

The Hokkaido journey with the MPMA program is like going on a big learning adventure to experience seamlessly woven core tenets of regional development, global collaboration, and experiential education. As a participant, I found myself immersed in a transformative adventure, unlocking invaluable insights that transcended conventional classroom teachings.

Hokkaido, a region that underwent a profound shift from agrarian and mining economies to service-oriented regional development, became our real-world classroom. This hands-on exploration provided a deeper realization of the implications of economic transitions. It offered practical insights into the challenges and opportunities associated with regional development, aligning seamlessly with the MPMA program's mission to equip students with the skills needed to navigate the complexities of evolving economies.



The snow-covered landscapes of Hokkaido emerged as a unique educational setting, a classroom where the importance of environmental sustainability became palpable. As we trekked through the pristine snow and engaged in ecotourism activities, the natural wonders of the region conveyed a tangible connection to environmental issues. This experience resonated with the broader sustainability goals often addressed in our discussions, highlighting the inseparable link between regional development and environmental responsibility.



Delving into the culinary delights of Hokkaido, from savoring the finest seafood ramen to indulging in local specialties, exposed us to the richness of Japanese cuisine and its integral role in the local economy. This firsthand encounter illustrated the holistic approach, integrating cultural and economic aspects into the study of regional development. Each meal became a lesson, showcasing the interplay between gastronomy and the economic landscape—a microcosm of the broader regional development narrative.

Exploring the vibrant city of Sapporo provided opportunities for networking and collaboration among participants. Beyond the academic realm, these shared moments in a relaxed and enjoyable setting contributed to the collaborative spirit fostered by the MPMA program. The connections forged during the trip extended beyond geographical borders, laying the foundation for future collaborations in both academic and real-world challenges.

A visit to New Chitose Airport offered a glimpse into Japan's commitment to innovation and hospitality. Observing the advanced infrastructure, seamlessly blending functionality with elegance, underscored the role of modern technologies in economic development. This experience aligned perfectly with the emphasis on preparing students to engage with innovative solutions and cutting-edge technologies in the development process.



Amidst the laughter, camaraderie, and cultural immersion, the journey became a catalyst for personal growth and leadership development. The transformative nature of the trip echoed an invitation to a world where every experience serves as a stepping

stone for individual and intellectual growth. The shared moments with fellow students became chapters in our academic journey, reinforcing the idea that learning extends far beyond the confines of a classroom.



In essence, the Hokkaido journey became an integral part of the MPMA program, providing a real-world context for the principles and theories studied in the classroom. It encouraged us, as students, to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical application, fostering a holistic understanding of economic development. The trip served as a preparatory ground, equipping us with the insights and skills needed to navigate the dynamic challenges inherent in our respective fields. The MPMA program's commitment to experiential education found resonance in every snow-covered landscape, collaborative activity, and cultural encounter—a testament to the enduring impact of this field tour on our academic

and personal trajectories.

The trip wasn't just about learning, though. It was also about growing as a person and a leader. We laughed, made memories, and felt the warmth of friendships. The trip was like a real-life lesson that every experience helps us grow.

Ergo, the Hokkaido trip was like a bridge between what we learn in class and what happens in the real world. It was a hands-on way of understanding better what is regional development, making us ready for the exciting challenges in our fields. The MPMA program's idea of learning by doing came to life in Hokkaido, making our journey there something we'll always remember.

