



Monthly Glocal News

August 2023

Local Partnership Cooperation Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan



The "Most Beautiful Village" Movement Spreading Around the World ("Japan's Most Beautiful Villages Alliance")



Tea picking experience in Wazuka Town



Group photo with the boathouse in the background, Ine Town

The "Japan's Most Beautiful Villages" Alliance was launched in October 2005 in Biei Town, Hokkaido, following the examples of similar overseas activities. The "World's Most Beautiful Villages Alliance" holds an annual general meeting on a rotating basis, and the second general meeting was held in Ine Town, Kyoto Prefecture from May 23 to 26, 2023. This report provides an overview of the meeting and its future prospects.

Washinomiya Area in Kuki City collaborates with animation "Lucky Star" to promote the city.



In front of Washinomiya Shrine appeared in the anime "Lucky Star"



Mobile strap of the anime



"Lucky Star" festival at the "Japan Day" of Shanghai Expo

Washinomiya Area in Kuki City, Saitama Prefecture has attracted anime fans since the area appeared in an animation program "Lucky Star." Local stores sell goods related to this animation and anime fans participate in related local festivals.

Half-century of ties between Hyogo Prefecture and the State of Paraná, Brazil formed by Japanese emigrants



Monument in the shape of the Cathedral of Maringá in front of Kakogawa Station and ipe tree



The Exhibition by Hyogo Prefecture and the participants at the Japan Festival



The commemorative publication issued to celebrate 50th anniversary of the Sister City Agreement between Hyogo Prefecture and the State of Paraná.

The Sister City relationship between Hyogo Prefecture and the State of Paraná, Brazil celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2020. In April, 2022, Consul General Hamada of Japan in Curitiba visited Hyogo Prefecture, the Hyogo International Association, Kakogawa City and Himeji City, etc. to exchange views on the future of Sister City exchanges.

The world's newest model for people-centered streets



Signing ceremony between former Mayor Yoshimura
and former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel



In front of Chicago City Monument



Sister Street Cooperation Tri-City Meeting

Osaka City has been promoting exchange and cooperation with Melbourne, which celebrated the 40th anniversary of its Sister City relationship in March 2018, and with Chicago, which celebrated the 45th anniversary of its Sister City relationship in June of the same year, by signing Sister Street agreements.

Thank you from Fukushima Reception ~ Communicating the "present" of Fukushima through food, sightseeing, and local products (Embassy of Japan in Germany)



Presentation by Governor Uchibori of Fukushima Prefecture



Scene at the reception



Sake, panels, exhibitions, and souvenirs

On the occasion of the visit of Governor Uchibori of Fukushima Prefecture to Germany, the Embassy of Japan in Germany co-hosted a Reception "Thank you from Fukushima Reception" with Fukushima Prefecture. The reception provided a presentation by Governor Uchibori, and local dishes as well as souvenirs from Fukushima Prefecture. It was a valuable opportunity to express gratitude from Fukushima for the solidarity and support extended by Germany in various ways in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, and to promote the current situation of reconstruction and the attractiveness of Fukushima Prefecture.

