In 1996, when Palau and Mie Prefecture signed a friendship agreement, then President of Palau presented a canoe, made by traditional method to Mie Prefecture as a symbol of their friendship. After 20 years, the canoe that regained the appearance of the time through repairs sailed along an ancient route from Miyazaki Prefecture to Mie Prefecture in two years. Because the canoe has a crescent moon pattern on its side, this voyage was named “Tsukuyomi Project” name taken from the moon god in Japanese mythology. In this article, we’ll introduce this project and friendship exchange between Mie Prefecture and Palau.
Let’s learn about partner country and region of Host Town through school lunch

In 2018, Shiga Prefecture and Michigan State celebrated their 50th anniversary of sister-state relationship, which was linked by their lakes. During the last 50 years, the Prefecture and the State developed their relationship in various fields such as people to people exchange, education, economy and lake-preservation cooperation. Toward next 50 years, they will promote further economic exchange through the prefecture’s local products and water environment cooperation with the common goal of lake-preservation in mind.

The exchange between Shiga and Michigan is not limited to the prefecture-state relationship; there are 13 sister city relationships, among them are Lansing-Otsu and Ann Arbor-Hikone, that also celebrate their 50th anniversary this year.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Kagoshima Prefecture held a Diplomats’ Study Tour to Kagoshima, titled ‘Go! Go! Kagoshima! WELLNESS TOUR’ from November 14 to 15. In this tour, diplomats visited historic facilities which show that Kagoshima Prefecture was one of the stages of the Meiji Industrial Revolution. Also they could deepen their understanding of how residents live together with active volcano by visiting industries that make use characteristics of nature as Mt. Sakurajima.

It is such an artistic and elegantly shining appearance that it never let people passing, who rush on and off the street in the corner of Ginza. This is IBARAKI sense, the antenna shop of Ibaraki prefecture that has just celebrated the 1st anniversary. Under the concept of “Ibaraki’s carefully selected items to the world", the store offers a variety of selected Ibaraki products and “tasteful” items. In order to convey the charm of Ibaraki, a treasury of food, this shop is equipped with a restaurant and a cafe, and also has a wide variety of PR food events.

Junior high school students enjoying Nepalese school lunch (Komagane City, Nagano Prefecture)

Students Serving Colombian meal (Kazo City, Saitama Prefecture)

Sengan-en

Aquaculture site of amber jack

Hitachi’s thick pork cutlet

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Antenna Shop

IBARAKI sense

IBARAKI sense

IBARAKI sense

IBARAKI sense

Calligraphy presentation by governors of Shiga Prefecture and Michigan State

50th anniversary Ceremony of Lansing-Otsu Sister City Relationship at Lansing City

50th anniversary Ceremony of Ann Arbor-Hikone Sister City Relationship at Hikone City