

## HIA contributes to the achievement of the **SDGs** !

HIA is engaged in a variety of international exchange activities centered on the themes of "Creating a Multicultural Society," "Promoting International Exchange" and "Developing Human Resources." These activities are actually closely related to the SDGs and align with many of the 17 goals. Let's think about which goals of the SDGs your international exchange activities contribute to, and what you can do to achieve the SDGs from today?



What are the SDGs?

SDGs "Sustainable Development Goals" are international development goals we aim to achieve by 2030 and were adopted at the United Nations Summit in September 2015. By achieving 17 goals and 169 targets, we will work toward the realization of sustainable, diverse and inclusive societies that leave no one behind.

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



What SDGs are related to international exchange?

Hyogo Prefecture is engaged in international exchange activities with the aim of "creating a highly inclusive multicultural society in which local residents are connected and active together by utilizing global diversity for regional development" in accordance with the "Hyogo Multicultural Society Promotion Guidelines (revised in March 2021)" and the principles of the SDGs.



The SDGs are a goalpost for us!



What can we do to help?

- Learn another foreign language
- Deepen cross-cultural understanding by participating in international exchange events
- Convey school and workplace rules to foreigners in simple Japanese
- If you see a foreigner in need, speak to them
- Take an "Easy Japanese Course"
- Pay attention to the world news and think about it
- Make foreign friends
- Participate in opportunities to learn about Japanese and Japanese cultures

There are so many things we can do around us!



# HIA's activities & SDGs

## Creating a Multicultural Society

### Holding Japanese classes



### Support for foreigners during times of natural disasters



### Support for Ukraine refugees



### Management of the Information Center for Foreign Residents in Hyogo (Hyogo Multicultural Counseling Center)



## Promoting International Exchange

### Building an international exchange network group (Hyogo Consortium of International Associations)



### Hyogo International Exchange Caravan Project



When there is a request from an organization of Hyogo Consortium of International Associations, Hyogo Prefecture's Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) will hold an event together with that organization to promote cultural exchange.

## Developing Human Resources

### Conducting international exchange seminars



E.g. October 25, 2022  
"SDGs & International exchange" Seminar

After an overview of the SDGs by Professor Ayako Takahashi of University of Hyogo, Ms. Yuna Kishida, a third-year student at University of Hyogo Faculty of Human Science and the representative of CHISE (a student international cooperation organization), gave a presentation on educational support activities for children in Laos.

### Promoting the attraction of educational trips to Japan • supporting school exchange



### Hosting overseas trainees



Research being done about the Japanese Zen Garden

### Holding international exchange special exhibition



At Hyogo International Plaza Exchange Gallery, special exhibitions relating to international exchange are held from time to time. Please feel free to drop by!

Information on HIA events and gallery openings is distributed via e-mail newsletter and Facebook (Please see back cover)  
Let's get involved!!



## A window into Multiculturalism



Reports on the Australia Multicultural Coexistence Policy Exchange Program that HIA staff member Ms. Maeno participated in last autumn, and on the Ukrainian refugee support project implemented by HIA.

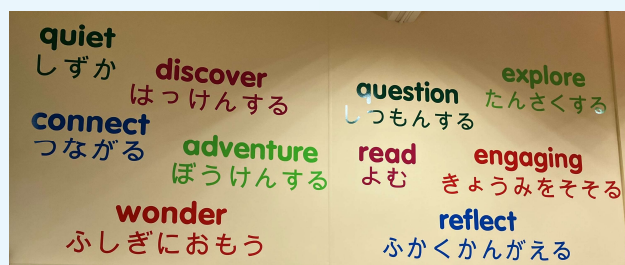


### What I Learned About Multiculturalism in Australia

In mid-November 2022, I participated in the Australian Multiculturalism Policy Exchange Program hosted by the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations. I visited government agencies, schools, and NPOs in Melbourne to investigate various efforts to support a multicultural society. This time, I would like to introduce the places I visited that left a particularly strong impression on me.

## ① Caulfield Primary school

This school is a public elementary school that provides bilingual education in Japanese and English. Thorough bilingual education is provided, for example, only Japanese can be used in mathematics classes. Even if a student speaks in a language other than Japanese during class, the teacher will only reply in Japanese. Although it is very difficult depending on the level of language skills of each child, this initiative ensures sufficient opportunities to use English and Japanese. I felt that this initiative provides a high-level quality of education.



An environment where Japanese is easily picked up  
(A picture of the wall of the classroom)

## ② AMES (Adult Multicultural Education Services)

AMES is an organization that provides basic support for immigrants and refugees, conducts projects such as English education, employment and housing. The aim is to help immigrants and refugees adjust to life in Australia as quickly as possible, and ultimately to create a society in which they can continue to live in Australia long term.



Mr. Peter, AMES General Manager (4th person from the right in the first row)  
Ms. Maeno (Right end of the second row)

## Support for Ukrainian Refugees

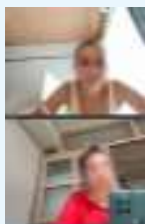
### Providing opportunities to learn Japanese language and training for the local communities



Hyogo has been providing various support for Ukrainians who have escaped from the war, for example, a Japanese language course offered by HIA. Refugees living in Kobe are primarily supported by Kobe City while HIA is in charge of refugees living outside of Kobe in terms of Japanese learning support. Since the refugees living outside of Kobe are scattered, we are conducting online courses connecting refugees in various regions with the hope that the course will create a comfortable place for all the refugees living in Hyogo. Through the language courses, students are prioritized to learn necessary words and expressions for daily life, and gradually gaining the ability to do more things such as

shopping, going out, and riding trains and busses by themselves. The end goal is for them to be able to interact with locals by using Japanese they have learned and to connect with their local community so that they can live safely and comfortably. Also, we held three training sessions with guest speakers who have experience in refugees support. Through these sessions, residents learned about the considerations and basic knowledge and information necessary when providing support to the refugees. In this way, HIA aims to deepen mutual understanding between the local community and Ukrainian refugees and create a comfortable living space for both.

Ukrainian residents who have been living in Hyogo for a long time and those who came to Japan as exchange students also joined us to provide various support, such as classroom assistance and document translation.



It seems like students are gradually gaining things they can do on their own in daily life by studying Japanese.

Ms. Olga Kanda  
Ukrainian language support assistant

### Training session on supporting Ukrainian refugees Learning from people with backgrounds in refugee support

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> session | <p>"Accepting refugees in Japan"<br/>Mr. Shuichi Nakao (Foundation for the Welfare and Education of the Asian People, Kansai Branch of the Refugee Assistance Headquarters)</p> <p>"From the field of local resettlement support for third-country refugees."<br/>Mr. Takayuki Oishi (Kobe Foreigner Friendship Center)</p> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> session | <p>"Considering acceptance of refugees in local communities" - Ms. Mieko Ishikawa (International Social Service JAPAN)</p>  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> session | <p>"Aiming to provide support tailored to each phase"<br/>Ms. Mieko Ishikawa (International Social Service JAPAN)</p>   |





## 2022 Hyogo EU Seminar "France Consul General in Kyoto"

On December 6, the Consul General of France stationed in Kyoto, Jules Irrmann, head of the Kansai Consular Corps, was invited to Hyogo Prefecture to visit Nadagogo, an area in Nada where lots of Sake breweries are located. They held a seminar at Kobe Shushinkan, a sake brewery that produces a popular sake "Fukujyu" which means happy longevity. 69 people participated in the seminar.

In the first half of the event, Consul General Irrmann gave a lecture on culture, history, thought, education, and economic information under the theme of "Surprising things you didn't know about France!". Consul General Irrmann also answered questions from the participants (about exchanges between Hyogo Prefecture and France, the Paris 2024 Summer Olympics, etc.) In the last half of the event, a social gathering was held with the Consul General while enjoying kaiseki cuisine and sake at the restaurant located at Kobe Shushinkan. During the dinner, we also introduced a family photo of the French Consul to Kobe and Osaka, Piere de Lucy Fossarieu, who came to Kobe in 1889.



Photo(Lecture by Consul General Irrmann)

This was the first time in three years that the event was being held in person, and some participants said, "I'm happy to be able to interact face-face." In addition, other participants commented as "It was interesting to feel the atmosphere of France firsthand" and "I became more interested in France by learning about France from various different perspectives"



Photo(Commemorative photo with all participants)



Photo(Mascots of the Olympic and Paralympic Games)



## Getting to know Hainan, China "Hyogo Hainan International Exchange Salon"

On 23 November, we jointly held "Hyogo Hainan International Exchange Salon", a salon introducing Hainan, China which is in a friendly city partnership with Hyogo. In this Exchange Salon we connected with the locals online. Firstly, we heard from Zeng Xiaoming, Deputy Director of the Foreign Affairs Office of Hainan Province, about the overview of Hainan Province, their exchanges with Hyogo Prefecture. and then we watched a video that introduced the climate, natural features and tourist spots of various parts of Hainan Province.

After that, Yue Hayashi, who lives in Hainan Island and is the chairman of the Japanese Association, guided us through a live broadcast to popular sightseeing spots in Haikou City, "Qilou Old Street", where nostalgic Nanyang-style buildings remain and the place "Dongmen Market" where citizens live. Wang Qiusheng, the facilitator of the Salon and staff of Hyogo Prefectural International Relations and Hainan native, introduced basic

information about Hainan, as well as interesting and distinctive culture such as fruits, dishes, and nap habits. The Salon was a great success!

Here's Qilou Old Street!



Hayashi-san introducing the local scene



(Wang serving as the facilitator/presenter)



## Welcome our new CIR! A new Coordinator for International Relations has arrived

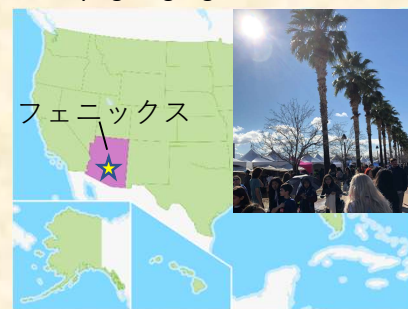
Salutations!!

My name is Qin Sheng and I come from Arizona, USA, where it is warm all year round. I have been working as a Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) since July 2022. I studied psychology and business management at university.

After that, I went to graduate school of law. After graduating, I worked as a lawyer in Arizona taking criminal law and child custody cases. My hobby is playing piano, studying languages, and I can

speak English, Japanese, Chinese, Cantonese, and Spanish. I am also studying Korean and French now.

I enjoy being a CIR because I am able to gain new perspectives through the responsibilities and challenges of the job. I want to connect Worlds with Words.



In Phoenix, Arizona, it can get so hot, up to 50 degrees, that you can crack an egg on the ground and cook it!

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