

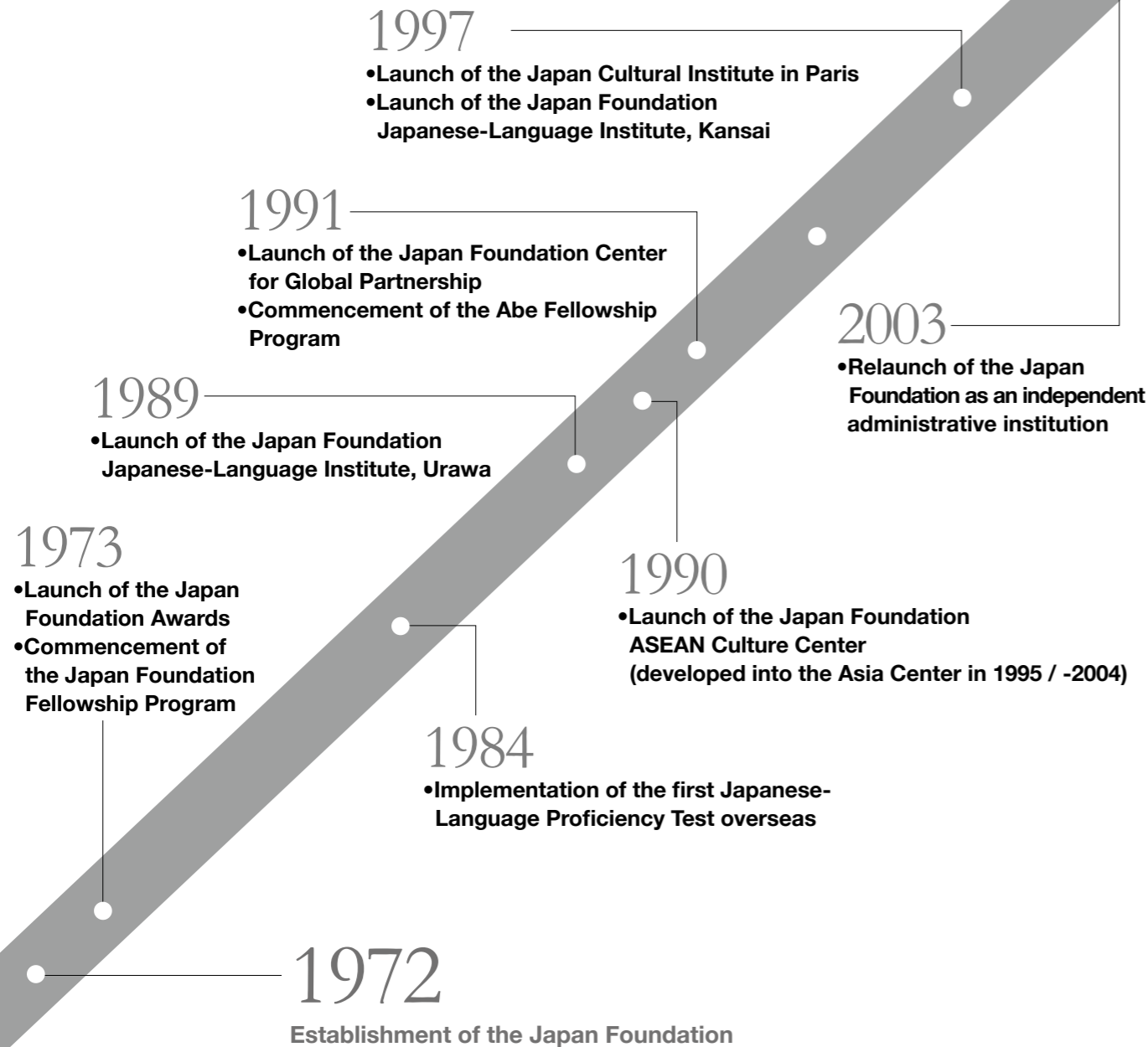
A Cultural Bridge between Japan and the World

About the Japan Foundation

The Japan Foundation was established in October 1972 as a special legal entity supervised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the objective of promoting international cultural exchange through a comprehensive range of programs in all regions of the world. In October 2003, it was reorganized as an independent administrative institution.

With a global network consisting of the Tokyo headquarters, the Kyoto Office, two 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 Japan Foundation operates programs in partnership with other organizations in and outside Japan, with a focus on three major fields: arts and cultural exchange, Japanese-language education overseas, and Japanese studies and intellectual exchange.

Based on a government endowment of 78 billion yen, the activities of the Japan Foundation are financed by annual government subsidies, investment revenue, and donations from the private sector. The number of executives and regular employees is 230 as of October 1, 2013.



2006

•Launch of the Japan Foundation China Center

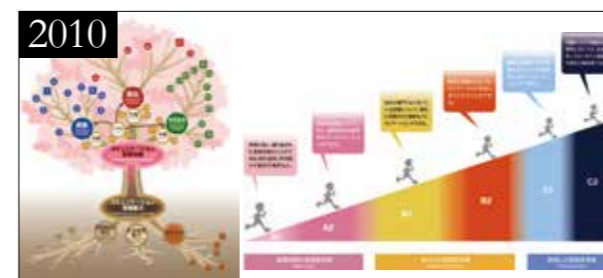
2012

Fortieth anniversary of the Japan Foundation

2010

•Release of "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education"

1973: European researchers gathered for the first time at the University of Oxford and established the European Association for Japanese Studies (EAJS)
1981: "The Great Japan Exhibition: Art of the Edo Period" was held as the main event of "Japan in London"
1997: Multi-language theater performance "Lear" was produced over a period of two years by staff and cast from six Asian countries
2010: "JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education" was released as a tool to help think about teaching, learning, and assessment in education



The Japan Foundation was established in compliance with the following legislation passed in 2002. The Independent Administrative Institution Japan Foundation Law, Article 3: "The purpose of the Japan Foundation Independent Administrative Institution 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."

The Japan Foundation's Three Fields of Activities

Arts and Cultural Exchange

The Japan Foundation organizes various programs to introduce the rich and diverse arts and culture of Japan to regions across the globe.

It engenders deep exchange by communicating the Japanese spirit to people in the world through arts and culture, and creating spaces for empathy beyond the barrier of language, and by providing opportunities to share the joy of creation.

Japanese-Language Education Overseas

To help people interested in Japan start and continue to learn Japanese, and also to make it easier to learn and teach the language, the Japan Foundation puts forward well-chosen infrastructure and environments for Japanese-language education.

In collaboration with governments, educational institutions, and organizations in other countries and regions, the Japan Foundation provides programs suitable for their own educational environments, language policies, and the purposes and interests of Japanese-language learners.

Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange

Programs in this field aim to encourage a greater understanding of Japan through supporting and promoting Japanese studies overseas. The Japan Foundation works to enhance Japan's presence in the international scene by creating opportunities for cross-cultural dialogue on critical global issues and shared concerns. It also administers programs designed to develop future leaders who will play important roles in international dialogue and cultural exchange.