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テーマ 3:女性とこどもの健康

Research on Healthy and Safe School Policy and its implementation in with/post-COVID-19
among Asia and Pacific Islands Country

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“Research on Healthy and Safe Schools Policy and its implementation in with/post COVID-19, Asia and Pacific Islands” was conducted from 2021 to 2022 as one of Edu-port projects supported by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan. We have compiled the findings regarding the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the fields of health, education, and economy in Okinawa, Guam, the Philippines, and Indonesia. Additionally, we have formulated recommendations for the creation of a with/post COVID-19 healthy society and schools in the island regions. These recommendations were the result of discussions with experts from Pacific Island countries, drawing upon the insights gleaned from our research.

Our research group focused on the implementation of comprehensive school health, as well as cooperation with organizations outside the school and the local community as a Japanese-style school health care system to combat socioeconomic negative impact of COVID-19. The policy formulation stages and curricula that should be set by Pacific Island countries were presented, and cases of school health promotion were introduced in International Symposium with World Health Organization West Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) in Manila in September 2022.

In 2022, field studies were conducted on factors implementing school health in the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, the Philippines, and Indonesia. The role of the school principals, the establishment of guidelines, Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) strengthening through monitoring and evaluation, prioritizing health-related topics, decentralization and incorporation into local educational guidelines, and input from NGOs and so on, were identified as enablers of policy or project implementation.

Many Pacific Island countries have not formulated specific policies on school health. However, since school health activities are partially implemented in these countries, it is necessary to formulate comprehensive policy, which is one of the characteristics of Japanese-style education, on the basis of each country's experiences. The results of these studies will be published academically and will serve as the basis for policy recommendations to be discussed at an international conference to promote school health for Pacific Island countries.