G20 Osaka Summit Special

THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019

G20 host has work cut out for it in creating consensus

Eric Johnston
Osaka
Staff Writer

One of the largest and most important gatherings of world leaders outside the U.N. General Assembly—the G20 Leaders’ Summit—will convene in Japan for the first time ever this week, bringing with it over 30 presidents, prime ministers and leaders from international organizations. Some 30,000 participants, including U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping, are expected to come to Osaka for the two-day meeting from Friday. Under the G20 process, Japan, in host nation, sets the agenda for discussions on specific economic and financial issues, as well as social and environmental matters that will range this year from health and women’s empowerment to climate change and dealing with marine plastic waste.

The impetus for the current G20 Summit was the global financial meltdown in 2008, when the leaders gathered to discuss how to prevent a similar crisis from happening again. And over the course of the past decade, the agenda has been broadened to include a more wide-ranging set of concerns and topics.

All G20 commitments are voluntary and not legally binding. But they serve as an indicator of the general policy direction of the member states on specific issues such as investing in developing countries, which energy sources are likely to be intermittent in the future, and what future investment opportunities might open up or expand in member states and what kinds of political decisions might be taken, in broad terms.

For Japan, hosting this year’s G20 has proved to be a challenge. Normally, the host country has at least a shift year between summits to prepare and work to get 20 countries—with their very different political and socio-economic systems—to agree on the issues. But last year’s G20 Summit held in Buenos Aires was just over six months ago. In addition, the endorsement of the new emperor on May 1 has imposed additional demands of the government’s schedule, factoring questions about whether there has been enough time to reach substantive agreement on the agenda issues.

For this year’s trade conflict between the U.S. and China will be the hot topic, as well as concerns that string procurement sentiment continues to pose a threat to growth in global trade.

“One of the most urgent tasks facing the G20 members is to regain confidence in the multilateral trading system, given the fact that trade tensions have started to weigh heavily on the prospects of growth,” Kei Tomita, the Japanese government representative for the G20 summit, wrote in a personal commentary published on May 15 in the Association of Japanese Institutes of Strategic Studies newsletter.

“Representing 80 percent of the global economy, the G20 members have to assume special responsibility by keeping their markets open,” he added.

One of the ways Japan hopes to restore international trust in multilateral trade is to work for G20 approval for reform of the World Trade Organization in order to allow it to function better in areas like e-commerce, and that’s high on the agenda in Japan’s traditional commercial center of Osaka.

Another key topic will be how to deal with the global economy, in a time of uncertainty. The development of transformative technologies like the “internet of things” and artificial intelligence, Tomita said. Other issues for discussion include women’s empowerment, which Tomita called a “key priority” on the agenda. Related to this is another priority for Japan, which is G20 efforts to address these member states’ ever-growing populations, like Japan’s, are aging and declining.

With the G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions in Global Environment for Sustainable Growth, which took place earlier this month, bringing agreed to a framework on how best to deal with the problem of marine plastic waste, such as the collecting and sharing of data, one of Japan’s major priority items will be to do a framework of commitment from G20 leaders on moving forward on this issue. A recent government survey showed plastic waste rose to the top concerns for respondents.

There are issues that could prove quite politically controversial for some participants.

This includes “quality infrastructure” investment, which generally refers to investments made by developed nations into developing countries. The investments include funding for such things as energy, agricultural and large-scale transportation, or public works projects, which require a need for high levels of transparency, efficiency and accountability.

One of the reasons for concern about this issue is related to China’s “Belt and Road” initiative, the project in funding and growing critics that the projects being pursued are earning money for insufficient financial transparency, and are not benefitting the local population for which they are supposedly intended to help.

While China is a member of the G20, how other nations handle the discussions in Osaka on new standards for quality infrastructure that is at the summit’s agenda will be a crucial test, which Tomita said was one of the key challenges for the Japanese past G20 meetings have longed to come to substantive agreements on what the group should do.

He called for “pragmatism” in the issues, whether G20 members like the U.S., which decided to withdraw from the 2015 Paris agreement on climate change, would agree on Japan’s, and the world’s, definition of “pragmatic” remains to be seen.

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The following are profiles of leaders of the participants making up the Group of 20 major economies. This year’s G20 Summit will take place in Osaka, on June 28 and 29.

profiles of G20 leaders

Argentina
President Mauricio Macri

Macri won a second term in the presidential election on October 22, but is likely to face an uphill battle amid a recession. Argentina’s economic woes. Inflation was nearly 100 percent in 2018 and the country’s currency, the peso, has been heavily devalued, nagging households of spending power.

The 60-year-old leader is the son of a prominent Italian-American industrialist and was brought up in the family business. He studied civil engineering at university and

served as a senior official in various construction concerns and other companies. In 1992, he was designated by senior police officers and was held for nearly two weeks until his family paid his ransom, an experience that purportedly led him to pursue a career in the military.

After left became head of the Boca Juniors, one of the country’s most popular soccer teams, before being elected mayor of Buenos Aires in 2007. He has been president since 2015 and was the host of Buenos Aires in 2007. He has been supporting national conservatism. Juncture forced to sit out after being hospitalized by math among other subjects.

He is a Protestant and first met his wife Jenny when they were attending church as teenagers.

Brazil
President Jair Bolsonaro

Bolsonaro, an ex-paratrooper, took office in January, with a promise to crack down on crime and ease gun control laws. He called “lies” told by campaigners opposing Brexit and was the head of the Christian Social Paratrooper Brigade. He decided to pursue a political career after being disciplined for writing a column in a local magazine in 1986, advancing his former military colleagues.

He served as a lower house member for seven consecutive terms from 1991 before being elected president.

A Catholic with the middle name Messi, meaning “savior,” he has called himself the president of God.

Canada
Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

This will be Trudeau’s third G20 Summit after taking power following his Liberal Party’s victory in October 2015.

Trudeau was born in Ottawa on Christmas Day in 1971 to then-Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau. From very early in life, he has been in the public eye.

The 47-year-old graduated from McGill University in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in literature and continued to complete a bachelor of Education degree at the University of British Columbia. He also spent seven years teaching French and math among other subjects.

After his younger brother died in an avalanche while skiing in January 1992, Trudeau became involved in promoting avalanche safety. He was named the prime minister's special advisor on the environment in 2014.

He was married to Sophie Gregoire, a former news anchor, with whom he has three children.

The telegenic prime minister entered politics in 2007. He was sworn in as prime minister after being hospitalized by a life-threatening stab wound to the abdomen in September. From San Paulo, he graduated from a military academy and studied law.

July 27, 2019

A Catholic with the middle name Mesias, meaning “savior,” he has called the presidential post his mission from God.

France
President Emmanuel Macron

Juncture is a 64-year-old former prime minister of Luxembourg, is known as one of the main architects of the Maastricht Treaty signed in 1992 that established the European Union and led to the creation of a common currency, the euro.

Juncture has been politically active from his youth, joining the Christian Social Movement in 1989. He received his law degree from the University of Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne and completed his studies at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

He married his high school teacher Brigitte Trogneux in 2007. The 64-year-old, the country's first woman to hold the post, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2018 for women and youth, during which she

had stopped politics in favour of France. This year’s G20 Summit will be the president’s first time in Japan since taking office. Born in a middle-class family, the former French president is the son of a diplomat and was educated in the United States.

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France
President Emmanuel Macron

Juncture is the third-longest serving German chancellor since World War II, behind Helmut Kohl and Konrad Adenauer.

The 64-year-old, the country’s first female chancellor, was born in Hamburg in 1954 to a mother who taught English and Latin and a father who was a pastor in the Protestant Church. She grew up in West Germany and later in Bonn.

She studied law at the University of Berlin and received her law degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

She served an array of positions prior to becoming chancellor, including minister for women and youth, during which she

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explained the benefits of good early childhood education, as well as parental leave for both parents. In October, Moon announced that she would not seek re-election as the leader of the Democratic Communist Party and said she would step down as chairman in 2021, bringing her 16 years in power to an end. Moon is passionate about sports, believing it can be a “real driving force for integration.” She has been married to her communist husband, Moon Jae-in, since 1992.

India
Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Modi was sworn in for his second term in office in May 2019 following his party’s landslide victory in the general election. He won his prime minister’s seat in 2014 and the saffron party has been in power continuously since then. Modi has been known as “India’s most efficient leader” and has been popular among the public as the Prime Minister. Joko Widodo
President of Indonesia
President Joko Widodo’s call for a presidential election in an April presidential race that has been popular among the public as the President. The Indonesian President serves concurrently as deputy prime minister and defense minister of the country. For his efforts, he has been known as a fan of football and has been a soccer fan throughout his career.

Japan
Prime Minister Shinzo Abe
Abe, who is interested in future prime minister, hopes to exhibit his leadership skills and ability to consult with a diverse group of G20 leaders ahead of an Group of 20 leaders summit. His 66-year-old former KGB agent has dominated Russian’s political scene since 2000 and has been considered a familiar face among world leaders. The crown prince, known as MBS, has served as the de facto leader of Saudi Arabia since 2015 and has been widely criticized for his role in the country’s human rights abuses.

President Donald Trump
President Donald Trump’s re-election in 2016 followed his victory in the presidency, making him the 45th president of the United States. His expected trip to Japan will follow his re-election in 2016, making him the first foreign leader to visit Abe’s vacation home in July 2017. President Trump is known for his hardline stance on the United States, including dealing with the issues of illegal immigrants and free trade negotiations with the United States. He is also known for his strong stance on the United States’ relationship with North Korea. But that has been put to the end of July.

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changing environment

Japanese housing giant煤气 overlaying on environmental leadership role

As the world faces numerous sustainability challenges, the actions of businesses and households are being closely watched. In Japan, one of the world's leading housing giants, Sekisui House, has been taking proactive steps to address these issues, with its focus on creating harmonious coexistence with nature.

Sekisui House's commitment to environmental sustainability is evident in various aspects of its business. The company is known for its efforts in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, promoting renewable energy usage, and designing housing solutions that minimize environmental impact. In addition, Sekisui House has set ambitious goals to reduce its GHG emissions by 2050, aligning with the Paris Agreement's objectives.

In this interview, the managing director of Sekisui House, Toshinori Abe, discusses the company's strategies and initiatives in addressing climate change and sustainability. He highlights the importance of collaboration and partnerships in achieving a sustainable future. The conversation covers a wide range of topics, including the role of technology in reducing emissions, the significance of renewable energy, and the challenges faced in implementing sustainable practices.

As a global environmental leader, Sekisui House is committed to evolving the concept of zero-energy houses, or ZEH (Zero-Energy Homes), which are designed to be energy-neutral. The company is also working on developing other innovative solutions, such as Sustainable Housing Technologies (SHT), aimed at creating more sustainable living environments.

Sekisui House's efforts in sustainability are not limited to its own operations. The company is also engaged in partnerships and collaborations, aiming to create shared value and drive systemic change. This includes working with governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders to promote sustainable development and address climate change.

In conclusion, Sekisui House's leadership role in environmental sustainability serves as an inspiration for businesses and households worldwide. The company's commitment to sustainability and innovation sets a positive example for the future of the housing industry and beyond.

END OF INTERVIEW

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Tech show a glimpse into society’s potential future

The year’s CEATEC (Combined Exhibition of Advanced Technologies) will be held in Makuhari Messe in Chiba Prefecture from Oct. 15 to 18. Registrations and reservations for conferences will start in early October on the CEATEC website, www.ceatec.com.

The event is sponsored by the CEATEC Executive Board, comprised of the Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association, the Communications and Information Network Association of Japan and the Computer Software Association of Japan. These organizations are IT and electronics show when it started back in 2000, CEATEC now includes all industries and business categories that create or make use of advanced technologies such as CPS (cyber-physical systems), the “internet of things” (IoT), robots and artificial intelligence (AI).

With origins as an IT and electronics exhibition, as overseas organizations such as foreign universities and educational institutions, as well as overseas organizations such as foreign embassies.

Instead, we added copy that says ‘Toward Society 5.0’ because we only look to the future. ‘Anniversary’ because we only look to the future. This year marks CEATEC’s 20th anniversary but has been an interesting year with The Japan Times, Kiyoshi Shikano, the executive producer of CEATEC, revealed the board decided not to use the word ‘anniversary’ in CEATEC’s logo.

“We merely put ‘20th’ without ‘anniversary’ because we only look to the future. Instead, we added copy that says ‘Toward Society 5.0’ to express where we are headed,” he said.

Society 5.0 is a concept proposed by the Cabinet Office of Japan that describes a super-smart society where innovations and technologies, making the most of artificial intelligence and robots, are incorporated to create solutions to various issues. This concept will also be one of the key features to be shared among participants after the upcoming 20th Summit in Osaka in June. Although everything and everyone is connected via the internet nowadays, the most important factor is how the digital cyberspace can make it what is happening in the real and physical environments; where people live and work. “Understanding this part is the first step toward (realizing) Society 5.0,” said Shikano.

“It requires not just use but develop industries to make a super-smart society. It is becoming harder for companies to stand alone and still survive, too,” he later added. That is why companies from various industries flock to CEATEC and collaborate with each other to showcase what society may look like in 10 years from now.

Last year, 750 companies exhibited at CEATEC: 345 of which participated for the first time. The number of attendees has increased every year since 2015 (302,000), the year when the exhibition hit bottom because of the changing needs of participants and a globally competitive landscape.

“We made a major shift in 2018 from an exhibition focusing on IT and electronics to one that crosses around CPS and IoT,” said Shikano. This transformation brought about success in drawing companies and individuals who were hungry for more than just new products.

The main exhibition area where most companies set up, is divided into three sections: “Core Solutions” for products and other exhibits, “Startups” for new, innovative companies and “Other Solutions” for all other companies.

A number of “Society 5.0 Areas,” an area of the event space created in collaboration among companies from different sectors such as banking, construction, logistics, retail, transport and entertainment, as well as local governments, in addition to “Society 5.0 Town,” is made up of companies from diverse sectors such as banking, construction, logistics, retail, transport and entertain- ment, as well as local governments. The idea came to life in 2017, themed around “experiencing and demonstrating the future,” Mr. Tomohiro Matsumura, the one in charge of the area.

Through the exhibition that Society 5.0 Town functions more like a society where each business sector connects to the other, improving the efficiency and convenience of people’s lives.

As soon as the exhibitors of Society 5.0 Town are confirmed, we will make all of them to a roundtable meeting,” said Shikano. In the meeting, the exhibitors, each from different industries, will discuss and decide what and how things will be displayed to offer visitors a holistic and comprehensive experience of future town.

‘CEATEC is a place where in that regard it is not just a place for companies who are only interested in selling their only products,’ he said. Shikano went on to say that what is important is not the technologies themselves, but how different industries can use these technologies to collaboratively recreate society.

‘CEATEC also attracts young generations. Last year, students accounted for about 5 percent of visitors. They visit the exhibition not only to learn about new technologies, but also to experience how such technologies may change their lives. “Some universities incorporated the attendance of CEATEC conferences in their curriculum last year. We will continue to enhance programs designed for students,” said Shikano. We hope that CEATEC contributes to alleviating a shortage of human expertise in the field of IoT.”

A total of 57,680 people attended CEATEC’s conference sessions last year. Shikano said that the board is eager to write more speakers from non-IT and other industries and other countries to give speeches to promote and reflect the diversity of CEATEC.

The number of visitors is increasing every year by year, hitting 351,005 in 2018. CEATEC has the potential to be on par with CES, the world’s largest consumer electronics trade show. CES attracts more than 170,000 visitors every year.

“But we are not just concerned about the numbers. We are more concerned about who, and with what mission, comes to see our exhibition,” said Shikano. To learn as much information as possible about attendees, the exhibition requires pre-registration from all visitors. In addition to personal information for verification, CEATEC collects data such as a visitor’s industry type, company and position, and purpose of the visit through a questionnaire. The information is analyzed and distributed to exhibitors to aid their marketing efforts.

The CEATEC executive board is taking measures to boost the number of overseas attendees. CEATEC’s exhibition dates have been shifted from the first to the third week of October as of last year to take into consideration that Unity Day in Germany and National Day in Canada during early October.

“We also changed the CEATEC logo from ‘CEATEC Japan’ to only ‘CEATEC’ this year with our strong determination to make this exhibition more international,” Shikano said.

Changes will also apply to Co-creation Park, another of CEATEC’s planned exhibits. Previously this area mainly consisted of two parts, one for domestic startups and the other for international. This year all participating companies will be randomly located, irrespective of their origin. Shikano hopes that this will inspire further collaboration and innovation among exhibitors.
Osaka and Kansai

A wellspring of history, innovation

Rising from the ashes of World War II, Osaka — Japan’s third-largest city — has emerged as a cultural and commercial center of Japan. Located at the southern portion of Honshu, Kansai consists of Osaka Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, and Kyoto Prefecture, and is home to a vibrant blend of traditional and modern cityscapes.

During this time, the region produced countless cultural treasures that became part of Japan's cultural heritage. For instance, Osaka Castle was built in Osaka in the fifth century, and Naniwa-zu Port in the city of Osaka served as a point of contact with foreign envoys. Osaka also became Japan's first permanent capital in 710, and from 794, Kyoto reigned as the capital of the nation's kitchen. The phrase "yatte minahare" — which means "I am ready" — was a phrase Torii, who persevered through several trials on his way to creating the country's now-famous brand, often used.

In the early days of Osaka’s development, the Dojima Rice Exchange is considered to be Japan’s first rice exchange, and Osaka Castle is considered to be the first modern city. Osaka is also home to several industrial trailblazers, such as Marutome, the founder of Nissin Foods, who introduced the beloved Cup Noodle brand to the world.

The Kansai region is expected to host a number of upcoming events in the area through 2025. One highlight will be the Rugby World Cup, which will be held in Osaka for the first time between Sept. 20 and Nov. 2. Of the event’s 12 venues, Osaka will host the World Expo 2025 site, which is expected to showcase Japan’s cutting-edge technology and culture.

One high-profile event on the calendar for 2023 will be the G20 Summit in Osaka. The region is also expected to host a number of events to discuss at a global level how society can best shape future societies.

For a long time, Osaka and the Kansai region have prospered as a major commercial center. This region has been renowned for its entrepreneurial spirit, and Osaka is home to many manufacturing companies. Our region has contributed to the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the fields of public health — such as water purification — and life sciences, including regenerative medicine utilizing iPS cells.

Osaka will host a number of upcoming world-class events including the 2019 Rugby World Cup, World Masters Games 2021 Kansai and Expo 2025 Osaka Kansai. We hope to raise more awareness of these events.

Lastly, we strongly hope that thorough discussions will be carried out throughout the G20 Summit regarding challenges facing humanity, such as marine plastic litter, and that a strong message will be conveyed to allow Osaka-Kansai toward solving findings.

Region rich in cultural assets

The Kansai region, not only renowned as home to Japan’s industrial heartland, but also as a center for Buddhism and traditional Japanese arts, boasts a rich cultural heritage. This region is home to a variety of historical sites and landmarks, each with its own unique story.

Kansai is known for its rich history and culture, and is home to numerous cultural assets. The Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University, is one example of innovation that has taken place in this region. As the nation’s kitchen, the region is home to a variety of historical sites and landmarks, each with its own unique story.

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Welcome to OSAKA, KANSAI
Osaka and the Kansai region are welcoming visitors from around the world.

World Masters Games 2021 KANSAI

Global spotlight on Kansai

The Kansai region is expected to continue generating attention in coming months and years as a string of major international events takes place in the area through 2025.

One high-profile event on the calendar for the 2019 Rugby World Cup, which will be held in Osaka for the first time between Sept. 20 and Nov. 2. Of the event’s 12 venues, two are located in Osaka: Nakanoshima Park in Osaka Prefecture and Osaka City. The event will feature 15 venues, each with its own unique story.

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G20 ministerial meetings

Niigata, Niigata Prefecture
Agriculture Ministers’ Meeting
May 11 to 12

Kutchan, Hokkaido Prefecture
Tourism Ministers’ Meeting
Oct. 25 to 26

Karuizawa, Nagano Prefecture
Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth
June 15 to 16

Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture
Ministerial Meeting on Trade and Digital Economy
June 8 to 9

Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture
Foreign Ministers’ Meeting
Nov. 22 to 23

Okayama, Okayama Prefecture
Health Ministers’ Meeting
Oct. 19 to 20

Osaka, Osaka Prefecture
G20 Summit Meeting
June 28 to 29

Fukuoka, Fukuoka Prefecture
Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting
June 8 to 9

Matsuyama, Ehime Prefecture
Labour and Employment Ministers’ Meeting
Sept. 1 to 2

Okayama, Okayama Prefecture
Health Ministers’ Meeting
Oct. 19 to 20

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Labour and Employment Ministers’ Meeting
Sept. 1 to 2

Bringing the world’s culture to Japan, and the heart of Japan to the world, since 1890
Hokkaido tourism

Experience northern landscapes, flavors and culture

Japan’s northernmost prefecture, Hokkaido, is home to trout of rubbing, nature, and culinary treasures, and every year throngs of travelers rent to partake in the peninsula’s seasonal activities.

Given its many attractions, Hokkaido is the perfect setting for this year’s G20 Tourism Ministers’ Meeting which will be held in the town of Kutchan on Oct. 25 and 26.

Kutchan, easily accessible from the rest of Japan through the main airport in Sapporo. New Chitose Airport, is a 10-minute flight from Haneda or Narita and can be reached via flights departing from 20 airports around the country. Those traveling by train can reach Hakodate from Tokyo in about four hours. New Chitose Airport, which serves as a gateway to Hokkaido, also has international flights to Asia. Starting from winter 2010, Fermi will open new routes for direct flights from Berlin, while Qantas will begin direct flights from Sydney.

Kutchan and Niseko area

Kutchan’s proximity to the Niseko mountain area has cemented the town’s status as a preferred destination among travelers. The area boasts snow and high-quality powder snow have made Niseko a hub for winter sports, attracting skiers and snowboarders from around the globe. Opportunities for other activities continue to attract investment, nurturing further development in and around Kutchan.

Though famous for its winter activities, Kutchan also offers an array selection of outdoor activities to be enjoyed off-season, such as by fishing, cycling and bird-watching. As the seasons change, Kutchan looks to remain as one of America’s favorite travel destinations. The picturesque Lake Hamana and majestic Mount Yotei embodying the region’s beauty. During summer, the glimmering house of water and sky of Kutchan’s farmland offer an ideal setting for enjoying Hokkaido’s rural landscapes. Kutchan is only an hour or so away from central Sapporo. Because of its popularity among foreign travelers, the town has made efforts to ensure visitors’ stays are as comfortable as possible. English signage, as well as language assistance at the general hospital, are just a couple of the services available. With its riveting hot springs, seasonal activities and scenic views, Kutchan stands out among Hokkaido’s many exceptional destinations.

Nature and wildlife

Hokkaido tourism reveals a diversity of wildlife and rich natural heritage, offering ample opportunities to appreciate regional natural resources. Visitors can visit the beautiful Lake Akan, a crater lake in Akan-Mashu National Park, home to the rare aigle species of carps, which can be seen by the thousands from mid-July to mid-August. Upon reaching the shores of Lake Akan, travelers can experience the magic of the drift ice that covers the Sea of Okhotsk. Travelers can take cruises departing from the cities of Obihiro and Mombetsu to see close-up views of the ice that is carried by winds and sea currents. More adventurous travelers can put on special dry suits and step onto the ice for themselves. The sea eagles that survey the area and gather on the drift ice punctuate the breathtaking beauty of the natural phenomenon. The Hokkaido region has a sacred connection with the Ainu, the indigenous people of Hokkaido. The Ainu observed an animist faith, and worshiped daily necessary resources, such as fire and water, or things beyond their control as gods.

Though the Ainu were stripped of their distinct culture due to the government’s past assimilation policy, travelers can still connect with it by watching traditional dance performances and the tutum at Akan-Asahikawa near Lake Akan, and learn about the indigenous people’s culture through their govern ment-designated traditional crafts or at museums in the region.

Cuisine

Hokkaido is also known for its rich local delicacies, such as fresh seafood and vegetables, as well as livestock products such as beef, chicken and milk.

Much of this food can be savored in Sapporo. Delicacies include Gelee Con, a popular grilled ramen dish often referred to as the “local food” of Hokkaido, as well as local varieties of soup and soy sauce that have attracted the palate of foreign travelers.

Served around the Sea of Okhotsk, the Sea of Japan and the Pacific Ocean, Hokkaido is blessed with an abundance of ocean fish, and the historic city of Hakodate, southern Hokkaido is known for its flavorful seafood. Long fishing as a thriving port to supply the Japanese market, the city is filled with restaurants and markets that serve up mouthwatering dishes of fresh fish, seafood and market.

Travelers may also be delighted to learn that Hokkaido has a rich history of producing beer, whisky and wine. In the town of Toyako, travelers can tour the facilities of iconic whisky maker Nikka Whisky Distilling Co., and learn about the maker’s history and production methods.

Visitors can also stop by the Sapporo Beer Museum to learn about the history and brewing process of one of Japan’s most popular beers, produced in Sapporo since the 19th century. Wine connoisseurs also in for a treat as Hokkaido produces distinctive wines that pair perfectly with award-winning local cheese.

Far beyond the horizon, there is an unparalleled and beautiful world.

Hokkaido. Expanding Horizons

Composed of regions rich in individuality, blessed with great, wild nature and seasonal foods, Hokkaido reveals a different face each time one visits. Journey and discover a world unlike any you’ve ever seen.
Agricultural sustainability for a growing population

On a sunny weekend during rice-planting season, the people of Japan’s largest rice-exporting prefecture, Niigata, welcomed visitors to their city as part of an event held on May 11 and 12. The two-day meeting at the G20 Niigata Agriculture Ministers’ Meeting was held there on May 11 and 12.

On the second day of the event, this Messe Niigata Convention Center served as the heart of the city of Niigata, Agriculture Minister Takeo Yamanaka said that the event concluded successfully because of a decision by a club to prepare a program addressing the importance and productivity of the agro-food sector to emerging developing countries.

The G20 meeting focused on the importance of encouraging innovation in agriculture through the utilization of new technologies, including the latest information and communication technologies, artificial intelligence, and robotics, and Yoshinaga added that discussions included issues such as developing human resources in agriculture, tourism and education, and agro-food value chains. Students have had their say in the meeting.

Niigata Prefecture has engaged its students in the best practice of human resource development through the meeting, said Yoshinaga. The college has engaged its students in the process of delivering the global challenge for sustainability in agriculture, as well as collaborations with nonfarm businesses, the public sector and academia.

An advanced and developing countries.

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An advanced and developing countries.
A cosmetics giant’s passion for beauty in empowerment

“Shiseido on gender equality”

Empowering women has been a crucial philosophy underlying the human resource management of Shiseido Co., its founder, Arinobu Fukuhara, built the foundations of Shiseido's overseas businesses in 34 countries. Hisako Nagashima was dispatched to Hong Kong as a beauty consultant overseas in 1962, and in 1990, Tatsuo Kato was appointed executive vice president of the company, making him the first male executive vice president in the company's history. Despite these achievements, women’s earnings in Japan trail behind men’s. As of 2018, women made up only 27.9 percent of Japan's workforce, and their earnings were 66 percent of men’s, according to the World Economic Forum’s Gender Gap Report. However, Shiseido has been committed to gender equality since 2007, with the launch of its Researcher Science Grant program. The company’s research director, Takahiro Fujiwara, said, “Shiseido seeks to take concrete actions leading to social change.”

History of support for women at Shiseido Co.

1972
Establishment of the Researcher Science Grant program.

1982
First female employees participate in a management training program.

1990
Launch of the Women’s Program to Foster Motivation at Work.

2007
Launch of the Researcher Science Grant program.

2018
Shiseido joined the Women’s Global Mentoring Partnership.

2019
Announcement of the Diversity and Inclusion Department.

2020
Launch of the Women’s Leadership Program.

2021
Launch of the Gender Equality Workshops on Gender Equality.

2022
Launch of the Researcher Science Grant program.

2023
Launch of the Women’s Global Mentoring Partnership.

2024
Launch of the Women’s Leadership Program.

2025
Launch of the Gender Equality Workshops on Gender Equality.

2026
Launch of the Researcher Science Grant program.

2027
Launch of the Women’s Global Mentoring Partnership.

2028
Launch of the Women’s Leadership Program.

2029
Launch of the Gender Equality Workshops on Gender Equality.

2030
Launch of the Researcher Science Grant program.

What is described as “so Shiseido” by many of its employees is the Shiseido Female Employees’ Association, which has long been committed to female employees. In 2017, the organization launched a program in 2017 to “support female researchers eager to play a leading role in science and academia,” said Rumiko Ieda, head of the Diversity and Inclusion Department. Out of 149 countries, Japan ranked 100th in the 2018 Global Gender Gap Index by the World Economic Forum. Just as collaborations with the U.N. body would lead to the “Weaning Room for Gender Equality,” an educational initiative targeting younger generations, specifically high school students, the program was launched in 2017 to a trial basis.

“Students apparently learned something valuable,” Takayama said. “We'd like to help unlock the radiance of women, which could lead to a substantial social change and create an influential movement,” Fujimoto said.

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Labour Organization, has been working with the OECD, together with the International Gender Equality has been well established. The G20, in particular, has made a strong commitment to reduce the gender gap in labor force participation, by bringing economic benefits of reducing the gender gap. The actual decline was noticeably different everywhere," the ex-CEO of BT said. "It was talking to an auto executive, and he said that women are still only 28 percent on average across the world, not 30 percent. And he said, "They are going to spend money for this project, and the next one is this."

**Walking the talk on gender equality issues**

*On Friday in Osaka, Yoshida — who will come to discuss the OECD’s latest global challenges report which will include sexism and gender issues — said Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, as the chair of the G20 meeting, in promoting gender equality, is extremely well positioned to prepare for prep for female future careers. The current position of the labor force participation gap between men and women to 27 percent by 2030. As the W20 represents roughly 2.3 billion women in 2030, Yoshida said, "The actual decline was noticeably different everywhere," the ex-CEO of BT said. "It was talking to an auto executive, and he said that women are still only 28 percent on average across the world, not 30 percent. And he said, "They are going to spend money for this project, and the next one is this.""

**Gender equality**

There are three main priorities for the G20, starting in 2014: improving gender equality, improving education for girls and promoting gender equality in the workplace. Yoshida also praised Malala, who has made a strong commitment to reduce the gender gap. The actual decline was noticeably different everywhere," the ex-CEO of BT said. "It was talking to an auto executive, and he said that women are still only 28 percent on average across the world, not 30 percent. And he said, "They are going to spend money for this project, and the next one is this.""

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In Japan, most polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles are collected and recycled after use. According to The Council for PET Bottle Recycling Japan’s collection rate is 92.2 percent and the country recycled 84.8 percent in fiscal 2015.

According to the council, Europe in comparison can recycle only 15 percent of plastic bottles and the U.S. 15.2 percent. However, Suntory Holdings Ltd., a global beverage producer based in Japan, has recently announced a higher and more specific target; that is, to replace all of the PET bottles they use for their beverages with clean-made 100 percent recycled and iso-

detailed PET-100.

As a senior user of PET, we must lead in working as the only way to make use and recycle PET,” said Takeshi Niinami, president and chief executive officer of Suntory Holdings.

According to Suntory, about 95 percent of the plastic that the company uses on a global scale are PET bottles. Approximately 30 percent of the plastic is made of PET.

Suntory continues to collaborate internationally for environmental conservation and education to preserve nature and resources for future generations. Tackling the chal-

lenge of PET recycling was a natural choice for the company in a line where plastic waste is a major issue.

Plastics do not just end up being consumed and used. Although the material has contributed to the modernization of food hygiene, portability and packaging, its environmental drawbacks are much more difficult. However, Suntory believes that recycling of PET plastic is a win-win situation. The company said, “It not just recy-
cling but new recycling, that is, recycling and repurposing the product.”

“The recycling process is already high in Japan, but the fact that most people may be unaware of is that most of the collected used PET bottles are recycled and become products that are not PET bottles.”

According to The Council for PET Bottle Recycling, the amount of PET resin used for manufacturing PET bottles was about 703,000 tons in 2017. However, only 53,000 tons of PET are used for making PET bottles, the council said.

The use of clean-made PET bottles has been technically realized, and the component of the conventional PET will continue to be explained for technology for bottles to be collected and PET recycling is not developed. This is what Suntory is dedicated to.

Suntory’s R&D activity is built around reducing plastics and recycling them while utilizing biochemical-based, rather than petroleum, materials. This means making bottles thinner, and using submersible to cut down on the amount of PET used, developing PET-free sippable cups and utilizing mechanical recycling processes when making once cups.

There are two ways of recycling PET bottles:

“Bio-recycling is a chemical recycling and dyes the plastics again to make polyester. However, Suntory is using the company’s unique technology to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 25 percent compared to mechanical recycling. This contributes to saving more than 50 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions compared to petroleum-petroleum PET.”

For more information on ESG and notable topics and explore a wide range of information, please visit our website.

The Japan Times

Regional communities transforming Japan

The Japan Times has found clues in Japan’s rural areas toward solving issues—a stemming from low birthrates and an aging population as well as those of urban areas.

Some interesting undertakings and relevant parties that could provide such clues are:

• A group of fishermen revitalizing an area of seabed, once tainted by domestic drainage, using eelgrass and oyster shells

The Japan Times Satoyama Consortium advocates a new concept of capitalism, which seeks to create a secure and sustainable regional society where local residents provide goods and services of value to unappetized resources.

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Ninja clan of yore and a mountain in sakura

For ink-honed travel seekers traditional yet one-of-a-kind experiences in Kansai and central Japan, Nara Prefecture and adjacent Mie Prefecture are the two for you, never a waste of exploring.

What secrets within the two areas await with history throughout the prefectures in addition to one of the most famous sakura (cherry blossom) viewing spots in the country.

Home to the former Japanese capital as well as a number of historic and religious sites, the region also boasts some of the country’s most charming destinations — long protected as the messengers of nature, in addition to one of the most famous cherry blossom viewing spots in Japan.

Mount Yosho in Yosho, Nara Prefecture, is one of the most famous historic Todoji Tempel, Kohfukuji Tempel is the spacious Nara Park, featuring the tetsu-Nara Station on the Kintetsu Nara Line.

Another mount in the northern part of the prefecture has a host of interesting destinations accessible via Kintetsu’s Yosho Station on the Kintetsu Nara Line. Located five minutes from the station is the spacious Nara Park, featuring the historic Todaiji Temple, Kohfukuji Temple and Kasuga Grand Shrine. All are part of the collective UNESCO World Heritage site of Nara:

"Monuments of Ancient Nara, one of these sites is the prefecture. There are also several U-Do doin exploring and roaming the park. Iconic in their own right, visitors fawn over the graceful gazelle browsing scenes of Nara Park, among other attractions. The closest station is Todaiji Station on the Kintetsu Line — officially known as the Nara Line — under Kintetsu Railway Co., a subsidiary of Kintetsu.

In neighboring Ise, the Akame mountain in Mie Prefecture, there is another mount in the Kii Mountain Range.

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In neighboring Ise, the Akame mountain in Mie Prefecture, there is another mount in the Kii Mountain Range. The Zao-do Hall at Kinpusenji Temple, a designated World Heritage site UNESCO World Heritage site, is the holy site of the Grand Shrine of Ise, Nara Prefecture. A bus bound for the temple uses nearby Kintetsu Co., and Mie Kotsu Co., on top of unlimited rail travel.
KAGAWA

Ancient traditions in harmony with contemporary art

Hospitality is woven into the culture of Kagawa Prefecture. For ages, locals have been famous for serving udon noodles, a specialty of the Sanuki region in the prefecture. But Kagawa also boasts world-famous art museums and art installations. Of note are the mostly un-themed workshops of contemporary artists. For example, the Dogo Onsen hot spring complex has a long history as a venue for relaxing and celebrating the beauty of the natural world. The onsen was designated a "National Treasure" in 1950 and "Historic Site" in 2006. Dogo Onsen Honkan is currently under renovation, officially dubbed the DOGO REBORN PROJECT, but remains open to the public.

Dogo Onsen Honkan is located in Matsuyama City, Ehime Prefecture. It is a historic bathhouse that has been in operation since the 9th century. Dogo Onsen is one of the oldest and largest hot spring resorts in Japan, and is linked through a network of onsen and ryokan. Dogo Onsen has a long history of healing and rejuvenating body and soul. The Dogo Onsen Honkan is a national treasure and a historic site. It is open to tourists and is a popular destination for visitors from all over the world.

For those looking to bring back a little bit of Japan for friends and family, there are many restaurants and shops that offer a taste of Kagawa's local cuisine. For example, there are many udon restaurants that offer a variety of toppings, such as pork belly, vegetables, and seaweed. There are also many sushi restaurants that offer a variety of fresh fish, including salmon, eel, and squid.

For visitors heading to the region this year, the Setouchi Triennale and its affiliated Sea and Land Festival offer visitors the opportunity to experience the beauty and history of the region. The festival features a variety of events, from traditional art exhibits to contemporary installations. It is a celebration of the region's history, culture, and art.

In Kagawa, udon is a staple of the local diet, and it is enjoyed in a variety of ways. For example, there is a popular udon restaurant in the city center that offers a variety of toppings, including seafood, vegetables, and meat. The restaurant has a relaxed atmosphere and is a popular destination for both locals and tourists.

For more information about Kagawa Prefecture, including its culture, history, and food, visit the official website of Kagawa Prefecture. Kagawa is known for its high-quality seafood and its agricultural products, such as rice, soybeans, and beans. It is also known for its beautiful landscapes and its historical sites, such as Dogo Onsen and the Dogo Onsen Honkan.

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Sano is an area known as the Sano-Iso area, located between Funaya and Asahi, which is a remote area in the vicinity of small towns.

When you head to Hiroshima, visit the National Art Museum of the Hiroshima region, which is a small museum with a focus on modern art. Moreover, if you continue along the Sano region, you will find small museums and shops that focus on traditional crafts and local products.

However, the Cormorant is somewhat of a lost paradise, which is why many people visit Kurokawa Kurokawa is also known for its breathtaking scenery and the Seto Inland Sea. The Seto Inland Sea is a narrow sea between the Shikoku and Honshu islands, which is why the Cormorant is a popular destination for many tourists.

There are many delis to try in the area, but be sure to try one of the famous conger eel dishes at one of the many rail stations.

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We are designing a smoke-free future, but we can’t do it alone.

We ask the world’s leaders to join us in a conversation.

1.1 billion cigarette-smokers deserve better options.

Support the vision for a smoke-free future.

Visit PMI.com/transformation
If you’re serious about getting people to stop smoking, why not just stop selling cigarettes today?

If Philip Morris International stops selling cigarettes today, it won’t make a difference. Smokers will simply pick up another cigarette brand. More than 1 billion people are smoking today and, according to the World Health Organization, there will still be more than 1 billion people who choose to smoke in 2025. After decades of evidence about the damage that smoking does, there is an ongoing societal responsibility toward smokers to illustrate solutions for quitting — and, for those who don’t quit, to provide less harmful alternatives. So we decided to work on developing science-based and technology-driven products that would be better alternatives for the men and women who would otherwise continue smoking cigarettes. And once we — our leaders, our scientists, and our board — were confident that we were on the right track and our products had the right potential to switch smokers, we went all in.

You’ve spoken of a 180-degree turn that Philip Morris International is making. How about within the company? One day, your scientists are working on cigarettes, and the next …

In fact, most of the scientists who worked on this project are new to the company. All of them are passionate about creating meaningful solutions for people who smoke. They came to us because they believe they can change something, so they can do some good in the world. That’s doubly important because whatever we say is going to come under enormous scrutiny. Do you think anyone will give us a third chance? Either we deliver — or we’re done.

Why are smoke-free products in some countries but not others? What are the barriers to entry?

I never thought I would end up becoming a bigger advocate for alternatives to continued smoking than many of our detractors, but here I am. Let me give you an example: In Japan, where smokers have access to smoke-free products and information about them, more than 6 million smokers have stopped smoking and switched to smoke-free products. That’s 22 percent of the country’s smokers!

One of the barriers to scientific acceptance comes from this strict ideology: “Cigarettes are harmful, so all tobacco and nicotine products must be just as bad.” So the first challenge is to eliminate the ideological shortcut that says all tobacco products are equally harmful. There is no perfect tobacco product, but they’re not all the same. Yes, nicotine is addictive, but the U.S. FDA and other agencies agree that nicotine is not the primary cause of tobacco-related diseases. Rather, it’s the high levels of harmful chemicals in the smoke of a burning cigarette.

Smoke-free products do not burn the tobacco, and because of this we expect to see significantly lower levels of harmful chemicals generated by such products. Whether this proves to be the case will be a matter to be assessed through science for each specific product. I’m hopeful that as more and more smokers demand better alternatives, regulators will put the right regulatory frameworks in place.

We hear the term “reduced risk” being used for such products — are they not completely safe?

The best choice for smokers concerned about their health is to quit tobacco and nicotine use altogether — or, better yet, never start. That’s our message. Smoke-free products are not risk-free, but we believe that those that are backed by science have the potential to reduce the risk of developing smoking-related diseases compared to continued smoking.

In 2017-18, the CDC reported a 78 and 48 percent jump in e-cigarette use among high school and middle school students, respectively. Aren’t you worried that teens will want to try your device?

I’ve told my teenage children that smoking is absolutely forbidden — that they should not use nicotine products, period. We are focused on responsibly marketing our products and making sure they are not sold or promoted to minors in the countries we are in. We will continue to do so in all of our markets.

You’ve said your ambition “is to move to switch people out of cigarettes as soon as possible.” How long do you think that will take?

I don’t think we’ll see a completely smoke-free world within 10 to 15 years. These things take time. But with cooperation between industry and governments to allow access to accurate and non-misleading information about better alternatives to smoking, we can certainly accelerate the arrival of the smoke-free world. And if, on a population level, innovative products can make a positive impact, isn’t that a benefit we must make possible? And soon?

Join the conversation; help us transform the future.

PMI.com/transformation
Food hub boasts traditional flavors, open-minded spirit

When a city is historically linked to the sea, “To eat oneself into ruin” (kuidaore) is a premise considering that the city is serious about food. Such is the case of Osaka, Japan’s second-largest city and gateway to the Kansai region.

Historical factors
Osaka’s reputation for its diverse culinary stems from a location that has provided access to high-quality ingredients, in mercantile history, and being close to the ocean and waterway trade. Aiko Tanaka, professor of food studies at Osaka Shoin Women’s University and author of “Food Studies of Osaka: From Osaka’s Soft Water to Our Chopsticks.”

“Osaka’s soft water is said to effectively extract the umami flavor from ingredients,” Tanaka noted, as it forms a significant part of Osaka’s culinary heritage. Osaka’s soft water is the source of high-grade soy sauce, which is most effective at extracting the umami and flavor components from kombu (kelp) and soybeans, she said, describing the Kansai region’s preference for making kombu-based soy sauce and subtly flavored miso.

When a city’s being is inextricably linked to the maxim, “To eat oneself into ruin” (kuidaore), it’s a foregone conclusion that historical factors and gateway to the Kansai region.

Food hub boasts traditional flavors
Kansai is ma kombu, harvested in southern Hyogo Prefecture around 1660. The lighter color does not interfere with other ingredients, it was predominantly used in the source of high-grade soft water, which is the most effective at extracting the umami and flavor components from kombu (kelp) and soybeans, she said, describing the Kansai region’s preference for making kombu-based soy sauce and subtly flavored miso.

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green finance

Eco-friendly financing for a more sustainable world

Hideki Takada, secretary general of GFNJ

The Green Finance Network Japan (GFNJ) was established late last year with the aim to make green finance mainstream in Japan's financial market.

"Japan was a slow starter in green finance. It has been gaining momentum over the past two to three years," said Takada. He met many players of green finance from around the world through Takada. He met main players of green finance, international organizations, governments, and other key players in green finance who are looking for their counterparts in Japan. "Japan is receiving global attention now due to its size, and capacity for its green finance market to grow," said Takada.

For example, green bonds are a financial instrument in green finance whose issuance increased dramatically in Japan in the last few years. According to market analysts, it grew 26-fold in 2018 alone. "The high level of individual ethics and national character may see an ethical approach being more effective. There may be social Beacons that only Japan can transmit to the world," said Takada.

Japan, the world's largest pension fund, has announced that it will incorporate ESG factors in all of its investments. It is also gaining increased recognition. The G20 Summit in Japan, the world's largest pension fund, has announced that it will incorporate ESG factors in all of its investments. It is also gaining increased recognition.

In addition to green bonds, green finance covers diverse environmental topics from climate change and conservation of biodiversity and marine resources to food production and circular economy. Both individuals and organizations are becoming increasingly concerned and interested in such topics. "We hope that Japan will take initiatives in some of the fields where we are ahead of the rest of the world," said Takada.

Takada also stated that gatherings among the private sector, municipalities and NGOs are equally important as intergovernmental meetings such as the G20 summit. "All of these countries share the same awareness of global issues, but it takes time to come to consensus on each topic and take action," he said. Private companies, financial institutions, local governments and the like are more flexible, and accelerating their efforts and involvements in green finance will be the key to progress. "We expect that notice of intent to commit to green finance will be the key to progress," said Takada.

The contents of their work and the people they work with tend to change after a few years. The same can be said for many private companies. This is one of the causes of vertical division among different areas because cross-sectoral relationships and exchanges do not continue or maintain. Green finance serves as a platform for building long-lasting person-to-person connections as a starting point to bring about bigger changes across all sectors. GFNJ serves as a platform for building long-lasting person-to-person connections as a starting point to bring about bigger changes across all sectors. GFNJ serves as a platform for building long-lasting person-to-person connections as a starting point to bring about bigger changes across all sectors.

Takada also emphasized that the process of pursuing logic and confirming matters systematically when we actually put something into practice. "I think this is Japan's strength," said Takada.

"Japan tends to make a late start in many fields, but it is often because we want to be fully convinced before we kick start. We have been through the process of pursuing logic and confirming matters systematically when we actually put something into practice. I think this is Japan's strength," said Takada.

"The members belong to GFNJ as individuals, instead of representing an organization or company. This allows for open discussions and continuation of relationships across all sectors," said Takada.

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Japanese Green Bond Guidelines in 2017 is instrumental in green finance whose issuance is reflected in investment decisions and standards is reflected in investment decisions and standards.

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Universities lure foreign students on falling population

The number of foreign students has grown in recent years, but still lags behind international standards. The government aims to double the number of foreign students by fiscal 2023.

**Number of foreign students**

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<th>Language schools</th>
<th>Graduate schools</th>
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<td>2018</td>
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**Universities, junior colleges or technical colleges**

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**Japanese language schools**

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The increase in foreign students (in universities and college) is moderate compared with that of foreign students in language schools, said Masaru Maruoka, a deputy director for student exchange at the Education ministry. "We still have to work on increasing the ratio of foreign students enrolled in universities." According to data published by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), international undergraduate students accounted for an average 2.5 percent of student populations at Japanese universities in 2016, well below the OECD average of 4.5 percent.

The ratio of foreign students in a key factor in global university rankings compiled by Times Higher Education (THE), as well as Quacquarelli Symonds (QS). Japan is aiming to get universities ranked in the top 10 in the THE ranking and the top 20 in the QS ranking.

One of the lesser known projects funded by the ministry to attract more foreign students includes the Study in Japan Global Network Project, a global recruiting project in which the ministry uses Japanese universities’ overseas offices as information centers to draw students coming to Japan. The Network Project subsidizes 37 select universities.

To ensure foreign students have a comfortable living environment in Japan, the ministry also offers scholarships, around 11,000 of which will be awarded to foreign students in fiscal 2019 — ¥117,000 a month for undergraduate and ¥144,000 for graduate students.

But the biggest obstacle preventing Japanese universities from realizing their global ambitions is the language barrier. The ministry aims to introduce more classes taught solely in English as well as the number of professors who can give lectures in English.

Launched in 2014, the Top Global University Project subsidizes 37 universities based on their proposals to promote internationalization. While each university has its own agenda, the fundamental requirement is to double the number of foreigners taught in English as well as the number of professors and students coming to Japan for more than 90 days.

To improve the situation, the ministry has introduced a program that offers foreign students a variety of business training sessions — including monthly meetings where students are paired up with companies to learn about how they hire employees, said Maruoka, adding that the ministry is aiming to have at least 100 companies participate in the project, creating a network of companies that help foreign students overcome the language barrier.

"The university is the very first gate to a university and foreign students wouldn’t choose it if they are not convinced of the benefits," he said.

K

The next eight pages feature eight universities with programs and services for foreign students and other programs to foster those who can be successful in the global arena. The Japan Times interviewed the presidents of Chuo University, Doshisha University, Keio University, Ritsumeikan University, Soka University, Sophia University, Toyo University and Waseda University.

The Japan Times

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The Japan Times

The Japan Times

The Japan Times
Chuo University has long been recognized for being at the forefront of practical learning. In 2015, its president stated at its 150th anniversary event that the school would "thrive into the future of global business." To this end, Chuo University has emphasized competency-oriented education and research. More specifically, the university has focused on "real-world" education where English is used as the main language of instruction over a four-year period. This approach is not without challenges; students must be able to think and discuss in English, and faculty must be able to provide high-quality instruction in English. However, Chuo University believes that this approach is necessary for preparing students for the global job market.

**New Facilities**

Chuo University announced the opening of its new dormitory and research hall in March 2018. The new facility is situated on the university’s main campus, in the city of Tokyo. It features state-of-the-art facilities, including a large lecture hall, a library, and a fitness center. The university hopes that this new facility will provide students with a comfortable and conducive learning environment.

**President’s Philosophy**

Chuo University President Tadahiko Fukuhara has emphasized the importance of global education and research. He believes that universities must be able to attract and retain the best students from around the world. To achieve this, Chuo University has implemented a number of initiatives, including the introduction of new courses, the expansion of international collaborations, and the provision of scholarships and support for international students.

Chuo University’s efforts to foster global competence have been recognized by various organizations. The university has been awarded several grants and funding opportunities, including support from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). Chuo University has also been recognized for its contributions to the field of global education and research, including being named a "Global University" by the Japanese government.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, Chuo University has made significant progress in fostering global competence. The university’s efforts have been recognized by various organizations, and its contributions to the field of global education and research have been widely acknowledged. However, there is always room for improvement. As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, universities must continue to adapt and evolve in order to prepare students for the challenges of the future.
Interesting, the Space-DREAM project has been incorporated in the research activities of other leading educational institutions. University President Takashi Matsuoka believes it is key to further advancing the university's branding strategy. "All at once, Doshisha has grown into a university offering a truly global education," Matsuoka said.

"Universities are increasingly expected to "advance creativity and collaboration among scholars and researchers worldwide. From this perspective, Doshisha University is proactive in its efforts. Matsuoka believes that "the university's aim is to foster an environment where students, faculty, and researchers from all around the world can work together to advance cutting-edge research and innovation." Despite the challenges posed by the current global health crisis, Matsuoka remains optimistic about the university's future prospects.

In conclusion, Doshisha University's global education strategy is not only a testament to its commitment to innovation and excellence but also an example of how institutions can adapt and thrive in an ever-changing world. As the university continues to forge new alliances and cultivate partnerships, it is poised to become a leader in global higher education and research.
Developing creative solutions that benefit the international community

Our global society is grappling with a myriad of challenges—from artificial intelligence and its rapid development to the effects of climate change and aging populations—that require bold, inclusive solutions. As these issues grow in urgency and complexity, it is up to universities to foster global citizens who can contribute to the international community by utilizing their expertise for the betterment of all.

Against this backdrop, Keio University has developed interdisciplinary framework to foster students capable of understanding the compatiences of global society, as well as those that support cutting-edge research in artificial intelligence, life science, and other fields. Drawing from its rich history and tradition, together with an ethos of independence, self-respect and promotion of this social good, Keio University is committed to creating a better future—an ethos of independence, self-respect and other fields. Drawing from its global citizenship among academics today.

Against this backdrop, Keio University President Akira Haseyama believes that the process of advancing ways to accomplish this represents an opportunity to demonstrate the concept of globalization and its legacy.

Redefining globalization

A discussion during “AI for Everyone: Benefitting from and Addressing the Challenges of Advanced Technologies” — “AI for Everyone: Benefitting from and Addressing the Challenges of Advanced Technologies” — which was titled “Building Trust in the Technology,” which was held in March 2020, emphasized the importance of understanding the role of artificial intelligence in society and how these technologies may bring.

One of these standards is the establishment of an ethical framework for the development of AI, in particular how it will interact with society. This is a critical issue that requires urgent attention from researchers and policymakers alike. Keio University has developed interdisciplinary framework to foster students capable of understanding the compatiences of global society, as well as those that support cutting-edge research in artificial intelligence, life science, and other fields. Drawing from its rich history and tradition, together with an ethos of independence, self-respect and promotion of this social good, Keio University is committed to creating a better future—an ethos of independence, self-respect and other fields. Drawing from its global citizenship among academics today.

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Keio University President Akira Haseyama in Lisbon.

Supporting aging populations, agriculture

Keio University is the host of several flagship research projects that focus on solving some of the greatest challenges facing the international community.

Last year the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU) relocated its Population Aging Research Hub to Keio University. The Center for Supercentenarian Medical Research hub was established to foster farmland generally necessitates large areas to grow crops robustly. In the field of agriculture, Keio University has taken a leading role in developing farming technologies that can help increase crop yields and better utilize existing farmland. Keio University has also contributed to the development of agriculture through its partnerships with member universities to leverage transdisciplinary research that will address the world’s most pressing environmental issues.

Interestingly, the Center for Supercentenarian Medical Research hub was established to foster farmland generally necessitates large areas to grow crops robustly. In the field of agriculture, Keio University has taken a leading role in developing farming technologies that can help increase crop yields and better utilize existing farmland. Keio University has also contributed to the development of agriculture through its partnerships with member universities to leverage transdisciplinary research that will address the world’s most pressing environmental issues.
Ritsumeikan University

Educational endeavors for promoting global diversity

As the international community faces real- ities of environmental, economic and social challenges, universities are tasked with informing global citizens equipped with the knowledge and sensibilities required to develop effective solutions. To this end, Ritsumeikan University is building upon its long-standing foundation in global education, providing students with a learning environment where they can explore their potential and connect with the world. A major theme of the educational initiatives pursued by Ritsumeikan University is the ever-changing nature of knowledge.

“Our current times call on us to examine how knowledge itself — for instance, how knowledge is acquired and used to express ourselves — is changing,” said Ritsumeikan University President Yoshihiko Nakatani. “The future is uncertain, and therefore our global society needs individuals who can discern meaning and use it to formulate solutions that can be applied to society.”

Formal importance in the university is enabling students to develop a global sensibility and expand their experience in their everyday lives, less in a larger global context, which experiences are the building blocks of this sensibility. Nakatani observed, “Whether in the digital or physical world, it is vital that students experience a wide spectrum of emotions such as joy, sadness and confusion, in order to develop empathy and an awareness of the varied value systems and views of the world that exist in our world.”

**Diversity focus**

Nakatani added that diversity plays an important role in broadening the global- oriented empathy that is so vital. Ritsumei- kan University has committed to focusing efforts on increasing international students from around the world, and creating abun- dant opportunities for Japanese students to study abroad. It is in this very much that the university established a brand new college, the College of Global Liberal Arts (GLA) in April this year in addi- tion to the establishment of the new faculty of Liberal Arts in April this year. The college has been established in order to develop deeply connected and collaborative relationships with top global universities and research institutions, — the former with The Australian National University, the latter with ANU, the University of Adelaide in Australia, and the University of Tokyo in Japan.

These efforts are part of the university’s vision to spur globalization in the everyday lives of students, “so that students can imagine and think about the world in new ways, and connect to the wider world,” Nakatani said. “This awareness will lead us to collabo- rate, which will in turn lead to true global- ization for the betterment of all.”

Ritsumeikan University

Programs help students tackle challenges

Ritsumeikan University has distinguished itself as a leader of global education in Japan, with world-class education and research initiatives across 16 undergraduate schools and 22 graduate schools in campus cities in both Osaka and Kyoto. Continuing in its legacy as a leader of global education, April 2019 saw the establish- ment of a unique new degree program in the university, offered by the College of Global Liberal Arts in collabor- ation with American University in Washington, D.C. (AU). The new Bachelor of Arts in Global Liberal Studies (GLA) is a dual degree program with the Australian National Uni- versity (ANU), Australia’s top university — ranked 29th in the world according to the QS World University Rankings 2020, GLA offers a wide variety of courses in Australia, but will also take courses in America, and will be eligible for a Bachelor of Arts degree from ANU or Ritsumeikan University. Students of both universities will have access to the same resources, including a shared online platform, shared faculty and the ability to take courses irrespective of whether they enroll at either university. Students will be able to access the same educational environment, and will be able to understand diverse value systems around the world. This unique degree program is designed to be a partner in understanding the world’s most pressing issues.

As part of the new degree program, students will work together with Australian and Japanese universities to develop and present plans that address specific UN Sustainable Development Goals. These presentations span a wide array of topics, from adoptees to disaster relief, to improving the lives of students around the world.

**Collaboration in Global Liberal Arts**

Collaborations between the university and ANU have been established in order to develop deep and lasting relationships with top global universities and research institutions, with the knowledge and sensibilities so that they can develop their own global sensibilities.

**Sustainable Week**

Sustainable Week is an annual event where students work together to develop and present plans that address specific UN Sustainable Development Goals. Students will be able to learn about the world’s most pressing issues and to develop their own global sensibilities.

**Osaka Bamako Campus**

Osaka Bamako Campus is an ultra-modern campus that blends seamlessly with the city, with high-quality ameni- ties and research on campus international dormitory slated to open in September. The university has taken on the mantle of leader- ship in global education and is nurturing world-class leaders capable of addressing the world’s most pressing issues.

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**Diversity in Global Liberal Arts**

College of Global Liberal Arts features a dual degree program with the Australian National University, where students have access to abundant research resources.

**Sustainable Development Goals**

As part of the new degree program, students will work together with Australian and Japanese universities to develop and present plans that address specific UN Sustainable Development Goals. These presentations span a wide array of topics, from adoptees to disaster relief, to improving the lives of students around the world.
An aerial view of Soka University Campus.

**Fostering global citizens**

Soka University has received its highest evaluation of "S" in its latest mid-term recognition for its progress. This 10-year project (2014-2023) aims to establish an environment where different languages and ways of seeing the world cross over. It’s a valuable introduction to what they will face when they step out into the wider world.

Baba said, “I think I need to grab a lot of skills from across the world. I would like to contribute to the rebuild- ing of Japan and the world.”

*The Japan Times*

**Highly recognized in MEXT's Top Global University Project**

In 2018, Soka University was selected for the Top Global University Project initiated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Of the 12 universities selected for the project, Soka University is categorized as Type 1: Global Research University.

The 2012-2014 project (Type 1) aimed to establish an international research environment and the strengthening of international student support for both enrolled and outward students according to the growth. As a result of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology’s initiatives, these types of students have continued to grow.

- The number of Japanese students studying abroad has also nearly doubled, from 96,047 in the 2013 fiscal year to 180,000 in the 2020 fiscal year.

Soka University is also engaged in various projects aimed at establishing a sustainable global community. In this vein, the university continues to strengthen its connections throughout the world.

*The Times Higher Education*

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**Faculty**

- Faculty of Economics
- Faculty of Business Administration
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Letters
- Faculty of Science and Engineering
- Faculty of Nursing
- Faculty of International Liberal Arts

**Degree Courses**

- Graduate School of Economics
- Graduate School of Law
- Graduate School of Letters
- Graduate School of International Peace Studies
- Graduate School of Engineering
- Graduate School of Computer Science and Technology
- Graduate School of Nursing
- Graduate School of International Liberal Arts

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Soka University Campus, Thursday, June 27, 2019 | The Japan Times | PAGE: 825 | CMYK

Soka student hopes to share ideas of peace

Mohamed Ghaith Alzin is not your run-of-the-mill student. The international systems science student chose Soka University for its postgraduate studies partly due to its location in Japan, but mostly because he could not find a study in his home country.

“Growing up for me, Damascus was the capital of Syria, from which I had fled after it became a very hard place due to the presence of three younger siblings behind,” Ghaith recalled.

Before the Syrian war, “we were living a beautiful and peaceful life in Damascus,” he said. “I never thought that something like this outside Syria for a long time because of the war. The family situation was not better before. After the war, the financial and educational condition of my family deteriorated.”

After finishing high school in Syria, Ghaith decided he wanted to continue his education outside his home country.

He dreamed to work in international organizations and wanted to study in Tokyo, his father’s home city.

“I had a very extensive knowledge in electronics, so I decided to continue on by pursuing a master’s degree in Tokyo,” he said.

He is currently a first-year master’s student in Tokyo, Japan. Ghaith said that he visited many cities and countries around the world, including China and the United States.

Mohamed Ghaith Alzin (19) before his internship conference on the “Soka Gandhi” professor.

Ghaith arrived in Japan after completing his PhD in electronics from the University of Malta.

“The main difference between Japan and the United States is the culture and the people,” he said. “In Japan, the people are very friendly and helpful. In the United States, people are more reserved.”

Ghaith said that he is currently working at the Faculty of Science and Technology (MEXT). He is assisting in the research of international students on campus and is planning to complete his master’s degree in 2022.

He also shared his dream of working in the United Nations or the United Nations Human Rights Commission since he fled to Syria someday,” he said. His dream for what he wants to achieve when he returns to Syria.

In the meantime, Ghaith continues pursuing his education and his dream of working in the United Nations Human Rights Commission. He is currently working as a research assistant at Soka University.

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Ghaith shares his experiences with his family and friends back home in Syria through social media platforms.

Soka University is also engaged in various initiatives to establish a sustainable global community. The university has been fostering global citizens and has contributed to the happiness and peace of the people of the world using English, as an up-and-coming graduate and professor.

“I think I need to grab a lot of skills from across the world. I would like to contribute to the rebuilding of Japan and the world,” Ghaith said.

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*The Times Higher Education*
Sophia University

Pursuing sustainability and diversity in global activities

Since its establishment over a century ago in 1858 as a Jesuit school, Sophia University has deeply embraced its mission: “Men and Women, For Other, With Others.” Through the lens of nurturing and bringing up young people that can contribute to global society while remaining on mission that has become clearer today than in the past,” said university President Yosuke Terumichi on the current conditions of the school, its students and graduates.

Sophia has long been known for its notable globalization activities, which is important in an academic context as today the world is becoming a single arena in which living socially. They also should have solid knowledge about many other countries and regions. “We should be good at meeting people from all over the world. I have seen many young people who are greatly impressed by the kindness of a host family,” he said. “They start accepting students and provide a diverse learning environment that nurtures personal diversity. Such a stance allows our graduates to work in various international organizations such as the UN, as well as NGOs and so on,” said Terumichi.

Sophia Center for Global Education and Discovery plays a vital role in providing numerous dynamic overseas learning opportunities that contribute to helping each student develop a truly global perspective.

“While I must stress here that it isn’t enough for each student to just visit and go to one country to another, and vice versa,” said Terumichi. “The important point is to provide an external environment for each person that makes one become a leader in their perspective. That is why each program starts with the environment designed by the respective staff professors.

“Put another way, each program is a proof that one can establish the framework of all the involved, and that of many hands of teachers, of teachers in the form of one project, students from the first to the fourth year during different times are selected as participants,” he said. “In that sense, an academic activity is maintained leading to dynamic, multifaceted discussions on the environment and other aspects on many issues such as political and cultural backgrounds.

Over the years, the center’s programs has often been praised. ‘They thank us for providing a meaningful learning opportunity that opened eyes to another world. I have seen many young people change their attitude on the spot where they practiced the proper initiative like this program,’ he said. “As such, Terumichi has heard some students from many other countries outside Japan are selected as participants,” he said. “In particular, there are such students from many other countries outside Japan.”

Sophia also has a unique mission in providing students with opportunities to study abroad. Carefully monitoring the environment and selecting students and taking full advantage of the different perspectives, Sophia currently has exchange programs with 40 countries and universities around the world.

Terumichi explained that students in any major can learn technical skills on campus, but there doesn’t necessarily correlate to an international mind. “We are conducting a social participation program, Undergraduate Academic Cooperation Agency’s official development assistance, engaging in discussions with local students and participating in language studies. The concept of the learning environment is designed for exploration in which the students can get used to learn how globalization really means. For example, by finding people speaking a completely different language who are too impressed by the beauty of a host family, the students may come to realize that the texture and size of the world they belong to today.”

Several perspectives may broaden even further by meeting the Japanese International Cooperation Agency’s official development assistance, providing a meaningful learning experience for each person that makes one become a leader in their perspective. That is why each program starts with the environment designed by the respective staff professors.

As for the future, “I look forward to further exploring the globalization activities of the University,” he said. “Furthermore, to further explore the globalization activities of the University, we have come to establish a close relationship with various organizations of the UN, including the WFP, FAO, and UNHCR.”

“We have also received requests from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and our students have started to participate in various international organizations and conduct research on various international problems that are crucial in the world. As such, our research activities are being strengthened.”

The results of such hearings have been recognized, Terumichi considers such efforts a true sense. After all, by doing so, we can bring up young people that can contribute to global society while remaining on mission that nurtures personnel diversity.

“Throughout our career, Sophia has often been praised: ‘They thank us for providing a meaningful learning opportunity that opened eyes to another world. I have seen many young people change their attitude on the spot where they practiced the proper initiative like this program,’” he said. “As such, Terumichi has heard some students from many other countries outside Japan are selected as participants.”

Sophia University President Yosuke Terumichi

A local network

As an academic institution at the forefront of globalization, Sophia also strives to build a network with other schools around the world. “In our network, we must have both a macroscopic bird’s-eye view, as well as a microperspective that focuses on the details of various issues,” Terumichi said. “In that context, international collaborations require both depth and breadth, and we must have a clear mind to deeply scrutinize each issue. Bearing this in mind, Sophia staff and students seek out various ways to build relationships and mutual understanding.”

For the future, “I look forward to further exploring the relationships with Sophia in Japan, as well as in many other foreign countries as a first institution with a global mindset,” said Terumichi. “In fact, such thinking promotes with the activities of (former president) Yoshikazu Ishizawa. Ishizawa worked to educate and elevate the people of Cambodia to realize Angkor Wat. He laid foundations of a quick fix by foreign nations or external institutions. Instead, he argued that no matter how long it takes, such a valuable heritage asset should be restored and preserved by the hands of the local people themselves so that they could take pride in their work and artistic genius of the country.”

That is what Terumichi realized and appreciated the many years of help and support from Sophia. “Today, we continue the Angkor Wat restoration by returning (Cambodian) student, staff, and experts. This is how Sophia came to be a seed distribution institution in Cambodia, winning much trust and respect of the local people.”

Although Sophia has adopted a local network, the university is also engaging in the field of cultural and social studies. “I think such an approach is the key to making Sophia more global in action,” Terumichi said. “As long as we can continuously enhance and revive our connection to our region since our establishment over a century ago, we can bring up young people that can contribute to global society while remaining on mission that nurtures personnel diversity.”
Cultivating a setting, opportunities for future leaders

Toyo University President Makio Takemura has a resolute sense of purpose. “Toyo serves as the international secretariat for University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP).”

In 2014, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science (MEXT) together with the private and public sector, started a new project in 2014: the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to foster a new generation of researchers and leaders who will make contributions to international society.

As such, the goal is to fire up the imagination and creativity of students, who will then go on to contribute to society.

Toyo University

As a leading university in Japan, Toyo University’s Faculty of Information Management (FIM) is dedicated to providing students with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in today’s globalized world. The faculty offers undergraduate and graduate programs in information management, with a focus on the use of information technology to solve real-world problems and create innovative solutions.

Program participants will work with teams from other universities and industries to develop new applications and services for a diverse range of industries. Program participants will also have the opportunity to participate in international research projects and collaborate with faculty and students from around the world.

The university has a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion, and is dedicated to creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all students. The university offers a wide range of programs and services to support students’ academic and personal success, including mentorship, counseling, and career services.

Toyo University President Makio Takemura

“Campus of the future” homes in on curriculum for the digital age

As a so-called campus of the future, Toyo University’s Faculty of Information Management (FIM) offers students the opportunity to live, learn, and work in an environment that combines the latest in digital technology with a traditional university setting.

The university’s philosophy is centered on the idea of an “intelligent campus,” where technology is seamlessly integrated into all aspects of the student experience. This includes everything from the use of digital signage and interactive whiteboards to the integration of artificial intelligence in the classroom.

In order to ensure that students are well-prepared for the digital age, FIM offers a range of courses and programs that focus on digital literacy and innovation. These include courses in data science, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity, as well as opportunities for students to engage in research and development projects.

Overall, the university’s philosophy is centered on the idea of creating a campus that is at the forefront of technological innovation, while also providing students with a high-quality education that prepares them for success in the world of work.

Dean: Ken Kato

A “Diversity Voyage” activity in the Philippines

A “Diversity Voyage” activity in the Philippines designed to expand students’ global outlook

A “Diversity Voyage” activity in the Philippines designed to expand students’ global outlook

As a “Diversity Voyage” activity in the Philippines designed to expand students’ global outlook, students from Toyo University visit different parts of the country to learn about local cultures and gain a deeper understanding of the relationships between people from different backgrounds.

The program is designed to promote cultural exchange and mutual understanding among students from different countries. It offers a unique opportunity for students to experience the richness and diversity of Philippine culture, while also developing their skills in communication and interaction with people from different backgrounds.

The program is open to students from any country and nationality, and is designed to accommodate a wide range of interests and backgrounds. It offers a unique opportunity for students to learn about the culture and history of the Philippines, as well as to develop their skills in cultural awareness and intercultural communication.
Integrated energy management monitoring and control center for talented doctoral students’ education.

In terms of research, Waseda is collaborating with students in the Graduate Program for Power Energy Professionals (IEEE), which helps to produce doctoral graduates to help develop energy systems for tomorrow’s society. The program aims to provide graduate students with a broad foundation in energy systems through joint research and projects, focusing on the development of innovative and efficient energy systems.

Academic strength

Waseda is also leading the way with the Master of Legal Practice Program, which encompasses the liberal arts and professional fields. The program provides a broad foundation in legal studies and various practical skills, while emphasizing the application of legal and ethical principles in real-world situations. Students are trained to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as a deep understanding of the legal and social issues facing society.

Global reach

Waseda University is committed to fostering a global perspective among its students. The university has established partnerships with a wide range of institutions around the world, allowing students to study and conduct research abroad. Waseda University’s Global Strategy Program aims to provide students with opportunities to study in at least two countries and to engage in cross-cultural experiences.

Facilities

Waseda University offers a range of facilities for students to use, including libraries, museums, and athletic facilities. The university’s libraries are renowned for their large collections of books and other materials, covering a wide range of subjects. Waseda University also operates several museums, including the Waseda University Museum of Art, which houses a collection of modern and contemporary art, and the Waseda University Historical Museum, which contains a collection of historical artifacts and documents.

Conclusion

Waseda University is a world-class institution that is dedicated to providing its students with a high-quality education and preparing them for successful careers. By combining a strong academic program with opportunities for international study and engagement, Waseda University is well-positioned to help students develop the skills and knowledge needed for success in today’s globalized world.
Enhanced Japan services accompany top-tier service

Turkish Airlines

Providing flights to more countries than any other airline in the world, Turkish Airlines offers travelers comfortable passage to destinations across the globe. As it celebrates its 30th anniversary of flights to or from Japan, the airline continues to enhance services with exciting promotions and innovative amenities.

Record-setting airline

Reflecting its reputation for world-class service, Turkish Airlines ranks No. 1 in sales in Asia and the Pacific. Additionally, the airline offers travelers comfortable passage to destinations across the globe. As it celebrates its 30th anniversary of flights to or from Japan, the airline continues to enhance services with exciting promotions and innovative amenities.

Comfortable seating

Whether it’s business or economy, Turkish Airlines provides high-quality services to satisfy the needs of all customers. The spacious business class cabins feature “lying down” seats, which serve as excellent features for travelers. The Turkish Airlines lounge in Narita has introduced two new services for travelers.

New crew uniforms

To celebrate the 15th anniversary of the founding, Turkish Airlines is introducing new, stylish crew uniforms. The uniform design takes inspiration from several aspects of Turkic culture.

New cutomer services

Enhancing business class, Turkish Airlines has introduced two new services for international passengers. The first allows passengers to select their layover meals and the second allows passengers to select their layover meals.

Stronger Japan services

While previous programs such as “Tokyo, Osaka, and Narita” have been successful, Turkish Airlines is introducing two new services for travelers.

Celebrating 30 years

The airline is marking the anniversary of its founding, Turkish Airlines is introducing new, stylish crew uniforms. The uniform design takes inspiration from several aspects of Turkic culture.

A new hub

Istanbul Airport is a breakthrough for Turkish Airlines and the international aviation industry. It’s a major milestone for the airline and the international aviation industry.

Services for transfer passengers

Turkish Airlines provides passengers with layover services to appreciate the wonders of Istanbul.

About Turkish Airlines

Turkish Airlines is one of the largest airlines in the world, flying to 340 destinations in 130 countries around the world. The airline is a member of oneworld, the global airline alliance.

The Japanese Times

You have a home wherever you fly

with the airline that flies to more countries than any other.
The capital city of Hiroshima is perhaps best known for the Atomic Bomb Dome, designated as a World Heritage site in 1996. The site forms part of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park, which is also home to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. Shinkansen eases trips from Kansai to Setouchi, Hiroshima

The picturesque Seto Inland Sea area of western Japan is a popular tourist destination, home to a variety of scenic beauty, historic attractions and a rich culinary heritage.

The region is a hop away from major Kansai cities such as Osaka, Kyoto and Kobe. It’s easily accessible thanks to the Sanyo Shinkansen, arguably the area’s easiest and most convenient mode of transportation.

The region’s Hiroshima Prefecture has something to entice any inbound traveler. Recommended historic spots include the famous Itsukushima Shrine, with its brightly colored pavilions and “floating” torii gate. For gourmands, Hiroshima has much to offer thanks to the bountiful food the island sea area provides.

For gourmands, Hiroshima has much to offer thanks to the bountiful food the island sea area provides. The prefecture is the country’s top producer of oysters, boasting a cultivation history dating back 400 years. Fresh and succulent oysters are available at many restaurants and eateries.

History, botanical wonders and the arts await in Okayama

Okayama Prefecture is blessed with maximal rain and mild temperatures, making the area famous for high-quality fruits. However, travelers to the area will find a bounty beyond delicious produce. The prefecture’s capital, a trip to the garden can be combined with the well-known Okayama Castle nearby. The city of Okayama is famous for its picturesque merchant quarter, which resembles western buildings allowing visitors to appreciate a well-preserved townscape.

Shinkansen eases trips from Kansai to Setouchi, Hiroshima