

DAY-4 26th March

The Next Stage of Human Evolution

The "Technologies & Lifestyle Day" started with a visit at the Toshiba Science Museum, where the participants learned how technologies have changed our lives and how they may impact our future. After enjoying different types of Japanese noodles at the Ramen Museum. The participants experienced riding the Shinkansen to Tokyo Station. They have also used the public transportation to return to the Olympic Center, where they ended with a lecture by Prof. Ishibashi (Komazawa University) about ITs and other technologies that are changing our lifestyles, and a workshop.

"Independently Wise"

The modern world has greatly benefited from the advancement of technology; it has helped many people escape poverty, made them actors instead of spectators of the world around them. But there is also a danger in this, for when technology outstrips the social, economic, cultural and moral development of people, they become incapable of responsibly handling it and become

dependent on it. The main problems in technology lie in people, for being enslaved to it by chaining the body to be a mere instrument of the machine; or the machine itself being used to victimize people; and the greatest temptation being to consider technology better than humanity and blindly following it regardless of what is truly right.

Politician



Information Technology today

"Smart Community"

At the Toshiba Science Museum, the plan for "Smart Community" was introduced. There are many possible ways to produce renewable energy to use in particular buildings such as hydrogen, solar and wind energies. Nowadays, there are eco-houses and eco-buildings in which lighting and temperature are automatically controlled. That illustrates that as technology

improves, people's lives become better. Nevertheless, those hi-tech energies are unaffordable for some people even in developed countries and the power of those energies is not as effective as the ones derived from nuclear power plants or minerals. To sum up, people have to support new technologies so that others will see the benefits of renewable energy.

Scientist



Smart home system in future community

"Future of Technology"

The modern innovation for technology in the future strongly aims for and emphasizes on sustainability of resources. Such innovation raises people awareness for the consumption of energy and so on. It also contributes to saving energy and resources which is running out. Having said that, it is widely believed that those advanced innovations are only available for a certain group of people.

For instance, developed countries may find them affordable and essential as a huge amount of energy is needed in use. However, it's probably too expensive for the developing ones which shows no doubt that the modern innovation enables rich countries to be richer yet the poor countries to be even poorer.

Economist



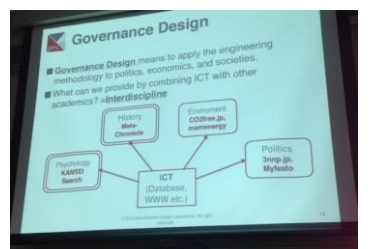
Development of technology at the Toshiba Science Museum

"Inter-relationship between Technology and the Society"

For country development, people need to study interdisciplinary. The positive sides are that technology, environment and the society can be developed in a more sufficient way. On the other hand, it is still an ideal in most countries since only few people focus on interdisciplinary study. Therefore, it is essential to learn and understand about the concept of other study fields. People who are experts in a

specific field such as technology should also learn about different fields such as Sociology and Economics. In conclusion, since technology is based on social needs, it is impossible to develop a country without thinking of the link of different kinds of knowledge for the sustainable development.

Sociologist



PowerPoint slide from Prof. Ishibashi's lecture about importance of interdisciplinary study