

The 50th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation Partnership to Co-create a Future with the Next Generation: WA Project 2.0

Press Secretary / Director-General for Press and Public Diplomacy, MOFA

- On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation (2023), the Government of Japan launched a comprehensive people-to-people exchange initiative as a Japan Foundation project that will benefit more than 10 million people, especially the next-generation leaders of Japan and ASEAN, and will implement this initiative intensively over the next 10 years.
- Through this two-pillar project ("Two-way Intellectual and Cultural Exchange" and "NIHONGO Partners"), the Government of Japan will strengthen "investment in people" in both Japan and ASEAN, which are "heart to heart" partners, and develop human resources to co-create the future of Japan and ASEAN.
- The project aims to achieve the following:
- Build a strong relationship of trust between ASEAN and Japan for the future. Promote two-way exchanges and strengthen multi-faceted human networks.
- Address together global challenges, such as climate change and disaster prevention.
- Nurture the next generation to serve as a bridge between ASEAN and Japan.
- Contribute to the further development of a multicultural society.

Two-way Intellectual and **Cultural Exchange**

- ✓ Promotion of intellectual dialogue and support for collaborative research on a variety of topics
- ✓ Invitation and exchanges of primary and secondary school teachers
- ✓ Human networking and collaborative projects in the fields of art, theater, music, audiovisual contents (including co-

produced film screenings), sports, etc.



Exchange at Sanriku International Art Festival

NIHONGO Partners

- Dispatch of "NIHONGO Partners" to support Japanese language classes and introduce Japanese culture
- Training in Japan for teachers and students from the NIHONGO Partners' host schools
- ✓ Support for the activities of



A NIHONGO Partner with students

NIHONGO Partners who have returned to Japan