Three Main Activities

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

Japanese arts—fine art, music, theater, literature, and films—and everyday culture such as food and fashion inspire interest in Japan. They give insights into how Japanese people think and act, and communicate feelings and emotions without needing to understand Japanese. The Japan Foundation creates opportunities for encounters with Japanese art and culture, running programs for international contact between practitioners.

Japanese-Language Education Overseas
Increasing the number of people who speak Japanese increases the number of people who understand Japan

Students of Japanese gain understanding and appreciation of Japan in addition to knowledge of the language. The Japan Foundation encourages teaching of the Japanese language around the world, and ensures the quality of the education that students receive. Programs include organizing the JLPT, developing teaching materials, supporting new Japanese courses, and providing local and Japan-based training programs for Japanese-language teachers.

Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange
Combining a deeper understanding of Japan with an interest in learning about the world is key to resolving issues that we all share.

To encourage Japanese studies, the Japan Foundation supports institutions and academics around the world and assists networking. Top academics are introduced to Japan, giving the Japanese people access to world level knowledge and insights into global intellectual trends. This gives the international scholars a deeper understanding of Japan, fosters the development of shared perceptions, and facilitates discussion of shared issues.