

THE
JAPAN FOUNDATION
2011/2012
Annual Report



About the Japan Foundation

The Japan Foundation was established in October 1972 as a government-affiliated special corporation with the objective of promoting international cultural exchange through the implementation of comprehensive programs. In October 2003, the Foundation was relaunched as an independent administrative institution under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

With its global network consisting of the Tokyo headquarters, Kyoto Office, two domestic Japanese-language institutes (the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa; and the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai) and 22 overseas offices in 21 countries, the Foundation operates a number of programs, often in partnership with other organizations, focusing mainly on three areas: Arts and Cultural Exchange, Japanese-Language Education Overseas, and Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange.

Based on a government endowment of 78 billion yen, the Foundation's activities are financed by annual government subsidies, investment revenue, and donations from the private sector. As of March 31, 2011, the Japan Foundation has 230 staff members.

History

1972	The Japan Foundation established.
1989	Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa established.
1991	Center for Global Partnership established.
1997	Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai established.
2003	The Japan Foundation relaunched as an independent administrative institution.
2006	China Center established.

The Japan Foundation was established with the objective of conforming to the following legislation passed in 2002.

Article 3 of the "Law of the Japan Foundation Independent Administrative Institution":

The purposes of the Japan Foundation Independent Administrative Institution (Dokuritsu Gyosei Hojin Kokusai Koryu Kikin: hereinafter called the "Foundation"), is to contribute to the improvement of a good international environment, and to the maintenance and development of the harmonious foreign relationships with Japan, by the efficient and comprehensive implementation of activities for international cultural exchange, which will deepen other nations' understanding of Japan, promote better mutual understanding among nations, and contribute to the culture and other fields in the world.

Three Main Activities

Arts and Cultural Exchange

Creating opportunities to encounter the values embodied in Japanese art and Japanese life

Impressions transcending differences in language form a wellspring that promotes understanding of Japan by generating interest in and fellow feeling for the country. Seeking to provide such opportunities, the Japan Foundation introduces a wide range of Japanese arts and culture to people in other countries. With programs covering the arts, including fine arts, music, theater, and films, and the culture of everyday life such as food and fashion, the Foundation produces artistic and cultural exchange activities worldwide and helps build international networks in each field.

Japanese-Language Education Overseas

Increasing the number of people who speak Japanese promotes understanding of Japan

By helping people in other countries learn the Japanese language, the Japan Foundation contributes to better understanding of Japan and cultivate friendships around the globe.

The Japan Foundation promotes Japanese-language education overseas through organizing Japanese-language courses, administering the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test worldwide, and developing teaching materials. It also sends Japanese-language specialists abroad and provides training programs in Japan.

Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange

Combining a deeper understanding of Japan with an interest in learning about the world

Providing support for Japanese studies abroad and opportunities to learn about societies and cultures of other countries leads to deeper mutual understanding between Japan and the rest of the world and creates a shared commitment to common issues.

The Japan Foundation is an active proponent for greater understanding of Japan and broader professional networks worldwide through international exchange activities including support for scholars of Japanese studies abroad and visits to Japan by leading overseas academics.

Calendar of the Major Programs 2011/2012

April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kaneto Shindo Retrospective in the U.S. [U.S.] ● The 37th Buenos Aires International Book Fair [Argentina] ● The 26th Janadriyah National Festival for Heritage and Culture [Saudi Arabia] → P.13 ● Lecture and Demonstration on Robot Culture [Germany, Kuwait, Poland] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exhibition "The Group 1965: We are Boys!" [Germany, Ukraine] ● Exhibition "Manga Realities: Exploring the Art of Japanese Comics Today" [Vietnam, Philippines] ● Touring Japanese Film Festival in East Europe [Latvia, Slovenia, Romania, Russia, Greece, Croatia, Macedonia, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Bosnia and Herzegovina] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The 54th International Art Exhibition, Venice Biennale "TABAIMO: teleco-soup" [Italy] → P.4 ● Exhibition "Hiraizumi-Temples and Gardens Representing the Buddhist Pure Land" [France] ● The 17th Seoul International Book Fair [Korea] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exhibition "Atsuko Tanaka. The Art of Connecting" [U.K., Spain, Japan] → P.12 ● Establishment of the Center for Face-to-Face Exchanges in Dalian [China] → P.16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exhibition "Hokusai-Retrospective: The 150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Germany" [Germany] → P.12, P.35 ● Performances of Contemporary Japanese Music in Central Asia ZATAIVSHIYSYA DRAGON (Sleeping Dragon) [Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan] ● Lecture and Workshop on Ukiyo-e Woodblock Prints [Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand] ● Heart-to-Heart: Long-Term Exchange Program for Chinese High School Students -Arrival of Participants of the 6th Term [Japan] → P.16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "Sho Asano & Ensemble" Tour in Baltic States [Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania] ● Min'yo-Japanese Traditional Folk Songs-Conveying Heart and Rhythms in Daily Life in Japan [Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil] → P.13 ● Leonard Eto "Blendrums" East Africa Tour [Tanzania, Malawi, Ethiopia, Djibouti] ● The 150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Germany: Akira Kurosawa Retrospective [Germany] → P.35 ● Lecture by, and Screening of Works of, Keiichi Hara (Director of Animated Films) [Canada] ● Lecture by, and Screening of Works of, Koji Yamamura (Animator) [Estonia, Latvia, Norway] ● The 20th Turku International Book Fair [Finland] ● Lecture and Workshop on Ukiyo-e Woodblock Prints [Honduras, Mexico, El Salvador] ● Invitation of Teaching Staff from Europe, Middle East and North Africa [Japan] → P.15 ● Lecture by Risa Wataya (Novelist) [Germany, Italy] → P.15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kuromori Kagura Performances in Russia [Russia] → P.40 ● World Premiere of Onomatopoeic Play in Palestine [Palestinian territories] → P.13 ● Nikkatsu at 100 [U.S.] → P.14 ● The 63rd Frankfurt International Book Fair [Germany] ● Introduction to Vegetarian Dishes from Buddhist Monks and Shugendo [France, Hungary] ● Lecture and Demonstration of Karakuri Ningyo by Shobei Tamaya (Karakuri Ningyo Master) and Yoshikazu Suematsu (Robot Engineer) [Czech Republic, Germany, Luxemburg, Portugal] ● amin x Kyogo Kawaguchi Center for Heart-to-Heart Exchanges Concert Tour [China] → P.36 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Omniologue: Alternating Currents Exhibition [Australia, India] ● Ryukyu-Okinawa Traditional Performing Arts Tour of the South Pacific: Chimu [New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga] ● Hogaku Concert Tour in Central American and Caribbean Countries - OYAMA x NITTA with Special Members - [Costa Rica, Trinidad and Tobago, Dominican Republic] ● Taiko Performances in Kuwait and Jordan [Kuwait, Jordan] → P.5 ● Edo Utsushi-e Performances in Eastern Europe-Reviving the Edo Phantasm [Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria] ● Screenings of Silent Films Around Europe with Narration and Musical Performance [Italy, France, Germany] → P.14 ● The 13th Moscow International Fair of Intellectual Literature "Non/Fiction" [Russia] → P.5 ● Survey of Collections at Azerbaijan National Art Museum [Azerbaijan] → P.15 ● Lecture and Demonstration on Ryukyu Cuisine [Germany, France, Sweden] → P.5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exhibition "Hiroshi Sugito: paintings and sketches" [Singapore] ● Invitation Program for Experts in Restoring Japanese Paintings [Japan] → P.15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● India-Japan: Passage to the Next Generation [India] → P.34-35 ● Japanese Kites Workshops [India] → P.5 ● Noh Performance [Algeria, France] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TAIKO LEGEND - Heart Beat from Japan EITETSU HAYASHI [Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain] ● The 20th New Delhi World Book Fair [India] → P.35 ● Lecture and Demonstration on Japanese Games [East Timor] ● Dispatch of Young Wagashi Workers to South-East Asia [Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines] → P.15 ● Lecture and Workshop by Manga Expert [Egypt, Turkey] → P.40 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● KENTARO!! Contemporary Dance Performance [India] ● Furoshiki Design Contest for Japanese and Israeli Students [Israel, Japan] → P.33 ● Exhibition "Double Vision: Contemporary Art from Japan" [Russia] ● Exhibition "How Did Architects Respond Immediately after 3/11-The Great East Japan Earthquake" [France] → P.7, P.11 ● Breathing Atolls: Japan-Maldives Contemporary Art Exhibition [Maldives] → P.12 ● Exhibition "TOHOKU-Through the Eyes of Japanese Photographers" [China, Italy] → P.7 ● Android-Human Theater "Sayonara" [Thailand] → P.36 ● Tohoku Folk Performance Groups (Wakumizu Kagura, Kuromori Kagura, UsuzawaShishiodori), Ondekoza Taiko & Musicians World Tour [China, France, U.S.] → P.6, P.11 ● Screening in 86 Countries of Works such as Can You See Our Lights? : First Festival after the Tsunami Depicting Reconstruction after Great East Japan Earthquake → P.7, P.11 ● Artist's Talk and CG Anime Film Screening of Jun Awazu [Singapore] ● Lecture and Demonstration of Wagashi (Japan-US Cherry Blossom Centennial) [U.S.] ● Lecture "Natural Disaster and Construction" [Mexico] → P.38 ● "SHINSAI: The Conversation - Theater Artists Respond to the Earthquake in Japan" Artist Talk by Kumiko Shinohara [U.S.] ● Roundtable "Changes in Japanese Literature after 3.11" [France] → P.39 ● Lecture "Disaster and Tohoku, and its Culture" [China] → P.11 ● Establishment of the Center for Face-to-Face Exchanges in Hangzhou [China] → P.16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Japanese-Language Program for University Students (Spring) [Japan] ● Short-Term Training Program for Foreign Teachers of the Japanese Language (Spring) [Japan] ● Training Program for Secondary School Teachers of Japanese-Language from Malaysia [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The 52nd International Speech Contest in Japanese [Japan] → P.5, P.19 ● Japanese-Language Program for Specialists in Cultural and Academic Fields (2-month course) [Japan] ● Japanese-Language Program for High School Students [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JET Memorial Invitation Program for U.S. High School Students [Japan] → P.22 ● Japanese-Language Proficiency Test in 2011 (July) → P.21 ● Information Session on Activities by Japanese-Language Specialists [Japan] ● Short-Term Training Program for Foreign Teachers of the Japanese Language (Summer) [Japan] ● Intensive Training Program for Secondary School Teachers of the Japanese-Language from Korea [Japan] ● Japanese-Language Support through Domestic Collaboration (Invitation)(Summer) [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long-Term Training Program for Foreign Teachers of the Japanese Language [Japan] → P.22 ● Japanese-Language Program for Outstanding Students [Japan] ● Intensive Training Program for University Teachers of the Japanese Language from China [Japan] ● Japanese-Language Program for Specialists in Cultural and Academic Fields (6-month course) [Japan] ● Japanese-Language Program for Foreign-Service Officers and Public Officials [Japan] ● Japanese-Language Support through Domestic Collaboration (Invitation)(Autumn) [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publication of Survey Report on Japanese-Language Education Abroad 2009: Present Condition of Overseas Japanese-Language Education → P.24 ● Publication of Dekiru 1, First Standard Japanese Textbook in Hungary [Hungary] → P.40 ● Publication of Assessment and Evaluation in Language Education (AELE) No. 2 ● International Conference on Japanese-Language Education [China] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Symposium: Hokusai in Context [Germany] ● International Symposium "Japan Studies as an Area Study - From the Interdisciplinary Frame of Reference" [China] → P.29 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Asia Leadership Fellow Program(ALFP) Public Symposium "Beyond Conflict and Disaster: The Role of Civil Society in Asia" [Japan] → P.27 ● Invitation Program for Young Muslim Intellectuals in Southeast Asia [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Common Agenda Round Table between Japan and the US Project [China] → P.31 ● Lecture "Japan After the Great East Japan Earthquake: Architecture and Organizational Strength - Industrial Competitiveness of East Asia" [China] ● Public Symposium "How East Asia Viewed 3/11 - Sending a Message of Recovery to the Tohoku Region" [Japan] → P.28 ● The 2nd East Asia Forum for Japanese Studies [Japan] → P.28 ● The Invitation Program for U.S. Experts on Asian Affairs [Japan] → P.31 ● "Community x Graffiti @Ishinomaki" [Japan] → P.27, P.30 ● Japan-India Dialogue: Public Symposium "Asian Renaissance: Learning from Shibusawa, Tata, Okakura and Tagore" [Japan] → P.27 ● Taylor Anderson Memorial Project [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe [Japan] → P.27 ● U.S.-Japan Network for the Future (Washington) [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe [Japan] → P.27 ● U.S.-Japan Network for the Future [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultural Leadership Meeting: Imagining the Role of Cultural Leadership for the Future [Japan] ● Roundtable Discussion "Post Disaster Community Design and City Planning" [Indonesia] → P.36 ● Invitation of Young Intellectuals from Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia [Japan] → P.30 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Execution of Cooperative Agreement with Turkish Cultural Exchange Organization Yunus Emre Institute
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S.-Japan Network for the Future [Japan] ● CULCON-SAIS Joint Symposium "Enhancing the US-Japan Partnership: Education and Cultural Ties in a Changing Global Context" [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "Genki Mail" Project: Connecting the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster Area and the U.S. [Japan] → P.7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Japan-Europe "Kizuna" Project - Embracing Solidarity and Diversity in Community [Japan] → P.27 ● Symposium: The Catastrophes in Japan and the Role of Conventional and New Media - A Comparative Look at How Japan and Germany Reported on the Earthquake [Germany] → P.27 ● Japan Outreach Initiative [U.S.] ● The 23rd Japanese Delegation of the U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The 13th International Conference of the European Association for Japanese Studies [Estonia] → P.29 ● Japan Travel Program for U.S. Future Leaders [Japan] ● International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe [Korea] → P.36 ● Abe Fellowship Colloquium "East Asian Regionalism and US-Japan Relations" [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The 13th International Conference of the European Association for Japanese Studies [Estonia] → P.29 ● The Japan Edo-Period Literary Society Fall Convention [Korea] → P.29 ● Japan-Europe Intellectual Exchanges in Alsace Japanese Studies Seminar on Taisho/Prewar (Showa) [France] → P.28 ● The 7th Japan-China-Korea Cultural Exchange Forum [Korea] ● The 28th U.S. Delegation to Japan - U.S.-Japan Young Political Leaders Exchange Program [Japan] ● International Conference "China and India as Emerging Powers: Challenge or Opportunity for the United States and Japan?" [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation Ceremony for the Japan Foundation Awards [Japan] → P.8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Japan Leadership Fellow Program(ALFP) Public Symposium "Beyond Conflict and Disaster: The Role of Civil Society in Asia" [Japan] → P.27 ● Invitation Program for Young Muslim Intellectuals in Southeast Asia [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe [Japan] → P.27 ● U.S.-Japan Network for the Future (Washington) [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe [Japan] → P.27 ● U.S.-Japan Network for the Future [U.S.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Future Leader Forum: China-Japan-Korea, 10th Anniversary Special Forum [Japan] → P.5, P.27, P.30 ● Japanese American Leadership Symposium "Empowering Civil Society for the Future of Japan" [Japan] → P.31 ● Lecture "What Can Art Do for the Reconstruction?" [Brazil] → P.39 ● Group Invitation Program for Russian Young Specialists on Japanese Studies [Japan] → P.27 ● Abe Fellowship Colloquium "How Will North Korea Change?" [Japan] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation Ceremony for the Japan Foundation Prizes for Global Citizenship [Japan] → P.7, P.8 	

On the Occasion of the Japan Foundation's 40th Anniversary



October 2 marks the birthday of the Japan Foundation as it turns forty years old in 2012. Since its establishment in 1972, the Foundation has won a certain degree of appreciation for its roles and activities both in Japan and abroad. This recognition rests on the dedicated support and efforts of those people actively involved in international cultural exchange as well as on the shoulders of our predecessors, and I would like to express my profound gratitude for their commitment. In this 40th anniversary year, as the president of a foundation with a long and distinguished history, I will continue to challenge whatever awaits us with a fresh perspective.

In terms of economy, Japan remains a major economic power, though its relative presence in the world tends to decline in recent years. Be that as it may, the cultural power of Japan, and the way we Japanese live, were highly appraised once again in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake. We

consider it important for Japan, and for its future, to have many more people abroad appreciate its virtues and charms, and to deepen their understanding of our country. After the Great East Japan Earthquake, we at the Japan Foundation showed other countries, in various ways, the efforts of people working to recover in the region ravaged by disaster. By stepping up our activities, we will continue to introduce a valuable Japan prospering together with other countries of the world.

At the same time as we introduce Japan, it is important to deepen the connections and bonds that Japan maintains with other countries in a variety of ways. For this purpose it is also essential to implement projects that we conceive and undertake together with people abroad. These are collaborative projects to create culture, to interact and become familiar with each other through actual contact, and to contribute to culture in other countries.

At a time when the country's fiscal conditions are becoming increasingly strained, and the administrative and financial reforms of the government are progressing steadily, it is requisite for the Japan Foundation to operate its activities with greater efficiency, however fewer its resources may be. We will strive further in our efforts to coordinate and cooperate with government as well as with private organizations in and outside the country, and proceed as national initiatives.

The world today is facing an array of serious challenges. With the broad understanding of people across the nation of Japan, the Japan Foundation will continue to move forward with you all.

October 2012

Hiroyasu Ando

President
The Japan Foundation

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Looking Back on 2011/2012

The Japan Foundation promoted a wide variety of programs and projects in fiscal 2011, introducing Japanese arts, theater, publications, audio-visual works, and lifestyle of Japan to the world, programs designed to deepen the understanding of Japan through the Japanese language and to foster Japanese studies overseas and intellectual exchange. The following photos are parts of the Foundation's activities during the year.



Participating in International Art Festivals

Photo: Ufer! ©Tabaimo/Courtesy of Gallery Koyanagi and James Cohan Gallery

The Japan Foundation has organized Japanese presentations at international arts/architecture festivals. The Japan Pavilion at the 54th Venice Biennale Art Festival featured Tabaimo.



Japanese Technologies through Japanese Culture

Opening event for "JAPAN: Tradition. Innovation" at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The exhibition illustrated how Japanese cutting-edge technologies and designs owe their roots to traditional culture since the Edo period. Courtesy of Embassy of Japan in Canada



Experiencing Japanese Culture through Citywide Exchange

Participants of a program at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai at a local autumn festival. Various programs have been carried out for better understanding of Japanese culture and society.



Hybrid Music with Traditional Instruments in the Middle East

Wadaiko drum player Shuichiro Ueda, violinist Wasei Suma, and saxophone player Masahiro Tamura performing in Kuwait and Jordan. Audiences were delighted with the exciting performance of the Wadaiko drum, having the similarity with the sound of the Arabian tabla.



Learning Japanese through the Culture

A scene from Japanese-language courses provided in Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan. Participants furthered their understanding of the Japanese language and culture by appreciating the beauty of Japanese characters demonstrated by a calligrapher.



The Charm of Local Cuisine

Ayaka Yamamoto, expert of Okinawan cuisine, gave demonstrations in Paris, Augsburg, and Stockholm. The unique dishes from a subtropical land garnered much interest.



Discussing the Future of Asia

For the 10th anniversary of the Future Leaders Forum: China-Japan-Korea, a special forum was held to discuss future relations among the countries.



Advocates of Japanese Literature

Yue Yuankun, winner of the 18th Noma Award for the Translation of Japanese Literature, has a promising future as a scholar of Japanese studies.



Japanese Learners in the Speech Contest

At the 52nd International Speech Contest in Japanese, 12 finalists gave accounts of their thoughts and feelings in humorous and moving episodes.



Exchange with Literary Fans Abroad

Koji Suzuki, author of the internationally popular *Ring*, graced non-fiction, Moscow's annual international book fair, giving lectures and answering interviews with local media.



Japanese Artists Collaborating with Artists Abroad

The Wall Art Festival 2012 was held at the Niranjana School in the rural area of Bihar, India. Energetic Japanese and Indian artists demonstrated the power of art to the villagers and children. *Mirai e no zo* (Elephant for Future) by Ichiro Endo and Yusuke Asai. Photo: Kenji Mimura



Introducing the Charm of Tohoku through Folkloric Performing Arts

Tohoku is a region rich with folkloric performing arts. Concerts were performed in eight cities in the United States, France, and China, with folk performance groups—Wakumizu Kagura of Tono City, Kuromori Kagura of Miyako City, and Usuzawa Shishiodori of Otsuchi Town of Iwate Prefecture—and music by Ondekoza & Musicians with Wadaiko drum players and musicians transcending genres. Above: Usuzawa Shishiodori in Guangzhou in China; bottom left: Kuromori Kagura at the Lycée International de Saint-Germain-en-Laye in Paris; and bottom right: Wakumizu Kagura in Los Angeles.

Japan Foundation Initiatives after the Great East Japan Earthquake

The Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, devastated large areas in the Tohoku region. Though it is now more than 12 months on, the search still continues for the missing, and many are forced to live in temporary housing. The Japan Foundation would like to once again pray for the souls who perished in the disaster and offers its heartfelt sympathy to the disaster victims.

During the past year, the Japan Foundation had been involved in initiatives for recovery, organizing cultural exchange projects all over the world, including performances, exhibitions, and screenings of films/documentaries, as well as lectures, symposiums, and talks by taking advantage of its networks

and experiences of past projects in disaster recovery and prevention. These are all efforts to introduce the Tohoku region as a place blessed with nature, and with strong community ties, while expressing thanks for the warm support offered from abroad, and showing how the Japanese people are determined to make a successful recovery. The disaster made the world take notice of the spirit and culture that support Japanese society today. The Japan Foundation continues to contribute to recovery efforts by introducing the attraction of Japan, sharing the disaster experience with people abroad, and encouraging cultural exchange between Japan and the world.



President's Special Prizes to Three Groups

The Japan Foundation Prizes for Global Citizenship President's Special Prizes were awarded for their recovery efforts through international cultural exchange to Rikuzentakata City International Exchange Association, Tomodachi in Natori International Relations Association, and The People (Fukushima Pref.).



"Genki Mail" from Children in the United States

American journalists visited Japan bringing messages of support written by elementary school students in the United States for children in the impacted areas. They had the opportunity to witness the devastation and listen to survivor stories. Photo: Kenichi Aikawa



Film Screening: the Earthquake and Tohoku

Films about the region and how people were coping with the aftermath were screened in 138 cities in 86 countries. The films made impressions on many audiences.



Architectural Approaches for Disaster Recovery

Architects were among the first to go to the region and examine the devastation. An exhibition showcasing their approaches for recovery was held in Paris.



Bridging Japan and the United States

American high school students visited the region to honor the two American JET teachers who died in the disaster and attend a training program at the Kansai Institute.



TOHOKU Photo Exhibition Held in Beijing

The exhibition consisting of 10 photographers' works highlighted different aspects of village life, rituals and festivals, and nature. The event attracted more than 2,000 visitors.



Prayers for Japan around the World

A man in New Delhi mourning the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Prayers were offered all over the world on March 11, 2012, a year from the earthquake. Photo: aki



Memorial Fireworks for the Earthquake Victims

In August 2011, the LIGHT UP NIPPON project launched fireworks in 10 locations devastated by the tsunami to remember the victims and express hope for recovery. The Japan Foundation produced a documentary film of the event to introduce how the young people are engaged in recovery activities. This film was broadcasted and screened worldwide. Photo: Kenichi Aikawa

The Japan Foundation Awards

Since 1973, the Japan Foundation has been presenting awards each year to individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of mutual international understanding and friendship. Since Japan experienced the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, the fiscal 2011 award winners were invited to participate in a symposium "The Reconstruction of Japanese Milieu" at the award ceremony.

Fiscal 2011 Award Recipients

Arts and Culture

Photo: Takashi Arai



TAMBUKO Percussion Ensemble

Mexico

TAMBUKO Percussion Ensemble performs high quality contemporary Japanese music and musical compositions by Japanese composers in Mexico and abroad, using many Japanese instruments including Odaiko or Shimedaiko. TAMBUKO is also actively engaged in collaboration with famous Japanese musicians playing Koto, Shakuhachi, marimba, or violin, and has served a large role in encouraging the understanding and promoting of Japanese culture.

Commemorative concert
October 7, 2011, at TOPPAN HALL
In cooperation with TOPPAN HALL

Japanese Language



Department of Japanese and Japanese Literature, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University

Egypt

Cairo University was the first place to offer Japanese studies in the Middle East and Africa, and the department has been playing a central role in fostering scholars of Japanese language and culture, as well as promoting Japanese-language education. Many graduates have published or translated numerous books on Japan, ranging from literature to politics. The department has been a major contributor in the smooth and effective progress of understanding Japanese culture in Arabic-speaking nations.

Commemorative lecture by Professor Karam Khalil
"The History of Japanese-Language Education in Egypt and Achievement of Cairo University"
October 13, 2011, at the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa

Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange

Photo: Kenichi Aikawa



Augustin Berque

Retired Professor, School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences

France

With his rich knowledge of Japanese culture and milieu, Professor Augustin Berque is a leading scholar on Japan, having developed his own interpretation of Fudo. Through his groundbreaking study on Fudo, inspired by Tetsuro Watsuji's Fudo (A climate: a philosophical study), his contributions to the academic disciplines of geography, philosophy, anthropology, and Japanese studies have been immense.

Commemorative lecture
"Teachings of the Japanese Milieu—from the Rice Fields of Hokkaido to the Theories of Evolution"
October 12, 2011, at the Japan Foundation JFIC Hall "Sakura"

The Japan Foundation Prizes for Global Citizenship

The Japan Foundation Prizes for Global Citizenship have been presented each year since 1985 to community-based organizations that set an example in taking the initiative in international cultural exchange to build rich and energetic communities.

Fiscal 2011 also awarded President's Special Prizes to groups supporting recovery efforts of the Great East Japan Earthquake through international cultural exchange. (see p.7 for related details.)

Fiscal 2011 Award Recipients

NPO Kamonohashi Project Shibuya City, Tokyo



The Kamonohashi Project is involved in the education and technical training for children, capacity building/training of local police officers to stop child trafficking, and support for community businesses to encourage self-sustainability in Cambodia. They have also been highly acclaimed for their social entrepreneur model of delivering IT services to fund their activities.

NPO Brazil Tomo no Kai Minokamo City, Gifu



The Brazil Tomo no Kai started as a voluntary group of Brazilian residents to solve problems in their daily lives in Japan. Besides consultation and information, they also offer opportunities for capacity building training in the area, as well as advice to job-seekers and entrepreneurs. Entrusted with the operation of the "Self-support Center for Foreign Residents" by Minokamo City.

NPO BIRD Theatre Company TOTTORI Tottori City, Tottori



The BIRD Theatre Company TOTTORI creates and performs contemporary plays including productions with international collaboration. Also offers workshops and lectures to demonstrate the expertise and potential of theater productions in local communities and theater, and serves the role of being the local art center, providing diverse forms of artistic expression besides theatrical performances.

The background of the page is a vibrant orange and yellow color scheme. It features a repeating pattern of stylized floral motifs, possibly cherry blossoms, and paisley designs. The patterns are rendered in a lighter yellow or gold color against the orange background. The overall aesthetic is traditional and decorative, reminiscent of Japanese textile art.

Arts and Cultural Exchange

Impressions transcending differences in language form a wellspring that promotes understanding of Japan by generating interest in and fellow feeling for the country. Seeking to provide such opportunities, the Japan Foundation introduces a wide range of Japanese arts and culture to people in other countries. With programs covering the arts, including fine arts, music, theater, and films, and the culture of everyday life such as food and fashion, the Foundation produces artistic and cultural exchange activities worldwide and helps build international networks in each field.

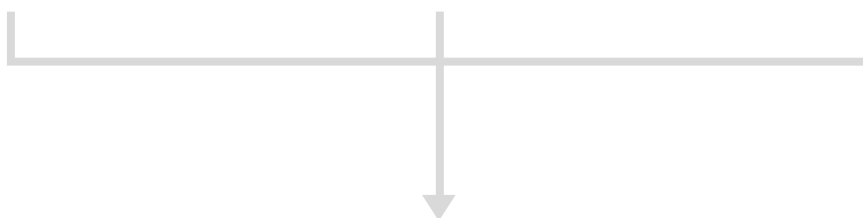
Arts and Cultural Exchange

Linking Japanese Arts and Culture with the World

The Japan Foundation organizes arts and culture programs designed to encourage understanding in Japanese values. Working in the four principal fields—visual arts, performing arts, films and publications, and culture and society—it promotes greater cultural links between Japan and the rest of the world.

Providing Information and Building Networks

Effective sharing of information and vibrant networks of artists are the keys to successful cultural and artistic exchanges. The Japan Foundation supports both by providing resources and opportunities. It offers the latest information on performing arts, literature, and films through its website and newsletters, and coordinates exhibitions and trade fairs.



Visual Arts

The Japan Foundation works with domestic and international museums to produce both major exhibitions with an extensive display, and small-scale traveling exhibits with individual themes like contemporary art, photography, craft, and architecture. It also promotes Japanese art and artists by participating in international exhibitions, funding Japanese art exhibits held abroad, and organizing exchange programs for artists and art professionals.

Performing Arts

The Japan Foundation introduces various Japanese performing arts, from the traditional such as Kabuki and Bunraku, to contemporary dance, theater and pop music to overseas audiences. It works on international collaborative projects, supports artists and art organizations by providing grants and networking opportunities, and manages the website *performingarts.jp*.

Culture and Society

The Japan Foundation organizes lectures, demonstrations, and workshops abroad designed to give people a first-hand experience of Japanese cultural practices rooted in daily life, such as the tea ceremony, Ikebana, and cooking. It also administers programs to assist cultural development in other countries, including sending experts to share their expertise on the preservation of cultural property or dispatching sports and music practitioners.

Films and Publications

The Foundation aims to inspire interest in Japan through visual media and includes broadcasting Japan's TV programs overseas, providing grants for foreign-made films on Japan, holding film festivals, and supporting the screening of Japanese films at international film festivals. To promote Japanese literature, it publishes a newsletter, finances the translation and publication of Japanese books, and participates in international book fairs.

China Center

Established in 2006 to facilitate youth exchange, the China Center manages three programs: the Long-Term Exchange Program for Chinese High School Students, in which Chinese students experience life in Japan for 11 months; the Centers for Face-to-Face Exchanges, a window for the latest information of Japan in China; and the Heart to Heart website, a platform to exchange views on blogs and message boards.



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1. "Tohoku Folk Performance Groups, Ondekoza Taiko & Musicians World Tour" Kuromori Kagura at Le Palais des Congrès de Paris / 2. Tohoku folk performance groups and Ondekoza Taiko & Musicians toured eight cities in the United States, France, and China. Workshops were held for children to make bamboo instruments prior to each performance, and the children also participated in the performances on stage. The photo is of the workshop in Los Angeles. Photo: Nobuyuki Okada / 3. Usuzawa Shishiodori in China / 4. Wakimizu Kagura performed in the U.S. (including the United Nations General Assembly Hall) / 5. "How Did Architects Respond Immediately after 3/11 – The Great East Japan Earthquake" exhibition at the Japan Cultural Institute in Paris, introducing more than 50 projects from emergency shelters to fully fledged recovery plans during the 12 months after the earthquake / 6. "Disaster and Tohoku, and its Culture" lecture in China by Professor Norio Akasaka of Gakushuin University / 7. DVD screenings of earthquake disaster documentaries, films set in Tohoku, and films on earthquakes and natural disasters held in 138 cities in 86 countries. The photo is of a screening at the Japan Society in New York Photo: Jonathan Slaif

Organizing Various Exhibitions around the World to Introduce Japanese Arts and Culture Abroad

■ "Hokusai – Retrospective"

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of friendship between Japan and Germany, the Japan Foundation organized the "Hokusai – Retrospective" exhibition together with Tokyo's Sumida City and Nikkei Inc. Hokusai is renowned for his work such as *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji: The Great Wave Off Kanagawa*, and the exhibition consisted of some 440 pieces including the collection belonging to Sumida City, where Hokusai was born, publications such as *Hokusai Manga* sketches, as well as original prints, drawings, woodblock prints, and the collection of the Museum of East Asian Art in Berlin. The exhibition offered a comprehensive look at Hokusai's 70 years of work which also had a major impact on impressionist artists. The opening ceremony welcomed Christian Wulff, President of Germany, and was a huge success, with long queues extending outside the museum. The number of total visitors exceeded 90,000 during the initial exhibition period, and since it was so well received, the period was extended by a week, showing just how popular Hokusai is in Europe.

Related projects were also held during the exhibition week: a lecture by the exhibition curator Seiji Nagata, and woodblock printing demonstrations by a craftsman of the Adachi Institute of Woodcut Prints, fascinating visitors with his skill.

[Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin, August 26 to October 31, 2011]

■ "Atsuko Tanaka. The Art of Connecting"

Atsuko Tanaka (1932-2005) has been attracting attention as a female artist representing the Gutai movement, the avant-garde art group of post-war Japan, not only in Japan but also abroad, and "The Art of Connecting" became her first full solo exhibition overseas.

Besides her signature piece *Denkifuku* (Electric Dress, 1956) with nearly 200 flickering electric lights, the exhibition featured some 100 pieces of selected work including paintings, collages, and filmed performances out of her many creative

activities spanning over half a century.

Starting in Birmingham in the United Kingdom, the exhibition traveled to Castellón, Spain, and then to Tokyo, embraced with great interest and excellent reviews by art critics at each stop. Educational programs, mainly for children, and lectures by authors related to Atsuko Tanaka were also held at all the venues. Since there has been increased interest in post-war Japanese art in recent years, the exhibition became an excellent opportunity to promote better understanding of the art work of that period and highlight Atsuko Tanaka's exceptional presence and radical style in the art movement. [Ikona Gallery, Birmingham, July 27 to September 11, 2011; Espai d'art contemporani de Castelló (EACC), Valencia, October 7 to December 31, 2011; Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, February 4 to May 6, 2012]

■ "Breathing Atolls: Japan-Maldives Contemporary Art Exhibition"

The beautiful coral reef islands of the Maldives, surrounded by blue waters, mesmerize people all over the world. But global warming has caused water levels to rise, and the small islands are now in danger of being driven underwater.

This exhibition started with the idea of combining the themes of environmental issues and art, with eight artists from Japan and the Maldives exhibiting their work. While some artists actually stayed in the Maldives to produce their work on site, each chose a unique approach to create pieces befitting of the theme, interacting with the local people and understanding the current situation of the Maldives. Though art may not be the immediate and effective solution for their problem, the project hoped it would make more people stop and think about the global environment.

The exhibition was held at the National Art Gallery and the adjacent park area in Malé, the capital of the Maldives, and then in Tokyo, with partial changes to the program.

[National Art Gallery of Maldives, Malé, March 20 to April 19, 2012; Spiral Garden, Tokyo, May 24 to June 3, 2012]



Left: "Hokusai – Retrospective" exhibition
Center: Educational program at the Atsuko Tanaka exhibition in Spain Photo: Stuart Whipps
Right: "Japan-Maldives Contemporary Art Exhibition" in the Maldives Photo: Kenji Morita



The Power of Music and Theater to Connect Japan and the World

■ "Min'yo – Japanese traditional folk songs – conveying heart and rhythms in daily life in Japan" in South America

In March 2011, the Great East Japan Earthquake devastated the Tohoku region in northern Japan, an area which is also known for its rich variety of Min'yo traditional folk songs. To support the people in the impacted areas, a tour was organized involving the top folk musicians of Japan to perform from September 14 to October 2, 2011, in the four South American countries of Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil, world famous for their own brands of music and songs. In the three countries besides Brazil, top musicians of each country also participated in the performances in support of the cause. The Chile concert became a particularly lively event, joined by five popular musicians descended from the Nueva Canción movement of socially committed music. It was a dream-like performance, with the musicians jamming with each other's songs and conveying the beauty of their music, attracting a crowd of some 1,200 to the venue. Chileans are known to be quite modest, but the performance was so successful, the audience were on their feet dancing. Chile is also a country on the path of recovery from a major earthquake in 2010. The sight of the two countries struggling through earthquake disasters and coming together through the power of music was a sight that seemed to embody the spirit of international cultural exchange.

■ "World premiere of onomatopoeic play in Palestine"

Puppet actor Jo Taira wrote a new puppet play *Twinkle in the Wonderforest!* and performed it for the first time in the five cities of Ramallah, Jenin, Hebron, Nablus, and East Jerusalem, west of the Jordan River in the Palestinian territories from October 10 to 20, 2011.

This piece was created specifically for this tour, and was produced so that all of the dialog was in onomatopoeic expressions, without actual words. It is a fantasy story about fairies living in the Wonderforest, how they overcome their differences in values and views over a particular flower, and

how they finally find peace. The project also offered workshops and exchange programs to the parents and children living in the refugee camp in Hebron as well as the other children and students in the Palestinian territories. It was designed to introduce the artistic quality of Japanese puppet production and performance by a proficient craftsman, while also trying to contribute to peace-building in the region through cultural exchange.

The Palestinian territories are still ravaged by conflict and heavily regulated regarding the movement of people, but the performances, designed as educational and cultural activities for the general public and young members of society, were met with the delighted shouts of many children enjoying themselves and full of hope.

■ Presenting Japan at Saudi Arabia's National Festival

While Saudi Arabia has tight restrictions regarding its cultural activities for religious reasons, its people now look forward to the annual Janadriyah National Festival for Heritage and Culture (Janadriyah Festival) as an incomparable cultural event. The 26th Janadriyah Festival was held from April 13 to 29, 2011, and Japan was invited to present the Pavilion with the cooperation of the Japanese government and private sector. The Japan Foundation organized events that would give a comprehensive feel of Japanese culture, consisting of an exhibition of Japanese martial arts weapons, and demonstrations of tea ceremony, flower arrangement, and Japanese paintings at the Pavilion, as well as Iwami Kagura, "Music & Rhythms" performances by Ondekoza Taiko and Umezu Kazutoki Trio, and Kobudo and karate demonstrations outside on stage.

During the 17-day festival, the Japan Pavilion received some 180,000 visitors, and 120,000 watched the performances outdoors. We were congratulated for the great success and received words of gratitude for participating in the festival, despite experiencing the devastation of the Great East Japan Earthquake just a month ago.



Left: "Min'yo – Japanese traditional folk songs–" in Argentina
Center: Puppet actor Jo Taira with Palestinian children
Right: Iwami Kagura outdoor performance at the Janadriyah Festival

Unique Programs for Japanese Films in North America and Europe Projects to Link Japanese Authors with Publishers Abroad

■ Benshi in Four Cities in Europe

In Japan, the screening of silent films developed into a unique art form with a performer called a Katsudo-Shashin-Benshi (Benshi, an interpreter of silent films) providing live narration, filling in the dialog or describing scenes, and musicians providing music. To introduce this Japanese Benshi culture abroad, two silent films *Kid Commotion*, directed by Torajirō Saitō (1935, 35 mins), and *The Downfall of Osen*, by Kenji Mizoguchi (1935, 96 mins), were screened in Italy, France, and Germany. The films were accompanied by one of the top Benshi today, Midori Sawato, as well as Joichi Yuasa on guitar and Shamisen, and Makiko Suzuki on flute. Besides performing in the three countries, they were also invited as a special guest to the Festival of 3 Continents in Nantes, France. The final destination of their 12-day tour was Berlin, where they performed at the Kino Babylon, known for screenings of silent films with the cooperation of Matsuda Film Productions.

These performances attracted attention from the media, and articles were written in French and German newspapers. *Le Monde* published a big feature article describing the Benshi as a culture that has evolved from the narration in traditional Japanese performing arts. The performances also won favorable reception by the audience in each location.

■ "Nikkatsu at 100" at the Lincoln Center in the United States

As Japan's oldest film company, Nikkatsu celebrates the 100th anniversary of the founding in 2012, a major retrospective screening of Nikkatsu films was held in October 2011 at the Lincoln Center in New York. A diverse selection of 37 films, mainly prints owned by Nikkatsu, the National Film Center, and the Japan Foundation headquarters, were shown to audiences,

ranging from pre-war samurai dramas to post-war action films, coming-of-age films, and the recent works of Shion Sono, a director attracting international interest today. Joe Shishido, one of the top stars of Nikkatsu films, made an appearance at the opening ceremony, adding to the excitement of the event. The Lincoln Center screenings then led to similar events at the Nantes Three Continents Festival and Cinémathèque Française in France (both with grants), and the "Nikkatsu 100" project is scheduled to continue to tour international film festivals and Japan Foundation events in fiscal 2012.

■ Japanese Book News Salon

The Japan Foundation issues an English newsletter *Japanese Book News* (JBN) to provide information regarding recent publishing trends and publications in Japan to publishers, editors, and translators overseas.

In fiscal 2011, a new initiative called "Japanese Book News Salon – a talk session with contemporary Japanese writers" was launched, providing an opportunity for the writers whose works have appeared in *JBN*, and translators, as well as aspiring translators, to share their thoughts on the novels.

With Professor Mitsuyoshi Numano of the University of Tokyo, a member of the *JBN* advisory board, as moderator, the first session welcomed Mitsuyo Kakuta, author of *Tree House* (Bungei Shunju, 2010), introduced in *JBN* No.68 (summer 2011). The second event invited Hiromi Kawakami, author of *Kazahana* (SHUEISHA), introduced in *JBN* No. 58 (winter 2008). The details of the two sessions are both available on the Japan Foundation's website, *Wochi Kochi Magazine*.

[First session: September 27, 2011, at the University of Tokyo Sanjo Conference Hall (Tokyo); Second session: January 24, 2012, at the Japan Foundation JFIC Hall "Sakura" (Tokyo)]



Above: Joe Shishido surrounded by fans at "Nikkatsu at 100" in the Lincoln Center, New York. Courtesy of Nikkatsu Corporation
Right: Screening with Benshi and musicians in Berlin

From Japan to the World, and from the World to Japan Encouraging the International Exchange of Diverse Specialists

■ Risa Wataya's Lecture Tour in Germany and Italy

Risa Wataya became the youngest novelist to win the Akutagawa Prize in 2004 at age 19, for *Keritai senaka* (The Back I Want to Kick). Her work has been translated and published in many countries, and the Japan Foundation organized a lecture tour to Germany and Italy in September 2011. Besides giving lectures at the International Literature Festival in Berlin, and the Harbour Front Literature Festival in Hamburg, she also toured the cities of Cologne and Rome to meet with translators of her works, and attend public readings with an actress and local high school students, getting in touch with Japanese literature fans in each city.

■ Taking Wagashi Sweets to Southeast Asia

Wagashi are traditional Japanese sweets that are described as works of art. To introduce them to people abroad, three young chefs—Noriyuki Myojin, Keisuke Yoshihashi, and Naoya Koizumi with recommendation by the Japan Wagashi Association went on a mission to give Wagashi demonstrations in Bangkok in Thailand, Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, and Manila in the Philippines. While they displayed their delicate and beautiful traditional skills at each venue, workshops were also offered for the general public and culinary experts in which participants fully enjoyed the charm of Wagashi. These events were featured in many of the local media channels, reaching an even wider audience.

■ Teachers Visiting from Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa

In October 2011, the Japan Foundation invited 52 educational professionals of elementary and secondary

education with much influence over the next generation of youths to Japan. During their two-week stay, participants furthered their understanding of Japan through programs offering first-hand experiences of Japanese culture, seminars, school visits, and the chance to stay with host families. The hope is that the participants will take this experience and knowledge back to their countries to help the younger generation to understand Japan better and encourage international mutual understanding.

■ Invitation of Experts in Restoring Japanese Paintings

Washi paper, generally believed to be used only in Japan, is actually utilized in the restoration of cultural assets and artwork all over the world. In December 2011, nine restoration experts were invited to Japan from Mongolia, Romania, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. They furthered their knowledge of Washi paper by touring Kyoto, which offers the finest of Japanese traditional culture, Kochi, the home of traditional Japanese Washi production, and Fukuoka, one of the traditional windows of cultural exchange between Japan and China.

■ Survey of Collections at Azerbaijan National Art Museum

The National Art Museum of Azerbaijan, the country's top art museum with a collection of some 300 pieces of Asian art, had difficulty in distinguishing Japanese artwork from Chinese and other Asian art and had been unable to put them on display. Thus, at the museum's request, the Japan Foundation sent two experts, Taishu Komatsu, director of Akita Senshu Museum of Art in Akita City, and Tomoko Emura, senior researcher at the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, to examine the collection and document the details. The results are to be used for future storage and exhibition activities.



Left: Risa Wataya (far right) with German novelist Marie T. Martin (left) in a café in Cologne Photo: June Ueno

Center: Three chefs Keisuke Yoshihashi (left), Naoya Koizumi (center), and Noriyuki Myojin (right), introducing the charm of Wagashi sweets in Southeast Asia

Right: Restoration experts from abroad, learning about Washi paper at a cultural asset restoration workshop in Kyoto



High School Students Experiencing Life in Japan, and University Students in Exchange Activities in China / Multi-angled Approach for "Heart-to-Heart Connections"

■ Long-Term Exchange Program for Chinese High School Students

The China Center offers Chinese high school students with the opportunity to live in Japan through an 11-month exchange program. By providing students with a first-hand experience of living and studying in Japan and a chance to interact with many Japanese people including classmates and their host family, the program hopes this grassroots activity will help the younger generation build trusting relations that will be the foundation for future Japan-China relations.

The program entered its sixth year in fiscal 2011. Though 29 out of the 38 students from the fifth year were compelled to go back to China because of the Great East Japan Earthquake, 22 later returned to Japan again, and 31 students completed their curriculum in July. At the end of August, the next sixth year group of 32 students (eight boys and 24 girls) arrived, and began the program in locations all over Japan until July 2012.

The high school students study at school, take part in extracurricular activities and school events, and live with a host family and learn independence as well as cooperativeness. The Japanese high school teachers and host families offer gentle and sometimes firm advice to the students. It is wished that each experience will lead to building a deep sense of connection among the younger generation who will be the foundation of relations between Japan and China.

The Japan-China Teacher Exchange Project was conducted in fiscal 2011, inviting teachers of Japanese and Chinese schools involved in the exchange program to visit each other's schools, so that their findings help develop and improve the exchange program.

■ Centers for Face-to-Face Exchanges

The Centers for Face-to-Face Exchanges (中日交流之窗 in Chinese) in China offer residents in provincial cities with limited access to information regarding Japan, with a window into contemporary Japanese culture. Nine centers

were already in operation as of 2010 in Chengdu, Changchun, Nanjing, Yanbian, Xining, Lianyungang, Harbin, Chongqing, and Guangzhou, and two new centers were opened in Dalian and Hangzhou in fiscal 2011.

Besides providing opportunities to get in touch with contemporary Japanese culture through Japanese magazines, books, CDs, and DVDs, the centers also hold many intercultural events. For example, in fiscal 2011, Japanese university students planned and implemented a student exchange program in Xining, Nanjing, and Lianyungang, while Japanese students staying in China worked with local students to form a volunteer group for planning and carrying out events at the Center for Face-to-Face Exchanges. In fiscal 2011, seven students of a high school in Sendai, which had been one of the schools in the Long-Term Exchange Program for Chinese High School Students until the Great East Japan Earthquake, visited the Center for Face-to-Face Exchanges in Changchun, the sister city of Sendai, and met with the local students. The Sendai high school students expressed their appreciation for the support from China on behalf of their hometown, and it was a moment that illustrated the strong ties between the two countries.

■ Heart-to-Heart Website

The *Heart-to-Heart* website (www.chinacenter.jp/), operated by the China Center, provides a blog with simultaneous translation that allows users to share their thoughts by posting entries in either language. The purpose of the interactive website is two-fold: firstly, it serves as a platform of communication where students who have participated in various exchange programs of the Japan Foundation can keep in touch with their friends and host family, and secondly, it aims to help build the foundation of a lasting friendship between the two countries by promoting mutual understanding through open and direct communication.



Above: Japanese students in cosplay at the Center for Face-to-Face Exchanges in Lianyungang

Left: The sixth group of Long-Term Exchange Program for Chinese High School Students arriving in summer 2011.



Japanese-Language Education Overseas

By helping people in other countries learn the Japanese language, the Japan Foundation contributes to better understanding of Japan and cultivate friendships around the globe. The Japan Foundation promotes Japanese-language education overseas through organizing Japanese-language courses, administering the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test worldwide, and developing teaching materials. It also sends Japanese-language specialists abroad and provides training programs in Japan.



Japanese-Language Education Overseas

Promoting Japanese-Language Education Overseas

The construction of a basic foundation for Japanese-language education is a significant part of the programs. Activities include sharing expertise, conducting a survey of overseas Japanese-language institutions, creating opportunities for information exchange, and providing JF Language Courses mainly at Japan Foundation offices overseas.

Support for Teachers and Institutions

As guidance from a single teacher can influence a number of students, the Japan Foundation conducts programs aimed at enhancing the teaching skills of educators who teach the Japanese language. The Japan Foundation also provides grants to institutions overseas and supports events to promote Japanese-language education.

Support for Learners

The Japan Foundation provides both direct and indirect support for language learners. Indirect support involves efforts to enhance the learning environment, including creating learning materials and training future teachers. Direct support involves training programs for learners invited from overseas to study Japanese language and culture (programs for specialists and programs to encourage learners).

Survey on Japanese-Language Education Abroad

With the collaboration of Japan Foundation's overseas offices, Japanese embassies, consulates, and other entities, a global survey of institutions providing Japanese-language education is conducted every three years. This is the world's only large-scale survey on Japanese-language education. The results of the survey are frequently quoted by the media. The 2009 survey showed there were 3.65 million learners, 49,000 teachers, and 15,000 institutions around the world.

JF Standard/Japanese-Language Teaching Materials

The Japan Foundation continues to develop original tools to examine teaching, learning, and assessment, and it plays a core role in improving infrastructure for overseas Japanese-language education. The Foundation also develops, manages, and deploys online and audio-visual Japanese-language teaching materials.

Overseas Japanese-Language Course (JF Language Course)

The Japan Foundation offers a new type of Japanese-language course based on the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education" as an easier way to learn and teach Japanese. The course places emphasis on the comprehensive learning of language and culture, and aims at promoting mutual understanding through Japanese language. Approximately 8,000 participants in JF Language Courses were learning Japanese in 24 countries as of the end of fiscal 2011.

Dispatch of Specialists/Support for Institutions and Projects

The Japan Foundation dispatches Japanese-language specialists and assistant teachers to foreign educational institutions. About 120 teachers are active all over the world. The Foundation provides grants for Japanese-language courses run by overseas NPOs, Japanese speech contests abroad, academic meetings and workshops on Japanese-language education, and training programs for teachers.

JF Nihongo Network "Sakura Network"

The Sakura Network is a global network linking the core Japanese-language institutions and teacher associations to promote the language and improve the quality of education. The Japan Foundation's overseas offices and influential organizations in educational activities in the whole country/region join forces to support effective education in each country. The core members of the network were expanded to 118 organizations from 42 countries and two regions by the end of fiscal 2011.

Training for Teachers Abroad (Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa)

The institute provides advanced training for non-native Japanese-language teachers who are already at the helm or soon will be and programs for teachers with short experience to enhance their Japanese-language skills as well as teaching methodology, thus provides different training programs for teachers with different skills and experience. In fiscal 2011, 434 Japanese-language teachers from 57 countries participated in those programs.

Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) (Center for Japanese-Language Testing)

The JLPT is administered in Japan and abroad simultaneously twice a year to evaluate and certify the Japanese proficiency of non-native speakers. In 2011, about 610,000 people, from elementary school students to adults, in 62 countries and regions took the test for different purposes such as for employment, promotion, or university entrance.

Training for Overseas Japanese-Language Learners (Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai)

The institute provides training programs for those who are influential in bonding ties between Japan and their countries, such as diplomats, public officials, researchers, and graduate students. To encourage Japanese-language education overseas, the institute also invites foreign university and high school students who excel in learning to Japan. In fiscal 2011, 597 people from 100 countries and regions participated in the programs.



1. Trainees at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai, learning about the Japanese Red Cross Society's international and domestic relief activities at the Osaka Red Cross Hospital / 2. Foreign Japanese-language teachers learning the language, teaching methodology, and Japanese affairs at the Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa, which aims at the more enriched education / 3. Trainees taking a calligraphy class at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai, which offers programs not only to learn the language but also to learn more about Japanese society and culture, such as calligraphy, tea ceremony, Ikebana, Yukata dressing, Japanese drums, and martial arts / 4. Trainees at the Kansai Institute, learning karate / 5. Students at Minsk State Linguistic University in Belarus. Outstanding students may be eligible for a training program in Japan / 6. The International Speech Contest in Japanese held at J. F. Oberlin University in June 2011 (co-hosted by the International Education Center). Ms. Li Ming Yu from China (front row, fourth from the left) won the Foreign Minister's Award / 7. A participant in JF Nihongo/Business Japanese, a Japanese-language course launched in January 2012 by the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles.

Dispatch of Japanese-Language Specialists and Expansion of Networks for Japanese-Language Education Overseas

■ 122 Japanese-Language Specialists Play Important Roles in 38 Countries

The Japan Foundation dispatches Japanese-language specialists around the world to help Japanese-language education take root and become independent in each country. In fiscal 2011, a total of 122 specialists were dispatched to 38 countries. Their missions included training local teachers, assisting the development of curricula and education materials, supporting initiatives for networking among teachers, and giving Japanese-language classes.

In Vietnam, for example, the Japan Foundation's Japanese-language specialists fully cooperate with the project to introduce Japanese language into the country's secondary education curriculum. In 2005, Japanese language began to be taught at some secondary schools in Vietnam as a first foreign language. Through the dispatch of language specialists since 2003, the Japan Foundation has assisted this project by offering training seminars for teachers, developing standard textbooks, and providing teachers with on-the-spot instruction in order to put the education program in place and improve the level of education.

In 2012, students who started to study Japanese as their first foreign language in 2005 will graduate from high school. Some will go to college, and others will start to work. Whatever path they choose, we hope they will be able to communicate with Japanese people in Japanese and serve as a bridge between Japan and Vietnam to foster good relations.

■ "Sakura Network" Members Expanded to 118 Organizations Worldwide

The JF Nihongo Network, also known as the "Sakura Network," is a global network linking the Japan Foundation's overseas offices and core Japanese-language institutions and teacher associations working in cooperation with the Japan Foundation. The network aims at promoting Japanese language and improving the quality of Japanese-language education

abroad. We started building the network in 2008 and set the goal of increasing the number of core members to 100 by the end of fiscal 2010. The objective was accomplished early, and the core members were expanded to 118 organizations from 42 countries and 2 regions by the end of fiscal 2011.

Sakura Core Projects have been organized to make greater use of the network, and have implemented a variety of Japanese-language courses at the overseas offices of the Japan Foundation and provided support to programs by other core members with a strong outreach effect leading to growth, expansion, and broader use of Japanese throughout their country or region.

We also run the Grant Program for Japanese-Language Education Activities to provide Japanese-language institutions in countries and regions without our overseas offices with support tailored to the individual needs of each country and region. This support includes grants for teaching materials and salary assistance for lecturers.

Sakura Caravan for Promoting Japanese Language Education and Culture in Cambodia is one of the projects supported by the fiscal 2011 Sakura Core Projects. This project was planned by the Royal University of Phnom Penh with the collaboration of local Japanese-language institutions. Japanese-language teachers toured high schools in rural areas and held seminars with the help of teachers of Japanese culture who taught songs and origami, Japanese-language learners who talked about their experiences, and those who described future possibilities for Japanese-language learners. Students in rural areas with little access to Japanese language were provided with opportunities to become interested in Japan and Japanese language. As this project planted the seeds of Japanese-language learning, it is the mission of the Japan Foundation to nurture these seeds to bear fruit in the future.



Above: Trainees for Japanese-language teachers in Thailand
Left: Seminar for Japanese-language teachers in Central and Eastern Europe held in Hungary

JLPT Taken by 490,000 People in 198 Cities in 61 Countries and Regions Abroad

The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) evaluates and certifies the Japanese proficiency of non-native speakers. The test is offered at five levels from N1 to N5, and examinees can choose the level best suited to their proficiency. N1 and N2 tests consist of two sections: "Language Knowledge (Vocabulary/Grammar) and Reading" and "Listening," and N3, N4, and N5 tests consist of three sections: "Language Knowledge (Vocabulary)," "Language Knowledge (Grammar) and Reading," and "Listening."

■ JLPT Taken by 490,000 People Abroad

In 2011, the JLPT was held worldwide on July 3 and December 4 with the collaboration of local host institutions, and about 490,000 people in total took the test overseas. In Taiwan, the JLPT was co-hosted with the Interchange Association. (The Japan Foundation assumed responsibility for administering the JLPT in Taiwan from fiscal 2011.) With about 120,000 people taking the test in Japan, the total number of examinees amounted to about 610,000. In Japan, the JLPT is administered by Japan Educational Exchanges and Services, the co-organizer of the test.

The July test was held in Japan and in 96 cities in 20 countries and regions abroad. In the overseas countries where the Foundation administered the test, roughly 250,000 people applied for the test and about 210,000 actually took it.

The December test was held in Japan and in 196 cities in 60 countries and regions abroad. In the overseas countries where the Foundation administered the test, about 320,000 people applied for the test and nearly 280,000 actually took it.

Four cities—Gangneung in Korea, and Nantong, Xining, and Fuzhou in China—were new sites in the July test, and three countries—Chile, Ecuador, and Austria—and three cities—Johor Bahru in Malaysia, Monterrey in Mexico, and Edinburgh in the

United Kingdom—became new venues in the December test.

■ Utilizing JLPT Results and Making Online Application More Available

The JLPT has been offered for more than a quarter century since its launch in 1984. With a broader array of test applicants in recent years, the JLPT results are now used in more diverse ways in many countries where the test is administered, for example, as a requirement for university entrance examinations and qualification tests, and as criteria for screening job applicants and making decisions about promotions and pay raises.

Given these circumstances, we are increasing the number of test sites that accept applications via the Internet to facilitate the application procedure for their convenience. Now applicants can apply for the JLPT online in eight countries and regions, including Edinburgh, and Barcelona and Madrid in Spain, where online applications started to be accepted in 2011. Also, in 2012, examinees will be able to view their test results on the Internet in all test site countries and regions.

■ Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Official Practice Workbook Published

The Japan Foundation published the *Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Official Practice Workbook* in March 2012. This is the first official practice workbook compiled after the new JLPT started in 2010. There are five separate workbooks available, each of which covers one of the five levels from N1 to N5. The workbook provides almost the same number of questions as the actual test, and contains a sample cover page of the test booklet, sample answer sheets, and a CD (plus the script) of the listening section to prepare users for the test. The workbook can be downloaded for free on JLPT's official website from June 2012 onward.



Above: Examinees taking the JLPT in Seoul, Korea
Right: Newly published *Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Official Practice Workbook*



Support for Teachers to Enhance the Quality of Japanese-Language Education Overseas and Training Programs for Learners to Build a Bridge between Japan and Their Countries

■ Participation in Training Programs by 434 Teachers from 57 Countries

One of the main pillars of the Japan Foundation's Japanese-language education overseas activities is support for teachers. The "Survey of Overseas Organizations Involved in Japanese-Language Education 2009" conducted by the Japan Foundation found that Japanese-language education overseas faced problems not only in the shortage of teachers, but also in lack of teaching skills and poor command of Japanese, and the shortage of teaching materials as well. To deal with these problems, the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa, supports overseas-based Japanese-language teachers through training programs and the development of teaching materials and educational curriculum.

Since its establishment in 1989, the institute has welcomed over 8,000 participants, building a considerable reputation as a training facility for foreign Japanese-language teachers. In fiscal 2011, the institute provided 19 training programs varying in duration from two weeks at the shortest to one year at the longest, and 434 teachers from 57 countries participated in those programs.

Among the core training programs is the long-term training program for teachers of the Japanese language, a six-month program targeting young foreign teachers with teaching experience of six months to less than five years, and in fiscal 2011, 57 teachers from 30 countries participated in the program. The program included not only courses in the language and teaching methodology, but are also opportunities to experience Japanese culture such as calligraphy, Origami, Ikebana, kimono dressing, tea ceremony and Japanese dance, and study tours to Nikko and the Kansai region.

To take advantage of their stay in Japan, the participants worked hard to improve their command of the language and to have a better understanding of Japanese society and culture. We hope their activities back in their home countries will contribute to the further development of Japanese-language education overseas.



Above: Demonstration of the Japanese tea ceremony at the Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa

Right: Participants of the Japanese-Language Program for Foreign-Service Officers and Public Officials at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai

■ Japanese-Language Learners and the Great East Japan Earthquake

Another main pillar is support for learners. The Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai, established in Osaka Prefecture in 1997 and marked its 15th anniversary in 2012, provides Japanese-language programs for overseas specialists whose jobs require a good command of Japanese, and also for university and high school students studying Japanese overseas. In fiscal 2011, 597 people from 100 countries and regions took part in those programs.

In fiscal 2011, we launched the JET Memorial Invitation Program for U.S. High School Students. The Great East Japan Earthquake took the lives of many people, and among them were Ms. Taylor Anderson from the U.S. state of Virginia and Mr. Montgomery Dickson from Alaska (a participant in the Japan Foundation's 2009–2010 JET Training Program for Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language). They had come to Japan under the JET program in the hope of serving as a bridge between the two countries, and were working as an Assistant Language Teacher (ALT) in Ishinomaki and Rikuzentakata, respectively, when the disaster hit the Tohoku region. To commemorate the loss of the two Americans, the new training program provides American high school students with opportunities to deepen their knowledge of Japanese language and culture and interact with their Japanese counterparts.

In 2011, the Japan Foundation invited 32 high school students selected from 276 applicants across the U.S. to Japan. During their stay from July 19 through the 28th, the participants took part in training classes at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai, visited Osaka Prefectural Semboku Senior High School to interact with its students, experienced homestays, met with JET ALTs and CIRs (Coordinators for International Relations), and went on a study tour to Kyoto and Kobe. In addition, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, 19 of the participants visited Iwate Prefectural Kozukata Senior High School, where they interacted with students and made Japanese lanterns with message to be left floating on Lake Yamanaka at an upcoming festival to commemorate the victims of the disaster.



Original Materials Developed, and Websites for Teachers and Learners Upgraded and Made Available in More Languages

■ Pilot Edition of *Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture* Developed

The Japan Foundation developed the pilot edition of *Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture*, a coursebook based on the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education (JF Standard)." The JF Standard stresses the need to acquire competence in accomplishing "Can do" tasks using Japanese and competence in intercultural understanding, which involves understanding and respecting other cultures by expanding one's horizons through encounters with different cultures. *Marugoto* was designed based on the JF Standard regarding how to define competence in Japanese, set levels, establish objectives, and assess achievements. In fiscal 2011, we developed and produced *A2 (Elementary 1)* after producing *A1 (Starter)* in fiscal 2010. We also developed a website to help learners study by themselves.

■ *Minna no "Can-do" Website* Renewed

The JF Standard divides the level of Japanese-language proficiency into six levels (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2), and is described through a set of "Can-do" sentences that indicate what and how well the learner "Can do" in Japanese. The *Minna no "Can-do" Website*, launched in March 2010, is a database of "Can-do" sentences. In fiscal 2011, we enhanced its usability by improving and adding site functions based on the opinions of users.

■ The WEB Version of *Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese. Now Available in Six Languages*

In April 2011, the WEB version of *Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese.* was made available in six languages, with Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, and Korean versions added to the existing Japanese and English versions. In fiscal 2011, the second year of running the website, we began producing French and Indonesian versions to make *Erin's Challenge!* accessible in more languages, and placed more emphasis on publicity to attract even more users. As a result, with more than eight million hits (page views) by the end of fiscal 2011, the website has been used by a large number of people interested in Japanese language and culture.

■ All Five Language Versions of the *Japanese in Anime & Manga Website* Now Available

Japanese anime and manga are gaining popularity among many people around the world, and are part of their motivation to learn Japanese. *Japanese in Anime & Manga* is a website aimed at sparking the interest of anime and manga fans in the Japanese language and offers quizzes and games as fun ways to learn.

In fiscal 2011, the French version was added to the existing English, Spanish, Korean, and Chinese versions, and all 13 contents are now available in the five languages. Also, responding to the requests of users, we added a function to allow them to hear lines and onomatopoeia in manga. With the five language versions now available, the development of the website was completed about two years after its launch, and the site's home page was redesigned as "Global Home" where users can choose a language. With the number of visitors constantly increasing, the website was accessed about 2.4 million times (page views) in fiscal 2011, about 14 percent higher than the previous fiscal year.

■ Information about Japanese-Language Learning Constantly Disseminated through *NIHONGO-e-Na*

NIHONGO-e-Na is a portal website aimed to introduce Japanese-language learners a wide variety of free websites, online tools, and how to use and take advantage of them so that it can respond to different needs of users. The portal site is offered in English and Japanese with some contents also available in Chinese and Korean.

In fiscal 2011, we continued to add new information by uploading three introductory texts every month to keep up with the ever-changing Internet environment. Total traffic to the site amounted to about 1.02 million hits (page views) in fiscal 2011, a 33 percent increase from the previous fiscal year.

■ *NIHONGO de CARE-NAVI* Augmented

NIHONGO de CARE-NAVI is a website designed to help people involved in nursing and nursing care learn Japanese and is offered in English and Indonesian. At the request of users, we enhanced its user-friendliness by adding a search function for words, phrases, and sentences according to categories such as "medical departments" and "toilet care."



Above: The "Global Home" page of the *Japanese in Anime & Manga* website
Left: The home page of the *Minna no "Can-do" Website*

Release of the Results of the Survey on Japanese-Language Education Abroad, and Strategic Augmentation of the Japanese-Language Course

■ Report on Japanese-Language Education Abroad Published

The Japan Foundation conducts the worldwide "Survey of Overseas Organizations Involved in Japanese-Language Education" every three years to grasp the present condition of overseas Japanese-language education, and to make good use of the results in planning and implementing our programs. With the collaboration of Japanese embassies and consulates and Japanese-language specialists around the world, we carried out questionnaire surveys on the number of organizations involved in Japanese-language education, learners, and teachers, purpose of study, and educational problems and concerns in a particular country or region. The results of the 2009 survey showed that there were 3.65 million learners, 49,000 teachers, and 15,000 organizations involved in Japanese-language education around the world. In fiscal 2011, we compiled and published the report on the survey results; it contains not only an analysis of trends by region and level of education, but also a new in-depth analysis of the top 20 countries in terms of the number of learners, including a comparison with past survey results. The report draws much attention from people at home and abroad and its results have been frequently quoted by academic organizations and papers. Detailed information on the surveyed organizations is available on the Japan Foundation's website.

■ Enhancing the Japanese-Language Course (JF Language Course) Overseas

In fiscal 2011, the Japan Foundation started to enhance the JF Language Course targeting the general public in order to respond to new demands on education overseas. The results of the 2009 survey on education abroad showed that the number of learners had remarkably increased and that the purpose of study had diversified. While some people study Japanese for practical purposes, such as to study in Japan and to seek employment, an increasing number of people are interested in the language itself or have grown fond of Japanese culture through, for example, anime and manga.

Given these circumstances, the Japan Foundation tries to upgrade its language course by introducing a new curriculum designed based on the JF Standard as a new tool to help examine how to teach and learn the language and how to evaluate learning outcomes.

The JF Language Course provides classes that place more emphasis on understanding of Japanese culture, using materials such as *Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture*, a coursebook based on the JF Standard. In fiscal 2011, a total of 8,000 people took the courses offered at 21 overseas offices of the Japan Foundation and at Japan Centers in Ukraine and Kazakhstan. In fiscal 2012, we will start to offer the courses in four more countries and continue to promote the comprehensive learning of the language and culture.

■ Japanese-Language Education Provided for Nurse/Certified Care Worker Candidates under EPAs

The Japan Foundation provided Indonesian and Philippine candidates for nurses and certified care workers with preparatory Japanese-language education programs before coming to Japan under the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) between Japan and their countries. The training programs lasted six months in Indonesia and three months in the Philippines. From Mondays through Fridays they learned basic speaking, reading, and writing skills in classes, and on Saturdays they took programs designed to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the manners and customs of Japanese society and its people, and received lectures on the situation of nursing and nursing care in Japan.

Most candidates were unfamiliar with the Japanese language before they enrolled in the preparatory programs. Even though the training programs required intensive study, the candidates were highly ambitious and motivated to learn, and encouraged each other and worked hard in their classes with the goal of working in Japan. They also eagerly participated in activities such as creating and displaying posters about Japan, vocabulary contests, and recitations.



Above: Japanese-language education for nurse/certified care worker candidates in the Philippines
Left: A lecture on manners in a JF Language Course offered in Madrid, Spain, in February 2012



Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange

Providing support for Japanese studies abroad and opportunities to learn about societies and cultures of other countries leads to deeper mutual understanding between Japan and the rest of the world and creates a shared commitment to common issues.

The Japan Foundation is an active proponent for greater understanding of Japan and broader professional networks worldwide through international exchange activities including support for scholars of Japanese studies abroad and visits to Japan by leading overseas academics.

Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange

Promoting Japanese Studies Overseas

Japanese studies overseas is important for deepening the understanding of Japan and maintaining good relations between Japan and other countries. The Japan Foundation supports organizations that lead Japanese studies in each country. It provides fellowships and other opportunities that connect scholars and encourage networking among them.

Promotion of Intellectual Exchange

The Japan Foundation organizes workshops and international conferences where intellectual leaders can address common issues across national boundaries. It provides scholars and specialists in various fields with opportunities to visit Japan and supports various projects to promote multi-layered and multi-faceted international mutual understanding.

Strengthening Networks

In order to build close networks among scholars, the Japan Foundation supports international conferences and workshops in various fields of Japanese studies. It also attempts to expand the networks by providing partial support to a wide variety of groups, including academic associations of the Japanese studies, alumni of Japanese studies, as well as international conferences.

Fellowships

The Japan Foundation supports individuals who are doing outstanding work in Japanese studies and intellectual exchange. The Japanese Studies Fellowship provides supports to scholars, doctoral candidates, and other individuals to conduct research in Japan. The Abe Fellowship supports scholars and journalists to strengthen the Japan-U.S. partnership on a global scale.

Support for Organizations

The Japan Foundation assists universities and Japan research centers overseas to strengthen their institutional capacity. It supports the expansion of teaching staffs and libraries and promotes visiting professorship depending on the needs of these organizations. Through the comprehensive support, the Japan Foundation helps organizations around the world to build up their research activities on Japan.

Center for Global Partnership (CGP)

CGP aims to strengthen Japan-U.S. collaboration and global partnership by promoting dialogue and networking to cultivate future leaders able to work together to solve global issues. To this end, CGP supports Japan-U.S. joint projects, provides fellowships, dispatches or invites specialists and researchers, and conducts other activities.



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1. Shakuhachi performance by a panelist during a session of the Japan-Europe "Kizuna" Project Photo: Kenichi Akawa / 2. Young Russian researchers visiting a swordsmith shop dating back to the Edo period in Ota, Tokyo / 3. Japan-Germany Symposium "The Catastrophes in Japan and the Role of Conventional and New Media - A Comparative Look at How Japan and Germany Reported on the Earthquake" (Japanese-German Center Berlin) / 4. Titi Freak drawing graffiti on temporary houses in Ishinomaki, Miyagi Photo: Kenichi Akawa / 5. Participants of the Asia Leadership Fellow Program meeting former Okinawa governor Masahide Ota / 6. 10th anniversary of the Future Leaders Forum: China-Japan-Korea / 7. Master's course students from the Beijing Center for Japanese Studies visiting Japan for seminars / 8. Japan-India Dialogue: Public Symposium "Asian Renaissance: Learning from Shibusawa, Tata, Okakura and Tagore" / 9. Participants of the "International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe" visiting the intercultural area of Shin-Okubo Photo: Kenichi Akawa

Developing Diversity in Japanese Studies with the Latest Knowledge

■ The Second East Asia Forum for Japanese Studies in Miyagi

The Second East Asia Forum for Japanese Studies, organized by the Japan Foundation, was held in the town of Matsushima, Miyagi Prefecture in December 2011. The first forum was held a year earlier in December 2010 on Jeju Island in Korea. 26 researchers from Japan, China, Korea and Taiwan gathered to discuss the current situation and issues facing Japanese studies in the region and for networking across national and regional borders in Japanese language.

Activities of the forum included the public symposium "How East Asia Viewed 3/11 – Sending a Message of Recovery to the Tohoku Region," held in Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture to encourage the citizens of earthquake devastated areas in their effort for recovery. The participants also visited the nearby city of Higashi Matsushima, which was severely damaged by the tsunami.

The researchers expressed thoughts such as, "It's time to work together with researchers and institutions in neighbor countries when conducting Japanese studies," or "I'm in favor of sending a message of recovery to the Tohoku region thinking what we can do as neighbors." The forum was an excellent opportunity to reconfirm the importance of promoting networking in East Asia.

■ Intensive Seminar on Taisho/Prewar (Showa) at Centre Européen d'Etudes Japonaise d'Alsace (CEEJA)

Ten young researchers on Japan in Europe who speak proficient Japanese welcomed Professor Toshikazu Inoue of Gakushuin University as mentor for two-day seminar titled "Japanese Study Seminar – Taisho/Prewar (Showa)" at CEEJA in France.

The latest researches including "Visual Propaganda of Manchukuo in Japan in the 1930s, based on the data of

the 'Manchuria Graph' magazine," "Art Nouveau Reception during Taisho-Period Romanticism," and "Embracing 'Asia': The Taishô era as a turning point of Asianism discourse" were presented and actively discussed.

Common among the participating researchers was how they all looked differently at the development of Japanese ideology and culture from their Japanese counterparts or overseas researchers working in Japan, and applied their perspectives to further their studies. The seminars were intellectually stimulating and proved that supporting Japanese studies through international cultural exchange not only increases the number of specialists in the field, but also enhances the studies itself and fosters diversity in the way people view Japan.

■ Supporting Japanese Studies in the United States

The history of Japanese studies in the United States is the most advanced in terms of talent and organizations outside Japan. Early on the Japan Foundation set up a special advisory council on Japanese studies in the U.S. for deciding policies and selecting who to support.

We support educational institutions through a three-year assistance program for hiring teachers, holding research meetings, and assisting students conduct research in Japan to encourage institutions to continue the studies using their own funds even after our assistance programs have ended. Our surveys in North America showed that owing to these activities the number of researchers on Japanese studies was steadily increasing.

Interest in Japan in the United States was not diminished by the Great East Japan Earthquake, but because of economic reasons there are signs that funding for regional studies as a whole is shrinking, making it all the more necessary to support Japanese studies in the U.S.



Above: "Taisho/Prewar (Showa)" seminar at CEEJA

Left: The Second East Asia Japanese Studies Symposium in Matsushima, Miyagi

Comprehensive Support for Core Institutes, Networks and Researchers of Japanese Studies

■ Major Academic Conferences in China and Korea

In September 2011, Korea University hosted the Japan Edo-Period Literary Society Fall Convention assisted by Japan Foundation's Support for Japanese Studies Organizations program. Founded in 1951, the association is a leading society for early-modern Japanese literature studies in Japan. The contents and significance of its first meeting overseas were extensively reported by Korean and Japanese media. Japanese studies at Korea University has already reached maturity as an academic field, but such events will surely work to advance the studies in Korea.

And in China, the international symposium titled "Japan Studies as an Area Study – From the Interdisciplinary Frame of Reference" was held in October 2011 at Sichuan International Studies University. Japanologists from various parts of China and Japan actively exchanged research findings and views on current issues like the present status and ways to carry out Japanese studies as area studies in China. The sprouting of a new Japanology was also discussed under key words "area studies" and "interdisciplinary frame of reference."

■ Expanding Networks in Europe

The Japan Foundation supports Japanese studies networks with the purpose of forming a group of overseas researchers with a deep understanding of Japan. For many years, barriers between languages, nations and universities have forced the isolation of most researchers in Europe. But with the establishment of the European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS) in 1973, exchanges among Japan scholars became active, and today Japanese studies is an established academic field in Europe. We have and will continue to support EAJS to promote networking among Japanese studies researchers.

In 2011, the 13th International Conference of EAJS was held at Tallinn University in Estonia, and more than 800 researchers gathered to report on their latest findings. As the

first conference since the devastating earthquake in Japan, we organized a special session titled "Short- and Long-term Implications of the Triple Disasters on the Study of Japan." Japanese studies in East Europe is not as active as in the West, and we consider holding the plenary meeting of EAJS in Estonia as a major step forward in developing networks.

■ Fellowships to Support Outstanding Research

The Japan Foundation believes that overseas researchers of Japanese studies contribute to the spread of correct information and deeper understanding of Japan in their respective countries based on academic knowledge. To promote Japanese studies around the world, we offer fellowships to overseas researchers who come to Japan to conduct research and investigations.

The extensive damage inflicted by the devastating earthquake in 2011 attracted global attention, but at the same time, the nation was severely criticized for the disastrous nuclear power plant accident. Professor Dmitry Viktorovich Streltsov of Moscow State Institute of International Relations, also a former fellow, and others have supported Japan as scholars of Japanese studies by disseminating information on the disaster based on impartial facts and thus preventing the spread of false information and misconceptions of Japan.

Another good example is Esra-Gokce Sahin, a 2011 fellow from Turkey, who is a doctorate student at Harvard University and studies the deep rooted culture of Warai (Japanese humor), both theoretically and in practice. She trained under a Rakugo (Japanese comedy) master who gave her a stage name. She performed on stage with her teacher and fellow pupils, and not only spread the culture academically but also strengthened her ties with the Japanese people with it.

The Japan Foundation contributes to developing Japanese studies around the world by supporting outstanding research topics both in the humanities and social science fields.



Above: Students and staff from Beijing Center for Japanese Studies on a study tour to Japan
Right: A gathering of Japanese studies fellows at I-House (Tokyo)



Promoting Multilevel, Multifaceted Mutual Understanding Around the World to Make Intellectual Contributions for Global Development and Stability

■ The 10th Anniversary of the Future Leaders Forum

The Future Leaders Forum: China-Japan-Korea, a program to promote dialogue between young leaders in the three East Asian countries, has been jointly held by the Japan Foundation, All-China Youth Federation and the Korea Foundation since fiscal 2002. A total of 46 young people from Japan, 42 from China and 45 from Korea gathered for the eight forums held by fiscal 2010.

Young people expected to be future leaders are selected from six fields: politics, government, business, academia, mass media and non-profit organizations. They spend 10 days together sharing room and board, travelling around the three countries, going on study tours, debating and exchanging views. By the end of their stay, the participants will have developed a strong, long-lasting bond transcending national borders and individual status.

A special forum commemorating the 10th anniversary of the program was held on March 28, 2012, and 29 past participants were reunited. They divided into three groups of politics, economy and civil society, and held discussions. The fruits of their discussions were compiled in a proposal called "Vision 2030 for Northeast Asia," and handed to the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Koichiro Gemba, on the following day.

■ Invitation of Young Intellectuals from Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia: "Arab Spring" and the Great East Japan Earthquake

For 10 days from February 19, 2012, 16 young professionals from Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia were invited to Japan to participate in a group training program on "Leadership in Nation and Community Building." These prospective future leaders are active researchers, journalists, or staff members of

government, non-governmental and other various organizations who have the ability to attract people and disseminate ideas.

The "Arab Spring," which erupted toward the end of 2010, and the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011, unexpectedly forced both Japan and countries and regions in the Middle East to face the need for social rehabilitation. The discussions looked at specific points such as restoring communities, young people working in agriculture and employment for the disabled, and sought answers on the overall issue of what kind of leadership is necessary in the process of restoration. The future leaders attended lectures, participated in workshops, visited various regions in Japan, and actively shared their experiences and views.

■ Graffiti of Hope on Temporary Houses

A project for Japanese-Brazilian artist Titi Freak to paint colorful graffiti on the walls of the temporary dwellings of the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake (Tomorrow Business Town) in Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture was held twice, in December 2011 and April 2012.

Before the project, the hurriedly constructed temporary houses looked mechanical and impersonal, and the residents, all coming from different places and not yet well acquainted, just starting to build a community. But the graffiti on the walls added color, and drawing a different motif on each house gave it an identity. The whole process of having the artwork done, discussing the subject matter with the artist and chit-chatting with the new neighbors as the artist worked, gave them an opportunity to connect with each other. Getting to know one another created a sense of community and brought back smiles to their faces. The large murals have become the residents' pride and continue to give them hope for the future.



Left: Press conference for the Future Leaders Forum: China-Japan-Korea

Center: Future leaders from the Middle East sharing their views with Takuji Hiroishi, who is working to build the basis for a new civil society by creating "platforms" in the Yanesen (Yanaka, Nezu, Sendagi) area.

Right: Titi Freak drawing colorful graffiti on the walls of the temporary dwellings in Ishinomaki Photo: Kenichi Akawa

Japan and the United States Working Together with People Around the World to Solve Key Global Issues

■ Japanese American Leadership Symposium

The amazing resilience of citizens and communities was displayed in the recovery efforts immediately after the Great East Japan Earthquake. How can we apply this resilience to the mid- and long-term revitalization process in Japan? A symposium to explore the answer, "Empowering Civil Society for the Future of Japan," was held on March 5, 2012, at the Sendai International Center in the earthquake damaged city of Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture.

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has held the annual Japanese American Leadership Delegation Program (JALD) since 2000, and the Japan Foundation has organized symposiums on various themes as part of the program. This year the meeting was held in Sendai at the strong request of many JALD participants who worked tirelessly around the U.S. to assist the restoration efforts immediately after the disaster.

Non-profit organizations and social entrepreneurs working for restoration in Sendai were invited as Japanese panelists to discuss the role of civil society in rebuilding communities, how Japan and the U.S. can collaborate in the process, and other various topics. The topics were explored by comparing the experiences of the Japanese panelists to those of the Japanese Americans. The symposium offered an excellent opportunity to facilitate mutual exchange and understanding between Japanese American and Japanese participants.

■ Invitation Program for U.S. Experts on Asian Affairs

It is said that the United States' interest in Japan has dwindled as rapidly developing Asian nations such as China and India increase their weight in the global society. To counter this situation, we have begun a new program to invite Asian study experts from the U.S. to Japan. The program was planned as part of the initiative "Strengthening the exchange between Japan and the U.S. for Further deepening the Japan-U.S. Alliance,"

announced at the Japan-U.S. summit held in November 2010. In December 2011, five top American researchers visited Japan, and during their one-week stay, they visited central government ministries, universities, think tanks, private corporations, non-government organizations and many other entities. The participants commented that the visit was very meaningful in that it offered an opportunity to exchange candid opinions with people in various fields and learn about the current situation in Japan, which they would not have known without coming to Japan.

The Japan Foundation will continue to organize such visits to promote understanding and cooperation and contribute to building a network of researchers connecting Japan, the United States, and other countries in Asia.

■ Common Agenda Round Table between Japan and the U.S. Project

The Common Agenda Round Table (CART project) offers an opportunity for journalists to gather and exchange views on issues shared by Japan and the United States, consider how these issues will affect Asia, and probe into the situation from global and regional perspectives. The second meeting of the program was jointly organized by the CART secretariat and Shanghai Daily Publishing House, and held on December 4 and 5, 2011, in Shanghai.

Journalists and correspondents in Asia from major newspapers in Japan, the U.S. and China were joined by those from India and Southeast Asia. They discussed the role and challenges of the media after the Great East Japan Earthquake, diplomacy in the Asia-Pacific region after the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit and the East Asia Summit, and the relationship between conventional and online media.

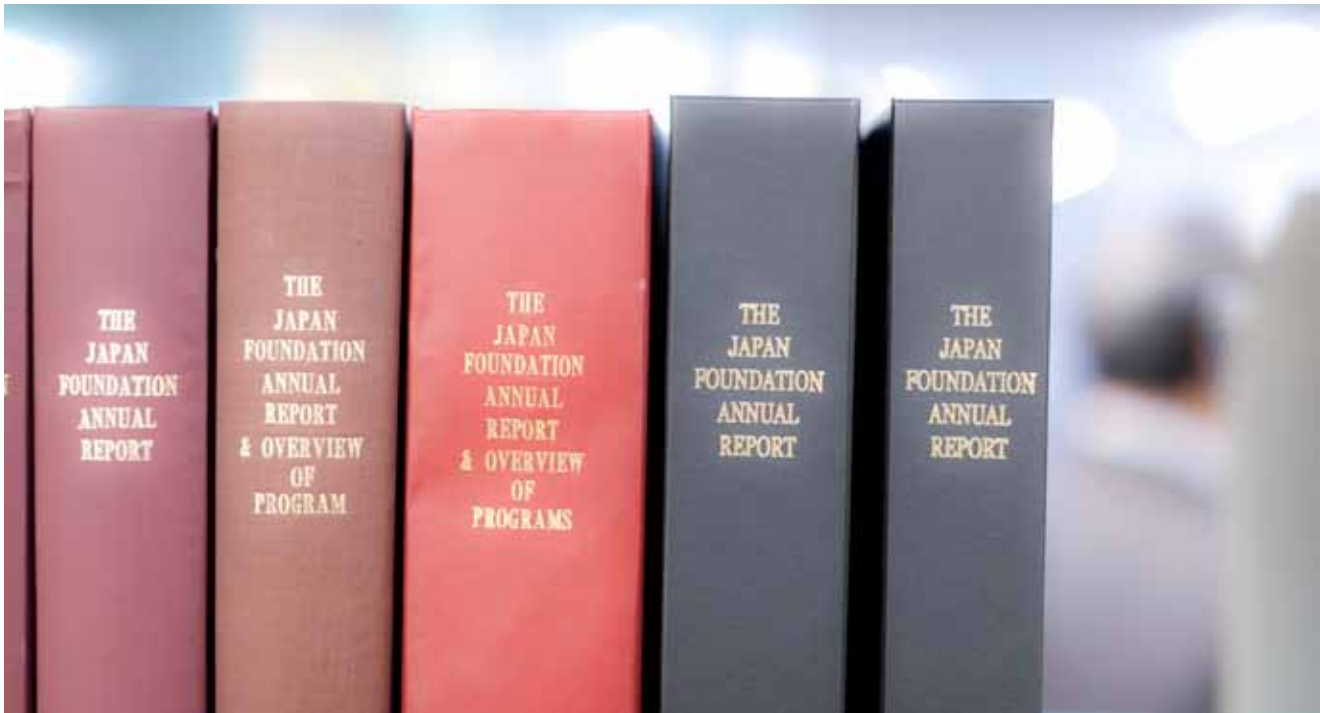
We hope this program offered journalists a chance to share issues and further extend networking among them.



Above: Common Agenda Round Table held in Shanghai
Left: JALD symposium held in Sendai: "Empowering Civil Society for the Future of Japan"

Information Service and Cooperation with Other Organizations in Japan

In addition to implementing programs in three major fields, the Japan Foundation provides information on cultural exchange activities in Japan and abroad, engages in collaborative projects with the private sector, and works with universities to conduct research on international exchange.



JFIC Library

Photo: Kenichi Aikawa

Information Center

English Version of the *Wochi Kochi* Web Magazine Now Open Symposiums Held to Discuss How the World Has Changed after the Disaster

The Japan Foundation Information Center (JFIC) provides information on international cultural exchange activities through public and media relations, the web magazine *Wochi Kochi* (Near and Far), its annual report, website, blog, twitter, and e-mail newsletters. We also implement collaboration programs with organizations in Japan, operate the Japan Foundation Awards and the Japan Foundation Prizes for Global Citizenship (see p. 8), and manage the JFIC space comprised of the JFIC Library and the Event Space. Moreover, we welcome and offer tours of the facilities to students.

Wochi Kochi features a monthly cover story on various topics on international cultural exchange. Some of the stories in fiscal 2011 included "Bringing People Together with Nihongo," "After 3.11," "Japanese Pop Culture Now," "Literature That Transcends Time and Space," "Thinking of Korea," and "Hokusai in Germany." Articles by specialists who took part in our activities and by our own staff members were also carried on the magazine. The English version of *Wochi Kochi* is now available online.

The JFIC organized various events including the international symposium of global network project "Pioneer the Future with Power of Culture – Spirit of Tohoku, Voices from Asia" (co-host: Asahi Arts Festival <AAF> Executive Committee), the symposium "How Information on the Disaster was Conveyed: the Media and its Challenges in Japan, an Intercultural Society" (co-host: The Archives of the World Languages), and seminars for young artists entitled "Air! Air! Air! Improve Yourself Overseas" and "Cultural Meeting Point" for cultural attaches of foreign



Above: Seminar for young artists "Air! Air! Air!"

Left: Exhibition of the photo magazine *NIPPON* founded by Younosuke Natori, Ihee Kimura and Ken Domon, leading photojournalists of the 1930s and 40s, and graphic designers Ayao Yamana and Takashi Kono

embassies in Tokyo about the cultural environment post-3.11.

The JFIC Library holds a collection of the programs implemented by the Japan Foundation, publications on international cultural exchange and cultural policies, and books and DVDs introducing Japan in foreign languages, and provides circulation and reference services. Every month a different mini-event to introduce the library's valuable collection is held. In 2011, the special exhibition "Graphic Works in Early Showa Period – NATORI Younosuke, KIMURA Ihee and DOMON Ken" and the talk session "Nippon Kobo and Kokusai Bunka Shinkokai" were held from May to June.

Exposing Young People Overseas to Japan through Design

The Office for Project Development and Corporate Partnership develops products for the Japan Foundation, devised through youth exchange programs using design as the medium and carried out in collaboration with companies. The International Furoshiki Design Contest for Students has been held over the years, and in fiscal 2011, Furoshiki contests were held to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Germany (2011) and the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Israel and Japan (2012). A Furoshiki contest was also held to strengthen cultural ties between Japan and Poland. The design theme of the entries was "a fusion of your country and Japan." The two best designs were turned into commercial products.

A package design forum and workshop for Japanese and Korean students was held with full support of the Japan and Korea Package Design Associations. The event aimed to advertise the "Exchanging Packaging Design of Japanese/Korean Students" to be held in 2012, and to raise students' interest in the event.

Also, to demonstrate the gratitude of the Japanese people for the sincere support received from all over the world after the devastating earthquake in 2011, and to express the nation's will to recover after the disaster, the Japan Foundation and the Asia Pacific Tourism Exchange Center (APTEC) jointly produced and showed the film



Left: Poster for "Furoshiki Design Contest for Japanese and Israeli Students"

Right: Package design forum and workshop for students held in Japan and Korea

Remembrance of Tohoku Earthquake – Our Gratitude for Bonds of Friendship of the World at various overseas locations. Symposiums on disaster recovery and restoration efforts and lectures on tourism in the Tohoku region were also held.

Among other ongoing programs were promotion of international cultural exchange through corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities of Japanese firms overseas. In fiscal 2011, a survey of the CSR activities of Japanese firms in Malaysia was conducted.

Joint Research Institute for International Peace and Culture

Studying, Analyzing and Evaluating International Exchange Methods

The Joint Research Institute for International Peace and Culture is operated in partnership between the Japan Foundation and Aoyama Gakuin University with the aim to expand international exchange through conducting academic research, analyzing and evaluating international exchange activities, developing methods for international exchange, and feeding back the research results to society. In fiscal 2011, the institute held symposiums on themes like "the role of culture in fostering peace," lectures on "coexistence of cultures and international exchange," and published the research bulletin *Peace and Culture*, Vol.4.



International symposium "Reflecting Conflicts through Cultural Initiatives: Perspectives from Southeast Asia," held in July 2011 at the Bangkok Arts and Culture Center

Kyoto Office

Collaborating with Bearers of Japanese Culture in the Kansai Region

The Kyoto Office develops a network with various partners in the Kansai region to introduce Japanese culture to students and researchers from abroad.

To this end the office holds hands-on events such as making Japanese sweets, visiting sake breweries, and touring brocade mills, as well as events with bilingual commentary, including performances of Noh and Kyogen and screenings of Japanese movies. "An Evening of Noh and Kyogen" started in 1974 and marked its 38th anniversary in 2011. The event attracted an enthusiastic audience of 420 people. The Kyoto Office also organizes lectures, seminars, and gatherings of scholars and researchers invited under the Japanese Studies Fellowship Program to provide them with opportunities to meet and talk with local citizens interested in international cultural exchange.

Seminars for fiscal 2011 included a lecture on "Disaster and Literature: The Great Kanto Earthquake" by Alex Bates from the United States.



Left: Noh *Yuki* (Snow) by Hisanori Kongo



Right: Kyogen *Kamabara* (Unsuccessful Suicide with a Sickle) by Sengoro Shigeyama

Photos: Akio Takahashi

Approaches to Countries/Regions and Activities by Overseas Offices

The Japan Foundation formulates program policies in consideration of the government's diplomatic activities and changes in international affairs. Twenty-two offices in 21 countries run various programs designed to meet local situations and needs.



An event to introduce "LIGHT UP NIPPON," a project to mourn the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake by simultaneously displaying fireworks at 10 locations in the devastated areas, was held in New Delhi, India on March 11, 2012, and many Indian participants offered their prayers. Photo: aki

Fiscal 2011 Activity Summary by Country/Region

In fiscal 2011, we were involved in a number of special focus activities, including a program for strategic and intensive dissemination of culture in India, the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youth (JENESYS) Programme encouraging cultural exchange in the Asia-Pacific region, and large-scale anniversary commemorative events, such as the "150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Germany" and the "50th Anniversary of Kuwait-Japan Diplomatic Relations."

■ Strategic, Intensive Dissemination of Cultural Information Programs in Major Cities

The objective of this program was to introduce the values and appeal of the Japanese people and modern Japanese society by offering various events in major cities of diplomatic importance in collaboration with local culture and arts organizations, thereby improving and deepening the understanding of Japan. In fiscal 2011, between January and March 2012, we held over 20 India-Japan cultural exchange events titled "India-Japan: Passage to the Next Generation" to commemorate the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relation between the two countries. On March 11, 2012, a screening of the film *Light Up Nippon* and a symposium in memory of the victims of the Great

East Japan Earthquake were held in New Delhi, India.

■ Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) Programme

This program was launched in 2007 in an attempt to lay a firm foundation for Asian solidarity through large-scale youth exchanges with East Asia Summit countries (Association of Southeast Asian Nations member countries, China, Korea, India, Australia, and New Zealand) and other Asia-Pacific countries over a period of five years. The Japan Foundation is playing a role in this program and in fiscal 2011, the final year of the program, invited Japanese-language teachers and learners, as well as young intellectuals, practitioners, artists, designers and other talents, to Japan with the aim of nurturing the region's future leaders in various fields. (See p.42, p.47.)

■ Cooperation in Large-Scale Anniversary Commemorative Events

In fiscal 2011, numerous cultural exchange events were organized by the private and public sectors to commemorate the "150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Germany" and the "50th Anniversary of Kuwait-Japan Diplomatic Relations." The Japan Foundation was actively involved in these events to promote Japanese culture. (See p.35.)

Various Projects Including Art Exhibitions and Symposiums Commemorate 150 Years of Japanese-German Relations

One hundred fifty years have passed since the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between Japan and Prussia was concluded in 1861. To celebrate this long friendship, various commemorative events were held in Japan and Germany in 2011. We also organized many events in cooperation with Embassy and Consulates-Generals of Japan and cultural institutions throughout Germany. Although some were suspended due to the Great East Japan Earthquake, some new projects were developed to support reconstruction efforts. All these events strengthened our mutual ties.

A main event in the field of arts and culture was the "Hokusai Retrospective" at Martin-Gropius-Bau in Berlin. This first large-scale exhibition on Hokusai in Germany attracted considerable attention and received over 90,000 visitors. We also held a screening of director Akira Kurosawa's films at our institute as well as movie theaters in Berlin, Munich, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Nuremberg and Hamburg, with a total of 13,549 people turning up for the film event. We hosted many other events as well, including a Ryukyu dance performance, Karakuri Ningyo (mechanical dolls) demonstrations, a jazz concert, and a book design exhibition.

We offered Japanese-language courses from beginner to advanced level and also organized courses based on certain themes, free-talk meetings to practice Japanese with the volunteers, and hands-



Left: Ryukyu dance performance, Right: Book design exhibition

on workshops that gave participants opportunities to experience Japanese culture. Over a thousand people attended these sessions. We provided three training seminars for Japanese-language teachers and sent instructors to training sessions organized by local teachers' associations.

In the field of Japanese studies and intellectual exchange, we worked together with the University of Cologne and held a symposium entitled "Dynamics of Traditional Research Societies in a Rapidly Changing World" in September. The presidents of 16 Japanese universities were invited to Germany for this event. We lent a hand in organizing other symposiums such as "The Disaster and the Role of Conventional and New Media – A Comparative Look at How Japan and Germany Reported the Earthquake" at the Japanese-German Center Berlin, "Long-term Problems and Short-term Disasters: Politics and Social Policy in Post 3/11 Japan" at the University of Duisburg-Essen, and "The Impact of Catastrophes on Education for the Hearing Impaired" at the University of Munich.

Furthermore, to mark one year since the Great East Japan Earthquake and to express gratitude to Germany for its support for reconstruction efforts, we held a memorial evening at our institute on March 12, 2012, in the presence of the representatives of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia and the city of Cologne.

Great Success with Events to Introduce Modern Japanese Culture in Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of Japan-India Diplomatic Relations

Japan and India have a long history of exchange originating from the introduction of Buddhism from India to Japan and have enjoyed cordial relations since 1952 when diplomatic ties were established. From January to March 2012, the year marking the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations, we conducted more than 20 cultural exchange events throughout India under the theme of "India-Japan: Passage to the Next Generation." These events included not only the introduction of Japanese traditional culture but also animation workshops, contemporary art exhibitions by young artists, performing arts produced by Japan and India in collaboration, and screenings of Japanese films. These events contributed to the enhancement of Japan-India cultural relations and showed a new side of modern Japanese culture from various perspectives. These opportunities allowed many Indian people to experience numerous aspects of the appeal of Japanese culture.

At the 20th New Delhi World Book Fair held from February 25 to



Manga Café at the New Delhi World Book Fair

March 4, 2012, we set up the Manga Café stall showcasing more than 500 of the latest Japanese manga books translated into English. The number of people coming to India's first large-scale Manga Café grew with each day, reaching around 12,000 during the nine-day fair. Even though Japanese manga and anime are popular in India, the majority of people see them only on the Internet. It is almost impossible for Indians to have access to actual Japanese comic books. Thus, Manga Café presented a precious opportunity for the public to actually see and read easy-to-understand translated versions of Japanese manga. Even though Indian people have less access to modern Japanese culture than their East Asian counterparts on a daily basis, it was recognized that not a few people had a keen interest to the relevant information through this event. To satisfy their interest, we will strive to provide opportunities for them to explore various aspects of Japanese culture.

Music Connects China and Japan Heart-to-Heart



Soulful performance by Kyogo Kawaguchi

In October 2011, we carried out "The Center for Heart-to-Heart Exchanges Concert Tour." Kyogo Kawaguchi, who is well-known for his powerful voice and performance, and the Japan and China-based singer amin held joint concerts in Beijing, Qingdao, Chengdu, and Xining. They sang more than 10 songs for local fans including Japanese-language learners. The audience greatly enjoyed the entertaining concert production that included talks given both in Japanese and Chinese and name-the-song quizzes. The tour drew an audience of 3,450 and forged a heart-to-heart bond between Chinese and Japanese people through popular music. As a vast country with a huge population, China has both metropolitan cities such as Beijing and Shanghai and small cities like Xining where people have limited opportunities to come in contact with foreign cultures. Some people in those areas are also interested in Japan and its language. This music event was highly valued for disseminating Japanese culture to local cities.

The year 2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the normalization of Japan-China diplomatic relations. We will do our utmost to further promote cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Experts Gather to Share Their Views on Post-Disaster Reconstruction



Lively discussion based on actual cases

In February 2012, a Roundtable Discussion on "Post Disaster Community Design and City Planning" was held in Jakarta. We invited Tohoku University professor Yasuaki Onoda, one of the founders of a network of architects called ArchiAid that supports recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake. Professor Onoda and 30 other discussants, including Indonesian government officials with experience in post-disaster reconstruction, researchers, NGO staff members, architects and journalists, actively engaged in the discussion. In terms of post-disaster reconstruction, there are a myriad of differences in the external environment between Japan and Indonesia, such as government authority, governance performance, economic standards, budget size, and the roles and functions of communities. At the same time, the two nations share many commonalities. For both countries it is important that residents, governments, civil engineers, architects, business entities, and investors work hand in hand to integrate and reflect the opinions and interests of various stakeholders in the process of post-disaster city planning and community design. As countries frequently hit by natural disasters, we learned a great deal from each other's experiences.

Thinking of the Roles and Functions of Cities amid Globalization



Symposium held in Seoul

In August 2011, we hosted the "International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe" in Seoul. The concept of "Intercultural City" is already widely adopted in EU countries, which views cultural diversity within a city caused by foreign residents as a source of strengthening and developing the city. At the symposium, researchers, politicians and practitioners from Japan, Korea and EU shared several cases of EU cities and discussed the potential of cultural diversity both in Japan and Korea. The success of the symposium led to the need of holding continuous meetings as "Intercultural Summits." The first Summit took place in Tokyo in January 2012 with the participation of mayors and governors of nine cities from Japan, Korea and EU countries. The second meeting is scheduled to be held in Hamamatsu, Japan in October 2012.

The Japan Foundation devised "The Five-Year Plan for Japan-Korea Cultural Exchange" to strengthen the relations between the two countries from a mid- to long-term perspective. The plan's second phase that began in fiscal 2011 focuses on mutual efforts to overcome common issues. We carried out exchange programs on interculturalism, disaster reconstruction, energy, social enterprises, aging society and youth education, and we are working to find solutions to issues that both countries currently face.

Android-Human Geminoid F Costarring with a Thai Actress



Geminoid (left) co-starring with a Thai actress ©THE NATION

Sayonara, the latest android play co-produced by Oriza Hirata, a renowned playwright and theater director, and Professor Hiroshi Ishiguro, a leading robotics researcher at Osaka University, was staged at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok in March 2012. In this revolutionary play, a humanlike android named Geminoid F shared the stage with human actors. The Thai script was written by a local Japanese-language student and winner of a play translation competition, and a Thai actress appeared on stage with Geminoid F. First presented in Aichi Prefecture in 2010, the play was performed in Europe where it gained celebrity. This was the first staging in Asia outside Japan and the world's premiere collaborative performance pairing an android with a local actress in the local language. All 10 shows were sold out, and audiences of 3,000, including people in the theater business, engineering students and learners of Japanese-language, enjoyed the play. It made the newspaper front page twice and was broadcast on television. We also organized a workshop by Oriza Hirata and a lecture by Professor Ishiguro. This project created a strong bond between Japanese and Thai members.

Hip Hop Artists from Japan, France, and Germany Support Marginalized Youth in the Philippines



Artists from overseas making a song with their Filipino partners

In cooperation with the Goethe-Institut Philippinen and Alliance Française de Manille, the Japan Foundation, Manila held performances and a workshop of hip hop music creation and street dance by artists from Japan, France, Germany and the Philippines for street children and young people living in slum areas. The event was aimed at teaching youth the importance of expressing their hopes and dreams through popular dance and music. The event was not just about Japanese, French and German artists giving technical instructions to the young participants; it also achieved multiple positive consequences, such as establishing networks and enhancing mutual understanding among the participating artists through collaboration, improving the technical skills of local artists, and developing creativity and expressiveness in young Filipinos. The artists and participants remain in touch through social media, and we will continue to support them in deepening their borderless friendship developed during the event.

Japanese and Vietnamese Rock Bands Cheer on Japan's Reconstruction Efforts



Performance by the popular Vietnamese band Ngu Cung
Photo: Aidan Dockey

In an attempt to rebuild images of Japan after the Great East Japan Earthquake with its "youth," "liveliness" and "vigor", we hosted a joint rock concert of Japanese and Vietnamese bands entitled "Go! Go! Japan!" It featured three Japanese rock acts – OKAMOTO'S, a young emerging band whose members are all twenty years old or so; Electric Eel Shock, which has performed at rock festivals throughout the world; and MOLICE, returning to Vietnam for a second time. The two biggest bands in Vietnam, Ngu Cung and Rosewood, also hit the stage. The rock bands gave an energetic five-hour performance. The live concert started with the screening of a digest version of *A Remembrance of Tohoku Earthquake – Our Gratitude for Bonds of Friendship of the World* produced by the Japan Foundation to show the audience how Japan is endeavoring to recover from the disaster. At the end of the event, everybody shouted "Go! Go! Japan!" with the lead singer of OKAMOTO'S. The bands and the audience gave a hearty cheer for Japan in hopes of its early restoration in the aftermath of the earthquake and tsunami.

A New Course and Classroom Expand Opportunities to Learn Japanese



Newly opened classroom for Japanese courses

As part of the expansion of our Japanese-language courses, we started to offer a beginner-level course using a trial version of *Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture*, a coursebook based on the JF Standard, in October 2011. Among the comments received from the students were "as many group activities were held, not only did I have more chance to speak Japanese but I was also very much encouraged by the group members," and "the portfolios that we maintained throughout the course allowed us to keep track of our learning progress and knowledge gained, and made us realize that we had also learned something about the culture too." In March 2012, we rented a nearby facility close to the commercial area to accommodate the expansion of our classes. The small gallery space fronting the premise allows for exhibitions on Japan as well as publicity for our events, thus enabling more Malaysians to learn about Japan, its language and culture.

15th Japanese Film Festival Draws an Audience of 22,000 in Seven Cities



Actor Yutaka Takenouchi
© 2011 Japanese Film Festival in Sydney

Fun, Moving and Relaxing, the Japanese Film Festival marked its 15th anniversary in 2011 in an impressive way. Numerous movies were screened in the major Australian cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Perth, Brisbane, Hobart, and Adelaide, and the festival drew a record audience of 22,000. Indeed, messages of congratulations from prominent figures, including Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Sydney and Melbourne mayors, reflect the wide public attention that it captured in its anniversary year. In Sydney, 30 of the latest hot movies were presented, and in Melbourne, 35 films entertained movie goers. Two disaster-related films—*Yamakohsi: The Recovery of a Tiny Japanese Village*, a documentary film on the 2004 Great Chuetsu Earthquake, and *The Town's Children* capturing people dealing with the aftermath of the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake—were shown. The screening of these two films was followed by panel discussion featuring a selection of filmmakers involved in the projects, such as movie directors, producers and cinematographers, and the associate editor of *The Australian Financial Review* as the moderator. These special screenings generated considerable interest nationwide. At the premiere screening of *Oba, the Last Samurai* in Sydney, director Hideyuki Hirayama and leading actor Yutaka Takenouchi appeared on stage. A packed audience gave them a rousing standing ovation.

A Large-Scale Exhibition on Japan in a Metropolitan Area Attracts 120,000 Visitors



Demonstration of a mechanical doll
Photo: Bits Box Inc.

We held a large-scale special exhibition entitled "JAPAN: Tradition. Innovation" at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Ottawa over six months from May 2011. On the theme of Onkochishin (respect the past, create the new), modern design and technology and their historical roots were presented in a variety of ways. Exhibits included Karakuri Ningyo (mechanical doll), the biped walking robot ASIMO, the lineage of industrial design, beautiful Edo period kimono, paintings on folding screens, and a huge wall mural created by pop artists in real-time. Furthermore, we hosted a performance of Japanese music blending classical tradition and contemporary sensibilities and an outdoor nighttime anime screening. A total of 120,000 visitors explored the allure of Japanese culture including its tradition and innovation through this exhibition. It took 10 years to plan and prepare for this multi-component exhibition now widely viewed as the result of cooperation between Japanese cultural institutions and private companies with support from those involved in Japan-Canada exchange. To make more effective use of the resources, some of the exhibits, including the mechanical doll demonstration, anime screening and music performance, went on a tour to Montreal, Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver.

New Japanese-Language Courses in an Area Flourishing with Japanese-American Community



Japanese learners having fun in class

In January 2012, we began offering new JF Nihongo Courses to meet the needs of learners. Based on the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education," the courses include "Mastering Kana," an introductory course on Katakana and Hiragana, a conversation course titled "Everyday Japanese" to enable learners to communicate in Japanese in a variety of daily situations, and "Business Japanese" through which learners will be able to carry on conversations in Japanese in business settings. Our classes are held in Little Tokyo, a historic area developed by the Japanese-American community. Reflecting the characteristics of Los Angeles, people from diverse backgrounds come to our lessons, and despite differences in ethnicity, age, occupation and reasons for learning Japanese, they share a passion for mastering the language. All are enthusiastic learners and seem to enjoy coming to class every week. Though limited to one small classroom, the learners enrolled in the 2012 winter term expressed their eagerness to come back for more during spring. To meet their demands, teachers have been busy preparing for new courses.

Looking Back on the Past to Strengthen Japan-U.S. Relations



Hoichi the Earless by the dance group Dairakudakan Photo: GION

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the original 1912 gift of cherry trees from Japan to the United States that today line the Potomac River in Washington D.C., we organized numerous cultural events. These events ranged from a Butoh dance performance of *Hoichi the Earless* accompanied by traditional Japanese and Turkish lutes, to a demonstration of Japanese confections. To further support Japan's disaster reconstruction efforts, special performances of Japanese drums and Kagura, a Shinto theatrical dance, were organized. In addition, we sent four groups of U.S.-based Japanese artists to Central and South America. Turning to intellectual exchange, we supported various Japan-U.S. collaborative research and exchange efforts to address global challenges such as the financial crisis, climate change, disaster prevention and post-disaster reconstruction. In an effort to further develop human resources within the realm of Japan-U.S. relations, we invited to Japan a variety of graduate and undergraduate university students groups, young Japan experts, and Asian experts influential in shaping public opinion. And to enhance mutual understanding at the grassroots level, we supported initiatives such as one to strengthen the foundation of Japan America Societies. We look forward to another 100 years of constructive relations between the two countries.

Talking about Disasters as a Common Experience under Requiem Fireworks



Requiem fireworks set off at the end of the event

On March 10, 2012, a year after the Great East Japan Earthquake, we held a memorial event consisting of a documentary film screening, a lecture by architects, and a requiem fireworks display. After the screening of *A Remembrance of Tohoku Earthquake – Our Gratitude for Bonds of Friendship of the World*, capturing interactions between local people and foreign volunteers in disaster areas, architect Hidekazu Wakabayashi, a victim of the disaster himself, and López Óscar, who travelled to the disaster areas to conduct research, gave a lecture on natural disasters and architecture. Mexico was devastated by a massive earthquake in 1985 and hit by frequent earthquakes in 2011, and the local participants were keen to ask questions because of their common experience. The lecture was followed by another screening of a documentary on the "LIGHT UP NIPPON" project in which fireworks were simultaneously set off in 10 locations in Tohoku in prayer for the disaster victims and the region's early recovery. The event ended with a display of traditional Mexican fireworks. Every participant offered a prayer for the disaster victims. Some people unable to get into the film screening waited until the fireworks lit the sky and prayed for the reconstruction of disaster areas in Tohoku.

Disaster-Related Events Promote Solidarity between Japan and Brazil



Lecture by graffiti artist Titi Freak

In March 2012, one year after the Great East Japan Earthquake, we organized various events to promote solidarity between Japan and Brazil and to wish for the reconstruction of the disaster areas in collaboration with the Consulate General of Japan in Sao Paulo. We also worked with the State Government of Sao Paulo in holding a photo exhibition capturing recovery efforts in communities affected. Other events we hosted included a lecture and demonstration on Tohoku cuisine by Koichi Mori, a Soba chef in Sendai, a performance and workshop of Japanese drums and Brazilian percussions, a screening of *Light Up Nippon*, a documentary film on a fireworks performance to commemorate the earthquake victims and pray for reconstruction, and screenings of images of the earthquake and recovery at the Brazilian Society of Japanese Culture and Social Assistance. Furthermore, we organized lectures by Brazilian artist Titi Freak, who took part in a project to create wall murals on temporary housing in Ishinomaki City as well as another screening of disaster-related images. We hope these events served as an opportunity to express our gratitude for Brazil's warm support, deepen ties between the two nations, and provide encouragement to the disaster victims.

Japan as the Guest of Honor at Salon du Livre, the Largest Book Fair in France



Japanese novelists at "Changes in Japanese Literature after 3.11"

We participated in Salon du Livre, an international book fair in Paris, where Japan came under the spotlight as the 2012 guest of honor. With the support of the Japan Book Publishers Association and the French National Book Center, we invited 20 authors from Japan and staged numerous events. This series of events started with a press conference in January, followed by a roundtable discussion entitled "Changes in Japanese Literature after 3.11" on March 17. Four of the invited authors participated in a thought-provoking discussion on the meaning of writing novels in the aftermath of the earthquake, influence of the disaster on Japanese literature, and issues relating to literature and the Japanese language. On March 22, we co-hosted a lecture by one of the authors, Mitsuyo Kakuta, with Mediatheque in Aix-en-Provence. Audience interested in modern Japanese novels were intrigued by her lecture. The book fair enjoyed remarkable success drawing 190,000 visitors over the four-day period, a five percent increase from the previous year. Through this event we shared our views on the nature of modern novels with the French people. We will continue to promote exchanges between Japan and France through literature.

Hosting a Variety of Programs from Different Perspectives for People of All Ages



An event to introduce the Japanese tea ceremony
Photo: Mario Boccia

We presented various perspectives of Japanese culture for people of all age groups. While the display of artworks belonging to our institute and a photo exhibition of Japanese gardens showed Japan's traditional beauty, the photo exhibition titled "The Metamorphosis of Japan after the War" and the "Japanese Kites and Tops" exhibition introduced Japanese lifestyles. In March 2012, one year after the Great East Japan Earthquake, we held the photo exhibition "TOHOKU – Through the Eyes of Japanese Photographers" to showcase a true picture of the Tohoku region. We screened various quality Japanese movies ranging from new films to highly artistic works by the Art Theater Guild of Japan. In the field of performing arts, the performance of traditional Ryukyu music and dance was particularly well-received among a variety of projects we hosted, including classical music and a combined performance of film and music. We also presented lectures by former Japan Foundation fellows from Italy on topics such as literature, architecture and Noh. As for Japanese-language courses, classes of all levels were offered also at night, on Saturdays, and during the summer, in which 600 learners enrolled. We also provided support for two Northern Italian high schools to purchase Japanese textbooks.

Raising Issues in Modern Society through Art Programs



Director Masayuki Suo at the talk after his film screening

In the UK there are a lot of artistic works which deal with political and social issues. Reflecting on this, this year we placed our focus mainly on artists and creations which approached the problems of modern Japanese society. We screened *I just Didn't Do It* through which director Masayuki Suo posed questions about the Japanese legal system, as well as *Sleep*, a story by Katsumi Sakaguchi about a victim of sexual transgression. These screening sessions were followed by talks with the directors. The question and answer sessions, with director Suo fielding, were not only about films - in one case a highly technical question was posed by a British attorney. Furthermore, we staged an English reading of a Japanese play by playwright Shiro Maeda entitled *Getting Lost* with a British director and actors. The play elicited much sympathy from the British audience who understood the struggles of young people living in Tokyo. We also helped stage an exhibition in which art is seen from the perspective of social change and hosted a lecture by Professor Hiroshi Minamishima from Joshibi University of Art and Design on artistic activities after the Great East Japan Earthquake. Our activities fostered great opportunities to exchange opinions with UK citizens.

Strengthening Cooperation with Casa Asia



Live performance by Pe'z on La Rambla, Barcelona

Celebrating our second anniversary, we have practically doubled the number of activities such as exhibitions, concerts and dance performances. A wide range of our cultural events turned out to be a total success, gaining twice as many participants as the previous year. Casa Asia, an institution which contributes to strengthen relations between Spain and the Asia-Pacific region, has played a key role in our accomplishment. Ever since we were at the preparation stage to establish our office in Madrid, Casa Asia has been supporting us, and cooperating with a number of activities including language courses. Moreover, as this reliable partner has its headquarters in Barcelona, it offers us an invaluable assistance whenever we organize activities in their home city. During the fiscal 2011, we co-organized numerous activities such as the concert of Japanese band Pe'z; the exhibition "Japan: Kingdom of Characters"; an Asian Digital Content Festival entitled "Asia Geek"; and screenings of documentary films on the Great East Japan Earthquake. We also cooperated with each other in the area of public relations and activities organized by each institution. Furthermore, the new Japanese language courses based on "JF Standard" were launched simultaneously in both centers in October 2011, and the number of courses and participants increased steadily. We will strive to further develop cultural exchange programs in Spain through continuous collaboration with Casa Asia.

Kuromori Kagura Contributes to Stronger Ties between Russia and Disaster-Stricken Areas



Russian media covering the performances

We organized performances of Kuromori Kagura, a traditional Japanese performing art passed down in disaster-stricken Miyako City in Iwate Prefecture, in Moscow and Zelenograd in October 2011. Responding to the Great East Japan Earthquake, Russia provided support in various ways, with the dispatch of a rescue team three days after the earthquake just one example. To express our gratitude for this assistance and to show our efforts for recovery and reconstruction, we invited Russian government officials and people involved in local charity programs to support disaster victims to the performances. The audience was captivated by the performance that expressed the rich history and tradition, lightness and power of folk performing art. The performers responded to the crowd's prolonged applause with an encore performance. This event was a great success in strengthening ties between the two countries. At the reception, a member of a Russian emergency rescue team mentioned that he was touched by the courage of the Japanese people who confronted the disaster. The performance won eighth place at the Russian Silver Archer Awards. We will be more than happy if the success of the event and the enthusiastic response of the Russian audience have an empowering effect on the disaster victims.

Dekiru 1, the First Comprehensive Japanese Textbook in Hungary



Dekiru 1 and certificate of the Most Beautiful Hungarian Book Award

The first volume of a Japanese-language textbook for Hungarians entitled, *Dekiru 1* was published in August 2011. The textbook project was financed with the support of the Japan-Hungary Cooperation Forum, a platform of 12 Japanese private companies and whose aim was to enhance the teaching of Japanese-language education in Hungary. Work on the textbook started in 2007 with the cooperation of Association of Japanese Language Teachers in Hungary (MJOT), and under the guidance of Japanese-language education experts, the textbook was developed in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). CEFR outlines objective criteria in order to assess language proficiency levels of learners in secondary school education or higher. *Dekiru 1* has caught the attention of Japanese-language educators and its community, not only because it is the first CEFR-based textbook published in Europe, in addition to numerous illustrations and photographs that assist in providing knowledge of Japanese society and culture, it emphasizes the promotion of cross-cultural understanding. In June 2012, *Dekiru 1* was awarded the top prize in the textbook category of the *Most Beautiful Hungarian Book Contest* due to its excellent design and comprehensive content. The next phase and challenge for us is to expand our outreach efforts using *Dekiru 1* to teach Japanese language in classrooms across Hungary.

Raising Interest in Japanese Culture through Pop Culture



Participants at Hosogaya's lecture with their original manga drawings in hand

With the outbreak of revolution in January 2011, Egypt faced a tumultuous year. Under this tense situation, we continued to host programs to introduce Japanese pop culture to local youth who are the future of the country. In October we refurbished our library and provided visitors with opportunities to experience Japanese culture. The library features more than 1,000 comic books as well as CDs, anime DVDs and games, equips J-POP video corners, and hosts lectures, workshops and film screenings, under different themes every month to acquaint local people with modern Japanese culture. In March 2012, we held a lecture and workshop on Japanese manga by manga researcher and associate professor at Tokyo Polytechnic University, Atsushi Hosogaya. The venue was packed with young manga fans who brought their original works, asking for his advice. The event triggered spontaneous engagement in cultural activities, for example, forming manga drawing groups to enter international manga award competitions and issuing manga magazines. We will further work to promote cultural exchange with Egypt, a country currently in the process of democratization, in hopes to contribute to the future.

Appendix



Summary of Arts and Cultural Exchange Programs

1—International Exhibitions

The Japan Foundation represented Japan at the 54th Venice Biennale International Art Exhibition (commissioner of the Japan pavilion: Yuka Uematsu; artist: Tabaimo).

2—Exhibitions Abroad

Original exhibitions 12 (21 cities in 15 countries), Traveling exhibitions 114 (114 cities in 67 countries)

Grants for exhibitions abroad 60 (29 countries)

Grants for visual arts events abroad at the grassroots level 4 (4 countries)

○ We organized exhibitions in cooperation with museums abroad, including: "Manga Realities: Exploring the Art of Japanese Comics Today" (Philippines, Vietnam); "Hiroshi Sugito: paintings and sketches" (Singapore); "The Group 1965: We are Boys!" (Ukraine, Germany); "Atsuko Tanaka. The Art of Connecting" (Spain, U.K.) (see p.12); "Hiraizumi-Temples and Gardens Representing the Buddhist Pure Land" (France, Belgium); "Hokusai-Retrospective: The 150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Germany" (Germany) (see p.12); and Japan Pavilion "The Spirit of Budo: The History of Japan's Martial Arts" at the 26th Janadriyah National Festival for Heritage and Culture (Janadriyah Festival 2011) (Saudi Arabia) (see p.13).

○ Japan Foundation traveling exhibitions [24 themes]

Japan Foundation traveling exhibitions were organized worldwide in cooperation with host museums, showcasing a wide range of Japanese culture, from traditional crafts to Japanese dolls, mascot characters, product designs, photographs, and contemporary art. As March 2012 marked a year from the Great East Japan Earthquake, three new exhibitions were added to the repertoire: "Beautiful Handicrafts of Tohoku, Japan," highlighting the beauty of traditional Japanese crafts of the region; "TOHOKU – Through the Eyes of Japanese Photographers," introducing the profound charm of the region through the eyes of photographers with ties there; and "How Did Architects Respond Immediately after 3/11 – The Great East Japan Earthquake," depicting the activities of the architects during the 12 months since the earthquake.

3—Information Exchange in Visual Arts

Projects to facilitate interaction: 8 (23 countries)

○ Japan-Korea Curator Meeting: Eight curators, experts in contemporary art met to discuss about arts with their global and professional points of view, and the possibilities of art exchange between the two countries.

○ Curator exchange: Groups of curators were invited to Japan from the United States and Russia to visit art museums, galleries, and artist studios, and exchange views with Japanese counterparts.

Invitation of young creators: 16 people (11 countries)

Under the JENESYS (Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths) Programme, artists, designers, and other creators were invited to Japan to produce artistic works, meet local people, and develop networks.

4—Overseas Performances

Projects: 23 (82 cities in 46 countries)

Grants (for Japanese groups and individuals): 106

A variety of the following overseas performances were organized. Grants were also provided for Japanese performing artists to perform overseas through the Grant Program for Overseas Performances.

○ Performance at the Japan Pavilion in Janadriyah Festival 2011 (Saudi Arabia); "Min'yo – Japanese Traditional Folk Songs – Conveying Heart and Rhythms in Daily Life in Japan" tour in South America (Chile, Argentina, Uruguay) (see p.13); "'Sho Asano & Ensemble' Tour in Baltic States" (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania); "Leonard Eto 'Blendrums' East Africa Tour" (Tanzania, Malawi, Ethiopia, Djibouti); "Kuromori Kagura Performances in Russia"; "World Premiere of Onomatopoeic Play in Palestine"; "TAIKO LEGEND – Heart Beat from Japan EITETSU HAYASHI" (Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain); "Tohoku Folk Performance Groups, Ondekoza Taiko & Musicians World Tour."

Performing Arts Japan (PAJ): 25 (North America: 12; Europe: 13)

The PAJ program, offering grants to American and European arts and cultural groups that introduce outstanding Japanese performing arts to local audiences, supported performances and coproduction projects.

5—Information Exchange in Performing Arts

Projects: 9

The Japan Foundation worked continuously to facilitate information exchange among performing arts groups, presenters, festival organizers, and theaters. Key initiatives included co-hosting the Performing Arts Meeting in Yokohama 2012, and operating the Japanese-English website providing information on performing arts in Japan (<http://www.performingarts.jp/>).

6—Translation and Publication on Japan

Grants: 57 (27 countries)

The grant program supported the translation and publication of Japanese works on humanities, social sciences, and arts, and publication of books introducing Japanese culture written in foreign languages.

○ *Sōin gyokusai seyo* (Onward Towards Our Noble Death) (Canada); *Wagahai wa neko de aru* (I Am a Cat) (Vietnam); *Kokoro* (Slovenia); *Haru no yuki* (Spring Snow) (Bulgaria); and *Akatsuki no tera* (The Temple of Dawn) (Romania).

7—Book Fair Support

Projects: 14 (14 cities in 14 countries)

With the Publishers Association for Cultural Exchange, Japan, the Japan Foundation participated in various book fairs.

○ The 30th Riyadh International Book Fair; the 63rd Frankfurt International Book Fair

8—Promotion of TV Broadcasting Abroad

Projects: 26 (21 countries)

TV programs were provided to overseas television stations including:

Costa Rica commercial broadcaster SPE LTDA (all 156 episodes of *SUZURAN – Return of Happiness*); Lithuanian national broadcaster (LRT) (*World Heritage Sites in Japan* and others).

9— Production of Documentaries

Grants: 19 (13 countries)

Grants were offered for the production of documentary films and television programs about Japan, for example, the documentary film *Under Snow* produced in Germany depicting life in the snowy regions of Unuma City.

10— Film Screening Abroad

Projects: 89 (57 countries)

Grants: 76 (29 countries)

In cooperation with Japanese embassies/consulates and local cultural organizations, Japanese film screening events were organized such as silent films with "Benshi" live narration and music (Italy, France, Germany; see p.14) and Masahiro Shinoda retrospective (Mexico, Argentina, Spain). Furthermore, grants were provided for screenings at international film festivals.

11— Information Exchange in Film, TV and Publication

○ Production of *LIGHT UP NIPPON* documentary for overseas screenings

We produced a documentary film about an initiative by young Japanese to encourage people in Tohoku region for recovering from the Great East Japan Earthquake. In many countries, related-events such as symposiums and talks were also organized.

○ *Japanese Book News*

We issued the quarterly newsletters of No. 68-72 to provide information for overseas publishers and translators (see p.14).

○ Database for Japanese films

We provided basic information regarding Japanese films via internet in cooperation with UNI JAPAN.

12— International MANGA Award and the Anime Ambassador Project

The Japan Foundation invited the four gold and silver prize winners of the International MANGA Award which honors artists who contribute to promoting manga overseas. We also supported overseas screening of *Doraemon* as "the Anime Ambassador," subtitled in local languages (6 cities in 6 countries).

13— Cultural Presentation

Projects: 38 abroad (98 cities in 64 countries) 2 invited to Japan (14 people from 2 countries)

Grants: 82 abroad (102 cities in 44 countries)

The Japan Foundation sent specialists of various fields of Japanese culture, such as literature, cuisine, robots, anime, Ukiyo-e (woodblock printing), and architecture, around the world to hold lectures,

demonstrations, and workshops for audiences abroad. Furthermore, curators from Russia and performing art specialists from Brazil were also invited to Japan.

○ Risa Wataya, author (see p.15); Kumiko Shinohara, playwright; Ayaka Yamamoto, expert of Okinawan cuisine (see p.5); Hiroshi Ishiguro, android expert; Yoshiaki Iwami, manga author; Koji Yamamura, animation author; and Norio Akasaka, folklorist (see p.11).

14— Cultural Cooperation

Projects: 10 abroad (15 cities in 11 countries) 2 invited to Japan (12 people from 4 countries) 2 events (2 cities in 2 countries)

Grants: 14 abroad (14 cities in 13 countries) 1 invited to Japan (1 country)

Experts in various fields were sent abroad or invited to Japan to support cultural activities in each country, taking advantage of Japan's knowledge and expertise.

○ "Survey of Japanese Collections at Azerbaijan National Art Museum" (see p.15); and "Invitation Program for Experts in Restoring Japanese Paintings" (Mongolia, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina).

15— Cultural Exchange at the Grassroots Level

Projects: 52 people in the junior/high school teacher exchange (12 countries)

Grants: 61 grassroots level cultural exchange projects

Teachers involved in the education of social studies and international understanding were invited to Japan to learn about Japanese education, culture, and society through site visits, and meet with Japanese counterparts to exchange views. Grants were offered to projects designed to deepen mutual understanding among citizens or the younger generation.

East Asia Future Leaders Program

As part of the JENESYS Programme, future leaders, mainly from ASEAN countries, were invited to Japan. They held lively discussions on important common issues in East Asia and learned how Japan was dealing with them on the following themes.

① Food: Agriculture in the 21st century (24 people from 13 countries)

② Environment: Environment and community revitalization (25 people from 15 countries)

③ Education: Fostering "Resilience" to overcome hardships (25 people from 15 countries)

16— China Center

Fiscal 2011 marked the sixth Long-Term Program for Chinese High School Students, welcoming 32 students to Japan. 11 Centers for Face-to-Face Exchanges, including the newly opened ones in Dalian and Hangzhou, introduced Japanese pop culture and organized events for mutual understanding of people in China and Japan. Furthermore, through the *Heart to Heart* website, exchange among the young generation was promoted.

Summary of Japanese-Language Education Overseas Programs

1—Building and Strengthening Network of Overseas Japanese-Language Institutions

① JF Nihongo Network "Sakura Network"

The JF Nihongo Network called "Sakura Network" linking core Japanese-language institutions and teacher associations abroad expanded its core membership to 118 organizations from 42 countries and 2 regions by the end of March 2012. We helped them organize seminars, provide training, and develop education materials (see p.20).

② Dispatch of Japanese-Language Specialists

We dispatched the following specialists in Japanese-language education to core Japanese-language institutions overseas. We also provided preparatory training covering technical knowledge and skills for the fiscal 2012 program participants (see p.20).

- Senior Specialists: 39 projects in 26 countries
- Specialists: 47 projects in 24 countries
- Assistants: 22 projects in 14 countries

③ Commissioned Programs for the JENESYS Programme

We were commissioned to dispatch young Japanese-language teachers who majored in Japanese-language education at university to East Asian countries.

- Dispatches: 45 people to 10 countries

④ Supporting Japanese-Language Institutions and Projects

We provided grants to core overseas Japanese-language institutions.

- Grants: 173 projects in 67 countries

⑤ Japanese-Language Support through Domestic Collaboration

With the collaboration of Japanese universities and graduate schools offering a Japanese-language teacher training program, we dispatched students abroad as Japanese-language teaching interns. We also provided grants for projects of the Society for Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language to promote Japanese language and Japanese-language education overseas.

- Dispatch of interns: 380 projects in 28 countries and 1 region
- Grants: 3 projects

2—Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)

In 2011, the JLPT was held on July 3 and December 4, and about 490,000 people in total took the test in 61 countries and regions abroad. Three countries—Chile, Ecuador, and Austria—and seven cities—Gangneung in Korea, Nantong, Xining, and Fuzhou in China, Johor Bahru in Malaysia, Monterrey in Mexico, and Edinburgh in the United Kingdom—became the new test sites (see p.21).

- July test: about 210,000 examinees in 96 cities in 20 countries and regions overseas
- December test: about 280,000 examinees in 196 cities in 60 countries and regions overseas

Furthermore, we published the *Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Official Practice Workbook*. Five separate workbooks are available, each of which covers one of the five levels from N1 to N5. Each workbook provides almost the same number of questions as the

actual test, and contains a sample cover page of the test booklet, sample answer sheets, and a CD (plus the script) of the listening section.

3—Enhancing the Japanese-Language Course Overseas

The Japan Foundation enhanced the Japanese-Language Course (JF Language Course), which targeted the general public, in fiscal 2011. We introduced a new curriculum based on the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education," and conducted classes that placed emphasis on the understanding of Japanese culture.

In fiscal 2011, a total of 8,000 people took JF Language Courses offered at 21 overseas offices of the Japan Foundation as well as Japan Centers in Ukraine and Kazakhstan.

4—Training Programs at the Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa

We provided the following training programs for overseas Japanese-language teachers. We also carried out activities to promote interaction between participants and locals to meet the needs of communities (see p.22).

① Invitation of Overseas Japanese-Language Teachers

- Long-Term Training Program: 57 teachers from 30 countries
- Short-Term Training Program: 127 teachers from 41 countries
- Intensive Training Program for Secondary School Teachers from Korea: 35 teachers
- Intensive Training Program for University and Secondary School Teachers from China: 57 teachers
- Training Program for Secondary School Teachers from Malaysia: 6 teachers
- Graduate Program on Japanese Language and Culture (Master's Course: new entrants): 4 students from 4 countries
- Graduate Program on Japanese Language and Culture (Master's Course: existing students): 6 students from 6 countries
- Graduate Program on Japanese Language and Culture (Doctoral Course: existing students): 5 students from 5 countries
- Training Programs for Leading Teachers: 11 teachers from 5 countries

② Initiatives Commissioned by the JENESYS Programme

- Special Invitation Programme for Japanese-Language Teachers in East Asia: 45 teachers from 10 countries
- Special Invitation Program for Japanese-Language Teachers in South Asia: 17 teachers from 3 countries

③ Other Commissioned Training Programs

- Training for Young Russian Japanese-Language Teachers: 9 teachers
- Short-Term Training for Japanese-Language Teachers from Taiwan: 8 teachers

④ The Library of Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa

With its 47,259 books and audiovisual materials and 726 journals and

periodicals, this special library provided access to information and materials in the field of Japanese-language education. (The library was used by 19,666 people, and 13,817 books and other materials were lent out.)

5—Developing and Promoting Japanese-Language Education Materials and Teaching Methodology

The Japan Foundation developed Japanese-language educational materials to respond to the various needs of Japanese-language learners and teachers, and developed and operated websites to assist teachers (see p.23).

○ *Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture*

We continued to develop the pilot edition of this coursebook based on the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education"

○ *Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese.* (broadcast/website)

In fiscal 2011, this program was rebroadcast on NHK Educational Channel, and also broadcast in Brazil, Sri Lanka, Korea, Finland, Indonesia, the United States (Hawaii and Southern California), Vietnam, and Laos with appropriate subtitling or dubbing. The WEB version launched in March 2010 was made available in Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, and Korean, in addition to Japanese and English. French and Indonesian versions were also produced.

○ *Japanese in Anime & Manga* (website)

The French version was added to the existing English, Spanish, Korean, and Chinese versions. Now that all 13 contents are available in the five languages, website development has been complete. Visits to the site totaled 2.4 million hits.

○ Portal for Learning Japanese: *NIHONGO-e-Na* (website)

We operated this portal site for learners to find various websites and online tools useful for Japanese-language learning. The site was offered in English and Japanese with some of the contents available in Chinese and Korean. Visits to the site totaled 1.02 million hits.

○ *Minna no Kyozaï* (website)

The community-building function and site management function of *Minna no Kyozaï* were enhanced and new teaching materials were added. Visits to the site totaled 4 million hits.

○ Activities to promote the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education"

We supported two meetings of the Japanese Global Articulation Project (J-GAP), where the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education" was promoted as a tool contributing to consistency in Japanese-language education. We also organized 11 seminars and workshops at home and abroad to publicize the "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education."

○ Provision of information on the current situation of Japanese-language education

We issued the following two periodical publications on Japanese-language education, both in print and online. The print versions were donated to libraries.

○ *Nihongo Kyoiku Tsushin* (website)

○ *Kokusai Koryu Kikin Nihongo Kyoiku Kiyo* (The Japan Foundation

Japanese-Language Education Bulletin), Vol. 8 (book/website)

6—Programs at the Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai

① Japanese-Language Programs

Aiming to meet various needs of Japanese-language learners overseas at different levels, we provided several types of programs especially for specialists and students. Furthermore, we collaborated with relevant partners in and outside of Japan to offer training programs.

○ Programs for Specialists: (Foreign Service Officers) 29 people from 28 countries; (Public Officials) 9 people from 8 countries; (Specialists in Cultural and Academic Fields) 53 people from 22 countries

○ Programs for Overseas Students: (University Students) 69 people from 29 countries; (Outstanding Students) 65 people from 62 countries; (High School Students) 30 people from 11 countries; (Lee Soo-Hyun Youth Exchange Program) 30 people from Korea; (JET Memorial Invitation Program for U.S. High School Students) 32 people

○ Support Program through Domestic Collaboration: 80 people from 25 countries

○ Training Program for Queensland Teachers: 5 people

○ Training Program for JET Participants in Osaka: 17 people from 4 countries

○ Training Program for the Japanese Teachers Association in Thailand (JTAT): 32 people

② Commissioned Programs for the JENESYS Programme

○ Japanese-Language Program for University Students in East Asia (College in Japan): 38 people from 7 countries

○ Training Program for East Asian University Students Studying Japanese: (summer) 34 people from 8 countries; (fall) 24 people from 5 countries

○ Invitation Program for Japanese-Language Learners: 39 people from 7 countries

③ Other Commissioned Programs

○ Japanese-Language Program for Students from the Chinese University of Hong Kong: 8 people

○ Japanese-Language Program for University Students from Indonesia: 2 people

○ Canon Vietnam Japanese-Language Program: 1 person

④ The Library of Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai

With its 49,716 books and audiovisual materials and 266 journals, the library provided access to information and reference materials on Japanese culture and society. (The library was used by 16,320 people, and 9,273 books and other materials were lent out.)

7—Japanese-Language Education for Nurse/Certified Care Worker Candidates under EPAs

We provided a program of preparatory Japanese-language education to 200 Indonesian and 100 Philippine candidates for nurses and nursing care workers.

Summary of Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange Programs

1 — Support for Japanese Studies Organizations

We supported programs for leading Japanese studies institutions worldwide to improve their research capabilities and to develop high-caliber academic talent by providing comprehensive, cross-functional support tailored to the needs of the recipients. This includes visiting professorship grants for research and conferences, staff expansion grants, and library support (see p.29).

① Support for Infrastructure of Japanese Studies

67 institutions: 32 countries/1 region

East Asia: Seoul National University; Korea University; Nankai University; Fudan University, among others

Southeast Asia: University of Indonesia; Chulalongkorn University;

Tammasat University; University of the Philippines; University of Malaya; Viet Nam National University, Hanoi, among others

South Asia: Jawaharlal Nehru University; University of Delhi

Oceania: Australian National University; University of Auckland

North America: University of California, Santa Barbara; Duke University; Columbia University; Furman University; University of Waterloo, among others

Central and South America: El Colegio de México; University of São Paulo, among others

West Europe: Ca' Foscari University of Venice; School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London; Autonomous University of Barcelona; University of Bonn; National Foundation for Political Science (France), among others

East Europe: University of Zagreb; University of Bucharest; Far Eastern National University (Russia), among others

Middle East: University of Teheran; Cairo University; Ain Shams University

② Beijing Center for Japanese Studies

We ran programs of the Beijing Center for Japanese Studies at the Beijing Foreign Studies University sending a teaching staff of 14 (including Japanese professors) and supported invitation of 22 graduate students to Japan and research and publishing projects. We also sent 12 Japanese professors to its Center for Japanese Studies at the Peking University and invited 22 graduate students and staff to Japan.

2 — Japanese Studies Fellowship

Long-term: 138 scholars/researchers (37 countries) and 134 Ph.D. candidates (34 countries)

Short-term: 54 researchers (29 countries)

The Japan Foundation has been inviting scholars and researchers engaged in Japanese studies to Japan since its founding. Through this fellowship program, more than 4,700 academics have visited Japan to advance their studies on Japan and develop networks with Japanese counterparts. In fiscal 2011, we provided fellowship to a total of 326 scholars and researchers to support their research projects in Japan (see p. 29).

3 — Enhancing Japanese Studies Networks

Projects: 8

Grants: 25

We organized the 2nd East Asia Forum for Japanese Studies and

also seminars focusing on Japan's restoration efforts after the Great East Japan Earthquake, aiming to build network of Japanese studies scholars across national and academic borders. We supported international academic societies for Japanese studies and conducted surveys on Japanese studies researchers and organizations in Korea and North America (see p. 28).

4 — Intellectual Exchange Conferences

Projects: 26

Grants: 198 (including grants for human resources development)

We organized international conferences and intellectual forums to address global and regional issues and provided funding for events.

① Invitation of Chinese Researchers and Intellectuals

This program aims to develop forward-looking intellectual network connecting China and Japan. Specialists in international issues who have limited associations with Japan but are expected to bring long-term positive effects visited Japan in groups and as individuals to meet and exchange views with Japanese researchers, visit organizations, and travel to regional cities.

② Invitation Program for Young Muslim Intellectuals in Southeast Asia

Nine young researchers expected to become future leaders in their fields in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore were invited to Japan. They deepened their understanding of Japan through lectures by Japanese researchers on "social modernization," using Japan as an example, and "harmony in Islam," and discussions on the subjects.

③ Japan-India Dialogue: Public Symposium

The Japan-India Dialogue program aims to further intellectual exchanges between the two countries. To begin the program, a public symposium titled "Asian Renaissance: Learning from Shibusawa, Tata, Okakura and Tagore" was held in December 2011 in Tokyo. (Co-host: International House of Japan)

④ Lecture "What can art do for the reconstruction?"

Japanese-Brazilian graffiti artist Titi Freak, who participated in an art project (see p. 30) at the temporary dwellings of the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, held talk sessions in March 2012 in Sao Paulo and Curitiba, Brazil. Many opinions were exchanged on the current situation and restoration efforts in the devastated areas, and on how art can contribute to society.

⑤ Japan-Germany Symposium "The Catastrophes in Japan and the Role of Conventional and New Media—A Comparative Look at How Japan and Germany Reported on the Earthquake"

In July 2011, Japanese and German journalists and researchers met in Berlin to discuss how the Great East Japan Earthquake and the ensuing Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station crisis were reported by media in each country and the role of media in coping with disasters. (Co-host: Japanese-German Center Berlin)

⑥ International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe

As communities across the globe grow increasingly diverse, the way they manage diversity becomes a key challenge for the future. Mayors and practitioners from Europe, Korea and Japan gathered in Tokyo

to explore the potential of cultural diversity to stimulate creativity and innovation. (Co-host: Council of Europe)

5 — Intellectual Leaders' Exchange

Invitation: 54 (32 countries)

We provided overseas researchers and specialists with opportunities to conduct research in Japan and build networks with Japanese counterparts.

① Asia Leadership Fellow Program (7 people from 7 countries)

Having the theme of "Asia in Dialogue: Visions and Actions for a Humane Society," distinguished intellectuals from Asian countries, including Japan, were invited to spend two months together in Tokyo. The seven participants visited areas devastated by the Great East Japan Earthquake, and discussed the role of intellectuals and the need for solidarity among people beyond nations and regions in coping with such disasters. (Co-host: International House of Japan)

② Invitation of Young Intellectuals from the Middle East (16 people from 3 countries)

Young leaders from Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia, where democratization is now underway, were invited to Japan to meet and talk with Japanese people working to restore disaster-struck areas. These encounters offered the opportunity to consider leadership for building civil society (see p.30).

③ Fellowship for Intellectual Exchange (31 people from 23 countries)

Young researchers in the humanities and social sciences from East Europe, the Middle East, and Africa who are striving to respond to the common global issues faced by contemporary societies were provided with opportunities to conduct research in Japan and build networks with Japanese counterparts.

6 — Commissioned Programs for the JENESYS Programme

Young leaders from East Asia, mainly from ASEAN countries, were invited to Japan to discuss crucial issues common to East Asia. The participants were introduced to how Japan is dealing with these issues and actively shared their views.

① Energy security: Advancements in cooperation in the East Asia region (19 participants from 13 countries)

② Disaster prevention and people: Working toward the creation of a strong society (25 participants from 15 countries)

③ Energy security: Working toward the development of sustainable energy management systems (23 participants from 13 countries)

We also invited 20 graduate students of Japanese studies (including East Asian studies) from 10 countries to Japan to attend lectures on Japan and participate in study tours.

7 — Center for Global Partnership (CGP)

We aim to strengthen the partnership between the United States and Japan and also to contribute to solving global issues through U.S.-Japan collaboration. For this purpose, we conducted the following programs:

Projects (including co-organized): 6

① Abe Fellowship

A total of 12 researchers became fellows in fiscal 2011. The purpose of this program is to encourage research on pressing global issues that require an international government-level response, and to foster a collaborative relationship and network of Japanese and American experts for this purpose. We also granted four journalists under the Abe Fellowship for Journalists to support media reporting that contributes to promoting mutual understanding between Japan and the United States through profound researches.

② Japan Outreach Initiative (JOI)

Six Japanese coordinators were newly dispatched to the United States under the program aiming to promote understanding and awareness of Japan among citizens and students in regions of the U.S. (particularly in the South and the Midwest) with relatively few Japan-related activities and opportunities for exchange.

We also organized the "Japanese American Leadership Symposium" and invited U.S. experts on Asian affairs (see p.31).

Grants

① Grant Programs

Projects: 121

Sixteen grants were provided to joint projects by Japanese and U.S. organizations on global issues and issues common to the two countries. In addition, 12 grants were offered to projects focusing on recovery and disaster prevention after the Great East Japan Earthquake, including the "JET Memorial Project," launched to commemorate the two American JET participants who lost their lives in the earthquake disaster, and a digital archive project on the disaster.

In the United States, 36 small scale grants were offered, consisting of 10 grants for intellectual exchange, 4 for grassroots exchange, and 22 for educational outreach. In total, 121 grants were provided, including grant projects such as the Common Agenda Round Table (CART) project (see p. 31) and ongoing projects from fiscal 2010.

② Initiatives to strengthen the exchange between Japan and U.S. for further deepening the Japan-U.S. Alliance

The initiatives were announced when U.S. President Barack Obama visited Japan in November 2010, and included the above mentioned "Invitation Program for U.S. Experts on Asian Affairs" (organized by CGP), grants to strengthen ties with leading U.S. think tanks, and grants to support American college students conduct study tours in Japan. (10 projects were conducted.)

8 — CULCON

The United States-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON), whose U.S. secretariat is the Japan-US Friendship Commission, convened in May 2011 in Washington D.C. to hold a joint symposium with the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) titled "Enhancing the U.S.-Japan Partnership: Education and Cultural Ties in a Changing Global Context."

Financial Cooperation from the Private Sector

The Japan Foundation is able to engage in international cultural exchange programs thanks to generous financial contributions from the private sector, including private companies, organizations, and individuals. The following outlines the system for donations to the Japan Foundation. Also shown are lists of the corporations and individuals who provided financial contributions through this system and programs implemented with donated funds as of fiscal 2011.

1. Categories of Donation

[1] General Donations

These donations are allocated to expenses for the Foundation's international cultural exchange programs.

A. General Donations System

These donations are received from corporations and individuals, and their timing and amount are at the donor's discretion. Donors (corporations and individuals) and examples of programs implemented with donations in fiscal 2011 are shown on the following page under "Donors for Program Expenses," "Private Endowment Providers," and "Program Support by Private Endowments."

(a) Donations for program expenses

These donations are allocated to expenses for the Foundation's programs during the same fiscal year in which the donation was received. According to the donor's wishes, the donation can be allocated to expenses for a particular project during the fiscal year.

(b) Donations to operational funds (private endowments)

These donations are deposited in the Foundation's funds, and the accrued interest is allocated in perpetuity for program expenses.

B. Membership System

Fixed donations are received from private companies and organizations in the form of membership dues and are allocated to a variety of programs implemented during the fiscal year in which the donation was made. The members comprise General Members, whose donation is at least 100,000 yen, and Special Members, whose donation is at least 500,000 yen annually, and they can enjoy privileges including invitation to various events of the Foundation. The members for fiscal 2011 are shown on the following page.

[2] Designated Donations

Under this program, donations from domestic individuals and corporations to support international cultural exchange programs at home and abroad are received by the Foundation, which is a designated public benefit organization, with the understanding that they will be used to subsidize organizations that implement specific cultural exchange projects. By utilizing this system, such donations to support the programs are treated as donations to the Foundation, and the donors are eligible to receive taxation benefits for their donations.

Eligible programs include personnel exchanges, overseas Japanese studies and Japanese language education programs, and performances, exhibitions, seminars, etc., related to international cultural exchange. Receipt of designated donations is subject to decision by a deliberative council of external experts. See the following page for a list of designated donations programs for fiscal 2011.

2. Taxation Benefits

The Japan Foundation is a "Designated Public Benefit Organization" in accordance with Article 77 of the Corporate Tax Enforcement Order and Article 217 of the Income Tax Enforcement Order. Therefore, donations to the Foundation are subject to the following taxation benefits.

(1) Corporations

Either the total amount of donation to Designated Public Benefit Organizations or the maximum deductible amount of donation to Designated Public Benefit Organizations, whichever is smaller, is treated as a loss.

Note 1: If the total amount of donation to Designated Public Benefit Organizations is larger, the amount not treated as a loss (the amount exceeding the maximum deductible amount of donation to Designated Public Benefit Organizations) will be included in the amount of normal donations. The maximum deductible amount of donation is calculated as follows.

(Please note that the following formulas are effective from the fiscal year 2012.)

● Normal donations

(Amount of capital x Number of months for the period/12 x 0.25% + Amount of income x 2.5%) x 1/4

● Donation to Designated Public Benefit Organizations

(Amount of capital x Number of months for the period/12 x 0.375% + Amount of income x 6.25%) x 1/2

(2) Individuals

An amount equal to the donation minus 2,000 yen (up to 40% of the gross income) is tax deductible. Donations of inherited assets are also eligible for beneficial taxation treatment.

3. Donations Received in Fiscal 2011

	Number of Donations	Amount (yen)
General Donations	47	15,380,000
Corporate membership	40	7,750,000
Donations for Program Expenses	4	7,600,000
Private Endowment	3	30,000 (Note 2)
Designated Donations	37	258,692,568

Note 2: From the designated donations received, 225,952,568 yen and the amount 23,004,000 yen brought forward from fiscal 2010 were granted as subsidies to 21 programs (see "Designated Donations Programs" on the following page). The remaining 32,740,000 yen of the designated donations will be provided as subsidies to four programs in fiscal 2012.

Note 3: On an accumulated basis from the establishment of the Foundation in 1972 up to the end of fiscal 2011, general donations and designated donations received by the fund amounted to 2,476.32 million yen and 65,968.12 million yen, respectively.

List of Donors and Programs Implemented with Donations in Fiscal 2011

Corporate Members (As of the end of fiscal 2011; listed in Japanese alphabetical order)

[1] Special Members

Shochiku Co., Ltd. / Electric Power Development Co., Ltd. / Mizuho Bank, Ltd. / Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd.

[2] General Members

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Donors for Program Expenses (Listed in order of donations received)

Donations for the 54th International Art Exhibition, Venice Biennale program Sumiko Ito / One individual

Donations for Japanese-language education programs at the Japan-Hungary Cooperation Forum Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd.

Donations for Exchanging Packaging Design of Japanese-Korean Students Project Lotte Co., Ltd.

Private Endowment Providers (Listed in order of donations received)

Matsuo Doi / Hiroaki Mitsuhashi / One individual

Program Support by Private Endowments ("Special Benefaction," under which a benefactor who so desires may establish a special program with a name of the benefactor's choosing)

Name of Special Benefaction Program	Donor and Content of the Program
Uchida Fellowship	The benefactor is the late Mr. Genko Uchida. Young musicians are invited to Japan from the United States, Europe, and other regions, and given the chance to interact and work with Japanese musicians and others active in the field of music, including participation in joint performances or collaboration on joint works. One Fellow was invited from the United States in fiscal 2011.
Japanese Studies Fellowship Program offered by Takasago Thermal Engineering Co., Ltd.	The benefactor is Takasago Thermal Engineering Co., Ltd. In order to promote Japanese studies in Southeast Asia, this scholarship provides funds to allow young Southeast Asian researchers in the field of Japanese studies to visit Japan for research purposes. One fellow was invited from Vietnam in fiscal 2011.
Ken Watanabe Memorial Fund: Contribution of Books	The benefactor is Mr. Yukinobu Watanabe (father of Mr. Ken Watanabe, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs official who died in a traffic accident during training in the United States). Donation of Japanese studies books to the Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences, China. In fiscal 2011, a total of 230 books were donated.

Designated Donations Programs (Countries in parentheses represent the locations of the program implemented)

US-Japan Bridging Foundation Scholarship Program (U.S.)	New International Edition <i>Madama Butterfly</i> World Premiere (Italy)
US-Japan Research Institute (U.S.)	16th World Congress of the International Society for Criminology (Japan)
Intellectual Exchange between Columbia Law School and the Japanese Legal Profession (U.S.)	Public Events and Conferences Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the JACE (Japan Association for Cultural Economics) (Japan)
Fund Raising Project for Helping to Establish the "Ishikawa Memorial Fund for Comparative Japanese Law" (U.S.)	The Chamber Orchestra of Balkan's Performance in Vienna (Austria)
Nagashima Ohno and Tsunematsu Scholarship Fund, Columbia Law School (U.S.)	The World Festival of Children's Performing Arts in Toyama, 2012 (Japan)
Nagashima Ohno and Tsunematsu Program for Japanese Law and Culture at Duke Law School (U.S.)	Japan-Korea Exchange Festival Matsuri 2011 (Japan)
LSH Asia Scholarship (Japan)	Music from Japan Festival 2012 (U.S.)
Publication of JaH journal: Japanese as a Foreign Language in German-speaking Countries (Germany)	Shitennoji Wasso (Japan)
Japan Return Programme Nihongo Summit 2011 (Japan)	150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Germany: German-Japanese Friendship Award (Germany)
Project-Fund for Sprachzentrum für Japanisch e.V. (Germany)	Restoration of the Japanese Garden at Japan-British Exhibition 1910 (U.K.)
	Asian University for Women (Bangladesh)

Financial Statements

Budgets and Results / Balance Sheet / Profit and Loss Statement / Statement of Loss Appropriation

Budgets and Results [April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012]

[Unit: yen]

Item	Budget	Result
Revenues		
Government subsidies	11,470,757,000	11,470,757,000
Investment revenue	1,251,159,000	1,112,369,511
Donation revenue	795,925,000	274,042,568
Income from commissioned projects	447,704,000	1,956,761,935
Other revenue	875,825,000	857,078,992
Total	14,841,370,000	15,671,010,006

Expenditures	Operating expenses	15,991,510,000	14,992,823,431
	Arts and cultural exchange programs	2,631,894,000	2,644,223,536
	Japanese-language education programs	5,073,184,000	4,785,070,999
	Japanese studies and intellectual exchange programs	2,705,672,000	2,754,267,930
	Survey, research, and information service programs	952,112,000	724,206,240
	Cultural exchange programs for recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake	238,590,000	329,977,356
	Other programs	4,390,058,000	3,755,077,370
	General and administrative expenses	2,358,602,000	2,304,107,111
	Salaries and wages	1,584,773,000	1,531,343,071
	Supplies	773,829,000	772,764,040
Total		18,350,112,000	17,296,930,542

Note: In the Budgets and Results, salaries and wages for executives and regular employees of the Japan Foundation employed and working in Japan are all included under general and administrative expenses. In the Profit and Loss Statement, salaries and wages for executives and regular employees employed and working in Japan are included as expenses in the relevant area of operation, according to the nature of each position.

Balance Sheet [as of March 31, 2012]

[Unit: yen]

Assets	I. Current assets	Cash and deposits		6,683,021,551			
		Marketable securities		6,299,877,967			
		Prepaid expenses		54,634,131			
		Accrued income		215,080,327			
		Accounts receivable		311,779,023			
		Other current assets		8,345,808			
		Total current assets				13,572,738,807	
	II. Fixed assets	1. Tangible fixed assets	Buildings	13,172,050,615			
			Accumulated depreciation	△ 4,134,265,718	9,037,784,897		
			Structures	318,519,361			
			Accumulated depreciation	△ 190,042,452	128,476,909		
			Machinery and equipment	13,222,262			
			Accumulated depreciation	△ 7,569,477	5,652,785		
			Vehicles and transport equipment	132,126,496			
			Accumulated depreciation	△ 91,487,278	40,639,218		
			Tools, equipment and fixtures	1,211,670,301			
			Accumulated depreciation	△ 842,056,699	369,613,602		
			Art objects		473,513,676		
			Land		186,375,000		
			Construction in progress		23,239,700		
			Total tangible fixed assets			10,265,295,787	
		2. Intangible fixed assets	Land lease rights		3,959,000		
			Software		108,953,565		
			Telephone subscription rights		441,000		
			Total intangible fixed assets			113,353,565	
		3. Investments and other assets	Investment securities		50,825,148,091		
			Long-term time deposits		1,700,000,000		
			Deposits and bonds		795,432,813		
			Total investments and other assets			53,320,580,904	
			Total fixed assets				63,699,230,256
		Total assets				77,271,969,063	
		Liabilities	I. Current liabilities	Donations received		39,863,535	
				Amount in arrears		1,275,193,293	
				Accrued expenses		1,536,503	
				Advances received		2,115,447,615	
				Deposits payable		4,962,887	
				Lease liabilities		10,100,005	
				Exchange contracts		3,814,529	
				Allowances			
				Allowances for bonuses	13,478,080	13,478,080	
	Total current liabilities					3,464,396,447	
	II. Fixed liabilities			Asset counterpart liabilities			
			Government operational expense subsidies related to asset counterpart	1,284,321,032			
			Donations related to asset counterpart	1,717,766			
			Government operational expense subsidies related to construction in progress counterpart	23,239,700	1,309,278,498		
			Long-term lease liabilities		5,902,388		
			Asset retirement obligations		53,924,340		
Total fixed liabilities					1,369,105,226		
Total liabilities						4,833,501,673	
Net assets			I. Capital stock	Government investment		77,969,741,003	
				Total capital stock			77,969,741,003
			II. Capital surplus	Capital surplus		292,914,708	
	Accumulated depreciation not included in the profit and loss statement (△)			△ 4,533,767,575			
	Accumulated impairment losses not included in the profit and loss statement(△)	△ 126,000					
	Accumulated interest expense not included in the profit and loss statement(△)	△ 13,865,292					
	Endowments from private sector			906,952,787			
	Total capital surplus				△ 3,347,891,372		
	III. Net loss carried forward	Unappropriated loss for the term		△ 2,179,567,712			
		(of which: Gross loss for the term		256,103,499)			
		Total net loss carried forward			△ 2,179,567,712		
	IV. Valuation and translation adjustments	Deferred gains or losses on hedges		△ 3,814,529			
		Total valuation and translation adjustments			△ 3,814,529		
	Total net assets				72,438,467,390		
	Total liabilities and net assets				77,271,969,063		

Profit and Loss Statement [April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012]

[Unit: yen]

Ordinary expenses	Arts and cultural exchange programs		2,858,035,672	
	Japanese-language education programs		4,981,044,373	
	Japanese studies and intellectual exchange programs		2,961,250,666	
	Survey, research, and information service programs		801,023,016	
	Cultural exchange programs for recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake		329,977,356	
	Other programs	Overseas programs	3,574,025,559	
		Cooperation in cultural exchange facilities programs	255,663,620	3,829,689,179
	General and administrative expenses		1,269,282,859	
	Financial expenses		554,477	
	Miscellaneous income deductions		117,808,800	
Total ordinary expenses			17,148,666,398	
Ordinary income	Income from government subsidies		14,408,398,729	
	Income from investments		1,126,106,223	
	Income from commissioned projects		609,380,390	
	Income from donations	Income from donations	19,286,619	
		Income from designated donations	248,956,568	268,243,187
	Refund of counterpart liabilities	Refund of government operational expense subsidies related to asset counterpart	165,261,604	
		Refund of donations related to asset counterpart	1,289,256	166,550,860
	Financial income	Interest received	1,186,016	1,186,016
	Sundry income	Income from the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test	585,276,336	
		Other sundry income	237,407,995	822,684,331
Total ordinary income			17,402,549,736	
Ordinary loss				253,883,338
Extraordinary losses	Loss on disposal of fixed assets		114,631	
	Loss on Retirement of fixed assets		3,506,321	3,620,952
Extraordinary profits	Refund of government operational expense subsidies related to asset counterpart		4,179,414	
	Profits on sales of fixed assets		1,661,699	5,841,113
Net loss for the term				256,103,499
Gross loss for the term				256,103,499

Statement of Loss Appropriation [August 23, 2012]

[Unit: yen]

I. Unappropriated losses at the end of the term		2,179,567,712
Gross loss for the term		256,103,499
Deficit at the beginning of the term		2,435,671,211
II. Deficit carried over to the next term		2,179,567,712

Committees [Fiscal 2011]

(Listed in Japanese alphabetical order; Titles and affiliations are as of fiscal 2011);

The Advisory Committee on Performance Evaluation

Masao Katayama

Managing Director of the Saison Foundation

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Professor at the Department of Advanced Social and International Studies, University of Tokyo

Shuji Sota

Professor at the Faculty of Management, Atomi University

Shuji Takashina

Director, Ohara Museum of Art

Takahiko Tennichi

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Toru Haga

Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo

Reiko Hayama

Architect

The Japan Foundation has 22 offices in 21 countries. In close collaboration and cooperation with Japan's diplomatic missions, cultural exchange organizations, Japanese-language institutions and others, the Japan Foundation operates its activities worldwide.

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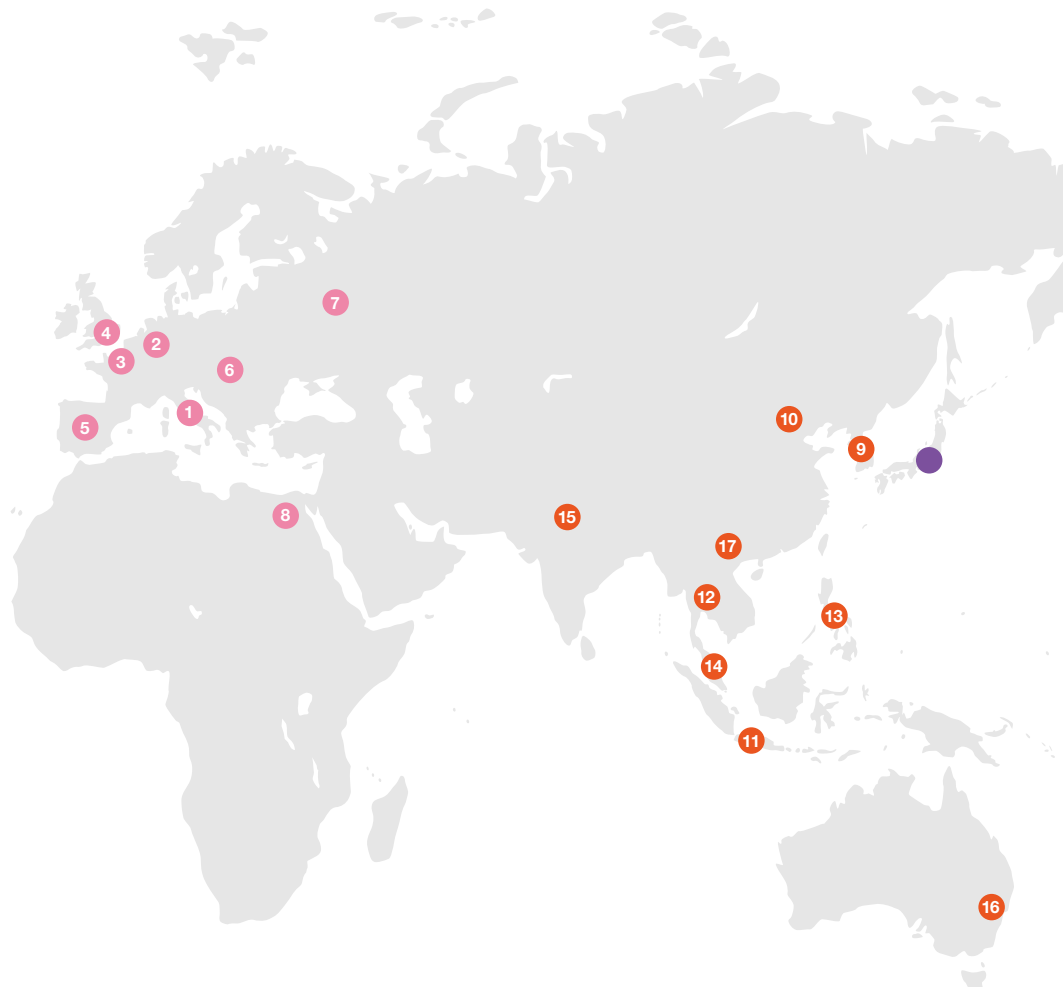
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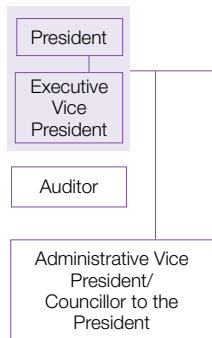
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Organization Chart

As of September 1, 2012

Headquarters	General Affairs Dept.	General Affairs Div. Information Systems Office Information Disclosure Office Personnel Div. Salary and Personnel Evaluation Office Planning and Evaluation Div.
	Financial Affairs Dept.	Budget and Finance Div. Budgetary Control Office Accounting and Contract Managing Div.
	Overseas Policy Planning Dept.	Overseas Liaison Div. Office for the Japanese Cultural Institute in Paris Overseas Program Coordination Div.
Arts and Culture Group		
	Arts and Culture Dept.	Planning and Coordination Section Americas Section Asia and Oceania Section Europe, Middle East and African Section Media and Communications Section
	China Center	
Japanese-Language Group		
	(Japanese-Language) Teachers and Institutional Support Dept.	Planning and Coordination Section Japanese-Language Course Section Sakura Network Section Administrative Section Teachers Training Section (Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa)
	(Japanese-Language) Learners' Support Dept.	EPA Training Section Research and Development Section (Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa) Educational Training Section (Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai) Test Operation Section (Center for Japanese-Language Testing) Test Development Section (Center for Japanese-Language Testing)
Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange Group		
	Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange Dept.	Planning and Coordination Section Americas Section Asia and Oceania Section Europe, Middle East and African Section
	Center for Global Partnership	
	Japan Foundation Information Center (JFIC)	
	Audit Bureau	
Affiliated Organizations		
	Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa	
	Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai	
Branch Office		
	Kyoto Office	
Overseas Offices		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Japan Cultural Institute in Rome ■ The Japan Cultural Institute in Cologne ■ The Japan Cultural Institute in Paris ■ The Japan Foundation, Seoul ■ The Japan Foundation, Beijing ■ The Japan Foundation, Jakarta ■ The Japan Foundation, Bangkok ■ The Japan Foundation, Manila ■ The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur ■ The Japan Foundation, New Delhi ■ The Japan Foundation, Sydney ■ The Japan Foundation, Toronto ■ The Japan Foundation, New York 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles ■ The Japan Foundation, Mexico ■ The Japan Foundation, Sao Paulo ■ The Japan Foundation, London ■ The Japan Foundation, Madrid ■ The Japan Foundation, Budapest ■ The Japanese Culture Department "Japan Foundation" of the All-Russia State Library for Foreign Literature (The Japan Foundation, Moscow) ■ The Japan Foundation, Cairo ■ The Japan Foundation Center for Cultural Exchange in Vietnam

Japan Foundation Online Information Sources

Website, E-mail Magazine

The official website of the Japan Foundation contains a variety of useful information including the Japan Foundation programs, upcoming events, program guidelines, useful materials for Japanese-language teachers, reports from past research projects, and links to overseas offices.

- Japan Foundation Official Website
→ <http://www.jpff.go.jp/e/>
- To subscribe the Japan Foundation E-mail Magazine
→ Japan Foundation Official Website → E-mail Magazine

Blog, Twitter, Facebook

- Japan Foundation Official Blog *Open the Earth*
→ <http://d.hatena.ne.jp/japanfoundation/>
- Twitter
→ @japanfoundation
- Facebook
→ <https://www.facebook.com/TheJapanfoundation>

Web-based Magazine

- *Wochi Kochi Magazine*
→ <http://www.wochikochi.jp/english/>

Websites on Specific Thema

- Artist-in-Residence programs in Japan *AIR_J*
→ <http://en.air-j.info/>
- *Performing Arts Network Japan*
→ <http://performingarts.jp/>
- *Japanese Book News*
→ Japan Foundation Official Website → Publications and Goods → Periodicals →
- Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)
→ <http://www.jlpt.jp/e/>
- *Japanese in Anime & Manga*
→ <http://www.anime-manga.jp/>
- *Minna no Kyozaï* (teaching materials)
→ <http://minnanokyozai.jp/kyozai/home/en/render.do>
- *NIHONGO de CARE-NAVI*
→ <http://eng.nihongodecarenavi.jp/eng/>
- *Sushi Test* (an online Japanese-language test)
→ <http://momo.jpf.go.jp/sushi/>
- *Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese.* on the Web
→ <https://www.erin.ne.jp/en/>

About the photographs on the cover and section title pages

The photographs were taken at the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Kansai, established in Osaka in May 1997 as the Foundation's second affiliated organization in order to respond to the growing number of Japanese-language learners. The institute, which marked its 15th anniversary in 2012, has provided Japanese-language training programs for a total of 7,200 learners, ranging from specialists, such as foreign-service officers, public officials, researchers, graduate students, librarians and curators, to high school and university students.



Front cover

Library where participants of training programs can access materials on Japanese culture and international exchange

p.9

Arts and Cultural Exchange

Foreign-made textiles adorning the entrance of the cafeteria

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Japanese-Language Education Overseas

Items brought by trainees from their countries

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Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange

Library shelves



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Appendix

View toward the entrance from the library/administration building

Photo: Tomoyasu Masuda

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