

At present, expectations and interest regarding the utility of sports in education, physical training, health promotion, industry, events, tourism, environment, policy, international politics are diverse. Accordingly, approaches to scientific research on sports also vary. Under these circumstances, this joint major in "International Development and Peace through Sport" is receiving a lot of attention as an academic field exploring the additional value of sports.

The usefulness and importance of development through sports (regional and international development) has already been recognized. On the other hand, it is necessary to consider how to engage in development from the standpoint of sports specialization and issues in development and aid. Essentially, it is important to deepen our understanding of body movement culture in various countries and regions. In the future, various research derived from the discourse regarding the association of sports with development and development via sports will allow an associated body of knowledge to be built up and clarified.

The University of Tsukuba, the National Institute of Fitness and Sports in Kanoya, and the Japan Sport Council established the Master's Program in International Development and Peace through Sport in Japan. The aim of its establishment is to develop human resources capable of being active internationally by acquiring expert knowledge and practical skills related to development through sports concurrently with the research capacity to analyze, verify and solve problems scientifically. Through these education and research activities, students will contribute to the enhancement and development of education and research in the field of sports science. I would like to pursue the new possibilities of sports science in this "International Development and Peace through Sports" program with students, graduate students, and staff.

**Chair, the Joint Master's Program in International Development and Peace through Sport,
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