

2012
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SEKAI WA HITOTSU

● Cover Story

Stimulating regional internationalisation seminar 2012 Cooperation and coordination in a multicultural society



▲Panel discussion

Here at the GIC we respect the culture and ways of thinking of both Japanese and foreign residents, and are striving to create a region where people can live together with peace of mind. Coordination and cooperation between government, communities, NPOs, and any other instrumental groups is necessary to achieve this goal.

The seminar was held in Gifu City on 26 November with the cooperation of the Council for Local Authorities and International Relations (CLAIR) and the Resource Center for Multicultural Community Tokai. The purpose of this seminar was to reflect upon success stories and important issues for the Tokai region, and to define how cooperation and coordination should work in the future.

Participants listened intently to the keynote speech delivered by Professor Ikegami from Shizuoka University of Art and Culture, and to a panel discussion of four specialists who spoke about the importance of cooperation and coordination, introduced successful examples of pioneering projects, and shared suggestions. There was also some lively opinion exchange between the lecturers, exhibitors and participants. Following is an introduction of the main topics of discussion.

- **Keynote Speech:** Cooperation and coordination in a multicultural society
Shizuoka University of Art and Culture Professor Shigehiro Ikegami

- **Panel Discussion:** Cooperating across different issues

Coordinator: Resource Center for Multicultural Community Tokai

Panel: *Child rearing and education* Kani Multicultural Center

Employment Hamamatsu Global Human Resources Support

Japanese language education Toyota City International Affairs Division

Lifestyle consulting Aidensha (Suzuka City)

Yoshihiko Doi
Mayumi Kakamu
Hisano Hori
Sankichi Furuhashi
Kumiko Sakamoto

- **Opinion exchange between panelists and participants**

- **Exhibits** Multicultural child-rearing group "Earth babies" (Kani City)
Viva Okazaki!! (Aichi Prefecture, Okazaki City)
Japan-Bolivia Association (Mie Prefecture, Tsu City)
Mixed Youth Roots Conpeitou Network (Minokamo City)
Mobile Maker (Ogaki City)

- This Seminar had 73 participants, including local government representatives from the Tokai region, CLAIR, and NPOs.

Local
Government

NPO

Business

University

Cooperation and coordination in a multicultural society

Shigehiro Ikegami

Cooperation and coordination- some advice:

- The government asks that when cooperating with an NPO or other group, do not treat them as a cheap sub-contractor. They are not purely someone who will carry out your business for you, but a partner to be involved from the creation stage.
- Think of creative ways to get foreign residents themselves involved in the planning of projects as a way to get them involved in the community.
- Try and make connections with a wide range of government departments, companies or independent bodies, instead of departments or NPOs that are directly related to multiculturalism. This way, connections between all levels of society, not just people that are interested in foreigners, can be made.
- Don't limit your perspective to foreign residents. Try to keep your outlook universal.
- Make projects that will give something back in the future, to encourage ambitious young people to participate.



Panel Discussion

Cooperating across different issues

Child rearing and education

Mayumi Kakamu

- Emphasis should be on providing support and running activities that will enable participants to have dreams and goals for the future. The final goal of any support you give to children should be to find them employment in the future, and allow them to lead an independent life. Cooperation with the private sector is necessary to achieve this, but realistically there are many barriers to this cooperation.
- Relationships with guardians are also important. Know the child's development history and their home environment. Take their individual needs into account. Provide support in cooperation with specialists. Understand that it is difficult to raise a child in a foreign country.
- Cooperation between groups should be supportive. No excess strain should be put on individuals or groups, and independent growth should be encouraged.
- Any support that is provided to children has to be continuous- not just the length of one financial year. Projects must be expansive, seek to deepen the understanding between the people involved, involve face to face interactions, and build trust.
- Disseminate information widely through methods like newsletters or Facebook. This encourages people from the wider community, businesses etc. to be involved.



Employment

Hisano Hori

- An unstable job market for foreign workers; foreign residents seeking social recognition; foreign residents wanting stable employment situations; this context means that new avenues must be explored, and support must be provided for people working at care facilities.
- Foreign staff can be an attractive option for any industry, with the realisation of long term employment, and foreign staff themselves and the communities in which they live will gain the benefits of this situation. Looking up business reports on an iPad will produce examples of many fine qualities that foreign staff can introduce into the workplace, like cheerfulness, ways of talking to each other, attitude, and information technology skills.
- Our Japanese language internships for caretakers are as realistic as possible because they are designed with the cooperation of three Japanese teachers; one holding a qualification as a nurse, one as a care worker, and one as a helper. Only people who have worked in the industry really know the industry, and the realistic training inspires the participants to want to learn more.
- 'Cooperation' means relationships between people. In particular, cooperation between specialists from varying fields can increase the scope of support services.
- Rather than trying to solve problems straight away, think them over thoroughly.



Japanese language education

Sankichi Furuhashi

- The Japanese Language Learning Support System for Toyota City has been in place since 2008. Within this framework, foreign residents can learn the minimum Japanese language skills for life in Japan. Toyota City provides Japanese language learning support in coordination with private companies and citizen groups in order to involve the whole community.
- Toyota City is cooperating with universities and drawing up guidelines for study support, and based on those guidelines providing support for Japanese language classes, from start-up to daily operation. The city is also training specialist teachers and volunteer teachers, developing a system for assessing Japanese language ability, and developing and providing opportunities where people can learn at home through the internet, or on an iPhone.
- Toyota City is also planning to develop programmes that help students be more connected to the community as a whole, and to teach them about administrative services and social customs.
- The city also recognises the need for a system to assess corporate needs when cooperating with the private sector.
- Toyota City is part of the ‘Committee for Localities with a Concentrated Foreigner Population’, whose various efforts are leading to results for localities through pooling areas of speciality.



Lifestyle consulting

Kumiko Sakamoto

- Think of foreign residents as members of, and human resources for, communities. Pursue policies of community building.
- Multiculturalism brings the strength of teamwork. Aim for networks that bring people together.
- Government forms part of this network. Be involved in the exchange of information with the government with all parties on the national, prefectural, and city level.
- A visit from a travelling Samba dance troupe helped smooth the wheels of acceptance and understanding for professional development and post-employment follow up for foreign staff working at care facilities.
- Foreign residents are important human resources in that they enable Japan to maintain connections to their home countries. Mie Prefecture companies value those connections, and are utilising this network to try and increase business opportunities overseas.



Ikegami’s final words were that we should ‘apply relevant stories to a bigger context’, or in other words, recognise that from the efforts of one group of people, we can form connections and cooperate with people from all walks of life and from all different parts of the world. To that end, we ‘should treat the advancement of multiculturalism as an important thing for Japanese society’.

At the close of the meeting, we were left with some words from the director of the department of multicultural promotion at CLAIR, Masashi Takahashi- ‘We must support foreign residents so that they can create a dynamic society, and a dynamic nation.’

Culture Corner Brazil’s “Rio Carnival”

Let’s ask Missao Anderson Morishita,
Coordinator for International Relations!

“Rio Carnival” is a name that we are all familiar with. Most people probably imagine flashy costumes and dancing the samba down the street.

What are the roots of this carnival?

‘The forty days before Easter, in the catholic tradition, is a period of fasting. The carnival is the few days before the fast, where people let loose and enjoy themselves.’

When does it start?

‘The Christian church in Brazil uses the lunar calendar, so the date of the carnival changes every year. It runs from Saturday to Tuesday, so for four days, somewhere between February and the beginning of March.’



Foto: Rubens Chiri
Banco de Imagens do
Estado de São Paulo

Is it only held in Rio de Janeiro?

‘It’s held all over Brazil, not just in Rio. There are large scale, quite showy carnivals like the one in Rio, but there are also quite reserved ones as well. Rio, Sao Paulo, Salvador, Recife, and Olinda have the most famous carnivals.’

And there’s more...

The Rio carnival and the San Paulo carnivals are held at giant venues called *Sambadromes*, and the parades are competitive. They are often misunderstood just as a parade of people showing off their samba moves- actually they are fierce competitions, with competitors from all over the world gathered to try and get the upper edge.



Hello Gifu Hello World 2012: 24 years



GIC was pleased to host “Hello Gifu Hello World” for the 24th time.

Thirty nationality groups from within the prefecture set up booths and put on traditional dress, introduced the countries they represent and the activities of their groups, sold traditional crafts, and gave out samples of food. Trying on an Indian sari or a Korean chima jeogori and getting a photo of yourself printed, or even putting yourself on a calendar, proved to be one of the most popular activities. There were flamenco, belly dance, and *erhu* (a Chinese instrument) performances, which made for a pretty lively stage.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of Indo-Japanese diplomatic relations, so to celebrate there was a music and dance performance from the ethnic Indian band *Makyo*. Team Minamo also visited as part of the celebrations for the National Sports Festival and the National Sports Festival for People with Disabilities, and participants had a great time taking photos and dancing along with the team.

Japanese residents of Gifu enjoyed the chance to meet foreign residents and getting to know a little bit more about their countries through the displays at each booth.



When: 9 September (Sun) 10 am – 4 pm

Where: Cinex Building, Yanagase, Takashimaya-mae stage

Attendance: approx. 3000 people

Host: Gifu International Association, GIC

Opinion Exchange- Promoting a multicultural Gifu Prefecture in Tarui

GIC held an opinion exchange session for associations conducting multicultural activities in Gifu prefecture. Associations shared reports of their activities, success stories, and problems; discussed the realities surrounding foreign residents and ideas for solving problems that might occur in these circumstances; and re-examined what is necessary for a multicultural Gifu.

This was a valuable opportunity to strengthen bonds between associations, and associations were able to come one step closer to having a system in place that can accommodate an ever diversifying needs base.

When: 19 November (Mon) 1.30 – 4.30 pm

Where: Tarui Bunka Kaikan (Tarui Culture Center)

Attendance: 15 people

Facilitator: Resource Center for Multicultural Community Tokai, Yoshihiko Doi

Co-host: Sento Tarui

Subjects

- Community
- Contacting administrative bodies
- Companies and their connection to foreign labour
- Human resources development and community building
- Education (study support and career counseling for foreign children)
- Concrete support
- Japanese language

Participant comments:

“I often feel that I never get the chance to state my opinion. This opinion exchange provided a forum where people could express their opinions freely, and I was able to listen to some really good ideas.”

“We (the participating associations) want to cater to diversifying needs through strong inter-group connections and cooperating together in providing support.”



● GIC Project Report ●

Medical interpreting supporter training 2012

“Medical interpreter training- learning medicine at a virtual hospital”

Medical interpreters play an important role in connecting doctor and patient. A medical interpreter needs to have extensive knowledge- there is lots of specialised vocabulary to interpret, and sometimes things occur that could mean the difference between life or death.

GIC co-hosted the 2012 medical interpreting supporter training “Medical interpreter training- learning medicine at a virtual hospital” with Gifu University Hospital, with the cooperation of Gifu City.

Participants learnt about diagnosis and examination methods used at hospitals, experienced handling medical equipment, and gained a thorough knowledge of the vocabulary necessary for medical interpretation.



Date: 9 December (Sun)

Venue: Gifu University Hospital

Total attendance: 31

(By nationality- Brazilian- 11, Filipino- 2, Chinese- 6, Taiwanese- 1, Peruvian- 2, Honduran- 1, Japanese-8)

Volunteer medical interpreter dispatch system trial 2012

■ New medical institutions accepting volunteer medical interpreters! ■

In the autumn edition of Sekai Wa Hitotsu (No. 124) we were proud to announce that six hospitals registered to accept volunteer medical interpreters as part of the current trials. Here we would like to announce the addition of six more medical institutions, bringing the total to twelve.

Medical institutions from Kakamigahara City and Kasamatsu Town will now be part of the trial, as well as the existing institutions from Gifu City, Ogaki City, Minokamo City, and Seki City. There are also another three institutions from within Gifu City, meaning the service is now available at an even larger number of institutions.

Participating medical institutions(as of 30 November)

- Gifu University Hospital (Gifu City)
- Gifu Municipal Hospital (Gifu City)
- Ogaki Municipal Hospital (Ogaki City)
- Kizawa Memorial Hospital (Kakamigahara City)
- Chuno Kosei Hospital (Seki City)
- Gifu Prefectural General Medical Center (Gifu City)
- Matsunami General Hospital (Kasamatsu Town) **new!**
- Matsunami Health Advancement Clinic (Kasamatsu Town) **new!**
- Nagara Medical Center (Gifu City) **new!**
- Mizutani Hospital (Gifu City) **new!**
- Tokai Central Hospital (Kakamigara City) **new!**
- Tanahashi Ear Nose and Throat Clinic (Gifu City) **new!**

■ Progress report (30 November) ■

Thirteen completed dispatches: Tagalo- 7, Portuguese- 6, Chinese- 0

Grants for projects supporting international exchange and a multicultural society (round 1)

GIC offers grants to groups based in Gifu Prefecture running projects that support international exchange, cooperation or a multicultural society.

Proposed details for the first round of applications are written to the right- make sure you take advantage!

● Application period (not finalised) ●

4 February (Mon) – 1 March (Fri) 2013

For projects that will be run from April 2013 until no later than 7 March 2014.

Information for Foreign Residents

How to study Japanese

Try your hand at studying Japanese. It'll make life much easier here, and is excellent food for the brain. Here are a few tips:

Language exchange

Find someone who wants to learn a language you know, and practice together over a cup of coffee. About 40 minutes of each language is about right. Free conversation is the best thing to practice here, seeing as explaining grammar is sometimes hard for native speakers.

There is a group language exchange held approximately once a month at a Gifu City café. Find the page called 'Pallete' on Facebook for more information



Gifu City International Exchange Association

Holds classroom style lessons. Intake is four times a year, held at the Culture Center in the middle of Gifu City. Check the home page for further details.

GIC salon space

GIC has a free space called a 'salon', for international themed activities. There are textbooks and study magazines available (to be used in the salon only), so feel free to use this space for study.

Volunteer Japanese Language Classes

Very cheap one-on-one classes. There is no curriculum. Information available in four languages on the GIC website. There are classes available not just in Gifu City center (i.e. the Chunichi building where the GIC is located, or Heartful Square), but also in regional centers.



Ways to stay warm this winter

Here are a couple of tips to help you get through the cold winter. If you are smart about it, you can be quite comfortable even in the cold weather.

ゆ 湯たんぽ Hot water bottle

You can buy big or small ones, and feel free to use them not just around the house, but also when you are sitting at your desk at work.



ひざか 膝掛け Lap blanket

A blanket to keep your lap warm. Keep one at your desk at work.

「さびっ!」 Sabi!

This word means さむい (cold). This is dialect, for informal situations only.

こたつ Kotatsu

Put a kotatsu futon on the ground, as well as under the table top, to keep in the most heat while using the least energy. Be careful not to fall asleep with the heater on- you could catch a cold.



でんき 電気カーペット、ホットカーペット Electric carpet

Put one under your desk to keep your feet warm while you study.

かしつき 加湿器 Humidifier

The air during winter is particularly dry. For an environmental alternative, you could also hang a wet towel in the room.



つかす 使い捨てカイロ Pocket body warmer

Take it out of the wrapper, shake it, and put it in your pocket. Available in many types.



きのうせいしたぎ 機能性下着 Thermal underwear

Many different types available.

だんねつ 断熱マット Heat-insulating mat

Put an insulating mat underneath your carpet to get the most out of your heater.

NPO **Sento Tarui**● **Overview**

Sento Tarui aims to create a positive town environment, in cooperation with government bodies, business leaders and the private sector, where all residents are able to actively participate in the community. Sento Tarui runs projects related to the environment, lifelong learning, and multiculturalism in the Seino area and the Ibigawa basin area, centered around the town of Tarui.

● **Getting to know foreign residents**

Participants can get to know local history, culture and nature through camping, travelling and cooking.

● **Portuguese interpreting services**

Interpreting and translation services are available at Tarui town hall to help residents complete administrative procedures smoothly.
Where: Tarui Town Hall, 1F

- Founded 2005
- 51 Members
- Represented by Hiroshi Asano
- Main office:
1791-1 Tarui Town,
Fuwa County, Gifu Prefecture
Tel/Fax: 0584-23-3010
URL: <<http://sento-tarui-blog.cocolog-nifty.com/blog>>

When: Wednesdays, 8.30 - 12.30 pm (subject to change)

● **Lifestyle consultation in Portuguese**

Work, child rearing, health, or any other general lifestyle related enquiries are accepted.

Where: Sento Tarui offices

When: First and third Saturday of every month, 2 - 4 pm (subject to change)

A message from Sento Tarui

We believe that if we all teach each other, learn from each other, and support each other regardless of nationality, we can make a community that is easier to live in not just for foreign residents, but also for Japanese residents too. Our starting point is to solve problems in getting information to foreign residents. Absolutely anyone can take part in our activities. We're looking forwards to hearing from you!



▲Lifestyle consultation session

● **Japanese conversation exchange**

A place where Japanese and foreign residents can interact in Japanese. This is a place where people can study Japanese language and customs, and get information about the local area.

Where: Tarui Town Chuo Kominkan, 2F
When: Second and fourth Sunday of every month, 2 - 4 pm (subject to change)



Hi everyone, this is Mari from the Gifu JICA desk. Winter is dragging on, but let's try and get through it- spring will be here soon. Read about an event that we held in Gifu recently!

Event Report

On 13 October (Sat) we held an event at Gifu University- *Gifu's most popular class- international cooperation*. This was a charity event hosted jointly by JICA Gifu and SH2ITS, for both students and graduates. A screening of the 2009 critically acclaimed documentary *The volunteer, for real?* was followed by an introduction of JICA and Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer international cooperation activities. The main lecturer was Hiroaki Ishimatsu, who featured in the documentary and is currently active as a doctor. He talked about the support activities for Cambodia he was involved in as a student, and the difficulties he overcame during that experience. You could tell that the participants were truly interested in his story by the way that their hands were going up during question time. We were glad to design this event with SH2ITS, to give participants the opportunity to get more involved in life through knowledge of international cooperation and the people involved in it, and by making connections at the event itself. We were happy that so many people took the time to participate. Thank you very much. Look out for our next event! We're definitely looking forwards to the chance to seeing you all again.



Feel free to get in touch with me regarding volunteering for JICA or international understanding education
Mari Kagami, Gifu Coordinator for International Cooperation, Gifu Prefecture JICA Desk
Tel: 058-263-8069 E-mail: jicadpd-desk-gifuken@jica.go.jp

Message Board

Information about associations hosting international events and courses in Gifu Prefecture. If you would like to post any information here, please contact GIC.

Gifu International Center Events

International salon *Journey to Jiangxi, China*

Listen to travel stories and learn about famous places in Jiangxi province over a cup of delicious local tea.
When: 27 January (Sun) 1 - 3 pm
Where: Fureai Fukuju Kaikan
Capacity: 30 people in order of application (GIC members priority)
Cost: Free
Enquiries: GIC

International salon *Coffee and Brazil*

Educate yourself over a cup of coffee and piece of cake, from the history of coffee to how to make it.
When: 10 February (Sun) 2 - 4 pm
Where: Ishigure Coffee (Gifu City, Yanagase)
Capacity: 10 people in order of application (GIC members priority)
Cost: ¥700 (GIC members ¥300)
Enquiries: GIC

Language assistant course for times of disaster

Learn how to help when foreign nationals are affected by large scale disaster.
When: 17 February (Sun) 10 am - 5 pm
Where: Kani City Multicultural Center Frevia
Cost: Free
Capacity: approx. 20 people
Enquiries: GIC
Time may be subject to change

International salon *Get to know Normandy*

Introducing the northwest corner of France, Normandy! Learn a little about what makes this part of the world special.
When: 24 February (Sun) 2.00 - 3.30 pm
Where: GIC
Cost: Free
Capacity: 30 people in order of application (GIC members priority)
Presenter: Thibaut Meurisse (Gifu Prefecture CIR)
Enquiries: GIC

Frevia Café

Frevia Cafe is now open on the third Saturday of every month!
Snacks and desserts on sale from around the world. Definitely worth a taste.
When: 19 January (Sat) 11 am - 2 pm
Where: Kani City Multicultural Center Frevia
Enquiries: As above
Tel: 0574-60-1122
URL: <http://www.ctk.ne.jp/~frevia/>

Third international cooking course- Russia

Fight the winter cold with crimson red Russian borscht!
When: 20 January (Sun) 10 am - 1 pm
Where: Yousei Community Center
Capacity: 20 people
Cost: ¥1,000 (TIEA Members ¥500)
Enquiries: Tajimi International Exchange Association (TIEA)
Tel: 0572-22-1111 ext. 1312
URL: <http://www.city.tajimi.gifu.jp/bunka-sports/kokusai/top.html>

Isabella a capella concert

Isabello a capella, from Southern Cross University, Australia, have invited a local Minokamo City a cappella choir to join them for a concert.
When: 27 January (Sun) 5.00 - 6.30 pm
Where: Minokamo Culture Forest (Minokamo City)
Cost: Free
Enquiries: Minokamo International Exchange Association
Tel : 0574-24-7771
URL: <http://www.miea-jp.com>
This is a charity concert. Any profit will be donated to the Japanese Student Center at Southern Cross University.

2013 Chinese New Year Gyoza Party

Make gyoza from scratch to celebrate Chinese New Year. Get to know the other participants over some gyoza-wrapping!

When: 3 February (Sun)

9.30 am - 2.00 pm

Where: Ichihashi Community Center (Gifu City)

Capacity: 30 people in order of application

Cost: Japanese people ¥900

Foreign people ¥400

Enquiries: Gifu Japan-China Association

Coordinator: Ms. Fujimoto

Tel: 058-272-3172

Sports and making mochi

After a game of sports, learn how to make mochi, and then warm yourself up over fresh mochi and soup. People of all nationalities attending! Why don't you join us?

When: 3 March (Sun) 10 am - 1 pm

Where: Wakakusa Plaza Sogo-Taiikukan (Seki City)

Capacity: 100 people

Cost: Free

Enquiries: Seki International Relations Association

Tel: 0575-23-6808

URL: <http://www.city.seki.gifu.jp/cosmopia>

Purim Carnival

A long time ago, there was a beautiful princess who saved the Jewish people from the political troublemaker Haman. The Purim carnival is a celebration of that story. There will be a costume parade, a stage show, games and more!

When: 10 March (Sun) 1 - 4 pm

Where: Yaotsu Town, Yume Hiroba Yūyū

Who: Infants to elementary school students (Adults in costume also welcome!)

Cost: Advance tickets ¥200

(on sale from 10 February)

Door tickets ¥300

Enquiries: Yaotsu Town Hall

Tel: 0574-43-2111 ext. 2254

URL: <http://www.town.yaotsu.lg.jp>

Please come dressed as your favourite character. Children get a present of candy!

We have a new website!

The GIC is proud to present a new-look website, so make sure you check it out. The address is the same - <<http://www.gic.or.jp>>. We are happy to post notices from international exchange related groups, so please get in contact if you have anything you would like us to put up.

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Opening hours: Sunday to Friday 9.30 am - 6.00 pm

Closed: Saturday, Public Holidays, New Year Period.

