

Monthly Glocal News

March 2024

Local Partnership Cooperation Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Reception co-hosted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan and the Governor of Niigata Prefecture “Niigata, the Treasure Box of Japan”



Opening remarks by Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA



Photo of Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA with Minister MORIYAMA of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Governor HANAZUMI of Niigata Prefecture and Mayor WATANABE of Sado City



Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA visited a booth of local products of Niigata Prefecture with Governor HANAZUMI of Niigata Prefecture

On January 23, a reception co-hosted by Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA and Governor HANAZUMI of Niigata Prefecture was held at Iikura House, inviting diplomatic corps to Japan and other guests. The reception featured booths introducing Niigata Prefecture's food, local sake, traditional crafts and tourism including Sado Island, as well as the "Ondeiko", drum performance of Sado island to promote the diverse attractions of Niigata Prefecture.

Diplomat's Study Tour in Nara Prefecture and Sakai City



Dinner hosted by the Governor of Nara Prefecture



Lunch hosted by the Mayor of Sakai City



Visit to some facilities in Nara Prefecture and Sakai City

On January 30 and 31, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan conducted Diplomat's Study Tour in Nara Prefecture and Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture together with the Union of Kansai Governments with the participation of 15 ambassadors and others from 10 countries. Under the theme of “KANSAI Tour Featuring Gastronomy, History, and Culture”, the participants were introduced to the diverse charms of Nara Prefecture and Sakai City, including their history, culture, food, industry, tourism, and local products from the perspective of promoting the attractiveness of Kansai area, which will host the EXPO 2025.

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Kobe-Barcelona Sister City Exchange!



Promotion of Sake made in Kobe and Kobe Beef in Barcelona



Smart City Expo World Congress held in Barcelona

In November 2023, Kobe City held the “Smart City Expo World Congress” in Barcelona to commemorate the 30th anniversary of its Sister City relationship between Kobe and Barcelona. For this event, a delegation from Kobe City and the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research of Japan visited Barcelona to introduce local delicacies of Kobe and to confirm the relationship between the two cities, which share similarities in the field of technology.

Yamagata craft fair held in Hong Kong as a new effort to inherit the skills of traditional crafts



Yamagata's traditional crafts at the department store in Hong Kong



Group photo of participants in the Tea Ceremony



The photo exhibition of Yamagata's scenic spots
in the "monmaya" shop

Monmaya, manufacturer of traditional craft "Sendai cabinet", held "Yamagata craft fair" at the department store and branch shop in Hong Kong to introduce and sell Yamagata's traditional crafts in collaboration with Yamagata Prefecture. Also, the company promoted Yamagata's traditional crafts to Hong Kong people through the tea ceremony featuring Yamagata's tea utensils and Chinese tea.

Exchanges between Japan and Sweden in Uddevalla City: Perspectives of high school students



With students learning Japanese after the lecture by Ambassador NOKE
at Uddevalla High School



Lucia Concerts in the Church in Uddevalla City



With the mayor of Uddevalla City, in front of the stone lantern
'Lights of Friendship'

From 13 to 14 December 2023, Ambassador NOKE of Japan to Sweden, visited Uddevalla City. The exchange between Uddevalla and Okazaki, Aichi Prefecture, began in 1968 with the establishment of a Sister City relationship due to the granite produced in both cities. Since then, the two cities have interacted for more than half a century. Ambassador NOKE gave a lecture on Japan to the students of Uddevalla High School, a key player in the exchange.

