

Participation in the FIRST Workshop in Palawan, the Philippines,
hosted by the U.S. Department of State

JICC, in collaboration with the Association for Overseas Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Partnerships (AOTS), supported the U.S. Department of State (US-DOS) in preparing the Foundational Infrastructure for Responsible Use of Small Modular Reactor Technology (FIRST) Workshop and, as experts under a METI-commissioned project implemented by AOTS, participated in the FIRST Workshop held in Palawan, the Philippines (June 3–5), hosted by the US-DOS, delivering lectures and providing guidance.

<Background / Objectives>

The Philippines is advancing its consideration of nuclear power introduction from the perspectives of decarbonization and energy security, with planning underway under the NEP-IAC. The workshop, hosted by the U.S. Department of State under Japan–U.S.–Philippines cooperation, focused on knowledge sharing on responsible use of SMR technology and human resource development.

<Detail>

Approximately 50 participants, including DOE, local authorities in Palawan, MERALCO, and investment-related entities, attended the workshop.

Japanese and U.S. experts delivered lectures on site selection and stakeholder engagement, followed by discussions and exchanges of views. Bilateral meetings and site visits were also conducted.

<Results>

① At the workshop, JICC, as AOTS experts, delivered lectures on siting requirements, seismic and tsunami assessments, and post-Fukushima communication strategies, enhancing understanding among Philippine participants.

② Through discussions and a site visit to Brgy Concepcion, participants shared updates and key challenges—such as regulatory development, siting, stakeholder engagement, and public acceptance—and reaffirmed the importance of continued support under Japan–U.S. cooperation.

