



Yasser, Indonesia 
Tokyo Institute of Technology



Prologue

It started from my undergrad that the desire to study in Japan began, knowing one of my alumni (and also Tokyo Tech alumni) was working in a job I desired.

Fast forward... I landed my full-time job and in early 2020 when the pandemic hit, I began to commit my time to apply for a master's program at Tokyo Tech.

It was all blurred in the beginning, but thanks to social media I could randomly chat few Tokyo Tech alumni and do my own research on the programs. I prepared the prerequisites for my application, passing through three interview stages, and... voilà, I've been accepted into Tokyo Tech as an ADB-JSP scholar!

However, things did not go according to plan: I needed to stay for six months in my home country as the border was closed.

Tokyo Tech was very adaptive that during my first semester, the online courses I took were pretty pleasant and engaging.

I arrived in Japan in Q2/2022, and also felt very welcomed by my supervisor, ADB-JSP staff, and lab mates who got me onboard as an international student so smoothly.

I became busy with my academic while trying to balance this by traveling around Tokyo with my family and participating in off-campus activities. Notably, my team was awarded the local champion in the investment competition by CFA Institute.

As the time goes by, my responsibility as a research student comes due. I need to work on my research on the topic of ESG and foreign investment, which I spent most of my days for a few months in my cozy laboratory on the Ookayama campus.

Until just recently, the ADB-JSP scholars were finally able to meet in person in Aug 2023. I felt the joyous atmosphere as we were finally able to physically meet representing our developing nations, as well as informally close the program soon.

Two years went by so easily... I will definitely miss commuting to the campus or spending my time in our beautiful library; jogging with scenic views; seeing beautiful architecture or advanced infrastructure; good food; and many more.

Lastly, I am thankful for the support from my family, my supervisor Dr. Kyoko Nagata, ADB-JSP and its staff, friends, and people I connected with/passed by unexpectedly.

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