



Monthly Glocal News

January 2023

Local Partnership Cooperation Division

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Happy New Year



Diplomats' Study Tour in Fukushima Prefecture



Visiting the remains of the earthquake, "Ukedo Elementary School in Namie Town"



At The Great East Japan Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster Memorial Museum



At the reception with Governor UCHIBORI

On November 29 and 30, 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and Fukushima Prefecture conducted Diplomats' Study Tour under the theme of "Revitalization". 15 participants including Ambassadors and other representatives from 10 countries visited various sites and facilities, such as Ukedo Elementary School in Namie Town, The Great East Japan Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster Memorial Museum etc. It is expected that this tour has provided a good opportunity for the participants to deepen their understanding of Fukushima's challenges and attractiveness further expand the exchanges between the participants' countries and Fukushima.

For the future exchanges between Japan and Cote d'Ivoire (Nishiwaga Town, Iwate Prefecture and Cote d'Ivoire)



Visiting to Iwate Governor TASSO



Visiting Nishiwaga Town (with Mayor NAIKI and others in front of Fukazawa Masao Museum)



Japanese Ambassador's Cup "Judo" match in Cote d'Ivoire

Nishiwaga Town in Iwate Prefecture is the Host Town of Cote d'Ivoire. Mr. IKKATAI, Japanese Ambassador to Cote d'Ivoire, visited Iwate Prefecture in October 2022 and met with Governor TASSO, Mayor NAIKI of Nishiwaga, Ambassador WEYA of Cote d'Ivoire to Japan, and other people involved. Ambassador IKKATAI told that one of the important roles for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its diplomatic establishments abroad was to expand the bonds created on the occasion of the Tokyo 2020 Games in the future. The exchanges between 2 countries will further continue!

Connecting with the Other Side of the World!

~Beginning of Youth Exchange Program playing soccer~ (Chiba City and Asuncion City, Paraguay)



Visiting Chiba City Folk Museum (Chiba Castle)



Experience of calligraphy at the School in Chiba



Teaching soccer to Youth Soccer Teams in Chiba by the workshop Instructors

Chiba City has had a Sister City relation with Asuncion, Republic of Paraguay since 1970, and on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the relationship in April 2019, Chiba City decided to start a youth exchange program through soccer in order to further develop exchange in sports and culture. The exchange between the youth of the two cities seems to have raised their awareness of multicultural society. Chiba City is going to continue the exchange program with Asuncion City in the future.

The events of promoting attractiveness of Fukushima Prefecture and Motomiya City (Embassy of Japan in the U.K.)



During the reception



Visiting the Metropolitan
Borough of Kensington



Donation of a garden bench at the ceremony
at the Fukushima Garden

"Thank you from Fukushima" reception was held by the Embassy of Japan in the U.K. with Fukushima Prefecture and Motomiya City on September 7, 2022, and over 200 people attended. This reception, together with the 10th Anniversary ceremony of the opening of the Fukushima Garden in London, provided a special opportunity to promote the revitalization of Fukushima from the Great East Japan Earthquake and its charms such as local food and sake. The Embassy will continue to cooperate with local governments, including Fukushima Prefecture, to further promote the attractiveness of Japan.

Kendama: Communication Tool to Connect the World



Playing with a Kendama



Kendama Class
in Nagai City



At "Kendama Hiroba SPIKe"

In 2021, Mr. Shelby Brown from Arkansas, the United States, moved to Nagai City, a town famous for Kendama (a traditional Japanese toy) in Yamagata Prefecture, because he was fascinated by Kendama, which he saw by chance in Japan. As the manager of "Kendama Hiroba SPIKe," a Kendama experience facility in Nagai City, he has involved in the revitalization of the city through various initiatives, such as holding Kendama classes and promoting the attractiveness of Kendama. He hopes to continue his activities and make Nagai City lively by introducing the attractive information to the public including foreign tourist.

★What happened after that~Diplomats' Study Tour in Shiga Prefecture (Nov.10,11,2022)~

Shigaraki Tanuki(*raccoon) Potteries made by diplomats participating in the Diplomats Study Tour held in November with Shigaraki High School students were finally ready to send to each diplomats as a symbol of friendship 😊

