

## **Report on Participation in Overseas Field Research in Germany**

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From Nov.30th to Dec.10th in 2015, I participated in the overseas field research in Germany. This is an excellent experience not only for my study but also for my professional career in a lifetime.

During this period we were engaged in many activities as below:

1. Attending a joint lecture in Goethe university on the topic of institutional and innovation;
2. Visit to the IG Metall, which is the biggest labour union in Germany;
3. Participation in a workshop in Heidelberg university held by the school of trans-culture;
4. Visit to the Frankfurt stock exchange and listen to a presentation about the development of the exchange;
5. Visit to Mercedes-Benz Museum located in Stuttgart;
6. Visit to the Ministry of economic, energy, transport and regional development of Hessen state.
7. Interview with the SMA Solar Technology located in Kassel, which is the biggest in solar energy all over the world.

From the lecture in Goethe university, I learned the importance of institution and innovation for the sustainable development as well as the successful experiences in Germany, France and Italy.

In the IG Metall, we interviewed Mr. Martin and asked lots of questions about the mechanism of the labour union in Germany, this was very special for me because in China labour union exists in a different way. In Germany labour union seems more separated to government and aims to fight for the benefits of workers. They work in a soft but effective way which I think China could learn from.

In the workshop in Heidelberg university, 9 students presented on diverse topics. They were from different countries and we discussed, commented and exchanged ideas on the presentations. The atmosphere in Germany was quite different from Japan; students focused on diverse topics and they were more active and open-minded than Asian students. Also we had different ideas for many topics but we could discuss and try to persuade each other.

During the Frankfurt stock exchange visit, we listened to a presentation about the history of the exchange. We could also learn the development of security stock development in European continent. After that, we were invited to observe the practical operation in the stock exchange. It was the first time I had seen inside.

In Mercedes-Benz Museum, we saw lots of automobile models which embodied the development of the company. Mercedes-Benz is one of the most successful brands of Germany and enjoys high reputation all over the world. I could see the serious attitude and idea Germans had held to make a car, which could also apply to other German products. That is why "Made in Germany" means high quality.

In the office of Ministry of economic, energy, transport and regional development of Hessen state, the government staff introduced the government's effort to drive the renewable energy.

In the SMA Solar Technology, the Professor gave a presentation for us about the solar energy in the future. Since the conservation of traditional energies such as oil, gas and coal is limited, and finally they will run out. And the energy in future will be based on the renewable energy like solar and wind power. SMA Solar has been devoted to develop more effective and efficient inverter for industrial and household use. The most impressive word was "the future is in your hand, it is your responsibility to make it better". Our generation will have to undertake the mission for sustainability of the world.

Overall, this trip was a very precious experience for me. I realized the importance of communication and exchange

with diverse background people, which will be very helpful for my next trip in Australia. I am going to discuss and exchange ideas with professors and students there as much as possible. Even more, this trip gave me a general perspective, not only for my own life but also for the whole society, not only the current world but also the next generation.

Thank you very much for providing such a great opportunity for me.