

The 2nd Japan-ASEAN Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Cooperation Project

From July 28 to 31, 2025, the Ministry of Defense hosted the 2nd Japan-ASEAN Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Cooperation Project. The project brought together 24 WPS practitioners from ASEAN countries (excluding Myanmar), as well as from Timor-Leste, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, and Chile. Experts from UN Women Headquarters and the Australian Defence Force also participated.

Focusing on the theme of WPS in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HA/DR), the program featured lectures by external experts, including the Strategic Military Advisor from UN Women Headquarters. Participants from the Ministry of Defense, the Self-Defense Forces, and other countries shared presentations on WPS initiatives in disaster response operations. Group discussions were also held to deepen understanding and awareness of WPS in HA/DR contexts.

In addition, participants attended a WPS Symposium hosted by the Ministry of Defense and visited a Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) base, where they engaged in discussions with the first JMSDF Gender Advisor.

These activities contributed to enhancing participants' knowledge and understanding of WPS in HA/DR, while also strengthening the network of WPS practitioners across the Indo-Pacific region and reinforcing the platform for addressing shared challenges.

The Ministry of Defense and the Self-Defense Forces will continue to work closely with ASEAN countries and other partners to advance WPS efforts throughout the Indo-Pacific region, thereby contributing to international peace and stability.



