

HIA is promoting *disaster prevention* activities!

In recent years, as the number of foreigners living in Hyogo Prefecture has increased, learning how to live with them at evacuation centers in the event of a disaster has become a hot topic. HIA is always thinking about ways to solve this problem, and is preparing for disasters in cooperation with local governments and international exchange organizations in the prefecture.



Disaster preparedness and emergency drills were held in Taka Town

On July 3, 2022, a disaster prevention and emergency drill event for foreign residents was held in Taka Town. It was the first time that Hyogo Prefecture and towns (local governments) in the prefecture collaborated to hold a disaster prevention event. About 30 residents from five countries, Vietnam, China, Philippines, Myanmar and Indonesia, participated in the event.

The first part of the event consisted of a lecture on disasters by Taka Town officials, and the second part consisted of evacuation training and experience of living in an evacuation center. The participants learned the importance of preparing for disasters during normal times so that Japanese and foreign residents can help each other and overcome tough situations together when a disaster strikes.



2

Shakeout training assuming a maximum seismic intensity of 6



"Stay low, protect your head, and stay still until the shaking stops."

3

Checking the body temperature and physical condition before entering the evacuation center



Lecture on disasters (heavy rain, typhoons, earthquakes) and introduction of the hazard map of Taka Town

Project to assist foreigners in the event of a disaster

Subsidies are provided to disaster prevention projects organized by local international associations in Hyogo prefecture and the government. The purpose of these projects is to strengthen preparedness for disasters by enabling foreign residents who need assistance in times of disaster and their supporters to be able to respond to disasters. Since the project started in 2019, a total of 5 projects have been subsidized, including disaster drills, training seminars for foreign supporters in times of disaster, and creation of multilingual support tools for evacuation centers.

Participants filled in the evacuation card at the reception area, and divided into groups and moved to the evacuation space

We communicated the rules of the shelter by using the multilingual board and pictogram

Please take off your shoes

I'm not feeling well...

Should I call a nurse?

Using the translation point cards, we practiced communicating problems and requests to the shelter staff.

We asked foreign participants!

Q How was using the translation point cards?

Illustrations are depicted on the cards, so it's useful when we can't express by words well. It's useful to get information in my own language at the time of a disaster.

Q Tell us your impressions of the emergency training

I was able to visualize and think about the situation when an earthquake occurred such as "running out of electricity is scary" and "I wonder if I can contact my family?"

Q Do you have anything you want to share with the Japanese people?

At the shelter, I'm glad they asked me in simple Japanese, which I can answer with "Yes or no" such as "Do you want to go to the bathroom?" For foreigners who are not good at Japanese, it takes courage to ask for help on their own.

From Vietnam
Do Cao Thang

From Myanmar
Phyo Phyo Myat

From Vietnam
Duong Vu Toan

Introduction of useful tools during a disaster!

1 Translation point cards

For people having difficulty of communication in Japanese, the pointing board enable both shelter operators and foreigners affected by the disaster to communicate easily.



For details, go to our association website

2 Evacuation cards

By getting evacuees to fill in the card, such as information about the presence or absence of chronic disease and dietary restrictions, they can tell the shelter staff their body condition or things they can't eat.

3 Multilingual board

The board displays a description of facilities and equipment within the shelter in multiple languages. Shelter staff should be aware of the kind of people who live in that region and choose the appropriate languages.



For more details of 2&3, please go to Council of Local Authorities Relations for International website



Participants searched for nearby shelters on the hazard flood map

Case study November 20, 2021 "Exchange meeting to discuss about disaster prevention"

Itami UNESCO Association, whose main activities include holding Japanese language class and charity concerts, held an exchange meeting for foreigners and Japanese on the theme of disaster prevention in collaboration with Itami City. The 37 participants learned from the lecturer (Mr. Ryoji Miyazaki, representative of Itami Life Keeper) how disasters occur in Japan, how to find information when a disaster occurs, and disaster prevention items that should be prepared in advanced. Following that, they divided the participants into groups and deepened their understanding through discussions. Some people from China and Vietnam learned the concept of an earthquake for the first time, so this event was a valuable opportunity to learn how to prepare for disasters.

We introduce a seminar on international cooperation about Egypt, a food culture exchange class where students learn about Italian home cooking "Pasta fredda" (cold pasta). Also, we introduce our new Coordinator of International Relations, Ko Eunbyeol.



We held an online seminar "Let's Go! To another side of The Grand Egyptian Museum!"

An international cooperation seminar for beginners was held online on January 20th under the theme of Egypt, co-hosted by JICA (an independent administrative corporation) and 5 other groups, with 324 people taking part in the seminar.

In the first session, through a live broadcast from Egypt, with special permission we introduced an unseen side of "The Grand Egyptian Museum" that will be opened soon. In addition to the stories told by people living there, the view of Giza's 3 Great Pyramids provided a very special experience like being there in real time.

In the second session they explained the technical assistant project to The Grand Egyptian Museum provided by JICA. In addition, technical and professional staffs who was involved in that project explained the existing problems of protecting precious artifacts, that is, the activities of conservation and restoration of those artifacts, and also about the destruction of those artifacts due to political and religious reasons in Egypt.

We learned that cultural technical assistance can lead to building good relationships between two countries and what's more, it was a very important opportunity for Japan to come into contact with precious cultural property. It was a very beneficial experience for both countries.



Live broadcast from the rooftop with views of the Pyramids

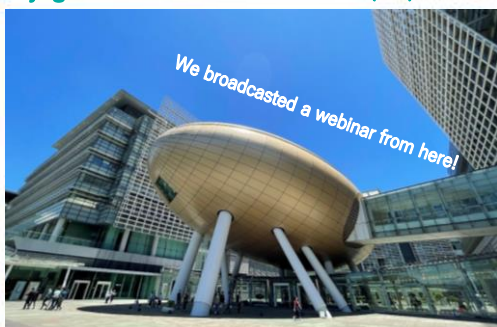


Sneak peek of the Grand Egyptian Museum

Report from overseas office

Connecting Hyogo, Asia, and beyond through Hong Kong!!

Hyogo Business & Tourism Center(HK)



Tech-oriented startup companies gather at Hong Kong Science Park



Tourism promotion at the Japan booth at the Hong Kong Book Fair (one of the biggest events in Hong Kong with 870,000 visitors in July 2022)

On July 5th, we held a webinar about the developing startup ecosystem in Hong Kong. One of the participants questioned, "What is the selling point for the company in terms of expanding its business in Hong Kong?" We answered, "As far as I know, there is no sense of being away from home as a Japanese company." Recently, thanks to the strong support of repeat customers visiting to Japan, we can see that companies are showing their power and accelerating their business deployment.

Turning our eyes to the ASEAN market, we can find different supporters such as former international students from Japan. The government-financed program for foreign students from mainly Southeast Asia started in 1954 and after that the number of privately financed students has been increasing. In 1977, former international students from ASEAN countries established ASCOJA(ASEAN Council of Japan Alumni). In 2018, we participated in the Annual meeting of ASCOJA which was held in Cambodia and remembered that we were encouraged by many former international students from Japan (who took up important positions at the government or companies in ASEAN countries) because "They want to support activities of Japanese companies in order to increase the presence of their second home "Japan".

Our office based in Hong Kong which is responsible for the Asian market will try to promote economic exchange and tourism by making use of our network of Japanese supporters here.
(Written by Director Kimio Yamatani)

Kimio Yamatani took office
as the Director in April 2022

With our colleagues. We welcomed our summer intern university students. (center)



In Yamada town, the countryside in the eastern part of Himeji city, Claudia Ogawa, who came from Florence, runs an Italian restaurant with her husband. She taught us how to make "pasta fredda (cold pasta)" which really suits a hot summer day.



"I hope everyone can enjoy authentic flavors", she said. She developed fresh pasta made with home-grown rice through a trial and error process with her husband and father who had arrived from Italy, which shows she loves pasta more than others. This time she used seashell-shaped fresh pasta conchiglie, which is one of "Kakogawa pasta" made with local wheat.

You can enjoy the cooking video of "pasta fredda" and the interview article on the web site, which is full of interesting information on Italian food culture and why Ms. Ogawa came to Japan. Don't miss it!



Claudia Ogawa

Buon
appetito!

The interview and the
cooking video is here



Try Italian mamma's recipe ♪



Ko Eunbyeol

여러분 잘 부탁드립니다!
(Hello, everybody.
Nice to meet you.)

An-nyeong-ha-se-yo!

My name is Ko Eunbyeol. I have worked as a Coordinator for International Relations in Hyogo since April 2022.

When I was in my third year of university, I lived in Osaka for a year as a part of an exchange program. This is the second time that I live in Kansai. My hometown, South Gyeongsang in South Korea, formed a friendship city agreement with Hyogo in 2012. The city atmosphere and the language intonation are similar to that in Kansai.

As a CIR, I promote both Korea and Japan tourism and every Wednesday I teach Korean with government staff. I love this job, because we can learn both Japanese and Korean whilst helping each other. Korean has the same word order with Japanese and it's easy for Japanese people to learn. If you are interested, why don't you try learning Korean as well?

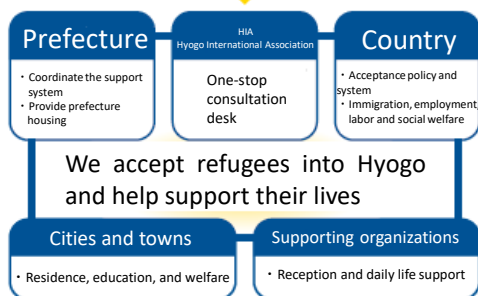


A summer treat in South Gyeongsang "kongguksu (soy milk noodle soup)"

Support for Ukraine Refugees by HIA

Hyogo is supporting Ukraine Refugees through its "Hyogo-Ukraine support project". Hyogo provides a one-stop consultation service through the cooperation with supporters, cities, towns and support organizations.

Ukraine Refugees



1 Inquiry counter for Ukraine Refugees

There is an inquiry counter at the information center for foreign residents in Hyogo.

2 Providing grants to support their daily expenses

HIA coordinates the grant payments.

※Hyogo accepts "Furusato Nouzei" (hometown tax) donations. Please make a contribution to it.

To contribute, follow the web site provided below.



Furusato choice

Rakuten
furusato nouzei

3 Support web site for Ukraine Refugees in Hyogo

Prefecture, cities, towns and private corporations launched the dedicated website about daily life and employment for the Ukraine Refugees in Hyogo.

Support web site is here



4 Japanese language support

HIA offers Japanese classes in person and on-line

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HIA Website:

<http://www.hyogo-ip.or.jp/>

SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to thank the following HIA Volunteer Translators for their assistance with this volume's publication; we would not have been able to produce it without their help.

**Ms. Yuki Tatsumi, Mr. Ryota Kikuchi,
Mr. Ryosuke Tomojiri, Ms. Chie Mouri**