

STEPS Students Report

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I have been in Tokyo for a month, I was very glad to visit this city and carry out a research in Tokyo university.

The subject of my research is values as the basis of responsible behavior. In Tokyo the responsible behavior towards the environment is already a self-evident routine, so I was able to familiarize myself with different perspectives of such behavior among Japanese and especially among young Japanese people.

On the one hand this approach to the environmental issues is a consequence of the increasing necessity to protect environment from highly developed Japanese industry. But on the other hand it is also a consequence of specific culture which is very respectful to environment.

During the period of my stay I found out that Japanese culture differs from the Russian a lot. The basic idea is that, despite the fact, that there is a strong specific respectful attitude toward environment, there also should be some cultural roots of environmentally responsible behavior that differ the Japanese attitude from the Russian.

During my research I was able to visit the university laboratory and university library which provided me with a great amount of theoretical materials and literature. This literature helped me to compose a survey, the main goal of which is to measure the specific behavior, specific attitudes and common values in order to determine a strong correlation between these variables. The survey was made up of several measures sections. Each section is aimed to measure the specific variables among individuals. The variables are: environmentally responsible behavior, attitudes towards the place of human in nature, cultural values and perception of time (time perspective). I also managed to adapt this survey to Japanese people by translating it into Japanese. I am still collecting the answers; however, some correlation is already seen now.

As already said, one of the ideas is to find out the correlations between the cultural values and specific individual behavior. So in order to see all correlations and whole picture it is necessary and vital to measure these variables among individuals in different cultures and such different cultures as Russian and Japanese cultures are very good to be compared. In other words, we need to receive the result of the Russian survey to compare and determine strong relationships between values, attitudes and behavior.

So, to sum up, during my stay in Tokyo I managed to observe theoretical background of responsible behavior, specific attitudes and cultural values, familiarize myself with Japanese

approaches towards responsible behavior, compose and translate the survey into Japanese language.

I also would thank Professor Hatoyama-sensei for his help. It was a pleasure to work under the guidance of Professor Hatoyama-sensei. I also would like to say that I am very grateful to Tokyo university for such incredible experience.