND COLLABORATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS***

Chairperson	John LOKO (Papua New Guinea)
Rapporteur	Shermine DAVID (Saint Lucia)
Members	Monysophea MONG (Cambodia)
	Kacivi Nunuvaki Gadekiniusiladi TUAPATI (Fiji)
	SHINZAKI Yuki (Japan)
	TORIUMI Rieko (Japan)
Adviser	Prof. OHTONARI Katsutomo (UNAFEI)

Group C***EFFECTIVE TREATMENT***

Chairperson	Shadrack Kyengo KAVUTAI (Kenya)
Rapporteur	Marina MILEVA (Republic of North Macedonia)
Members	Adam SHAKIR (Maldives)
	GARANG Malong Majak (South Sudan)
	Maria Helena DOS SANTOS (Timor-Leste)
	YANO Tetsuya (Japan)
Adviser	Prof. HANDO Mayumi (UNAFEI)

Observation Visits

<u>Date</u>	<u>Agency/Institution</u>
9 Sep.	Tama Juvenile Training School
11 Sep.	Tokyo-West Juvenile Assessment Centre Kawagoe Juvenile Prison
12 Sep.	Training Institute for Correctional Personnel

Special Events

27 Aug.	Welcome Reception
5, 8 Sep.	Japanese Language Class
10 Sep.	Visits to the homes of <i>hogoshi</i> (volunteer probation officers)
13-14 Sep.	ACPF Branches Study Tour (Sapporo, Fukushima, Tochigi, Saitama and Osaka)
18 Sep.	Farewell Party

Expert and Participant List

Visiting Expert

Raymund E. Narag	Associate Professor Criminology and Criminal Justice School of Justice and Public Safety Southern Illinois University Carbondale
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Overseas Participants

Monysophea MONG	Judge, Battambang Appeal Court Ministry of Justice Cambodia
Kacivi Nunuvaki Gadekiniusiladi TUAPATI	Divisional Supervisor Divisional HQ/Southern Division Fiji Corrections Services Fiji
Shadrack Kyengo KAVUTAI	Director, Probation and Aftercare Service Office of the Secretary – Finance and Planning, Probation and Aftercare Service Kenya
Adam SHAKIR	Head of Programme Command Programme Division Maldives Correctional Service Maldives
HASSAN Abbas Adebimpe	Deputy Superintendent of Corrections General Duty (Human Resources) Nigerian Correctional Service Nigeria
Marina MILEVA	Independent Judicial Adviser Office of the President Supreme Court of the Republic of North Macedonia Republic of North Macedonia
GARANG Malong Majak	Director of Contracts and Purchases Directorates of Procurement and Logistics South Sudan Prison Services-Juba GHQrs South Sudan

Thepsuda FOOMUANGPAN

Probation Officer, Professional Level
Division of Drug Rehabilitation
Department of Probation
Ministry of Justice
Thailand

Maria Helena DOS SANTOS

Prison Officer
Becora Prison
National Directorate of Prison Services and Social
Reintegration-Ministry of Justice
Timor-Leste

Ilaisaane Lepolo FIFITA

Senior Probation Officer
Probation Department
Ministry of Justice
Tonga

Arthur Gath EUGENE

Correctional Officer III
Staff Officer to the Director of Correctional
Services
Administration Department
Bordelais Correctional Facility
Saint Lucia

Shermine DAVID

Correctional Officer III
Administration Department
Bordelais Correctional Facility
Saint Lucia

Miranti Nilasari

Head of Juvenile Client Guidance Section
Juvenile Client Guidance Section
Correctional Counseling Center Class I Surakarta
Directorate General of Corrections
Indonesia

John LOKO

Deputy Chief Parole Officer
Justice Administration
Department of Justice & Attorney General
Papua New Guinea

Japanese Participants

KICHIMA Shinichiro

Prosecutor
Fukuoka District Public Prosecutors Office

SHINZAKI Yuki

Assistant Research Officer
Center for Evidence-based Research
Training Institute for Correctional Personnel
Probation Officer
Tokyo Probation Office Tachikawa Branch

TORIUMI Rieko

YANO Tetsuya

Probation Officer
Tokyo Probation Office

INFORMATION ABOUT FORTHCOMING PROGRAMMES

1. The Second ASEAN-Japan Criminal Justice Seminar

From 9 to 18 December 2025, UNAFEI will hold the Second ASEAN-Japan Criminal Justice Seminar in Tokyo, Japan, to discuss “Enhancing Mutual Legal Assistance in the ASEAN Region: Training on the Use of the New Template (MLA session)” and “Efforts to reduce reoffending in the ASEAN Region, with a focus on sharing good practices of offenders treatment as a follow-up to the implementation of the 14th Crime Congress (OTR session)”. Approximately 24 participants from ASEAN countries, Timor-Leste and Japan will attend.

2. The 189th International Senior Seminar

From 14 January to 5 February 2026, UNAFEI will host the 189th International Senior Seminar in Tokyo, Japan. The main theme of the Seminar is “Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and social reintegration: Relevant UN standards and norms and promising practices”. Approximately 12 participants from overseas and Japan are expected to attend the Seminar.

FACULTY AND STAFF OF UNAFEI

Faculty

YAMAUCHI Yoshimitsu	Director
SUGANO Naoki	Deputy Director
TANAKA Kunihiro	Professor
KONOUE Kyohei	Professor
YAMAZAKI Jun	Professor
KUSHINO Yuki	Professor
OHTONARI Katsutomo	Professor
	188th Training Course Deputy Programming Officer
TANAKA Naoki	Professor
ABE Yuta	Professor
	188th Training Course Programming Officer
	Chief of Information and Public Relations
FURUKAWA Yuho	Professor
HANDO Mayumi	Professor
	Chief of Research Division
	188th Training Course Deputy Programming Officer
OKA Hideaki	Professor
TOMARI Fumi	Professor
Thomas L. Schmid	Linguistic Adviser

Secretariat

UEKI Katsuhiko	Chief of Secretariat
KAJII Manabu	Chief of General Affairs Section
MAEDA Masami	Chief of Financial Affairs Section
TANIGUCHI Yohei	Chief of Planning Affairs Section
SUZUKI Yusuke	Chief of Training Affairs Section

Training and Hostel Management Affairs Section

MAKINO Mikiko	Deputy Chief International Affairs officer
NAGANUMA Toshiki	Senior Officer
SUENOBU Naoyuki	Senior Officer
SUZUKI Kaori	Officer
	188th Training Course Assistant Programming Officer
FUJISHIMA Shiori	Officer
	188th Training Course Assistant Programming Officer

Secretarial Staff

YAMADA Hisayo

Officer

JICA Coordinator for the 188th International Training Course

HISA Keiko

JICA

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