

Acknowledgements

Originally, this survey was based on collaborative research between ERIA and Keishin Gakuen on the international training and circulation of long-term care workers for the elderly based on the 'Asian Health and Wellbeing Initiative'. Initially, we envisioned a basic survey with India and the Philippines to aim for the harmonisation of international professional qualification frameworks, including a demonstration on the training and circulation of long-term care. However, shortly after the survey was launched, the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic broke out, rendering international research activities impossible. Therefore, we have decided to conclude the first phase of the research to a literature survey on the harmonisation between national occupational qualification frameworks like India's National Skills Qualifications Framework, the Philippines' Qualifications Framework, and Japan's Long-term Care Professional Career Rank System with the International Qualifications Reference Framework like the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework.

In addition, as the second phase of research, we focused on resilient long-term care for the elderly under the COVID-19 pandemic. Research studies on the impact of tragic events such as infectious disease pandemics on long-term care for the elderly are often conducted with a view to highlighting their vulnerability. However, what is important is the ability of the field to respond with resilience. Therefore, we organised the following research groups to explore how resilience has been embraced during COVID-19.

- A basic study of the demographic impact of COVID-19.
- Measurement of CO₂ concentration in terms of measuring ventilation conditions in facilities.
- Business continuity plan and management and knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) surveys for long-term care facilities in Japan and the staff working there. The KAP survey is an integrated platform for users to collect, manage, and analyse data.
- Interviews with migrant care workers in Japan.
- KAP survey of caregivers in Thailand.
- KAP survey of caregivers in Indonesia.

The aim was to summarise the findings obtained from these research studies and make recommendations to those who will be involved in policymaking in the field of long-term care for the elderly in the future and those who will create training programmes for better care knowledge, skills, and social attitudes as professionals in long-term care for the elderly.

However, as the spread of COVID-19 made direct surveys difficult, other methods, such as online interviews, were used to conduct surveys, and monthly webinars were held to share the results of the survey and discussions (see Appendices). Based on discussions with ERIA, our schedule was extended.

It was heart-breaking that during our study that Professor Tri Budi Raharjo, the head of the Indonesian research team, lost her husband, son, and granddaughter in the COVID-19 pandemic. We would like to offer our condolences to her once again.

The fact that we were able to overcome numerous difficulties and complete the second phase of the research is thanks to the tireless efforts of each research team. At the same time, it is thanks to the cooperation of the managers and staff of long-term care service providers. The person in ERIA also changed due to personnel changes along the way, with Osuke Komazawa, and Sota Machida in the first phase of the survey, and Takuma Kato and Asuka Nagatani in the second phase, who advised after a smooth handover, gave enthusiastic advice. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the people involved.