

Policy of Cultural Affairs in Japan

Fiscal 2015





Policy of Cultural Affairs in Japan

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Region and Culture of Japan

AOYAGI Masanori

Commissioner for Cultural Affairs



The Agency for Cultural Affairs engages in a variety of activities with the aim of running joint projects closely with many municipal governments and local regions through culture. The Agency for Cultural Affairs not only grants the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs Award in the division of Cultural Creative Cities to municipal governments that promote creative cultural activities to revitalize the region, but also cooperates with municipalities to enable their regional revitalization to be promoted further through cultural promotion. It achieves this by giving subsidies to municipal governments for their comprehensive efforts to promote local character based on regional conditions. These efforts include the opening of traditional performing arts and events to the public using tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the region, which are the treasures of Japan, the fostering of successors to traditional techniques, and activities to familiarize people with the classics.

When promoting these joint projects, one of the very effective measures is the fact that local governments formulate the Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties, which is designed to help them conserve and utilize cultural properties comprehensively including their surrounding environments by accurately grasping the location and nature of tangible and intangible cultural properties in their region. This is effective because the self-motivating and voluntary cultural recognition of the people living in the region is more important than anything else. By preparing the Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties based on such cultural recognition, each region will be able to ensure that it grasps its unity and a sense of solidarity as a local community. It is essential for a region that seeks to promote regional revitalization to clarify how to recognize the history and culture of the region and how to utilize them as starting points. I believe that the Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties will grow increasingly important now that interest in the importance of history and culture is increasing.

In the meantime, interest in World Heritage is growing to the point of overheating. This is because World Heritage designation will become a significant encouragement to the region and a source of confidence and pride in living there, as the cultural heritage and natural heritage of one's own region will be recognized by UNESCO, a global institution, as having outstanding universal value. In addition, as a thorough academic examination of cultural heritage and natural heritage is conducted in the process of preparing a letter of recommendation to become World Heritage, regions will end up having a more clear profile and characteristics than ever. In that sense, movements to become World Heritage are a highly effective means of revitalizing local communities, and being inscribed on the World Heritage List means not simply conserving World Heritage, but also becoming a permanent and specific banner for revitalizing local communities.

Associated with declining birth rates and population aging in Japan, the number of residents is decreasing significantly in some regions. Even in such a situation, I strongly hope that the people living in these regions will reaffirm their pride in living on the land once again by conserving the culture of their region, even if it is a marginal village. The Agency for Cultural Affairs will support municipal governments and villages that are making efforts to revitalize local communities in every possible way through such cultural efforts as described above.

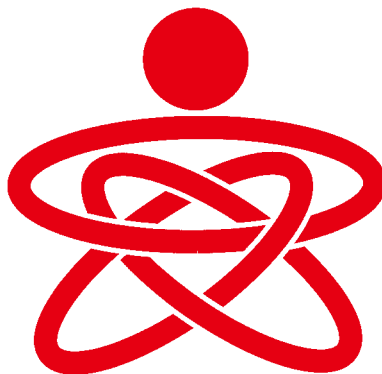
Logo of the Agency for Cultural Affairs

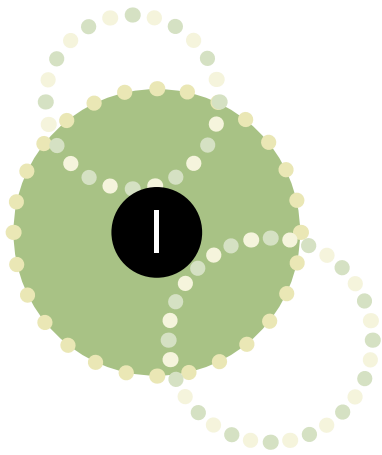
In December 2002, the logo for the Agency for Cultural Affairs was designed with the aims of making use of an easily comprehensive and familiar image, promoting appreciation for the importance of culture and for cultural policies, and to broaden the impression of Japan's cultural policies both in Japan and overseas.

Following an open recruitment for possible logos, the logo below was selected by the Agency for Cultural Affairs upon careful review of 527 entries (submitted by 221 applicants).

Based on the motif of the character "bun" (文) in the Japanese name of the Agency for Cultural Affairs (Bunkacho), the three ovals respectively represent "the past, present, and future," "creation and development," and "preservation and dissemination." The three rings thus express the stance of people who strive to promote the creation of culture and the arts and to preserve and transmit traditional arts (= the Agency for Cultural Affairs) and the expansion of their activities. The chosen color of the logo is "cinnabar-red," which is a traditional color of Japan.

By displaying this logo at performances and other events organized or sponsored by the Agency for Cultural Affairs as well as on stationery, pamphlets, and other print matters, we will make use of this logo to contribute toward the building of a society that values culture. We hope that you will also patronize this mark.





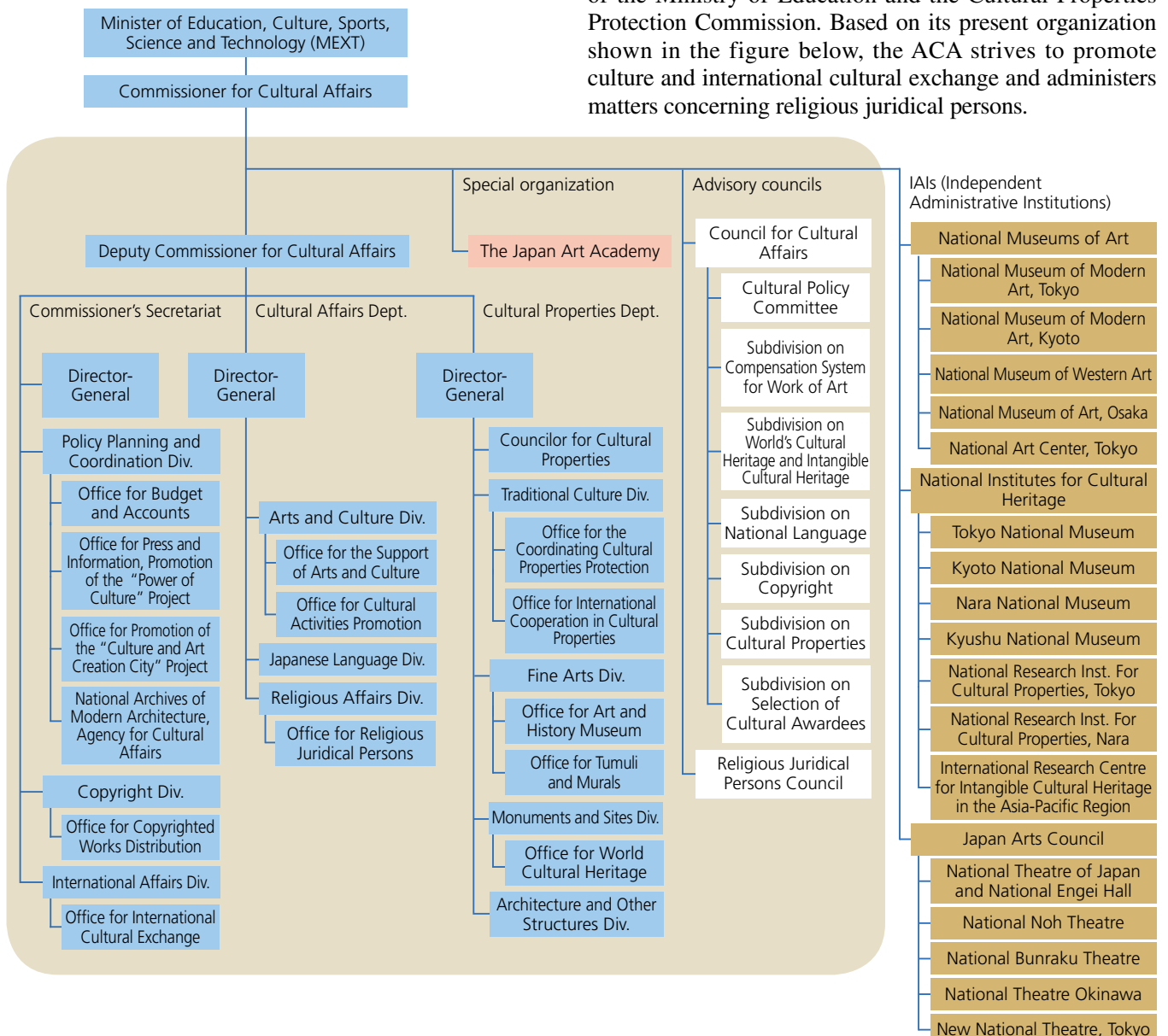
Foundations for Cultural Administration

1 The Organization of the Agency for Cultural Affairs

Organization of the Agency for Cultural Affairs

(as of April 1, 2015)

The Agency for Cultural Affairs (ACA) was established on June 15, 1968, through a merger of the Cultural Bureau of the Ministry of Education and the Cultural Properties Protection Commission. Based on its present organization shown in the figure below, the ACA strives to promote culture and international cultural exchange and administers matters concerning religious juridical persons.



By the end of FY 2015, the maximum number of staff will total 233.

Fundamental Law for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts and Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and the Art

1. Fundamental Law for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts

In November 2001, the Fundamental Law for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts, which had been proposed to the National Diet by House members, was enacted as the basic law for promoting culture and the arts. The objective of this law is to contribute to the realization

of heart-enriching lives for the Japanese people through the comprehensive implementation of measures concerning the promotion of culture and the arts, with the fundamental policy of promoting the autonomous activities of people engaged in cultural and artistic affairs.

Chapter 1. General Provisions (Article 1 to 6)

Article 1 (Objective)

The attainment of spiritually fulfilling lives for the nation and a dynamic society

Article 2 (Fundamental Principles)

- Respect for the autonomy of entities that conduct cultural and artistic activities
- Respect for the creativity of entities that conduct cultural and artistic activities
- Building of an environment where Japan's residents have access to the appreciation of, participation in, and creation of culture and the arts
- Development of culture and the arts both in Japan and worldwide
- Protection and development of diverse forms of culture and the arts
- Development of culture and the arts featuring regional characteristics
- Promotion of international exchange and cooperation related to culture and the arts
- Reflection of the opinions of a wide range of the Japanese population on measures to promote culture and the arts

Articles 3 and 4

The responsibilities of the national and local governments

Article 5

Depending on the interest and understanding of Japan's residents

Article 6

Legislative measures

Chapter 2. Basic Policy (Article 7)

The Government shall formulate a basic policy to ensure the comprehensive advancement of measures concerning the promotion of culture and the arts (the draft of said policy shall be formulated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology).

Chapter 3. Basic Measures Concerning the Promotion of Culture and the Arts (Articles 8 to 35)

- Promotion of every genre of culture and the arts
- Promotion of culture and the arts in each region of Japan
- Advancement of international cultural exchange
- Training and acquisition of human resources
- Enhancement of national language education for Japanese people and Japanese language for non-Japanese
- Protection and use of copyright and neighboring rights
- Creation of more opportunities for Japan's residents to appreciate culture and the arts
- Enhancement of cultural and artistic activities within school education
- Enhancement of cultural facilities
- Promotion of the use of data telecommunications technology
- Encouragement of private-sector patronage for cultural and artistic activities
- Reflection of public opinion during the policy-making process

2. Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and the Arts (Third Basic Policy)

The Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and the Arts (hereinafter "Basic Policy") was formulated by the Japanese government to ensure the comprehensive advancement of measures concerning the promotion of Culture and the Arts in accordance with the Fundamental Law for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts.

Agency for Cultural Affairs has been striving for promotion of the culture and arts based on the First Basic Policy (approved by the Cabinet in December, 2002), the Second Basic Policy (approved by the Cabinet in February, 2007) and the Third Basic Policy (approved by

the Cabinet on February 8, 2011).

In March 2014 the Council for Cultural Affairs was consulted regarding "The (4th) Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and the Arts."

At the General Assembly of the Council for Cultural Affairs held on April 16, 2015, a report on "The (4th) Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and the Arts" was submitted. On May 22, 2015, the 4th Basic Policy (for the roughly five-year period from FY 2015 to 2020) based on that report was approved at a Cabinet meeting.

Overview of the 4th Basic Policy is as below.

Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and the Arts

- Creating the future with cultural and artistic resources -

4th Basic Policy outline

Unofficial and Provisional Translation

<Revised points>

- The period: about six years (FY2015 to FY2020)
- Make clear cultural policies that have taken in to account the changes of the situation after the 3rd Basic Policy development (Feb 2011) (Regional revitalization, Tokyo 2020 Games, the Great East Japan Earthquake, etc.)
- Make clear the form of our country aims *Nation Based on Culture and the Arts*

[What is Nation Based on Culture and the Arts?]

- ◎ Providing opportunities for **all people** to participate in creative activities and experience appreciation of culture and arts
- ◎ Nationwide **Cultural Programs** triggered by the Tokyo 2020 Games
- ◎ Let the world know the reconstruction of the affected areas **along with the charm of the regional culture and arts**
- ◎ **Create more jobs and industries** that relate to culture and the arts

- Present targets and performance indicators to realize *Nation Based on Culture and the Arts*

[Targets and performance indicators]

The percentage of people citing Culture and Arts as the pride of Japan (Jan 2014, 50.5% → 2020, **about 60%**)
The percentage of people satisfied with their local cultural environments (Nov 2009, 52.1% → 2020, **about 60%**)
The percentage of people who donate (Nov 2009, 9.1% → 2020, **about 20%**)
The percentage of people who are in art appreciation activities (Nov 2009, 62.8% → 2020, **about 80%**)
The percentage of people who are in cultural and artistic activities (Nov 2009, 23.7% → 2020, **about 40%**)
Foreign travelers (2014, 13.414million people → 2020, **20 million** people)

1. Nationwide promotion of culture and the arts

- ◎ Regional revitalization: Strategically using culture and the arts, landscape etc. as regional resources to **kick start Regional revitalization**
- ◎ 2020 Tokyo Games: **Organizing Cultural Programs** nationwide for many people
→ After the 2016 Rio Games, internationally enhance the Olympic Movement, building momentum
- ◎ Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake: **Create a New Tohoku** that can be a role model to the world with its cultural and artistic charm
- ◎ Classifying public support for culture and the arts as a strategic investment, **emphasizing support for culture and the arts promotion**

2. Priority Measures Related to the Promotion of Culture and the Arts

The Five priority strategies for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts.

Priority Strategy 1: Effective support for cultural and artistic activities

- ◎ Conducting focused support towards creative activity that can be a driving force to improve the standard of art.
Support the creation of world-class culture and art that can represent Japan
- ◎ **Variety of artistic exchanges between Japan and overseas** etc., elaborate and strategic promotion of creative activities while taking in to consideration the characteristics of each field
- ◎ Planning of cultural policy by **various subjects of the region**
- ◎ Support efforts to accept regional and international artists

- Enhance and strengthen the national network of the **Cultural and Artistic Creative City**. Cooperation between tourism and industrial development
- **A Japanese Arts Council**
- Promotion of artistic activities for people with disabilities
- Promotion of *Culture of Life*, culture related to food, clothing and shelter
- **Dissemination of information** such as national performances and cultural and artistic events
- **Cooperation request for funds** related to the 2020 Tokyo Games, promotion of activities by private companies

Priority Strategy 2: Enhancement of human resources that create and support culture and the arts, as well as enhancement of promotional measures for culture and the arts aimed at children and young people

- Development of *Imagination* and *Creativity* of children and young people
- Enhancement of arts education in **school**
- Development and utilization of professional human resources to support the management of cultural and artistic activities and facilities, as part of **increasing the number of jobs**
- Promoting the understanding of the Designated Manager System
- Support for traditional techniques and skills to support the traditional culture

Priority Strategy 3: Ensuring the inheriting of culture and the arts by the next generation, used towards regional development and others

- Conserving and passing down cultural property
- Regional development and tourism promotion **by the active use of cultural property**
- The creation of *the Japan Heritage* certification mechanism
- Overall preservation and use of cultural properties of regions, using basic historical and cultural concepts
- Promoting recommendations and registration to **the World Cultural Heritage and Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO**
- Study of the preservation and use of **Underwater Cultural Heritage**

Priority Strategy 4: Promotion of national and international cultural diversity and mutual understanding

- Overseas expansion of Japanese art works, artists and people of culture
- Enhancement of international art events
- Enhancement of activities and contents of cultural exchange at cultural institutions and universities
- Studying the promotion of **Digital Archiving** (of

movies, performance art, anime, manga, games, design, photography, architecture, cultural heritage, etc.) and cross-sect development, widely advertising the media art of Japan abroad

- Promotion of **centers for cultural creation and international dissemination throughout Japan**
- Using cultural facilities as a **Unique Venue** (* 1), to attract and hold MICE (* 2)
- (* 1) Unique Venue: A venue which is a historic building, a cultural facility or a public space that is possible to produce a uniqueness or regional characteristics, and is also possible to hold meetings and receptions.
- (* 2) MICE: Meeting, Incentive, Convention, and Exhibition/Event of companies and groups.
- Promotion of **international cooperation**, using advanced knowledge, technology and the experience of Japan in the cultural **heritage protection** field
- Promotion of *Culture City of East Asia* programs, such as **exchanges of young artists** in East Asia
- The promotion of Japanese language education for foreigners

Priority Strategy 5: Establishing a system for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts

- Enhancement of the functions of **nationally owned museums and theaters**
- Promotion of initiatives based on the Basic Policy on maintenance and management of ‘a space as a symbol of ethnic coexistence’ in order to **promote the reconstruction of Ainu culture**
- **Collection of basic data** and **researches** that contribute to the formation of cultural policies
- **Development of a copyright system** that corresponds to our digital network society

3. The Basic Measures for Promotion of Culture and the Arts

Defining the specific measures for each of the following matters, based on the basic philosophy of culture and arts promotion as stated in the Basic Act on the Promotion of Culture and the Arts

- 1: Promotion in each area of culture and the arts
- 2: Promotion of culture and the arts in local areas
- 3: Promotion of international exchange
- 4: Cultivating and securing artists
- 5: Understanding the Japanese language correctly
- 6: Dissemination and enhancement of Japanese language education
- 7: Protection and use of copyrights
- 8: Enhancement of the cultural and artistic activities for the people
- 9: Enhancement of culture and arts centers
- 10: Development of other infrastructures

3

Council for Cultural Affairs

To enhance the Agency for Cultural Affairs' functions for planning and drafting policy concerning the administration of cultural affairs, the Council for Cultural Affairs

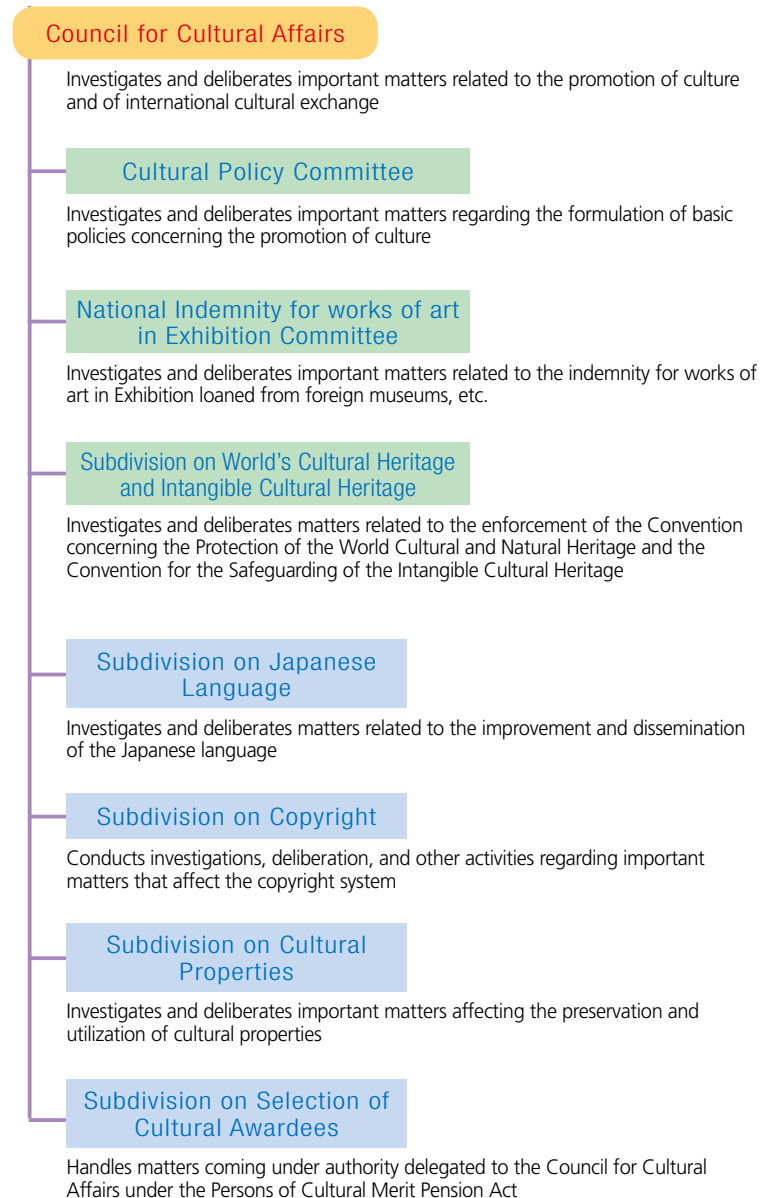
employs diverse perspectives to investigate and deliberate important matters related to the promotion of culture and of international cultural exchange and so on.

Main reports submitted

- "Guidelines for Honorific Expressions" (Feb. 2007)
- "Revised Joyo Kanji-hyo" (Jun. 2010)
- "The (4th) Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and Arts" (Apr. 2015)

Organization of the Council for Cultural Affairs

(As of April 1, 2015)



4

 Brief Overview of the Budget for the Agency for Cultural Affairs
for FY 2015

 1. Establishment of Proud "Nation Based on Culture and the Arts"
– Cultural Power as Catalyst for Revitalizing the Local and Nation –

Summary

(Unit: million yen)

Category	Initial Budget in FY 2014	Budget in FY 2015	Growth compared with the previous year	
			Difference	Growth rate
ACA	103,592	103,793	200	0.2%

Note: ACA put a budget 2,852 million yen for restoring the national cultural properties in the Special Account for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake (2,560 million for FY 2014).

Expenditures

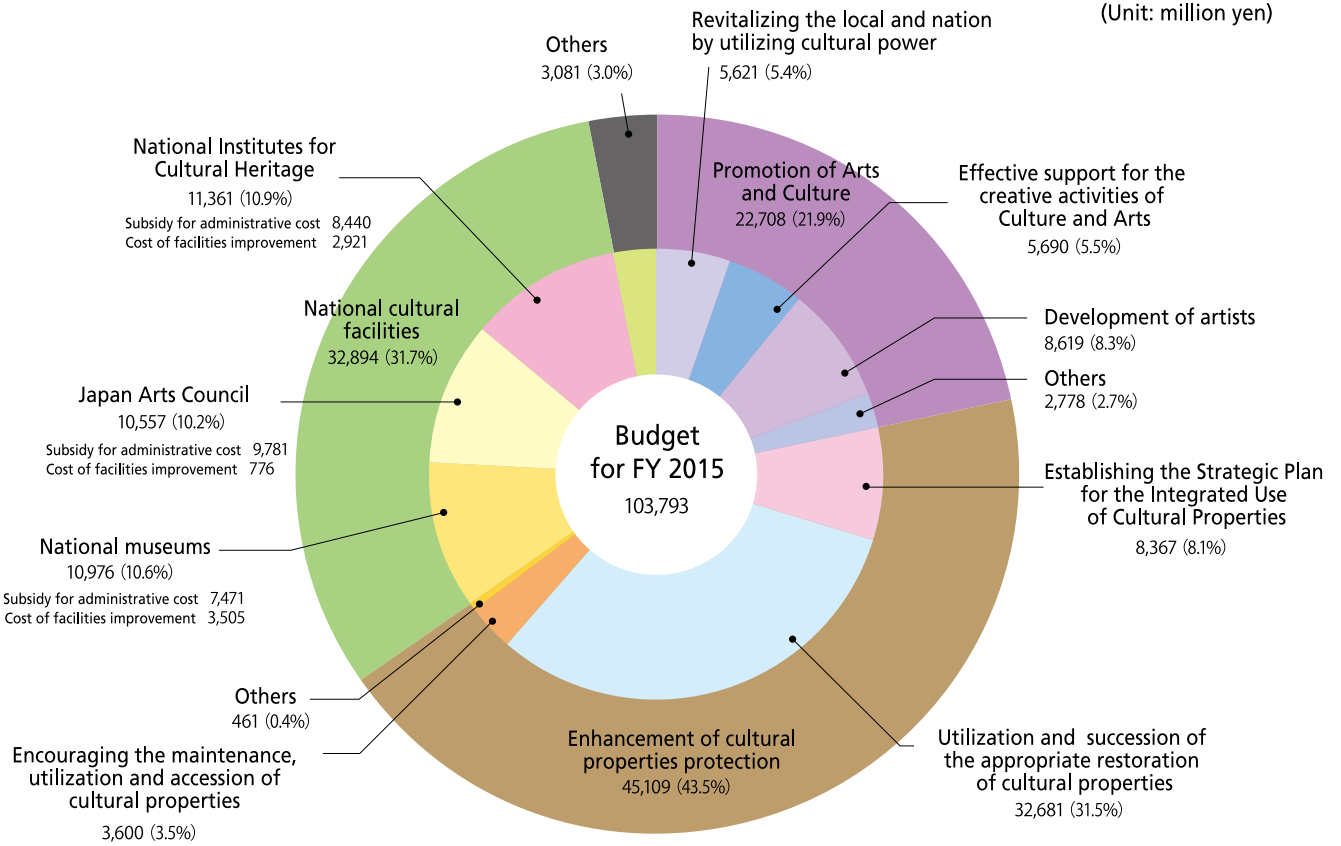
(Unit: million yen)

Key Project	FY 2014 Budget	FY 2015 Budget	Difference (Reduction: △)
Creation of rich culture and arts and cultivation of human resources	19,831	19,930	99
○Revitalizing the local and nation by utilizing cultural power	5,524	5,621	96
○Effective support for the creative activities of Culture and Arts	5,678	5,690	12
○Development of artists	8,628	8,619	△9
○Cultural Programs for 2020 (written again)	11,075	12,008	933
Preservation, utilization and succession of Japan's precious cultural properties	44,473	44,519	46
○Establishing the Strategic Plan for Integrated Use of Cultural Properties	7,800	8,367	567
○Utilization and succession of the appropriate restoration of cultural properties	33,397	32,681	△716
○Public utilization of cultural properties, training successors and creation of more opportunities to appreciate culture and the arts	3,277	3,472	194
Dissemination of Japan's outstanding culture and arts / Promotion of international cultural exchange	2,355	2,405	50
○Implementation of the promotion/exchange of Japanese culture	1,786	1,823	37
○Encouraging international cooperation in cultural properties	358	374	16
○Promotion of Japanese language education for foreigners	212	208	△3
Improvement/enhancement of the foundation for the promotion of culture	33,493	33,591	98
○Enhancement of the functions of national cultural facilities	25,133	25,693	560
○Improvement of national cultural facilities	7,722	7,202	△520
○Improvement/enhancement of infrastructure to support dissemination of culture	638	696	58

Note : Totals may not tally because of rounding by less than a unit basis

Budget for the Agency for Cultural Affairs for FY 2015 (By Areas)

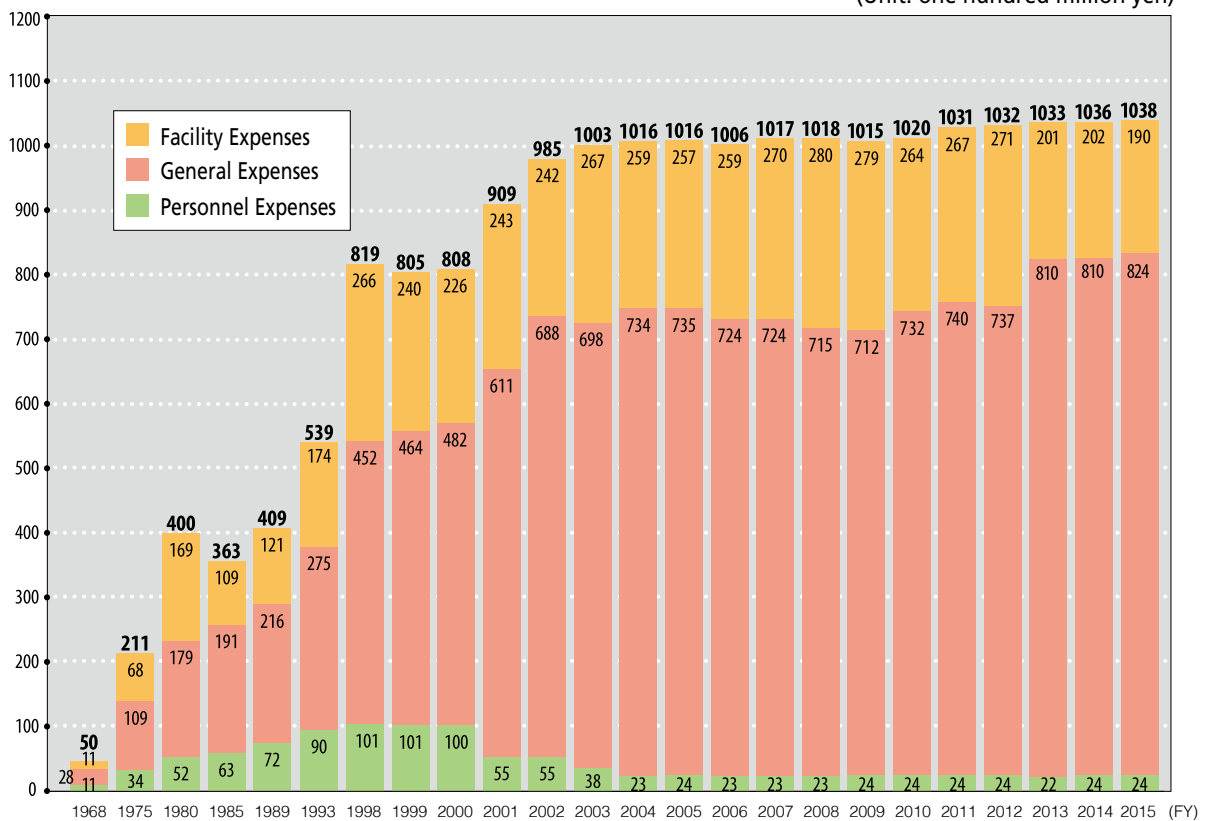
(Unit: million yen)



Note: Totals may not tally because of rounding by less than a unit basis

Trend of the Budget for the Agency for Cultural Affairs

(Unit: one hundred million yen)

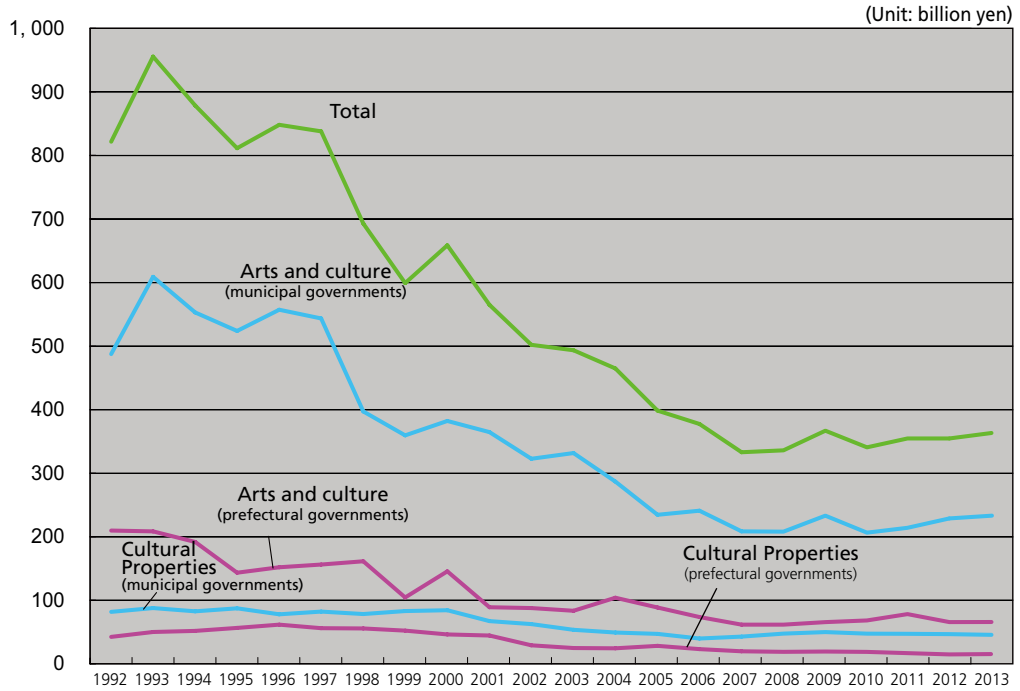


2. Transition of Culture-Related Expenditure by Local Governments

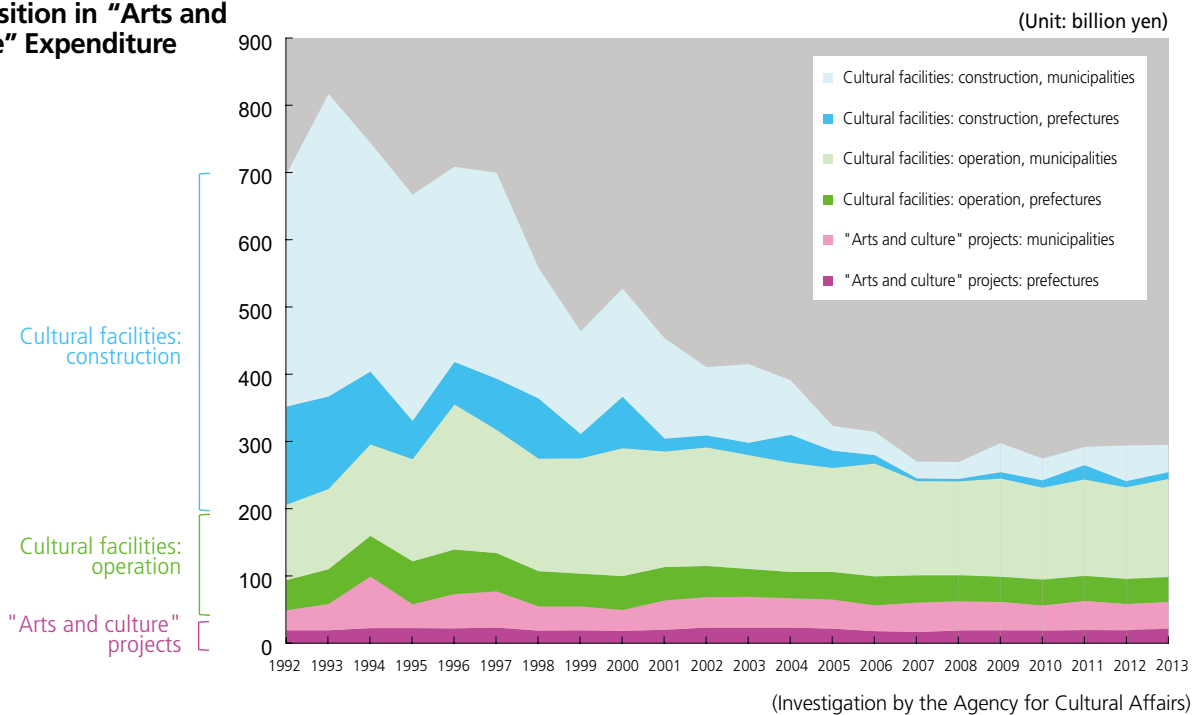
Culture-related expenditures by local governments have been on a declining trend since they peaked in 1993 (A), and the decline mainly resulted from reduced spending

on the construction of cultural facilities. Meanwhile, the expenditure of the “Arts and culture” category has remained practically the same since 1993 (B).

A. Transition in Culture-Related Expenditure



B. Transition in “Arts and Culture” Expenditure



3. Taxation System Related to Culture

Category	Description	FY enforced		
National tax	Contributions to particular institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Benefit Corporation/Foundation fulfilling certain criteria Individual donation [Value of the donation (up to 40% of total income) minus ¥2,000] is deducted from the individual's income (income tax) or [Value of the donation (up to 40% of total income) minus ¥2,000] x 40% deducted from income tax amount (up to 25% of income tax amount) (income tax)	2011-	
	Contributions to Authorized nonprofit organizations			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities that aim to promote science, culture, arts, or sports
	Contributions to Institutions officially recognized as contributing to the public welfare	Public Benefit Corporation / Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nonprofit foundations that perform work related to the dissemination of the arts Nonprofit foundations that perform work related to the preservation and use of cultural properties Nonprofit foundations that perform work related to the establishment and operation of a registered museum Nonprofit foundations that perform work on a nationwide scale related to the promotion of a registered museum 	Individual donation: [Value of the donation (up to 40% of total income) minus ¥2,000] is deducted from individual's income (income tax). Corporate donation: The deductible expense is either the total amount of the donation, or the special deductible amount [(total income tax x 3.125%) + (amount of funds etc. x 0.1875%)], whichever amount is the lesser. * (Corporation tax)	1976 (1997 for corporations that conduct activities related to a registered museum)
		Incorporated Administrative Agencies (IAAs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Museum of Art National Institutes for Cultural Heritage National Museum of Nature and Science Japan Arts Council 	* The limit on deductible expenses are separately allowable deductible expenses for general donations	2001
	Authorized and specified charitable trusts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charitable trusts that perform work related to the dissemination of the arts (restricted to the provision of grants) Charitable trusts that perform activities related to the preservation and use of cultural properties (restricted to the provision of grants) 	Incurred losses are handled similarly to the case of a donation to a Designated Public Benefit Corporation (income tax and corporation tax)	1987
	Designated donations	Public Benefit Corporation / Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expenses required for the repair of Important Cultural Properties and the installation of anti-disaster facilities 	Individual donation: [Value of the donation (up to 40% of total income) minus ¥2,000] is deducted from the individual's income (income tax)	1965
		IAAs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expenses required by the National Museum of Art, National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, or the National Museum of Nature and Science, for the collection, preservation, and repair of Important Cultural Properties 	Corporate donation: The entire value of the donation is calculated as a loss (corporation tax)	2001
	Donation of the inherited property	Public Benefit Corporation / Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nonprofit foundations that perform work related to the dissemination of the arts Nonprofit foundations that perform work related to the preservation and use of cultural properties 	Tax exempt (inheritance tax)	1977
		IAAs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Museum of Art National Institutes for Cultural Heritage National Museum of Nature and Science Japan Arts Council 		2001
		Authorized nonprofit organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities that aim to promote science, culture, arts, or sport 		2001
Capital gain from the transfer of Important Cultural Properties, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer of an Important Cultural Property (movable property or building) to the national or local government or to a specific IAA (the National Museum of Art, National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, or the National Museum of Nature and Science), or a local IAA (primarily establishes/manages a museum, art museum, botanical garden, zoological garden, or aquarium that is designated as a facility equivalent to a museum) 	Tax exempt (income tax)	1972	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer of cultural properties qualifying as Important Tangible Folk Cultural Properties (movable assets and buildings) to national and local governments as well as the National Museum of Art, National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, or the National Museum of Nature and Science with IAA status, or a local IAA (primarily establishes/manages a museum, art museum, botanical garden, zoological garden, or aquarium that is designated as a facility equivalent to a museum) (until Dec. 31, 2016) 	Taxation on 50% of capital gains (income tax)	1972	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer of land designated as an Important Cultural Property, Historical Site, Place of Scenic Beauty or Natural Monument to the national or local government or a specific IAA (National Institutes for Cultural Heritage or the National Museum of Nature and Science), or a local IAA (primarily establishes/manages a museum or a botanical garden that is designated as a facility equivalent to a museum) 	Special deduction of up to ¥20 million (income tax); calculated as a loss (corporation tax)	1970	

Category		Description		FY enforced
National tax	Inheritance and gifting of Important Cultural Properties, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inheritance or gifting of a house or other building (including its land) that is an Important Cultural Property 	A 70% deduction of the assessed property value (inheritance tax, gift tax)	2004
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inheritance or gifting of a house or other building (including its land) that is a Registered Tangible Cultural Property 	A 30% deduction of the assessed property value (inheritance tax, gift tax)	2004
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inheritance or gifting of a house or other building (including its land) that is a Traditional Building (as defined by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) 	A 30% deduction of the assessed property value (inheritance tax, gift tax)	2004
	Inheritance of Enrolled Artwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Enrolled Artwork is accepted as payment in kind if the payment of tax may be difficult by deferment 	The priority level for payment in kind is raised from Level 3 to Level 1	1998
Local Tax	Ownership of Important Cultural Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Important Cultural Property, Important Tangible Folk Cultural Property, Historical Site, Place of Scenic Beauty, or National Monument (buildings and their plots) 	Tax exempt (fixed assets taxes, special property tax, and urban planning tax)	1950
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered Tangible Cultural Properties (buildings) 	50% taxation (fixed assets taxes and urban planning tax)	1996
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered Tangible Folk Cultural Property (buildings) 	50% taxation (fixed assets taxes and urban planning tax)	2005
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registered Monuments and Sites (buildings and their plots) 	50% taxation (fixed assets taxes and urban planning tax)	2005
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buildings and their plots forming part of an Important Cultural Landscape (as defined by the Minister of MEXT) 	50% taxation (fixed assets taxes)	2005
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buildings designated "Traditional Buildings" that form part of a "Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings" site (as defined by the Minister of MEXT) 	Tax exempt (fixed assets taxes and urban planning)	1989
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plots of buildings designated "Traditional Buildings" that form part of a "Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings" site 	Tax exemption or reduction, according to circumstances (fixed assets taxes and city planning tax)	2000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilities (buildings and their plots) owned by public interest incorporated association or public interest incorporated foundation for performances by holders of Important Intangible Cultural Properties (by the end of March, 2017) 	50% taxation (real estate acquisition tax, fixed assets taxes and city planning tax)	2008

Note: Although the land tax imposed on Important Cultural Properties is now being waived as a tax exemption, the levying of land tax was abolished in FY 1998.

5 Commending Artistic and Related Personnel Achievement

Various awards have been established to recognize outstanding instances of artistic achievement and other distinguished cultural contributions.

Type of Award	Description	FY Founded
Order of Culture	The Order of Culture is awarded to an individual in recognition of outstanding achievements related to the development of culture in such fields as fine arts, literature, music and drama. Upon hearing the opinions of the Subdivision on Selection of Cultural Awardees, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology recommends nominees to the Cabinet Office, which selects recipients and confers the award. Recipients of the Order of Culture are normally chosen from among past recipients of the Person of Cultural Merit award of the previous fiscal year or earlier.	1937
Person of Cultural Merit	The Person of Cultural Merit award was established to provide a lifetime pension to an individual who has rendered particularly distinguished service related to the advancement and development of culture in such fields as fine arts, literature, music, and drama.	1951
Japan Art Academy	An honorary society that gives special recognition to outstanding artists and related personnel, the Japan Art Academy was founded in 1919 as the Imperial Academy of Fine Arts, underwent further reorganization, and eventually assumed its present name in 1947. The Academy currently has one director and up to 120 members belonging to the first section (fine arts), the second section (literature), or the third section (music, drama, and dance). It also presents the Imperial Prize and the Japan Art Academy Prize to non-members with outstanding achievements.	1919
Art Encouragement Prizes	The Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's Art Encouragement Prize and the Art Encouragement Prize for New Artists are presented to persons whose outstanding achievements have opened up new vistas in a given year. They each are awarded in 11 fields: drama, film, music, dance, literature, fine arts, broadcasting, popular entertainment, development of the arts, criticism, and media arts.	1950
Regional Cultural Merits Award	The Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology presents this award in recognition of efforts by individuals and groups that make significant contributions to regional culture, such as the promotion of culture or the protection of cultural properties.	1983
Commissioner for Cultural Affairs Award	This award is conferred by the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs to individuals who have made distinguished accomplishment in cultural activities to make a significant contribution to the promotion of culture, individuals who have made distinguished accomplishment in international cultural activities, and municipalities that have accomplished significant achievements in cultural and artistic activities that maximize local characteristics	1989
ACA Film Award	This award is presented by the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs for an excellent film and a person with outstanding achievements in relevant fields, in order to contribute to improving and developing Japanese cinema.	2003

Note: Other commendation systems include the conferment of decorations, medals of honor, and so on.

6 Cultural Publicity

The Agency for Cultural Affairs strives to foster a better understanding among the public of cultural policies and to enhance the platforms which inform the public of the opportunities to enjoy culture widely.

Therefore, the ACA introduces its policy information to the public and provides various kinds of information to practitioners of cultural arts using mainly the Internet, along with other means.

1. Agency for Cultural Affairs Website

<http://www.bunka.go.jp/english/>

The Agency for Cultural Affairs provides extensive information about its activities through its website. The website (Japanese only):

- (i) announces the latest activities and events in sections including Press Releases, and Events & Topics, Public Comments & Inquiries, etc.;
- (ii) presents latest information in its “Databases”
 - National Database of Designated Cultural Properties
 - Cultural Heritage Online
 - Japan Location Database
 - Copyright Registration Status Search System, etc.;
- (iii) The release of the monthly online public relations magazine “Bunkachou Geppou” ceased with the March 2013 issue, and the online magazine newly started as “Bunkacho Public Relations Magazine Buncul” from FY 2014. The new magazine will continue to provide information on initiatives undertaken by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, national art museum, museum, theater, and a variety of cultural activities.
<http://prmagazine.bunka.go.jp/index.html> (Japanese only)
- (iv) provides information of ACA’s website including What’s New almost every day via ACA’s official twitter, “Bunkacho (ACA) Public Relations Magazine ‘Buncul’” since May, 2014.
https://twitter.com/prmag_bunka (Japanese only)



“Bunkacho (ACA) Public Relations Magazine Buncul”

2. Museum of “Joho-Hiroba” (MEXT)

<http://www.mext.go.jp/joho-hiroba/>
(Japanese only)

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has set up the Joho Hiroba, where it presents exhibits designed to acquaint large numbers of people with the current and past work of the Ministry. In the Cultural Exhibits Room, the works of holders of important intangible cultural properties (so-called living national treasures), art works, and so forth are exhibited.



7

Private-Sector Support for the Arts and Culture

1. Arts and Cultural Support (Mécénat) Activities by Firms and Other Private-Sector Entities

Many corporations are undertaking private sector promotion of the arts and culture out of recognition that cultural aspects are vital for economic development. In addition, the rising prominence of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and awareness of social contribution propel this movement. Corporations are implementing cultural projects on their own initiative, funding activities

in the arts and culture, as well as providing support by leveraging staff or products or other corporate business resources. In particular, aiming to revitalize the local community and to develop local towns, relatively small corporations and local corporations have developed mécénat activities in recent years and fulfill an important role in promoting culture in every region.

Survey Results on Actual Corporate Arts Support

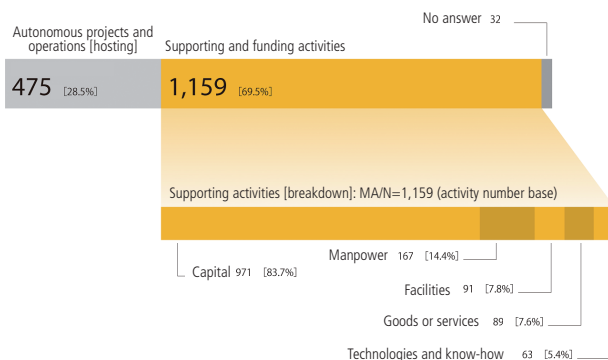
Number of implementing companies: 333 (quantity of responses: 420)
 Total number of patronage activities: 2,928 (average number of activities by company: 8.7)
 Total amount of activity cost: 19.41 billion yen (total amount of 245 responded companies, average amount by responded company is 79.18 million yen)

Survey Results on Actual Corporate Foundation Arts Support

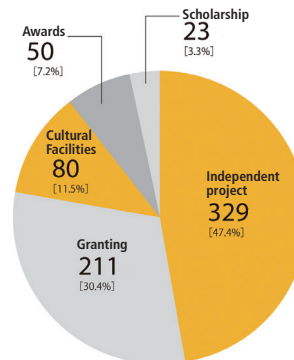
Total number of patronage activities: 693 (quantity of responses: 189, average number of activities by foundation: 3.6)
 Total amount of activity cost: 64.59 billion yen (total amount of 167 responded foundations, average amount by responded foundation is 386.8 million yen)

Method of Cooperate Mécénat Activities

[Companies] Activity number base
 (total number: 1,666, multiple answers)



[Foundations] Organization number base
 (total number: 693, multiple answers)



Source: "Mécénat Report 2014," Association for Corporate Support of the Arts (Kigyo Mécénat Kyogikai "KMK")

Graphic design by NDC Graphics

2. Association for Corporate Support of the Arts (KMK: Kigyo Mécénat Kyogikai)

The Association for Corporate Support of the Arts (Kigyo Mécénat Kyogikai "KMK") is an interim support organization established in 1990 with the aim of stimulating mécénat (support for the arts and culture) by corporations. In order to impart the social significance of corporate mécénat and put in place the infrastructure for promoting culture, the Association (1) carries out promotion of corporate Mécénat, (2) providing information, (3) undertakes survey research and proposals, (4) supports cooperation and collaboration, (5) public certifications and commendations and (6) grants.

As its core activity, the Association administers the Arts Projects Assistance Approval Program (APAA Program) to encourage donations from the private sector

toward artistic and cultural activities. The Association also set up the GBFund immediately after the Great East Japan Earthquake to support artistic and cultural activities that contribute to the recovery in the disaster areas. Donations to the Association are eligible for tax deduction or tax credits in case of individuals, and in case of corporations or other corporate bodies, general donations are a separately deductible expense.

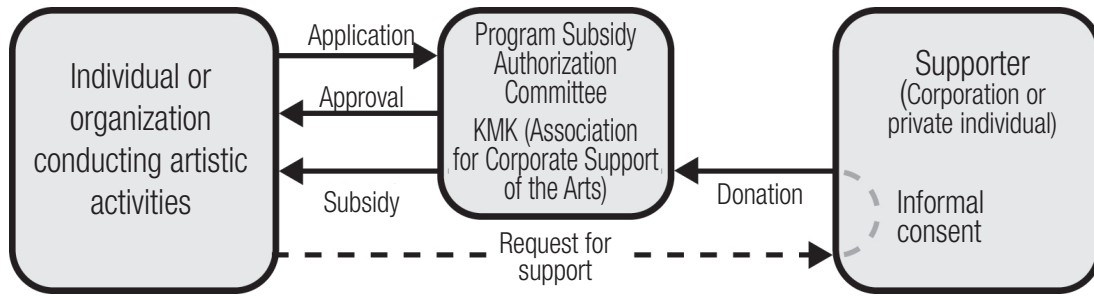
At the Mécénat Awards, which are the Association's commendation program, the Agency for Cultural Affairs presents the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs Award to activities that improve the cultural power and creative strength of the nation and contribute to spreading Japanese culture overseas.

(1) The Arts Project Assistance Approval Program (APAA Program)

Since 1994, the Association has administered the Arts Project Assistance Approval Program aiming to encourage private-sector donations to artistic and cultural activities from the aspect of tax system. By donating to artistic

and cultural activities of the Association, which is a Public Interest Incorporated Association, individuals and corporations are eligible for a system of tax credits. Organizations/individuals are able to receive donations through the Association by obtaining the accreditation for each applied activities.

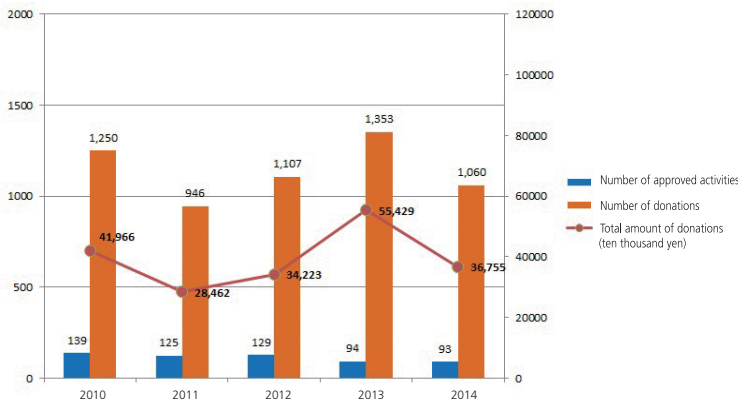
Arts Project Assistance Approval Program (APAAP) of the Association for Corporate Support of the Arts (KMK)



Actual Performance during FY2014

The Association approved 93 artistic or cultural activities and received a total of 367.55 million yen in donations from 1,060 donors.

Actual Performance of the APAA Program (past 5 years)



(2) 2021 Social Creativity through Arts and Culture Fund (2021 Arts Fund)—The Fund to Create Society through Culture and the Arts in 2021

To contribute to the creation of culture beyond 2020, the Association has established a fund for each objective according to the intentions of contributors. It focuses on the promotion of regional culture, regional activities based on arts and culture, international exchanges through them, the international dissemination of Japanese culture, and the development of human resources. They all play important roles in the field of social creativity through arts and culture.

GBFund (where G stands for *Geijutsu*, or Art, B for *Bunka*, or Culture, and F for *Fukkou*, or Restoration) is a fund that supports restoration through the arts and culture.

Together with donors who endorse the intent, the fund will support artistic and cultural activities organized for the purpose of assisting the victims of the disaster and the disaster area, and activities to revive tangible and intangible cultural assets in the disaster areas for a period of five years from its establishment. In particular, the Fund focuses on the role that folk performing arts and local festivals play in the recovery, providing focused support by setting up the framework for the Hundred Festivals Revival Project.

(3) GBFund—The Great East Japan Earthquake Restoration Fund through the Arts and Culture

Launched by the Association on March 23, 2011, the

By the end of May 2014, the amount of donations exceeded 140 million yen and so far, the Fund has assisted the activities of 224 projects.

1. What are cultural programs?

The Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held in Tokyo in 2020. The Olympic Games, which is also dubbed a “sport and cultural festival,” will be a golden opportunity to disseminate the culture of the host country both domestically and internationally.

The Olympic Charter points to the blending of sport with culture and education and stipulates the first fundamental principle of Olympism as follows: “Olympism is a philosophy of life, exalting and combining in a balanced whole the qualities of body, will and mind. Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of a good example and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles.” Article 39 of Charter 5 also states, “The OCOG (Organising Committee of the Olympic Games) shall organise a programme of cultural events which must

cover at least the entire period during which the Olympic Village is open. Such programme shall be submitted to the IOC Executive Board for its prior approval.”

As just described, cultural programs are regarded as a duty of the host country of the Olympic Games, and a variety of cultural events, including art competitions and art exhibitions, have been organized over the past century or so. Particularly after the 25th Barcelona Games, cultural events came to be held for four years after the Olympic Games. At the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, large-scale cultural programs were implemented for four years after the Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Games, during which the total number of events amounted to around 180,000 and the number of artists participating in the events reached about 40,000. In Tokyo in 2020, many cultural programs are also expected to be implemented throughout Japan for four years.

2. Building a New Social Model through Culture

Japan will see its population decrease ahead of other countries, and the decay of local communities, the shortage of bearers of culture and the arts due to the effects of depopulation and low birth rates and longevity in local regions, and an increase in single-person households in urban areas have been identified. Given the recent economic conditions and the increasingly severe fiscal conditions of local governments, a sense of crisis regarding the fragility of the infrastructure that supports culture and the arts in the local regions is spreading, and it is necessary for the spillover effects created by culture

and the arts on society to lead to the improvement and solution of these issues.

Cultural programs toward 2020 are a golden opportunity to disseminate the value of cultural properties and traditions in Japan to the world and lead them to the creation of a new social model that is geared to a mature society by overcoming various issues, making use of the spillover effects created by culture and the arts on society. They will help create the future of Japan and realize a Nation Based on Culture and the Arts.

3. Efforts for Cultural Programs

The Agency for Cultural Affairs has also decided to promote cultural events and various initiatives to attract people around the world through Japanese culture together with concerned parties such as related government ministries and agencies, local governments nationwide and many artists by actively utilizing cultural resources nationwide toward 2020. The Agency for Cultural Affairs will not end these efforts as transient events, but will leave them as the precious legacy of Japan, and strives to actualize the power of culture and strengthen the infrastructure so that Japan will become a country that will take a greater stand on culture and the arts.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs seeks to implement cultural programs nationwide, regarding 2020 as a point of departure toward new growth, and achieve a receptive society where people will mutually accept each other and a society full of attraction through culture and the arts by creating the traffic and exchanges of people around the world through culture.

With the aim of achieving these objectives, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has been reviewing its vision since December 2014, including the concept and the scheme for implementing cultural programs as the Agency for Cultural Affairs, by holding meetings of the “Discussion Group for Cultural Events to be held toward 2020” established under the Commission for Cultural Affairs, while receiving proposals from young experts about measures for holding attractive cultural events in many parts of the country.

In July 2015, the Agency for Cultural Affairs announced its basic scheme for implementing cultural programs.

Naming the cultural programs it is working on the Power of Culture Projects (provisional name), the Agency for Cultural Affairs will foster momentum by encouraging wide-ranging efforts in many parts of the country. The Agency for Cultural Affairs schedules the following three frameworks as the Power of Culture Projects it will promote.

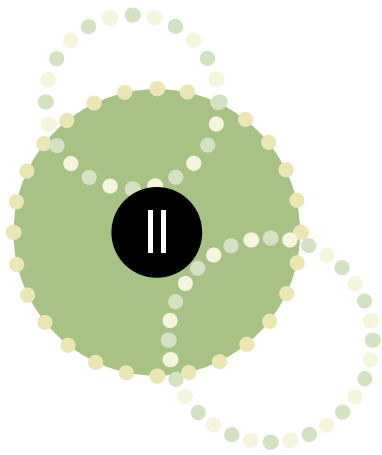
- Promoting efforts for leading projects that will become the symbol of the country.
- Promoting events such as international art festivals in which the government, a local government and the private sector will collaborate.
- Encouraging residents, private companies and local governments to take the leading role in promoting efforts such as holding traditional events in local communities.

When implementing these initiatives, the Agency for Cultural Affairs plans to establish an implementation team within the Agency. The Agency for Cultural Affairs will also seek to realize the Nation Based on Culture and the Arts after 2020 by enhancing momentum nationwide, involving the entire society, in cooperation with the Organising Committee, the Cabinet Secretariat, related government ministries and agencies and national cultural facilities, as well as by requesting the participation of local governments, private companies and groups, universities and their students and the people.

<Targets of the Power of Culture Projects (provisional name)>

- Number of events: 200,000
- Number of artists participating: 50,000
- Number of participants: 50 million

In autumn 2016, the World Forum on Sport and Culture will also be held, with the government as the host in cooperation with the business community and local governments. Seeking to boost the movements of the Olympic and Paralympic Games internationally toward 2020, this forum will be held as a kick-off event for cultural programs by discussing the international contribution and tangible and intangible legacies of sports and culture and disseminating information.



Nurturing the Dramatic Arts

1 Effective Support for the Creative Activities of Performing Arts

Aiming for rapid improvement in the standard of fine arts in Japan, the Agency for Cultural Affairs supports artistic and creative activities at the top level in a range of fields including music, dance, theater, traditional performing arts and popular entertainment.

This project uses a mechanism to create an incentive for art performance groups to increase their revenue by subsidizing expenses related to the creative activities before a performance (staging fees, scenario charges, training fees, etc.) so that they will be able to make a

profit by paying for the expenses on a real stage, such as performance fees and venue costs, from the revenues earned by the groups that gave the performance on their own.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs also provides comprehensive support for the annual activities of groups that have met certain standards to enable them to conduct their artistic and creative activities in a stable manner.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs provides assistance by granting subsidies to the Japan Arts Council.

FY 2015 Selections by Subsidy Field

(unit: million yen)

Subsidy Field	Number of applications	Number of selections	Planned subsidies
Music	144	109	1,702
Dance	50	32	537
Theater	187	105	665
Traditional performing arts	48	20	72
Popular entertainment	15	11	153
Total	444	277	3,128

Description of the New Effective Support

Since fiscal 2014, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has also been carrying out the Strategic Project to Create Culture and the Arts. In this project, the Agency for Cultural Affairs implements projects that contribute to solving problems in promoting culture and the arts in Japan in such ways as developing and fostering the new audience segments of stage performance arts, strengthening the business foundations of cultural and artistic organizations, and making efforts to promote the exhibition of outstanding art works of handicapped people by putting into practice the plans and proposals of

artistic organizations, etc. through public invitation and audition. In fiscal 2014, the Agency for Cultural Affairs adopted 28 events and performances.

To provide more effective support for artistic and cultural activities and to establish the PDCA cycle, the Japan Arts Council is introducing a trial mechanism for reviews and evaluations by experts (concerning top-level performing arts programs and the grant program for artistic and cultural activities by grant from the Japan Arts Fund (managed by the Japan Arts Council)). (Introducing the for four categories — music, dance, theater and traditional/popular entertainment.)

2 Japan Arts Fund

Activities Eligible for Grants

1 Activities for creation or popularization of art by artists or by arts-related groups

- (1) Performances of modern performing arts, performances of traditional performing arts, and similar activities
- (2) Exhibitions of fine arts, film festivals, and similar activities
- (3) Performances, exhibitions, or similar activities that are not restricted to a particular field of art

2 Activities for the promotion of regional or local community culture

- (1) Performances and exhibitions held at regional cultural facilities, such as cultural halls and art museums
- (2) Activities to preserve or utilize groups of historic buildings, historic sites, and similar cultural properties
- (3) Activities to preserve or utilize folk performing arts and similar cultural properties

3 Activities for cultural promotion or popularization conducted by culture-related groups

- (1) Performances, exhibitions, and other activities by cultural groups, such as amateur groups
- (2) Activities for preserving or passing on traditional craft techniques or cultural property

The Japan Arts Fund (JAF) was established at the end of March 1990 to provide a wide range of artistic and cultural activities with stable and continuous support. Its purpose is to form an environment in which all the people of Japan can become familiar with culture and the arts and involve themselves in the creation of new culture, and also to strengthen the foundation for that endeavor.

The JAF employs the yield on fund operations of its current fiscal resources of ¥66.1 billion (¥54.1 billion endowment from the national government and ¥12.0 billion in private-sector donations) to support numerous artistic and cultural activities.

To increase its level of support, donations to the fund are also recruited from time to time.

Status of Grant Disbursements of FY 2014

(million yen)

Grant Category	Applications	No. of Grants	Amount of Grants
• Activities for creation or popularization of art by artists or by arts-related groups	840 (860)	353 (346)	745 (769)
• Activities to promote the culture of a region or local community	386 (406)	219 (212)	290 (268)
• Activities for cultural promotion or popularization conducted by culture-related groups	218 (278)	114 (128)	99 (92)

Note : Figures in brackets are of FY 2013

3

Nurturing Upcoming Artists with Potentially Global Appeal

The Agency for Cultural Affairs is making efforts to nurture upcoming artists by supporting their study abroad, training performance and instructions.

Program	Description
Program of Overseas Study for Upcoming Artists	Offers upcoming artists involved in the fine arts, music, dance, drama, or other arts opportunities for practical training overseas. Until now, this program has helped some 3,250 awardees study abroad for one-year, two-year, three-year, or senior high school students (350-day) special (80-day) periods. Also short-term program (20 to 40-day) has introduced in FY 2014.
Program for Nurturing Upcoming Artists who lead the next generation	As well as preparing the infrastructure, we provide the practical opportunities such as the necessary settings for up-and-coming artists to improve their foundation skills and techniques, and the venues where they can acquire knowledge and broaden their outlook, observations, and fields.
Program for Cultural and Art Promotion Utilizing Universities	The resources of art universities (including faculty, educational and research functions, facilities/materials) are used to support a program for nurturing human resources for art management, including stage art.

Examples of Past Trainees of Program of Overseas Study for Upcoming Artists

OKUTANI Hiroshi	Art: Western Art	'67
MORISHITA Yoko	Dance: Ballet	'75
KINUTANI Koji	Art: Western Art	'77
SATO Shinobu	Music: Vocal music	'84
NODA Hideki	Drama: Director	'92
SUWANAI Akiko	Music: Instrumental music	'94
NOMURA Mansai	Performance: Kyogen	'94
SAI Yoichi	Movie: Director	'96
KOKAMI Shoji	Drama: Director	'97
NAGATSUKA Keishi	Drama: Director, Playwright, Actor	'08

Adoptive Situation for Trainees of the Japanese Government Overseas Study Program for Artists in 2015 (breakdown by areas)

	For one year	For two year	For three year	Special	Short-term program (preceding term only)	Age 15–17
Art	20	4	0	2	3	—
Music	16	2	0	3	2	0
Dance	3	1	0	1	2	5
Drama and Stage Design	7	0	0	2	1	—
Film and Media Arts	8	0	0	0	0	—
Total	54	7	0	8	8	5

4 Organizing the National Arts Festival

The 69th National Arts Festival in 2014



Opening of Cultural Exchange of Traditional Performing Arts: Japanese-Mongolian Songs and Dances commemorating International Music Day
Production: Japan Arts Council



Ballet *Sleeping Beauty*
Production: New National Theatre Tokyo
Photo: SHIKAMA Takashi

Since 1946, the ACA National Arts Festival has been held every autumn with the aims of enabling a wide segment of the public to enjoy outstanding works of art from Japan and abroad, encouraging artistic creativity, and advancing the arts.

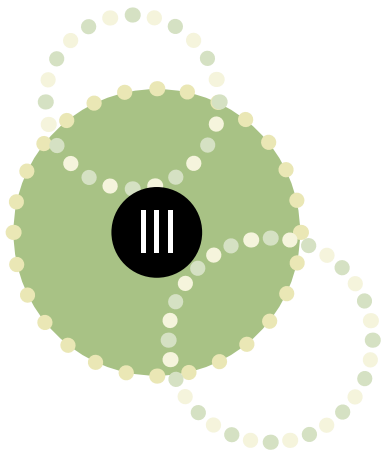
In 2014, major performances in the Kanto and Kansai areas as well as other artistic events were given as before.

Moreover, among participating performances in four divisions (drama, music, dance, and entertainment) and participating works in four divisions (television/drama, television/documentary, radio, and records), outstanding achievements in each division were awarded the ACA National Arts Festival Grand Prize, Excellence Award, New Artist Award, and ACA National Arts Festival Individual Broadcasting Award.

The opening of the ACA National Arts Festival was marked in a spectacular fashion with “Cultural Exchange of Traditional Performing Arts: Japanese-Mongolian Songs and Dances.” There were also a variety of sponsored performances of opera, ballet, theater, music, noh, bunraku, kabuki and other public entertainment.

The 69th National Arts Festival in 2014

		Performance
Summary	Opening	Cultural Exchange of Traditional Performing Arts: Japanese-Mongolian Songs and Dances
	Opera	<i>Parsifal</i>
	Music	<i>Asia Orchestra Week 2014</i>
	Kabuki	<i>October Kabuki Performance at the National Theatre</i>
	Noh	October Special performance <i>Yukigeshiki</i> (snowy landscape) commemorating Classic Day at the National Noh Theatre
	Bunraku performance	November Public Performance at the National Bunraku Theatre
	Theater	<i>The Breath of Life – Portraits of Women</i>
	Ballet	Ballet <i>Sleeping Beauty</i>
	Classical Japanese Dance	October Public Performance Japanese Buyo Dance Performance by noted schools over the country at the National Bunraku Theatre
	Asia-Pacific Regional Performing Arts	November feature performance at the National Theatre Okinawa; Performing Arts of Asia-Pacific: South Korea / Chindo Ssit-kkim-kut
	Public Entertainment	October Special performance of Art Festival Comic Storytelling
Participating performances		Total of 165 performances in the theater, music, dance and popular entertainment categories Total of 126 productions for TV dramas, TV documentaries, radio, recordings
Sponsored performances		Total of 29 performances in the theater, music, dance and popular entertainment categories



Promoting the Media Arts and Films

The media arts (=Media Geijutsu) including animation, manga, media art and games are widely loved by the public, and stimulates the creation of new arts and the revitalization of the country's arts as a whole as well as attracting international attention, which in turn serves to deepen interest and understanding in respect of Japan. Not only do the media arts promote culture, they are also

highly significant for the role they play in promoting the content industry and tourism, and in encouraging international cultural exchange. Therefore, in order to step up encouragement for the media arts, we are carrying out the following projects that support creators and their creative activities.

1 Promoting the Media Arts

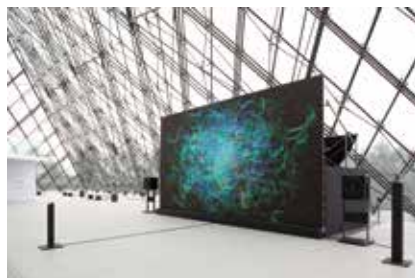
1. Creation and Dissemination of Media Arts (Support for the Media Arts Creators and their creative activities)

Agency for Cultural Affairs have organized the Japan Media Arts Festival since 1997 in order to provide an opportunity to present, appreciate, and commend outstanding works of the media arts.

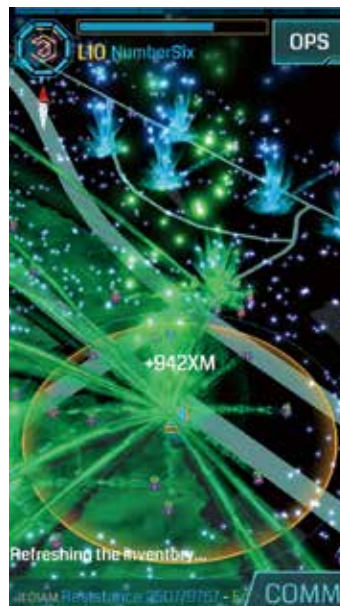
In FY 2014 the festival attracted 3,853 applications, including 1,818 from 70 countries and regions abroad.

Grand Prize, Excellence Awards, and New Face Awards were presented for each of the four divisions of Art, Entertainment, Animation, and Manga. In addition, Special Achievement Award was presented to those who have made significant contributions to the field of the media arts.

Art Division
 Excellence Award: "Sensing Streams
 – invisible, inaudible 2014 –"
 Artists: SAKAMOTO Ryuichi /
 MANABE Daito
 ©SAKAMOTO Ryuichi
 / MANABE Daito
 Photo: Keizo Kioku, Courtesy of
 Creative City Sapporo International
 Art Festival Executive Committee



Art Division
 Art Division
 Excellence Award: "Nyløid"
 Artists: Cod.Act
 (Michel DÉCOSTERD
 / André DÉCOSTERD)
 ©Cod.Act
 Photo: Xavier Voirl



Entertainment Division
 Entertainment Division
 Grand Prize: "Ingress"
 Artist: Google's Niantic Labs
 (John HANKE, Founder)
 ©Google/Niantic Labs
 Photo:Google's Niantic Labs



Animation Division
 Grand Prize: “The Wound”
 Artist: Anna BUDANOVA
 ©Ural-Cinema



Manga Division
 Grand Prize: “Goshiki no Fune (The Five-colored boat)”
 Artist: KONDO Youko (Original author: TSUHARA Yasumi)
 ©Youko Kondo / Yasumi Tsuhara 2014

An award-winning works exhibition is held every year in February at the National Art Center Tokyo, attended by many visitors who come to experience the latest works in the media arts.

In addition to the exhibition, focusing on the award-winning works from the previous year or past years, the project of Participation in Overseas Media Arts Festivals

and the Japan Media Arts Festival Regional Exhibitions are organized in order to disseminate outstanding works of the media arts in Japan and overseas. Further, Agency for Cultural Affairs is putting Media Arts Database into effect, and is working on the promotion of media arts by carrying joint projects based on collaboration between industry, academia and government (national museums).

Scene from exhibition site for the Award-winning works of Japan Media Arts Festival



Scene from the Japan Media Arts Festival in at Tokachi-Obihiro exhibition site in Hokkaido



2. Nurturing Talent for Media Arts (Support for Human Resources Development)

Agency for Cultural Affairs supports and promotes measures for nurturing outstanding creators and animators

who will lead the media arts of the country in the future.

Promoting media arts

Supporting Activities for Media Arts (for example, facilitating dissemination, exhibitions, information gathering, and creative activity)	Japan Media Arts Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All-round media arts festival that commends outstanding works and exhibits Award-winning works. Organizes local exhibitions and shows outstanding works at media arts festivals and facilities in Japan.
	Participation in Overseas Media Arts Festivals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exhibits and screens outstanding works at media arts festivals and facilities overseas.
	Supporting the production of animated films	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially subsidizes production costs for outstanding animated films.
	Project to facilitate interactions on Media Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch a consortium with an industry-academia-government and museum Utilizing the database for media-arts works and supporting projects of archiving contents in research institutions
Nurturing Talent for Media Arts (Support for Human Resources Development)	Project to support the nurturing of media arts creators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support projects that relate to creative activities engaged in by young creators, as well as to workshops, public lectures, investigative research, and so forth organized by facilities nationwide.
	Project to nurture young animators and other talent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nurture talent at animation production sites that incorporate on the job training (OJT) at the production stage by hiring young talent as production staff.
	Project to invite overseas creators of media arts (artists-in-residence)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite outstanding young creators from overseas and offer them opportunities for training and research.

2

Promoting Film Arts

Film is a composite art that includes drama, music, and fine arts, and it is firmly fixed in the everyday lives of the people of Japan as one of the most familiar forms of entertainment. Film is also an expression of the cultural situation in a country or region at a particular time, and shows the special characteristics of a culture.

At the Agency for Cultural Affairs, the Informal Council on Promoting Japanese Cinema compiled a

report entitled "Promoting Japanese Cinema in the Future: Regenerating Japanese Film (Proposal)." On receipt of the report, we have implemented the Promotion Plan of Japanese Films and Moving Images based on the pillars of (1) creating, exchanging and transmitting Japanese films, (2) fostering young filmmakers and people involved in film, as well as (3) collecting, preserving and restoring Japanese films.

Promoting Japanese Film

Creating, exchanging, and disseminating Japanese films	Support film production	• Provide support for the production of outstanding films.
	Operating a database for film locations	• Work to promote filming in Japan by operating a centralized database of information on film locations nationwide and disseminating attractive shooting locations [to film producers] at home and overseas.
	Film Awards by the Agency for Cultural Affairs	• Decide the winners of the Agency for Cultural Affairs Documentary Film Category Prize and winners in the Film Merit Category and hold award-giving ceremonies and screenings.
	Support for participating in overseas film festivals	• Support Japan's participation in overseas film festivals in order to disseminate outstanding Japanese films.
	Japan Film Conference	• Provide opportunities for various film related bodies' exchange and dissemination by holding conferences to collect the various opinions and topics on films.
	Special Screenings of Japanese Films in Asia Project	• Promote understanding of Japanese culture and increase opportunities for screening by carrying out special screenings of Japanese films in the Asian region.
Training young film-makers and related personnel	Maintaining the Japan Film Information System	• Maintain a film information database to enable Japanese films to be introduced overseas and to enable a variety of works to be screened.
	Train young film-makers and related personnel by providing support for short films	• Nurturing young promising film-makers to rise to prominence, through film production workshops and production of actual short films.
Collecting, preserving and restoring Japanese films	Support project for training people in film-related organizations, etc.	• Support the acceptance of students for internships at production sites in order to train highly specialized talent to lead every process of film production.
	National Film Center, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo	• Collecting, preserving and restoring valuable Japanese films

In addition, film is an extremely effective medium for disseminating Japanese culture to audiences overseas. At the Agency for Cultural Affairs, we are developing the

following databases as a way of providing information about Japanese films.



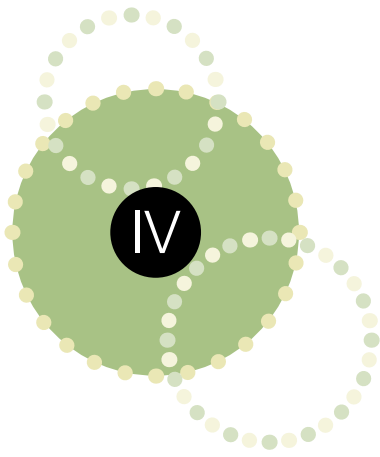
Training for Young Filmmakers by Producing Short Films (New Directions in Japanese Cinema) <http://www.vipo-ndjc.jp/> (Japanese only)



Japan Location Database (JLDB) <http://www.jldb.bunka.go.jp/en/>



Japanese Cinema Database (JCDB) <http://www.japanese-cinema-db.jp/> (Japanese only)



Promotion of Activities Enabling Children to Experience Arts and Culture

1. Student Development Program through Culture and the Arts

Children's experience about authentic stage arts and traditional culture develops their sensitivity and creativity through direct exposure to the kind of inspiration and stimulation that is not normally experienced. That also contributes to create the environment for our nation's culture preservation and development.

Therefore, the Agency for Cultural Affairs provides opportunities for children to experience/appreciate outstanding culture and in gymnasiums at primary and secondary schools.

The programs shown on the right are provided under the Student Development Program through Culture and the Arts.

(1) Touring performance

Leading cultural and artistic groups selected by the Agency for Cultural Affairs perform at primary or secondary schools.

Workshops are conducted to teach dramatic or musical appreciation and to provide technical training.

Performance fields: choral singing, orchestral music, musicals, drama, children's theater, musical theater, kabuki, noh, ningyo joruri (puppet theater), traditional Japanese dance and music, ballet, contemporary dance, dramatic entertainment, etc.

(2) Dispatch of artists

Individual artists or small groups of artists selected independently by a school provide a lecture, practical presentation, or practical instruction.

Performance fields: music, popular entertainment, literature, drama, art, lifestyle and culture, dance, traditional arts, media art, etc.

(3) Improvement of communication skills

Individual artists or small groups of artists are dispatched to schools to offer a planned/continual workshop, etc. using an expression method.

Performance fields: music, popular entertainment, literature, drama, art, lifestyle and culture, dance, traditional arts, media art, etc.



Touring Performance Program (orchestral performance)



Dispatch Program (traditional performing arts)



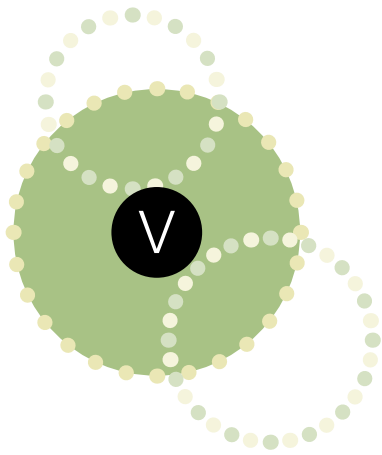
Improvement of Communication Skills Project (workshop)

2. Traditional Art Experience Program for Parents and Children

The program shares the traditional culture derived from history and tradition throughout Japan and carefully preserved and passed on through generations. It also shares the lifestyle and culture cherished and established in the lives of Japanese people, and ensures that children who will lead the next are exposed to and experience this traditional culture and this lifestyle and culture to cultivate rich humanity within them.

In order to achieve this objective, the Agency for Cultural Affairs supports efforts to provide opportunities

for children who will lead the next generation, along with their parents, to experience/undertake activities related to traditional culture and lifestyle and culture in a planned and consistent manner, including folk performance art, industrial art, traditional Japanese music, classical Japanese dance, flower arranging, and the tea ceremony. In addition, the program also supports efforts in collaboration with after-school programs for children and Saturday educational activities offered by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.



Promoting Cultural Activities in Local Areas

1 Strategic Plan for Integrated Use of Cultural Properties

There is an extensive variety of rich cultural heritage throughout Japan. This cultural heritage is a vital source of support for the people living in each region and for local community formation, and it must be passed down to the next generation without fail. In addition, with renewed awareness of the appropriate preservation and transmission of local cultural heritage and the role it plays in local revitalization, among other things, the active utilization of local cultural heritage is anticipated.

In FY 2014, the Agency for Cultural Affairs began supporting various initiatives that make integrated use of properties such as transmission information / public awareness activities (aspect of consolidation of software) and upgrading facilities for public use (aspect of consolidation of hardware) as the project of the Strategic Plan for Integrated Use of Cultural Properties.

1. Project to Promote Japan Heritage

The administration of cultural properties in Japan has been carried out mainly for the purpose of preserving and utilizing cultural properties as a site under certain regulations by designating them as National Treasures, Important Cultural Properties and Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty and National Monuments according to their type based on the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties.

Meanwhile, there are a great number of excellent tangible and intangible cultural properties in many parts of the country, and developing a system to promote their attractions by adding value such as a storyline and promoting town development policies in an integrated manner in conjunction with industrial promotion, tourism promotion and the development of human resources, etc. in the regions (including surrounding areas), with cultural properties as the core, will contribute to the reconfirmation of the identity of local residents and the branding of the regions, etc., and will eventually make a significant contribution to regional revitalization.

It is desirable for local governments to make efforts to use cultural properties actively, keeping in mind the effects as described above, and the Agency for Cultural Affairs has established a project to support the efforts of local governments to comprehensively use groups of tangible and intangible properties that are attractive and essential for telling stories about the culture and tradition of Japan

as an effective measure for implementing initiatives to encourage such highly-motivated local governments by certifying such stories describing the culture and tradition of Japan as Japan Heritage. In the current fiscal year, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has certified 18 stores as Japan Heritage for fiscal 2015 following deliberations by the Japan Heritage Review Committee on April 21, 2015.



Japan Heritage List 2015

No	Prefecture	Applicant (●representative)	Story model
1	Ibaraki, Tochigi, Okayama, Oita	●Mito City (Ibaraki Pref.), Ashikaga City (Tochigi Pref.), Bizen City (Okayama Pref.), Hita City (Oita Pref.)	Educational Heritage from Early-Modern Japan(1568-1868): The Origins of Academics and Decorum
2	Gunma	●Gunma Prefecture (Kiryu City, Kanra Town, Nakanojo Town, Katashina Village)	Kakaa Denka: The Silk Story of Gunma
3	Toyama	Takaoka City	Flourishing Folk Culture Under the Rule of the Maeda Family of Kaga
4	Ishikawa	●Ishikawa Prefecture (Nanao City, Wajima City, Suzu City, Shiga Town, Anamizu Town, Noto Town)	The Noto Peninsula: Where the Light Dances
5	Fukui	●Fukui Prefecture (Obama City, Wakasa Town)	Wakasa Province: A Cultural Heritage Linking the Sea to the Ancient Capital
6	Gifu	Gifu City	An Ancient Castle Town with the Spirit of Nobunaga's Hospitality
7	Mie	Meiwa Town	Saiku: The Palace of the Imperial Princess and the Spirit of Ise
8	Shiga	●Shiga Prefecture (Otsu City, Hikone City, Omihachiman City, Takashima City, Higashiomi City, Maibara City)	Lake Biwa and Its Surroundings: A Water Heritage Site of Life and Prayer
9	Kyoto	●Kyoto Prefecture (Uji City, Joyo City, Yawata City, Kyotanabe City, Kizugawa City, Ujitawara Town, Wazuka Town, Minamiyamashiro Village)	A Historical Walk through 800 Years of Japanese Tea
10	Hyogo	Sasayama City	<i>Dekansho-Bushi</i> : Hometown Memories Passed Down in Folk Songs
11	Nara	Asuka Village, Kashihara City, Takatori Town	The Dawn of Japan: Women in the Asuka Period
12	Tottori	Misasa Town	A Site for Purifying the Six Roots of Perception and Healing the Six Senses ~ Japan's Most Dangerous National Treasure and Temple and a World-Famous Radon Hot Spring
13	Shimane	Tsuwano Town	Tsuwano Then and Now: Exploring the Town of Tsuwano Through the <i>One Hundred Landscapes of Tsuwano</i>
14	Hiroshima	Onomichi City	A Miniature Garden City from the Middle Ages Built Around the Onomichi Channel
15	Ehime, Kochi, Tokushima, Kagawa	●Ehime, Kochi, Tokushima, Kagawa Prefectures (57 municipal governments)	Henro: The Pilgrimage Route and 88 Temples of Shikoku
16	Fukuoka	Dazaifu City	The Ancient Capital of Western Japan: A Political Center of Cultural Exchange with East Asia
17	Nagasaki	●Nagasaki Prefecture (Tsunami City, Iki City, Goto City, Shinkamigoto Town)	The Frontier Islands of Iki and Tsushima, Goto: The Ancient Bridge to the Continent
18	Kumamoto	●Hitoyoshi City, Nishiki Town, Asagiri Town, Taragi Town, Yunomae Town, Mizukami Village, Sagara Village, Itsuki Village, Yamae Village, Kuma Village	The Culture of the Sagara Family: 700 Years of a Conservative Yet Innovative Spirit in one of Japan's Richest Remote Regions

2. Project to Revitalize the Local Community by Using Cultural Heritage

Agency for Cultural Affairs supports unique initiatives that make comprehensive use of the varied and rich cultural heritage, Japan's treasure, based on the situation in each area including presenting traditional arts/events to the public, nurturing/training successors, and activities that expose people to Japanese classics.



Kodomo-teodori (Children's hand-dancing) of Karasuzaki area in Minamisoma City, Fukushima Prefecture gave the first performance after the Great East Japan Earthquake

3. Project to Support Creative Activities at Art Museums and History Museums as the Core of the Local Community

Please see the detail on page 72

4. Project to Revitalize the Local Community by Cultural Property Buildings

The objectives of this project are to facilitate public access to Important Cultural Property buildings, Registered Tangible Cultural Property buildings, or Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings and, by this means, to revitalize local communities. The project provides financial supports for initiatives to install facilities or equipment for exhibition (including information panels and lighting facilities), public conveniences (e.g. toilets, rest areas for visitors) or management (e.g. reception areas). In case of Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings, the project also provides financial supports for initiatives to take disaster

prevention measures for traditional buildings, particularly reinforcement of earthquake resistance, in order to ensure the safety of visitors and inhabitants in times of disaster.



Kiragawa Machinami-kan (community center) (Kiragawa, Muroto City), Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Historic Buildings (Kochi Pref.)



Important Cultural Properties Former Shitsu Aid Centre Macaroni Workshop (Nagasaki City, Nagasaki Prefecture)



Registered Cultural Property Yamamoto Noh Theatre and Noh Stage (Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture)

5. Vivid Revitalization by Utilization of Historic Sites: Project to Promote Integrated Use and Support of Historic Landmarks that Utilize Local Characteristics

The local historic landmarks, places of scenic beauty, natural monuments are the treasures of each community. The project supports the improvement of preservation of those treasures to hand core values on to the next generation. Also, the project supports the creation of

attractive areas that integrate elements of safety and security, and public access in order to promote and revitalize communities by leveraging the treasures that form the core of the local community.



Facility guidance of Kamabuta Site of Hida Sites (Joetsu City, Niigata Pref.)



Repair work of stonewall of ruins of Kochi-jo castle (Kochi City, Kochi Pref.)

6. Project for Using Buried Cultural Properties with Local Characteristics

This project promotes the understanding of cultural properties and disseminates and cultivates them by implementing study meetings through experience using buried cultural properties, and improves facilities in the centers of buried cultural properties to which abolished schools, etc. were diverted as institutions for the storage and exhibition of buried cultural properties and activity bases. Through these efforts, the project promotes regional revitalization by carrying out both endeavors in an integrated manner.



Remodeled stone-built grain warehouse to a center for buried cultural property (Taraki Town, Kumamoto Pref.)

2

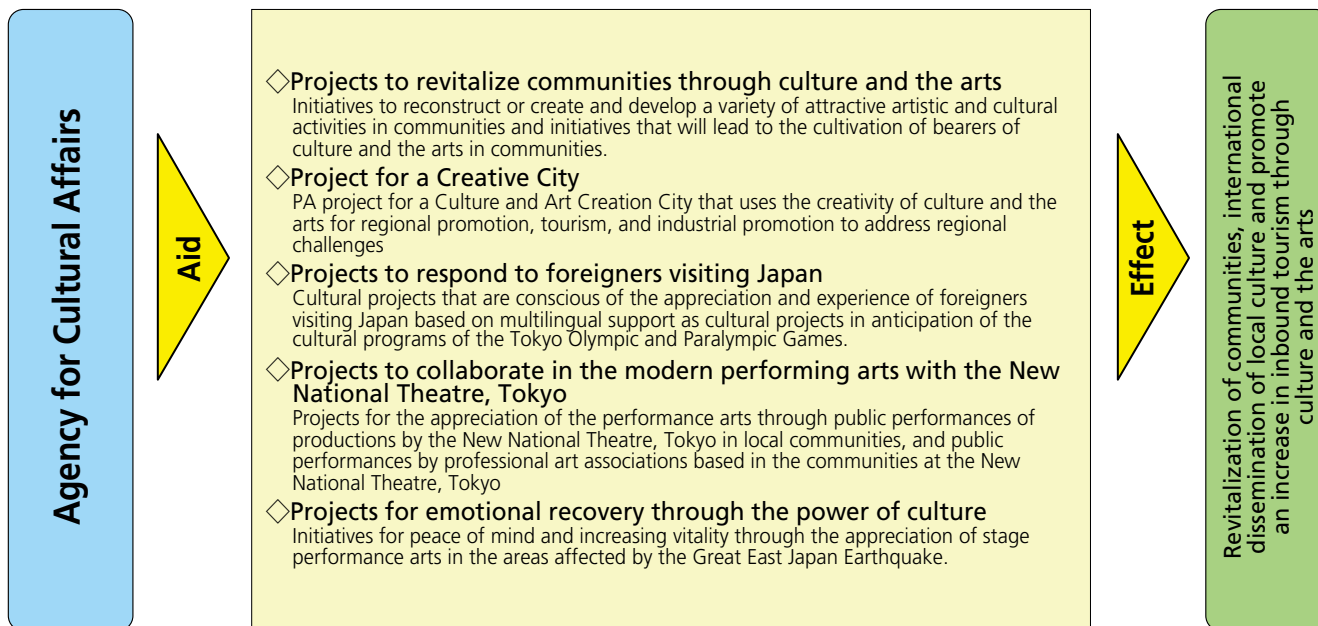
Facilitating Unique Artistic and Cultural Activities in Local Communities

Designed cultural activities using cultural resources, etc. in local communities, cultural activities in anticipation of cultural programs of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and projects that enable foreigners visiting Japan to appreciate and experience arts and

cultural activities are supported. The purpose is to revitalize communities through culture and the arts, disseminate local culture in Japan internationally and promote an increase in inbound tourism through culture and the arts.

Regional revitalization through culture and the arts and projects to disseminate them internationally

Prefectural and municipal governments use the following activities to develop projects.



Sapporo City, Hokkaido
Scene from the Sapporo International Art Festival 2014 (Projects for the Art and Culture Promotion and the Promotion of Creative City): Opening program of the Festival "Whirling noise"
Photo: Courtesy of the Creative City Sapporo International Art Festival Executive Committee



Ishikawa Prefecture
Scene from the program of Ishikawa International Music Festival: Brass Band Day

3

Encouraging Local Residents to Participate in Artistic and Cultural Activities

1. The National Cultural Festival

The National Cultural Festival is a festival of culture which aims to provide opportunities to present various cultural activities by the Japanese public with an emphasis on activities by amateurs, rouse motivation to join cultural activities, encourage the creation of new culture, achieve the development of local culture, and enrich the life of the people.

In 2015, the 30th holding of the festival took place in Kagoshima Prefecture.



Logo of the National Festival
(designed by FUKUDA Shigeo)

Host Prefectures of Past and Future National Cultural Festival

No. (Year)	Host	No. (Year)	Host	No. (Year)	Host
1 st (1986)	Tokyo	12 th (1997)	Kagawa	23 rd (2008)	Ibaraki
2 nd (1987)	Kumamoto	13 th (1998)	Oita	24 th (2009)	Shizuoka
3 rd (1988)	Hyogo	14 th (1999)	Gifu	25 th (2010)	Okayama
4 th (1989)	Saitama	15 th (2000)	Hiroshima	26 th (2011)	Kyoto
5 th (1990)	Ehime	16 th (2001)	Gunma	27 th (2012)	Tokushima
6 th (1991)	Chiba	17 th (2002)	Tottori	28 th (2013)	Yamanashi
7 th (1992)	Ishikawa	18 th (2003)	Yamagata	29 th (2014)	Akita
8 th (1993)	Iwate	19 th (2004)	Fukuoka	30 th (2015)	Kagoshima
9 th (1994)	Mie	20 th (2005)	Fukui	31 st (2016)	Aichi
10 th (1995)	Tochigi	21 st (2006)	Yamaguchi	32 nd (2017)	Nara
11 th (1996)	Toyama	22 nd (2007)	Tokushima		

Main features

Sponsored program

Those that are jointly hosted by the Agency for Cultural Affairs together with the hosting prefectural government or the municipal government, cultural group, or other organization associated with the locale concerned.

Comprehensive festival

Includes an opening festival that indicates the orientation of new trends in amateur cultural activities, and so forth.

Symposiums

Keynote lectures, panel discussions, and other events to discuss diverse topics related to trends in Japanese culture, including amateur cultural activities and regional cultural activities.

Genre-Specific festivals

Performances, exhibitions, and other events are presented-with a focus on groups nominated by prefectural governments and so on-in such genres as folk music, orchestral music, choral music, brass band music, traditional Japanese music, drama, literary arts, dance, daily culture, and crafts.

Cooperative festival

Those that comply with the objectives of the National Cultural Festival and are hosted by local governments, culture-related groups, and corporations and other organizations nationwide. They consist of performances, contests, festivals, exhibitions, classes, and other events.



The 29th National Cultural Festival Akita 2014 Opening ceremony



Event schedule:

Saturday October 31 – Sunday November 15, 2015

[Opening ceremony/Opening festival]

Saturday, October 31, 2015 - Kagoshima Arena

[Closing ceremony/Grand Finale]

Sunday, November 15, 2015 - Houzan Hall

In addition, 155 events are to be held in 43 cities, towns, and villages in Kagoshima Prefecture. The theme is "Kagoshima is for Real!" — Restoration of Culture Rides on the Black Current —The Prefecture holds the Festival with the spirit of hearty service or *omotenashi* of Kagoshima people's own.



The slogan in the logo set, "Hittobe" is a word of Kagoshima dialect which means "making a leap forward." Hittobe expresses the Kagoshima people's hope and enthusiasm that Kagoshima's original information will be spread to the world via the Festival.

2. National Cultural Festivals for Senior High Schools

Aiming to improve and enhance the artistic and cultural activities of high school students and to deepen mutual exchange, the National Cultural Festival for Senior High Schools, the largest cultural festival for high schools in Japan, has been held since 1977.

The event capitalizes on the flexible ideas of high school students with the students taking on a central role in planning and operating the event while participants in the event deepen exchanges and compete on the results of day-to-day activities.

The 39th Festival for FY2015 was held in Shiga Prefecture.

Main features

Opening events	Opening ceremonies and announcement of host prefecture, etc.
Parade	Processions and other activities performed by students of senior high schools nationwide, with an emphasis on schools participating in the Marching Band and Baton Twirling division.
Sponsored division	Drama, Chorus, Brass Band, Instrumental Music, Wind and String Instrument Music, Japanese Music; <i>Gin'ei</i> , <i>Kenbu</i> , and <i>Shibu</i> (song, sword dance, fan dance); Local Traditional Performing Arts, Marching Band and Baton Twirling, Fine Arts and Applied Arts, Calligraphy, Photography, TV and Radio Broadcasts, Go, Shogi, Speech, <i>Ogura Hyakunin Isshu</i> Card Game, Newspaper, and Literary Arts, Natural Science, etc.

Host Prefectures of Past and Future National Cultural Festivals for Senior High Schools

No. (Year)	Host	No. (Year)	Host
1 st (1977)	Chiba	22 nd (1998)	Tottori
2 nd (1978)	Hyogo	23 rd (1999)	Yamagata
3 rd (1979)	Oita	24 th (2000)	Shizuoka
4 th (1980)	Ishikawa	25 th (2001)	Fukuoka
5 th (1981)	Akita	26 th (2002)	Kanagawa
6 th (1982)	Tochigi	27 th (2003)	Fukui
7 th (1983)	Yamaguchi	28 th (2004)	Tokushima
8 th (1984)	Gifu	29 th (2005)	Aomori
9 th (1985)	Iwate	30 th (2006)	Kyoto
10 th (1986)	Osaka	31 st (2007)	Shimane
11 th (1987)	Aichi	32 nd (2008)	Gunma
12 th (1988)	Kumamoto	33 rd (2009)	Mie
13 th (1989)	Okayama	34 th (2010)	Miyazaki
14 th (1990)	Yamanashi	35 th (2011)	Fukushima
15 th (1991)	Kagawa	36 th (2012)	Toyama
16 th (1992)	Okinawa	37 th (2013)	Nagasaki
17 th (1993)	Saitama	38 th (2014)	Ibaraki
18 th (1994)	Ehime	39 th (2015)	Shiga
19 th (1995)	Niigata	40 th (2016)	Hiroshima
20 th (1996)	Hokkaido	41 th (2017)	Miyagi
21 st (1997)	Nara	42 nd (2018)	Saga

FY2014 The 38th National Cultural Festival for Senior High School Students in Ibaraki



The parade in Tsukuba City



Grand opening ceremony

[Grand opening ceremony/Parade] Tuesday, July 28, 2015 - Biwako Hall, locations in Otsu City

Approximately 20,000 senior high school students from throughout Japan compete over five days in 19 specific divisions plus four divisions set independently by Shiga Prefecture: "special-needs education," "Industry" and "sado (tea ceremony)."



Urmina, the PR mascot

4

Training Human Resources to Support Artistic and Cultural Activities

The training programs described below aim to raise the competence of staff at theaters and concert halls, curators,

and other specialists working at art museums or museums, and other staff involved in culture and the arts.

Course name	Organizer	Duration	Target / Capacity	Description
Nationwide Seminar on Art Management for Theaters and Concert Halls, etc.	Agency for Cultural Affairs et al.	3 days	Management, mid-level operational supervisors and others of theaters and concert halls, etc. nationwide	Training on art management required for smooth administrative operation of theaters and concert halls, etc.
Regional Seminar on Art Management for Theaters and Concert Halls, etc.	Agency for Cultural Affairs et al.	2 days	Management, first-level of operational supervisors and others of theaters and concert halls, etc. in the region concerned	Basic training on art management, including the planning and management of performances
National Seminar for Technical Staff at Theaters and Concert Halls, etc.	Agency for Cultural Affairs et al.	3 days	Mid-level supervisors and others of stagecraft for theaters and concert halls, etc. nationwide	Training for acquiring required expertise for the overall administration such as lighting, acoustics, stage mechanisms, and other stagecraft
Regional Seminar for Technical Staff at Theaters and Concert Halls, etc.	Agency for Cultural Affairs et al.	2 days	Stagecraft supervisors and others of first-level at theaters and concert halls, etc. in the region concerned	Basic training on lighting, acoustics, stage mechanisms, and other stagecraft
Training Seminar for Specialists at Folk-History Museums	Agency for Cultural Affairs and National Museum of Japanese History, Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institute for the Humanities	5-day course held annually for 2 years	Specialized staff with under 5 years of work experience at an ethnohistorical or history museum (about 50 people)	Training in the specialized knowledge and skills needed to investigate, collect, preserve, display, and other wise manage historic, folkloric, and archaeological material
Seminar on Planning and Holding Exhibitions of Designated Cultural Properties (fine arts and crafts)	Agency for Cultural Affairs	5-day course held annually for 2 years	Curators at museums that exhibit designated cultural properties (fine arts and crafts) (about 50 people)	Trainings and lectures with specialized knowledge and techniques related to the preservation and exhibition of designated cultural properties (fine arts and crafts)
Training for Conservation Supervisors at Museums and Art Galleries	Independent Administrative Institution National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo	2 weeks	Conservation supervisors at museums, art museums, and similar facilities that are either national, public, or private institutions (about 25 people)	Lectures and practical training to acquire basic knowledge and skills related to the conservation of cultural properties
Museum Management Seminar	Agency for Cultural Affairs	3 days	Management staff at art museums and history museums nationwide, staff with responsibility for culture at local government (about 50 people)	Lectures on the skills necessary to plan and operate art museums and history museums
Museum Educator Training	Agency for Cultural Affairs	5 days	Curators etc. of art museums and history museums nationwide (about 50 people)	Trainings on the educational skills for staff in charge of education at art museums and history museums
Training for Excavation Staff in Charge of Buried Cultural Properties	Independent Administrative Institution Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties	Varies with the topic and curriculum	Local government staff in charge of buried cultural properties (about 160 people)	Training to acquire the specialized knowledge and skills needed to excavate and investigate buried cultural properties
Cultural Properties Administration Course	Agency for Cultural Affairs	3 days	Local government staff in charge of administering cultural properties with under 3 years of work (about 100 people)	Learning basic matters that are needed for carrying out cultural properties administration, and dealing with practical issues
Seminar on the Basic Scheme for Historical and Cultural Properties	Agency for Cultural Affairs	2 days	Local government staff in charge of administering cultural properties (about 100 people)	Training in the requirements for formulating the Basic Scheme for Historical and Cultural Properties, administrative issues, case studies
Training Course on managing "Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings" (basic course and advanced course)	Agency for Cultural Affairs	3 days each	Mainly those who are engaged in preservation administration by local government for groups of traditional buildings (advanced course requires more than 2 years working experience) (about 60 people)	The basic course provides fundamental knowledge needed for implementing the system of Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings. The advanced course offers practical training in how to cope with various problems related to preservation
Senior conservation architects course (Standard course, Advanced course)	Agency for Cultural Affairs	Standard course 8 days x 2 years Advanced course 7 days	Architects in conservation work (Participants who have completed the standard course are accepted for the advanced course) (about 20 people each)	Training on conservation of architectural monuments and other structures

5 Projects to Revitalize Theaters and Concert Halls etc.

Based on the Law Concerning the Revitalization of Theaters, Concert Halls etc., the projects contribute to a spiritually rich day-to-day life and dynamic communities, promote creation and revival in the local community, and attempt the reactivation of theaters and concert halls etc. by supporting

the formation of networks of theaters and concert halls etc., enlightenment programs to raise public awareness, training for expert human resources, promotion of creative acts and disseminating of stage performance arts at the theaters and concert halls that are the cultural hubs in Japan.

1. Special Support Projects

The projects provide comprehensive support for campaigns to raise awareness, projects for training human resources, and projects to convey the creation of stage performance

arts of an international standard at top-level theaters and concert halls etc. with the pulling power to raise the standard of stage performance in Japan.

2. Projects to Support Joint Productions

Projects that support new creative activities (new works, new productions, new choreography, first performances of translated works) in the stage performance arts undertaken by multiple theaters and concert halls in

cooperation with stage performance associations with the aim of increasing the ability to convey the creation of stage performance arts.

3. Projects for Supporting Activities

The theaters and concert halls etc. that provide the drive to promote the local stage performance arts work together with local residents and stage performance groups to raise

awareness of programs to train human resources and the creative activities of the stage performance arts at the individual level.

4. Projects that Support the Formation of Networks of Theaters and Concert Halls etc

Projects that support touring stage performances planned and produced by theaters, concert halls and stage performance associations to allow everyone in Japan

access to the stage arts regardless of where they live, and to promote mutual collaboration and cooperation of theaters and concert halls etc.

5. Projects that Provide the Foundation of Theaters and Concert Halls etc.

Projects that implement survey research and workshops (art management seminars, training for technical staff) and provide information in order to cultivate the environment

for independent stage performance activities at theaters and concert halls etc.



10th Gala Concert: Symphonie der Tausend - Gustav Mahler
Kawasaki City Culture Foundation (Kanagawa Pref.)
(MUZA Kawasaki Symphony Hall)



Performance of Spanish National Dance Company
Production: Aichi Arts Foundation (Aichi Arts Center)
Photo: Arnold Groeschel

6

Development of a Cultural and Artistic Creative City

In recent years, local governments are increasingly aiming to nurture local people's creativity by utilizing the scenic beauty and cultural environment unique to local communities, and to have this lead to new industries and prosperity for towns. The Agency for Cultural Affairs is focusing its efforts on the Cultural and Artistic Creative City, which uses the creativity of culture and art for regional promotion and regional revitalization. In FY 2007, the Agency for Cultural Affairs established a commendation for local governments' efforts to base their urban policies on culture.

From FY 2009, efforts have been made to domestically develop the Creative City Network through information gathering and provision, training sessions and other

activities for local governments and other concerned people and organizations committed to the development of cities creative in culture and art. In addition, from January 2013, to improve and enhance the network of creative cities in Japan, the Creative City Network of Japan was established by cooperation of the municipalities concerned. The Agency for Cultural Affairs supports this type of network, and to support the creation of the Cultural and Artistic Creative City throughout Japan, it also decided to establish the Office for Promotion of the Creative City, the Agency for Cultural Affairs in April 2014, which provides advice to local governments, thus promoting the creation of the Cultural and Artistic Creative City.

List of recipient local governments of Commissioner for Cultural Affairs Award (division of Cultural Creative Cities)

FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Yokohama City (Kanagawa Pref.)	Sapporo City (Hokkaido)	Higashikawa Town (Hokkaido)	Mito City (Ibaraki Pref.)	Semboku City (Akita Pref.)	Niigata City (Niigata Pref.)	Hachinohe City (Aomori Pref.)	Bibai City (Hokkaido)
Kanazawa City (Ishikawa Pref.)	Toshima Ward (Tokyo)	Sendai City (Miyagi Pref.)	Tokamachi City, Tsunan Town (Niigata Pref.)	Tsuruoka City (Yamagata Pref.)	Ogaki City (Gifu Pref.)	Iwaki City (Fukushima Pref.)	Matsumoto City (Nagano Pref.)
Omihachiman City (Shiga Pref.)	Sasayama City (Hyogo Pref.)	Nakanoyo Town (Gunma Pref.)	Nanto City (Toyama Pref.)	Hamamatsu City (Shizuoka Pref.)	Kamiyama Town (Tokushima Pref.)	Chikuma City (Nagano Pref.)	Matsuyama City (Ehime Pref.)
Okinawa City (Okinawa Pref.)	Hagi City (Yamaguchi Pref.)	Beppu City (Oita Pref.)	Kiso Town (Nagano Pref.)	Maizuru City (Kyoto Pref.)		Onomichi City (Hiroshima Pref.)	Uchiko Town (Ehime Pref.)
			Kobe City (Hyogo Pref.)				



Bibai City, Hokkaido
Bon Festival dance in Arte. Candles hand-made by children are lit at the waterside (Arte-Piazza Bibai).



Matsumonoto City, Nagano Pref.
The Saito Kinen Festival Matsumoto which conductor Ozawa Seiji serves as the General Artistic Director: Citizen volunteers support the Festival.



Matsuyama City, Ehime Pref.
The qualifying rounds for the National Contest of Haiku Koshien (Haiku tournament festival) held at the city mall.



Uchiko Town, Ehime Pref.
Starting point for town development, Yokaichi-Gokoku: Important Preservation District for Groups of Historic Buildings.

7 Power of Culture Projects

Culture has the power to promote the development of an attractive society by encouraging people and invigorating local communities.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs is promoting projects to augment the “Power of Culture” of each region in Japan and invigorate Japanese society as a whole in collaboration with the parties concerned in each region. These projects have drawn much attention for linking

people and connecting people to culture, and give a great stimulus to tourism and economic activities in a region. Each of the projects involves diverse activities to disseminate the “Power of Culture” including advertising activities using the “Power of Culture” logo and websites. At present, the following eight projects (four region specific and four theme-specific projects) are being carried out.

1. Power of Culture from Kansai Project

Centering on the “Power of Culture from Kansai Project Promoting Conference,” various bodies including cultural organizations, companies, local governments, and the Agency for Cultural Affairs are developing cultural activities with the aim of promoting the unification and revitalization of the cultural sphere.

<http://www.bunkaryoku.bunka.go.jp/cgi-bin/kansai/index.php> (Japanese only)



2. Power of Culture from Marunouchi Project

ACA has supported the cultural events by cultural bodies and companies by utilizing the common information medium to promote the impression of Marunouchi district as the cultural streets since May 2004 with the aim of enhancing the power of the region and energizing society by increasing opportunities for people working in the Marunouchi district to come into contact with the arts and culture.

<http://www.marunouchi.com/bunka/> (Japanese only)



3. Power of Culture from Kyushu and Okinawa Project

Centering on the “Meeting of Promoters of the Power of Culture from Yamaguchi, Kyushu and Okinawa Project,” initiatives are being carried out to enrich and disseminate cultural activities by creating a fresh awareness in these regions of the fascinating culture that has been accumulated and handed down, with the aim of unifying and revitalizing these regions.

<http://www.bunkaryoku.bunka.go.jp/cgi-bin/kyushu/index.php> (Japanese only)



4. Power of Culture from Kasumigaseki Project

This project was started in March 2008 with the aim of energizing society by conducting activities in Kasumigaseki, the location in Tokyo of most of Japan's cabinet ministry offices, that highlight the rich benefits brought about by culture.

The project organizes a variety of cultural activities at Lounge (information lounge of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, located on the 1st floor of the preserved and rebuilt building of the forerunner of the Ministry) and many different areas in Kasumigaseki Common Gate.

http://www.bunka.go.jp/bunkaryoku_project/kasumigaseki/ (Japanese only)



5. Power of Culture from Fields of Repair Work Project

This project was started in June 2007 with the aim of making Cultural Property in the form of architectural assets the core for augmenting the regional "Power of Culture," and promoting regional communities by opening to the public the process of repairing, in preservation and renovation projects for architectural assets designated as National Treasures, Important Cultural Properties, or any other Cultural Properties, and by conducting diffusion and publicity activities concerning the preservation and renovation of such cultural properties.

<http://www.bunka.go.jp/bunkazai/bunkaryoku/> (Japanese only)



6. Power of Culture from Citizens Project

Arts NPO and citizens work hard undertaking activities to experience themselves and help others experience culture and the arts. This project was started in February 2008 with the aim of further augmenting such activities to support the regional cultures of Japan.

<http://www.bunkaryoku.bunka.go.jp/shimin/> (Japanese only)



7. Power of Culture from Excavation Ground Project

This project was started in May 2009, seeking to promote proper understanding and cooperation among the Japanese public and the people of particular localities regarding buried cultural properties and investigation by excavation, while at the same time invigorating the activities of the diverse people involved with these properties. We are using the logo to publicize the Agency in buried cultural property excavation surveys and projects that present the results.

<http://www.bunka.go.jp/bunkazai/hakkutsu/> (Japanese only)

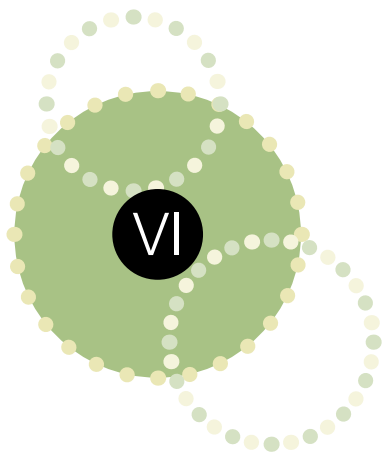


8. Power of Culture from Universities

This project was started in April 2013 for extensive use in activities and PR that publish the outcomes of artistic and cultural activities in areas where universities are active. The expectation is that it will be used to make areas more attractive by increasing opportunities for local residents to come into contact with culture.

http://www.bunka.go.jp/geijutsu_bunka/12daigaku/index.html (Japanese only)





Preservation and Utilization of Cultural Properties

1 Outline of the System for Protecting Cultural Properties

1. Outline (Number of Cultural Properties Designed by the National Government and Other Diagrams)

Cultural properties are essential to accurately understand the history and culture of Japan, and they also form the foundations for its future cultural growth and development. It is extremely important to appropriately preserve and utilize such cultural properties, which are the heritage of Japanese people.

Number of Cultural Properties Designated by the National Government

As of April 1, 2015

Designation			
Important Cultural Properties (National Treasures)		13,001	(1,093) *1
Buildings and other structures		2,428	(221)
Fine Arts and Crafts		10,573	(872)
Important Intangible Cultural Properties		(Number of Holders and Groups)	
Performing Arts	Individuals recognition	38	(55 people)
	Collective recognition	13	(13 groups)
Craft Techniques	Individuals recognition	41	(58 people) *2
	Group recognition	14	(14 groups)
Important Tangible Folk Cultural Properties		216	
Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties		290	
Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty, and Natural Monuments (Special Historic Sites, Special Places of Scenic Beauty, and Special Natural Monuments)		3,113	(172) *3
Historic Sites		1,745	(61)
Places of Scenic Beauty		393	(36)
Natural Monuments		1,013	(75)
Selection			
Important Cultural Landscapes		47	
Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings		109	
Registration			
Registered Tangible Cultural Properties (buildings)		10,084	
Registered Tangible Cultural Properties (fine arts and crafts)		14	
Registered Tangible Folk Cultural Properties		36	
Registered Monuments		92	
Objects of conservation that are not Cultural Properties			
Selected Conservation Techniques		(Number of Holders and Groups)	
	Holders	47	(55 people)
	Preservation Groups	31	(33 groups) *4

*1 The number of Important Cultural Properties includes National Treasures.

*2 The actual number of people who received recognition as holder is 57 after deleting the number of double recognition.

*3 The number of Historic Sites, Places of Scenic Beauty, Natural Monuments includes Special Historic sites, Special Places of Scenic Beauty, and Special Natural Monuments

*4 The actual number of recognized groups is 31 after deleting the number of double approvals.

Under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, the national government thus designates and selects the most important cultural properties and imposes restrictions on such activities as alteration of their existing state, repairs, and export.

The national government also implements diverse measures necessary for the preservation and utilization of cultural properties. Measures for tangible cultural properties (such as structures, fine arts and crafts, and tangible folk cultural properties) include preservation, disaster protection work, and acquisition. For intangible cultural properties (such as performing arts, craft techniques, manners and customs, and folk performing arts), these measures include subsidies for programs to train successors or for documentation.

In addition, a registration system, which provides protective measures that are more moderate than those of the designation system, has been established for cultural properties (tangible cultural properties, tangible folk cultural properties, and monuments) primarily of the modern period, whose protection is increasingly necessary due to land development and changes in lifestyles in recent years. Under the registration system, cultural properties that are in special need of preservation and utilization are registered with the national government. Based on notification, guidance, and advice, this system aims at voluntary protection of cultural properties by their owners (cultural properties other than those designated by the national or local governments), thereby complementing the designation system.

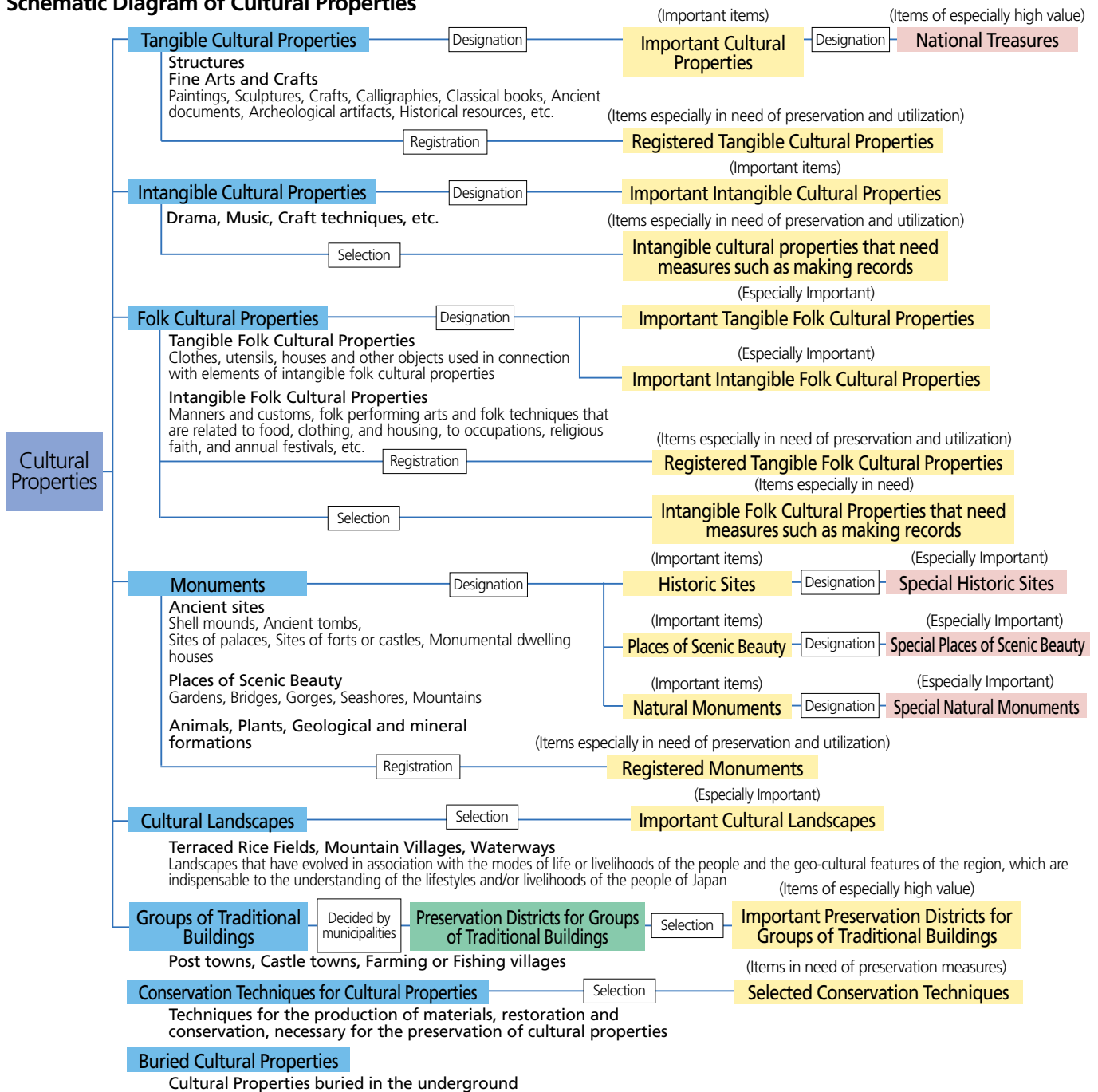
Moreover, those traditional techniques or skills that are indispensable for preserving cultural properties and that require protection are designated as Selected Conservation Techniques.

Protective measures, including certain restrictions on the excavation of Buried Cultural Properties, are also taken for cultural properties buried underground.

The designation, selection, and registration of cultural properties are carried out by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology on the basis of reports submitted by the Council for Cultural Affairs in response to a ministerial inquiry. The chart to the left illustrates how the different types of cultural property are classified.

2. Schematic Diagram of Cultural Properties

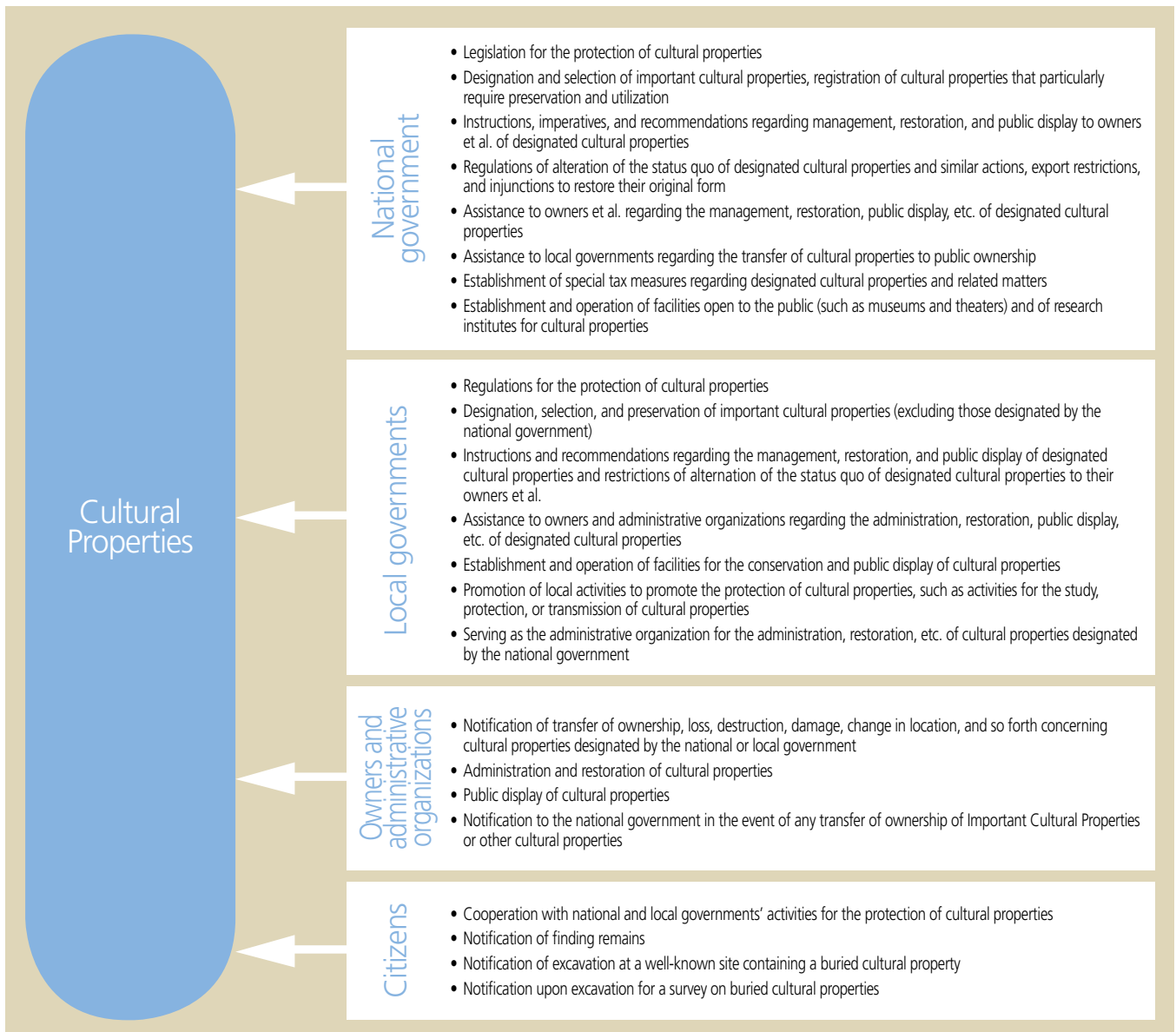
Schematic Diagram of Cultural Properties



Process of Designation, Registration, or Selection of Cultural Properties



3. The National Government, Local Governments, Owners, and Others in the Framework of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties and Other Laws / Regulations



2

Tangible Cultural Properties

“Tangible Cultural Properties” collectively refer to cultural products with a tangible form that possess high historic, artistic, and academic value for Japan, such as structures, paintings, crafts, sculptures,

calligraphic works, classical books, paleography, archaeological artifacts, and historic materials. Within this category, all objects except for structures are called “fine arts and crafts.”

1. Structures

As of April 1, 2015, the national government has designated 2,428 sites (including 221 National Treasures) which consists of 4,695 buildings and other structures (including 271 National Treasures) as Important Cultural Properties.

In accordance with the provisions of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, the permission of the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs is required for any alteration to the existing state of structures designated as Important Cultural Properties. Major or minor repair work is periodically required to keep them in good condition. For historical structures that are made of wood, conservation repair work is carried out by the owners of Important Cultural Properties or their custodial bodies, and financial support is available to cover large expenses. As many of them have roofs made of plant materials like thatch, wooden shingle, and cypress bark,

they are extremely vulnerable to fire. For this reason, the Agency for Cultural Affairs provides necessary subsidies for the owners or custodial bodies to install or repair fire-preservation facilities and other necessary disaster prevention systems.

Moreover, buildings and structures of Japan's modern era (roughly after 1868) form a significant cultural heritage born out of this country's modernization process. However, some of them are rapidly disappearing along with changes in society in recent years. Based on the results of investigations on such cultural heritage, a growing number of modern buildings and structures are being designated as Important Cultural Properties.

By FY 2014, 312 modern buildings and structures have been designated Important Cultural Properties including two National Treasure (the former Togu Palace [Akasaka State Guest House] and the former Tomioka Silk Mill).

Buildings and Other Structures Designated as National Treasures or Important Cultural Properties (classified by period)

As of April 1, 2015

	Category	Sites	Structures
Early modern period or earlier	Shinto shrines	569 (39)	1,203 (65)
	Buddhist temples	855 (155)	1,169 (163)
	Castles	53 (8)	235 (16)
	Residences	95 (14)	153 (20)
	Private domestic buildings	351	847
	Others	193 (3)	261 (3)
	Subtotal	2,116 (219)	3,868 (267)
Meiji Period Onward	Religious buildings	27	41
	Residences and private buildings	85 (1)	326 (1)
	School facilities	41	80
	Cultural facilities	35	60
	Governmental offices	25	30
	Commercial buildings	21	28
	Civil engineering structures	73 (1)	245 (3)
	Others	5	17
	Subtotal	312 (2)	827 (4)
	Grand total	2,428 (221)	4,695 (271)

Note: A parenthesized numeral indicates the number of National Treasures included in the figure that precedes it.



National Treasure
Hongwanji temple
Goeido and
Amidado (Kyoto
City, Kyoto Pref.)



National Treasure
Tomioka Silk Mill East Cocoon
Warehouse (Tomioka City,
Gunma Pref.)



Registered Tangible Cultural Property
Kobe Port Tower (Kobe City, Hyogo Pref.)



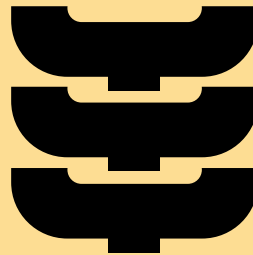
Registered Tangible Cultural Property
Foghorn House, fog signal station of the former Inubo Saki
Lighthouse (Choshi City, Chiba Pref.)

In 1996, the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties was amended and a cultural property registration system was introduced in addition to the existing designation system. Under the new system, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology can register architectural and other structural properties (tangible cultural properties other than those designated by the national or local governments) which are in particular need of measures for protection and utilization as Registered Tangible Cultural Properties.

A variety of buildings and other structures are registered, including houses and public structures, civil engineering structures such as bridges and dikes, and installations such as fences or towers. In March, 2015, the number of registrations exceeded 10,000. As of April 1, 2015, 10,084 properties were registered, located in 839 municipalities of all 47 prefectures.

Protection of Cultural Properties Logo

The protection of Cultural Properties logo chosen out of public proposers was established in May of 1966 as an emblem for the promotion of a campaign to protect cultural properties. Based on a pattern of two hands spread wide open, this logo invokes the image of a bracketing called a *tokyo*, which is an important element of Japanese architecture. The three stacked elements symbolize the spirit of protection which eternally preserves the ethnic heritage of cultural properties from the past, in the present, and into the future.



Note: A *tokyo* is a kind of a wooden joint which is usually placed on top of each pillar to support the long eaves of temples

Logo for the Cultural Properties Protection Week

The logo for Cultural Properties Protection Week was chosen out of public proposers in 2010, in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of enforcement of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, to make the week more familiar to the nation.

This logo is the stylized kanji-character “文” which is the first character in “bunka,” 文化 (“bunka” means “culture” in English), and is designed in the image of family crests. It shows the transition of Japanese cultural artifacts born out of cultural activities over the years. The colored parts of the hexagonal logo symbolize the six categories of “Tangible Cultural Properties,” “Intangible Cultural Properties,” “Folk Cultural Properties,” “Monuments,” “Cultural Landscapes” and “Groups of Traditional Buildings.”

Cultural Properties Protection Week starts every November 1 and ends on November 7. During this week, municipal Boards of Education take the lead in organizing exhibitions of historical structures and fine arts and crafts, tours of historical sites, performances of traditional performing arts, and various events held across the country, providing opportunities to get in touch with Japan’s history and culture. In 2015, the 62nd annual Cultural Properties Protection Week was held.



文化財保護強調週間
Cultural Properties Protection Week

2. Fine Arts and Crafts

The national government began to designate fine arts and crafts as cultural properties in 1897 under the Law for the Preservation of Ancient Shrines and Temples. Under the present Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, 10,573 objects have been designated as Important Cultural Properties (including 872 National Treasures) as of April 1, 2015.

The administration and restoration of a National Treasure or Important Cultural Property shall be conducted by its owner or administrative organization (the local government entity or other corporate entity recognized by the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs to appropriately administer the designated cultural property concerned). Out of the total number of works of fine arts and crafts that have been designated as National Treasures or Important Cultural Properties, approximately 60% are owned by shrines and Buddhist temples.

Approval from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs is required to change the form of these designated cultural properties or to add any touch that will affect their preservation. Exportation of designated cultural properties from Japan is forbidden, except when it is judged necessary and approved as in the case of an overseas exhibition. The national government extends support for the conservation and restoration of designated cultural properties by providing subsidies and other means, whereas the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs is authorized to give instructions on their administration, restoration, public display, and other related activities.

The Cultural Property Registration System was introduced to works of fine art and crafts in April, 2005, and 14 properties have been registered as of April 1, 2015.



National Treasure:
Dogu (clay figurine),
Chino City, Nagano Pref.



Important Cultural Property: *Jichin Kasho Musoki* (The dream diary of priest Jichin Kasho), The University of Tokyo

Fine Arts and Crafts Designated as National Treasures or Important Cultural Properties

As of April 1, 2015

Category	Number
Paintings	1,994 (159)
Sculptures	2,685 (128)
Crafts	2,445 (252)
Calligraphic works/Classical books	1,900 (224)
Ancient documents	754 (60)
Archaeological artifacts	612 (46)
Historic resources	183 (3)
Total	10,573 (872)

Note: The numbers in parentheses are National Treasures and included in the total number



Important Cultural Property: Carved wood Gigaku mask, owned by the Japanese government



Important Cultural Property: Western learning-related materials of The Nabeshima family of Takeo, Takeo City, Sage Pref.

3 Intangible Cultural Properties



Important Intangible Cultural Property: *Koten Rakugo*
(traditional comic storytelling)
Holder: Koriyama Takezo (stage name: Yanagiya Kosanji)

Number of Designated Important Intangible Cultural Properties

As of April 1, 2015

Division	Category	No. of designation	
		Individual recognition	Collective or group recognition
Performing arts	Gagaku	0	1
	Nohgaku	7	1
	Bunraku	3	1
	Kabuki	4	1
	Kumiodori	2	1
	Music	19	7
	Dance	1	1
	Engei	2	0
	Subtotal	38	13
Craft techniques	Ceramics	9	3
	Textile weaving and dyeing	15	7
	Lacquerwork	5	1
	Metalwork	5	0
	Woodwork and Bamboowork	2	0
	Doll making	2	0
	Papermaking	3	3
	Subtotal	41	14
Total	79	27	

In Japan, “Intangible Cultural Properties” refers to stage arts, music, craft techniques, and other intangible cultural assets that possess high historic or artistic value for Japan. Intangible Cultural Properties consist of human “technical artistry” which is embodied by individuals or groups of individuals who represent the highest mastery of the techniques concerned.

The national government designates especially significant Intangible Cultural Properties as “Important Intangible Cultural Properties” while simultaneously recognizing individuals or groups that have achieved advanced mastery of the pertinent technique as the holder or holders of that Important Intangible Cultural Property so as to ensure the transmission of traditional artistry. Recognition of holders may take one of three forms: individual recognition, collective recognition, or group recognition.

For the protection of Important Intangible Cultural Properties, the national government provides special grants (¥2 million a year) for the recognized individual holders (“Living National Treasure”) and also subsidizes the training programs of successors or public performance by recognized group holders, local governments, and other entities.

Exhibitions are held featuring works and related materials concerning the “technical artistry” of recognized individual holders and group holders of craft techniques and techniques for supporting cultural properties in order to facilitate understanding for the transmission of such techniques. Furthermore, the Japan Arts Council (National Theatre of Japan and other national theatres) conducts training workshops and other activities to train the respective successors of traditional performing arts, such as Nohgaku, Bunraku (puppet theater), Kabuki, Kumiodori (Traditional Okinawan musical theater), and traditional popular entertainment.



Important Intangible Cultural Property: *Chokin* (toreutics)
Holder: Yamamoto Akira

4 Folk Cultural Properties

Folk cultural properties are indispensable for understanding the transition in the daily lives of the Japanese people. They include tangible and intangible cultural properties that people of Japan have created and passed down in the course of daily life, such as manners and customs; folk performing arts and folk techniques concerning food, clothing, housing, occupation, religious faith, annual events, and other matters; and clothing, tools and implements, dwellings, and other objects used in connection with the foregoing.

The national government designates especially significant tangible or intangible folk cultural properties as “Important Tangible Folk Cultural Properties” or “Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties” and strives to preserve them.

For Important Tangible Folk Cultural Properties, the national government subsidizes projects concerning their restoration or administration, projects to install facilities necessary for their preservation and utilization, such as equipment for their preservation or utilization, disaster prevention facilities, and so forth. For Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties, the government subsidizes projects to train successors and restore or newly acquire props, tools, and other objects. Regardless of designation by the national government, the national government also subsidizes a portion of the expenses incurred by local governments and other entities for projects that involve a survey of tangible or intangible folk cultural properties as well as dissemination; training, exhibition, and other classes; and the production of audiovisual records of intangible folk cultural properties.

Moreover, tangible folk cultural properties other than Important Tangible Folk Cultural Properties that particularly require measures for preservation and utilization are to be registered as “Registered Tangible Folk Cultural Properties.” The Agency for Cultural Affairs also provides financial support for the project including the organizing materials. Intangible folk cultural properties other than Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties that particularly require documentation or other attention are selected as “Intangible Folk Cultural Properties that need measures such as making records.” The national government produces documentary records for them as necessary or subsidizes a documentation program for them conducted by local governments.



Important Tangible Folk Cultural Property: *Omi-koka no maebiki-noko seizo yogu oyobi seihin* (Koka City, Shiga Pref.)



Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property: *Nagara-gawa no Ukai-ryo no gijutsu* (cities of Gifu and Seki, Gifu Pref.)

Number of Properties Designated as Important Tangible Folk Cultural Properties

As of April 1, 2015

Category	Quantity
Used for food, clothing, and housing	28
Used for production and occupation	93
Used for transportation, transit, and communication	19
Used for commerce	1
Used for social living	1
Used for religious faith	39
Used for knowledge of folk customs	7
Used for folk performing arts, amusement, and games	23
Used for a lifetime	3
Used for annual events	2
Total	216

Number of Properties Designated as Important Intangible Folk Cultural Properties

As of April 1, 2015

Category	No. of designation
Manners and customs	118
Folk performing arts	159
Folk techniques	13
Total	290

5 Monuments



Historic site: Ruins of *Takashima-tanko* (coal complex), *takashima-hokkei seiko* (pit), *Nakanoshima-tanko* and *Hashima-tanko* (Nagasaki City, Nagasaki Pref.)
Photo: Courtesy of Nagasaki City Board of Education

Number of Designated Historical Sites

As of April 1, 2015

Category	Number of designation
Shell mounds, ancient tombs, etc.	679 (14)
Site of palaces, etc.	387 (19)
Sites of shrines, temples, etc.	288 (14)
Sites of Confucian shrines, libraries	27 (3)
Herb gardens, charitable institutions, etc.	6
Sites of barrier gates, mileposts, etc.	191 (2)
Tombs, tombstones, etc.	77 (3)
Old houses, wells, etc.	82 (6)
Sites related to foreigners or foreign countries	8
Total	1,745 (61)

Note: The numbers in parentheses are Special Historical Sites and included in the total

Number of Designated Places of Scenic Beauty

As of April 1, 2015

Category	Number
Gardens	218 (24)
Parks	8
Bridges	2
Flowering trees	13
Pine groves	6 (1)
Rocks and caves	14
Ravines and mountain streams	34 (5)
Waterfalls	10
Lakes and marshes	3 (1)
Floating waterweeds	1
Springs	1
Beaches	38
Islands	8 (2)
Sandbars	1 (1)
Hot springs	2
Mountains	15 (1)
Hills, highlands, flatlands	1
Rivers	2
Panoramic views	11 (1)
Other	5
Total	393 (36)

Note: The numbers in parentheses are Special Places of Scenic Beauty and included in the total

Number of Designated Natural Monuments

As of April 1, 2015

Category	Number
Animals	194 (21)
Plants	549 (30)
Geological and mineral formations	247 (20)
Nature conservation areas	23 (4)
Total	1,013 (75)

Note: The numbers in parentheses are Special Natural Monuments and included in the total



Place of Scenic Beauty: *Kyu-Kurauchi-shi Teien* (Chikugo Town, Fukuoka Pref.)

“Monuments” is the collective term to refer to the following types of cultural properties:

- Shell mounds, ancient tombs, sites of palaces, sites of forts or castles, monumental dwelling houses, and other sites which possess a high historic or scientific value for Japan
- Gardens, bridges, gorges, seashores, mountains, and other places of scenic beauty which possess a high artistic or aesthetic value for Japan
- Animals, plants, minerals, and geological features that possess a high scientific value for Japan

The national government designates significant items in these three categories as “Historic Sites,” “Places of Scenic Beauty,” and “Natural Monuments,” and seeks to preserve them. Those which are of particularly high significance are designated as “Special Historical Sites,” “Special Places of Scenic Beauty,” and “Special Natural Monuments,” respectively.

Under the terms of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, any alterations to the existing state of and area designated as a Historical Site or other category or activities that would affect its preservation require authorization from the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs. Local governments make arrangements for substantial compensation to land owners by purchasing designated land, and conserve the land to widely utilize such Historical Sites with the support of state subsidies.

For monuments of the modern period whose protection is increasingly necessary due to development or other reasons, a system for registering monuments has been introduced, which provides moderate measures for protection based on notification and guidance. As of April 1, 2015, 92 monuments were registered.



Registered Monument: Fossil of *Machikane-wani* (Toyonaka City, Osaka Pref.)



Registered Monument (ruins): *Koshikishima Nagame-no-hama* and *Sekio-gun no shokubutsu-gunraku* (Satsumasendai City, Kagoshima Pref.)

Photo: Courtesy of Satsumasendai City Board of Education.

6

Cultural Landscapes

Cultural Landscapes formed by people's lives or work in a given region and the climate of the region are indispensable for understanding the livelihood and work of the Japanese people. It is also stipulated that, following a proposal from a prefectural or municipal government, the national government can select a particularly important cultural landscape as an Important Cultural Landscape from among those for which necessary protective measures have been taken.

The national government subsidizes research projects conducted by the local public authorities on historical transitions and natural environments of cultural landscapes and on the livelihood and work of people in a relevant region; projects, including surveys, mapping and others, for formulating a conservation plan required to propose a landscape to be selected as an Important Cultural Landscape; maintenance projects for a selected Important Cultural Landscapes, including restoration and landscaping, disaster prevention work, and installation of signs describing the

cultural landscape in question; and, diffusion and consensus formation projects including study sessions, open lectures, and workshops in which local residents can participate.

As of April 1, 2015, 47 areas across the country have been selected as Important Cultural Landscapes.



Waterfront of Omizo (Takashima City, Shiga Pref.)



Cultural landscape in Kosuge-no-sato and Kosuge-yama (Iiyama City, Nagano Pref.)

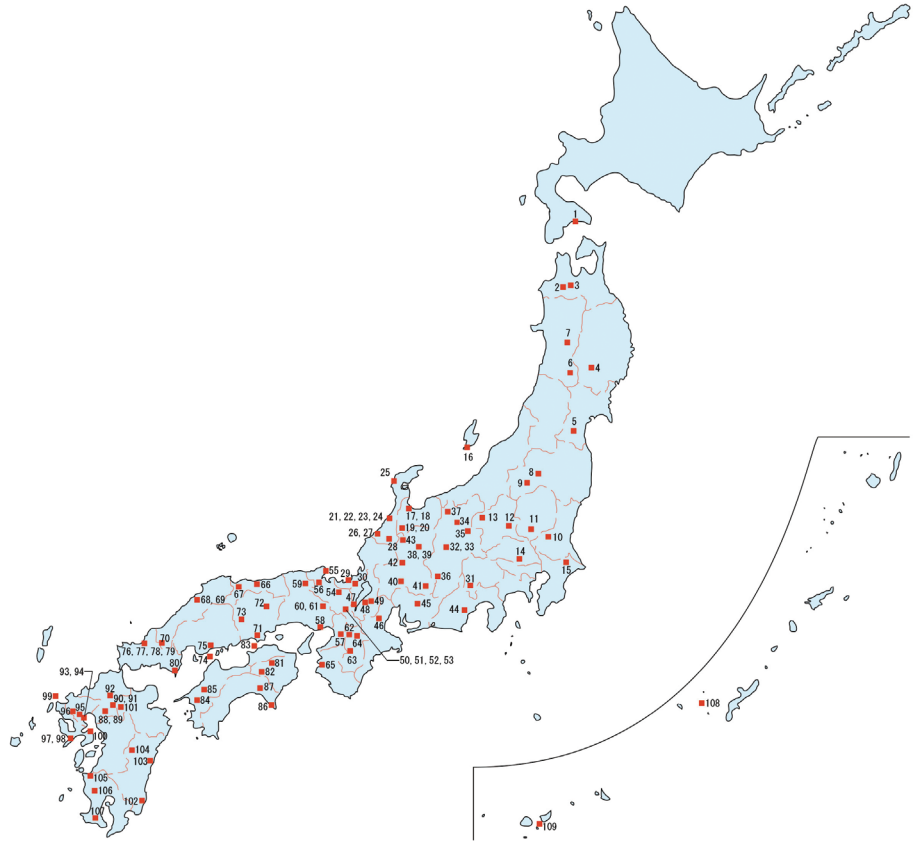
List of Important Cultural Landscapes

As of April 1, 2015

Name	Location	Assigned date
1 Wetland in Omi-hachiman	Omi-hachiman, Shiga	January 26, 2006
2 Farm Village of Hondera area, Ichinoseki	Ichinoseki, Iwate	July 28, 2006
3 Cultural Landscape along the Sarugawa River resulting from Ainu Tradition and Modern Settlement	Biratori, Hokkaido	July 26, 2007
4 Danbata (terraced fields) in Ysumizugaura	Uwajima, Ehime	July 26, 2007
5 Tono Arakawakogen Farm	Tono, Iwate	March 28, 2008
6 Waterfront of Kaizu, Nishihama, and Chinai in Takashima City	Takashima, Shiga	March 28, 2008
7 Ontayaki Village	Hita, Oita	March 28, 2008
8 Rice terraces in Warabino	Karatsu, Saga	July 28, 2008
9 Landscape with Tsujun irrigation channel and rice terraces in Shiraito Plateau	Yamato, Kumamoto	July 28, 2008
10 Cultural Landscape in Uji	Uji, Kyoto	February 12, 2009
11 Cultural landscape in the Shimantogawa River basin. Villages in the mountains to the headwater region.	Tsuno, Kochi	February 12, 2009
12 Cultural landscape in the Shimantogawa River basin. Villages and rice terraces in the mountains at the upstream region.	Yusuohara, Kochi	February 12, 2009
13 Cultural landscape in the Shimantogawa River basin. Circulation and traffic among agricultural and mountainous villages at the upstream region.	Nakatoso, Kochi	February 12, 2009
14 Cultural landscape in the Shimantogawa River basin. Circulation and traffic among agricultural and mountainous villages at the middlestream region.	Shimanto town, Kochi	February 12, 2009
15 Cultural landscape in the Shimantogawa River basin. Vocations, circulation and traffic in the downstream region.	Shimanto city, Kochi	February 12, 2009
16 Cultural landscape in Kanazawa. Tradition and culture in the castle town.	Kanazawa, Ishikawa	February 22, 2010
17 Rice terraces in Obasute	Chikuma, Nagano	February 22, 2010
18 Rice terraces in Kashiwara	Kamikatsu, Tokushima	February 22, 2010
19 Cultural landscape in Hirado Island	Hirado, Nagasaki	February 22, 2010
20 Waterfront of Harie and Shimofuri in Takashima City	Takashima, Shiga	August 5, 2010
21 Rural landscape of Tashibunoshu Osaki	Bungotakada, Oita	August 5, 2010
22 Kure port and fishing townscape	Nakatoso, Kochi	February 7, 2011
23 Cultural landscape of the Ojika islands	Ojika, Nagasaki	February 7, 2011
24 Fishing village of Sakitsu, Amakusa	Amakusa, Kumamoto	February 7, 2011
25 Wetland of meeting of Tonegawa and Watarasegawa Rivers	Itakura, Gunma	September 21, 2011
26 Agricultural and mountainous landscape of Sado Nishimikawa trace back to Sado Gold Mine	Sado, Niigata	September 21, 2011
27 Cultural landscape of Oku-Asuka	Asuka, Nara	September 21, 2011
28 Cultural landscape of Kuroshima Island in Sasebo	Sasebo, Nagasaki	September 21, 2011
29 Cultural landscape of Hisakajima Island in Goto	Goto, Nagasaki	September 21, 2011
30 Cultural landscape of Kita-Uonome in Shinkamigoto	Shinkamigoto, Nagasaki	January 24, 2012
31 Rural landscape at Kubote	Buzen, Fukuoka	September 19, 2012
32 Landscape with terraces retained by stonework at Sotome, Nagasaki	Nagasaki, Nagasaki	September 19, 2012
33 Island landscape at Shinkamigoto	Shinkamigoto, Nagasaki	September 19, 2012
34 Steam and hot spring landscape at Beppu	Beppu, Oita	September 19, 2012
35 The Mogami river and Aterazawa landscape	Oe, Yamagata	March 27, 2013
36 Farm Village of Hinenosho Ogi	Izumisano, Osaka	October 17, 2013
37 Agricultural and mountainous landscape of Aragijima and Mita/Shimizu	Aridagawa, Wakayama	October 17, 2013
38 Agricultural and mountainous landscape of Sakatani and rice terraces of Sakamoto	Nichinan, Miyazaki	October 17, 2013
39 Cultural landscape of Gifu seen in the middle area of Nagara-gawa River	Gifu, Gifu	March 18, 2014
40 Mountainous landscape of Higashi Kusano	Maibara, Kyoto	March 18, 2014
41 Cultural landscape of Miyazu Amanohashidate	Miyazu, Kyoto	March 18, 2014
42 Cultural landscape of Ikuno mine and townscape	Asago, Hyogo	March 18, 2014
43 Cultural landscape of Tataro iron manufacturing and rice terraces in Okuizumo	Okuizumo, Shimane	March 18, 2014
44 Lakeshore landscape at Sygaura	Nagahama, Shiga	October 6, 2014
45 Cultural landscape in Kosuge-no-sato and Kosuge-yama	Iiyama, Nagano	January 26, 2015
46 Waterfront of Omizo	Takashima, Shiga	January 26, 2015
47 Cultural landscape in Misumi-ura	Uki, Kumamoto	January 26, 2015

7 Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings

1 Motomachi-Suehirocho, Hakodate City	57 Tondabayashi, Tondabayashi City
2 Nakacho, Hiroaki City	58 Kitanochi-yamamoto, Kobe City
3 Nakamachi, Kuroishi C ty	59 Izushi, Toyooka City
4 Jyonai-suwakoji, Kanegasaki Town	60 Sasayama, Sasayama City
5 Murata, Murata Town	61 Fukuzumi, Sasayama City
6 Masuda, Yokote C ty	62 Imai-cho, Kashiwara City
7 Kakunodate, Senboku City	63 Gojo-shinmachi, Gojo City
8 Ouchi-juku, Shimogo Town	64 Matsuyama, Uda City
9 Maesawa, Minamiaizu Town	65 Yuasa, Yuasa Town
10 Makabe, Sakuragawa City	66 Utsubukitama, Kurayoshi City
11 Kauemon-cho, Tochigi City	67 Tokorogo, Daisen Town
12 Kiryushinmachi, Kiryu City	68 Omoriginzan, Oda City
13 Rokugo Akaiwa, Nakanajo Town	69 Yunotsu, Oda City
14 Kawagoe, Kawagoe City	70 Tsuwano, Tsuwano Town
15 Sawara, Katori City	71 Kurashiki-Gawahan, Kurashiki City
16 Shukunegi, Sado C ty	72 Fukya, Takahashi C ty
17 Yamachosuji, Takaoka City	73 Joto, Tsuyama City
18 Kanaya-machi, Takaoka City	74 Yutakamachi-mitarai, Kure City
19 Ainokura, Nanto City	75 Takehara district, Takehara City
20 Suganuma, Nanto City	76 Horuichi district, Hagi City
21 Higashiyama-higashi, Kanazawa City	77 Hiyaoko district, Hagi City
22 Kazue-machi, Kanazawa City	78 Hamasaki, Hagi City
23 Utatsu sanroku, Kanazawa City	79 Sasanami-ichi, Hagi City
24 Teramachidai, Kanazawa City	80 Furuichi-kanaya, Yanai City
25 Kuroshima district, Wajima City	81 Wakimichi-minami-machi, Mima C ty
26 Kagahashidate, Kaga City	82 Higashiyamayason Ochiai, Miyoshi City
27 Kagahashitani, Kaga City	83 Kasajima, Shiwakuhonjicho, Marugame City
28 Shiramine, Hakusan City	84 Uno-machi, Uwa-cho, Seiyō C ty
29 Obamanishigumi, Obama C ty	85 Yokai-cho, Uchiko Town
30 Kurnagawajuku, Wakasa Town	86 Kiragawacho, Muroto City
31 Akazawa, Hayakawa Town	87 Doikachu, Aki City
32 Narai, Shiojiri City	88 Yamefukushima, Yame City
33 Kisohirasawa, Shiojiri City	89 Kuroki, Yame City
34 Inariyama, Chikuma City	90 Chikugo-yoshi, Ukiha C ty
35 Unnojuku, Tomi City	91 Ni kawa Tagomori, Muroto City
36 Tsumagojuku, Nagiso Town	92 Akizuki, Asakura City
37 Aoni, Hakuba Village	93 Hamashozumachi-Hamakanayamachi, Kashima City
38 Sanmachi, Takayama City	94 Hamanakamachi-hach hongshuku, Kashima C ty
39 Shimoninomachi-Ojinmachi, Takayama City	95 Shiota-tsu, Ureshino C ty
40 Mino-machi, Mino C ty	96 Aritauchiyama, Arita Town
41 Iwanuracho-Hondori, Ena C ty	97 Higashiyamate, Nagasaki City
42 Gujo-hachiman Kita-machi, Gujo C ty	98 Minamiyamate, Nagasaki City
43 Ogi-machi, Shirakawa Village	99 Konoura, Oshima Village, Hirado City
44 Hanazawa, Yaizu City	100 Kojirokuji, Unzen City
45 Asuke, Toyota City	101 Mameda-machi, Hita City
46 Sekijuku, Karneyama City	102 Obi, Nichinan C ty
47 Sakamoto, Otsu City	103 Mimitsu, Hyuga City
48 Hachiman, Omihachiman City	104 Tonegawa, Shiiba Village
49 Gokashokondo, Higashiomiy City	105 Izumi-fumoto, Izumi City
50 Kamigamo, Kyoto City	106 Iniki-fumoto, Satsumasendai C ty
51 Sannai-zaka, Kyoto C ty	107 Chiran, Minami-kyushu City
52 Gion Shimbashi, Kyoto City	108 Tonaki-jima, Tonaki Village
53 Saga-torimoto, Kyoto City	109 Taketomi-jima, Taketomi Town
54 Miyamacho-Kita, Nantan City	
55 Ine-ura, Ine Town	
56 Kaya, Yosano Town	



Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings of Murata, Murata Town (Miyagi Pref.), assigned in September 18, 2014



Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings of Hanazawa, Yaizu City (Shizuoka Pref.), assigned in September 18, 2014

Due to the amendment to the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties in 1975, a system of “Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings” was introduced in order to protect historic cities, towns and villages in Japan, including castle towns, post towns, and towns built around shrines and temples.

This system enables municipalities to designate “Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings.” Municipalities also develop a preservation plan based on the municipal preservation ordinance, and conduct necessary preservation projects according to the preservation plan. Among the Preservation Districts, those of national significance are classified as “Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings”

by the national government upon receiving an application from a municipal government.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs provides financial support to municipal projects such as restoration, facade enhancement, and disaster prevention for the preservation of Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings, while providing the necessary guidance and advice to municipal efforts.

As of April 1, 2015, 109 districts in 89 municipalities of 43 prefectures are classified as Important Preservation Districts for Groups of Traditional Buildings (total area of approximately 3,737 ha), which contain about 22,000 traditional buildings designated as “Traditional Buildings.”

8

Conservation Techniques for Cultural Properties

The system of designating Selected Conservation Techniques was established through an amendment to the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties in 1975. Based on this system, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology designates as "Selected Conservation Techniques" those traditional techniques or skills that are indispensable for the conservation of cultural properties and require protection and then recognizes the holders or preservation groups of such traditional techniques or skills.

To protect the Selected Conservation Techniques, the national government conducts various projects to compile documentary records or train successors, among other goals. It also provides the necessary funding for programs conducted by holders, preservation groups, or other entities to refine and improve traditional techniques or skills, train successors, and so forth. In addition, the government holds symposia on Selected Conservation Techniques for their publicity and dissemination to the general public. Such activities are intended to ensure that there are technicians and craftsmen who can restore Tangible Cultural Properties and produce tools and raw materials for use in connection with Intangible Cultural Properties.



Selected Conservation Techniques: *Hiwada Saishu*
A technique of removing cypress barks which is required for preservation of building with cypress covered roof



Selected Conservation Techniques:
Urushibake Seisaku
(Production of blush for urushi lacquer)
A Techniques for producing urushi-bursh which is to be used for urushi arts and conservation.

9

Buried Cultural Properties

At present, 465,000 ancient sites are known in Japan. They are direct evidence of our predecessors' lives and valuable common historical properties that vividly speak of our history and culture. It is impossible to learn such things from records.

In order to preserve these valuable buried cultural properties, notification must be submitted when conducting excavations for the purpose of any investigations or when starting construction work in an area known to have buried cultural properties. When it is impossible to preserve a site's present state, we ask developers to cover necessary expenses, and carry out the excavation and investigation for recording. However, when it is not appropriate to ask the owner to cover the cost for the excavation, local public organizations conduct the investigations and expenses are defrayed out of the National Treasury.

When an object is unearthed as a result of an excavation, the finder must turn it over to the chief of police except when the owner is known. If the object is recognized as a potential cultural property, the chief of police submits it to prefectural boards of education, at designated cities and core cities.

The prefectural boards of education, designated cities or core cities investigate whether an object is a cultural property. An object recognized as a cultural property which has no known owner reverts to the prefecture which manages the land as a rule.



Historic Site: Fukui Cave site (Sasebo City, Nagasaki Pref.)

10 Promotion of Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties

The value of cultural properties emerges when such properties are associated with the environment and activities of the people. Cultural properties under similar conditions are mutually related. In order to pass them down through people's efforts, their values need to be clearly illustrated.

For this reason it is necessary to comprehensively preserve and use multiple cultural properties under specific themes while including the surrounding environment (a comprehensive understanding on cultural properties), in addition to conserving individual cultural properties. Specifically, an entire region can be understood as a historic and cultural space with a focus on the cultural properties, and various measures can then be provided to develop attractive regional communities by formulating a basic scheme for conserving and utilizing local cultural properties (Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties).

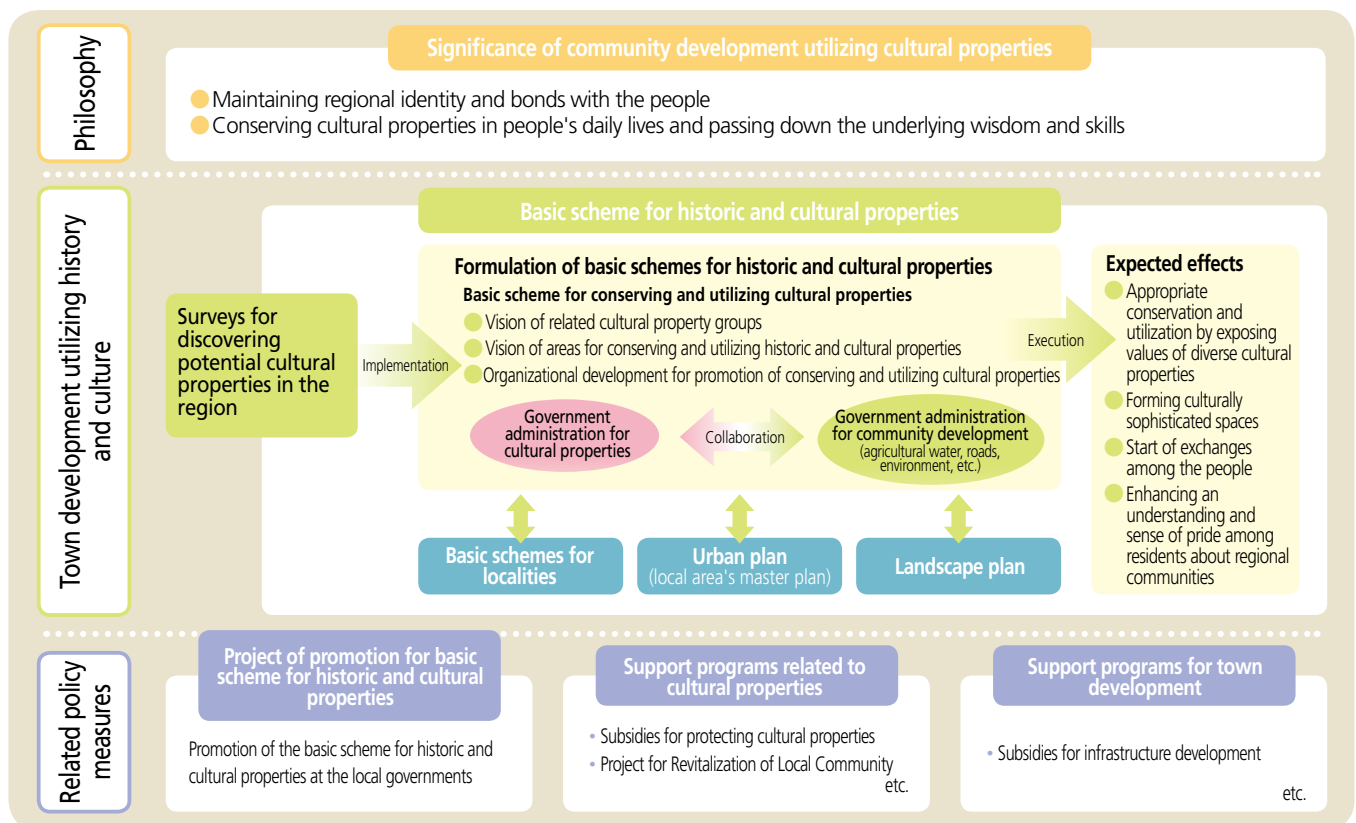
To promote the formulation of the Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties by municipal governments, the Agency for Cultural Affairs created technical guidelines and also provided training programs for municipal employees. In 2015, the Agency established

a new subsidy program to support of creating guidelines financially.

In developing the Basic Scheme for Historic and Cultural Properties, cooperation between those in charge of cultural assets and those in charge of town development, as well as cooperation with local people, incorporated non-profit organizations and businesses adds to the hopes for consistent efforts that are favorable both for the preservation and utilization of cultural assets and for local people.

One effort to facilitate overall understanding about cultural assets is a system for authorizing plans for maintenance and improvement of historic landscapes in compliance with the Law on the Maintenance and Improvement of Historical Landscape in a Community promulgated in 2008. This is designed for the national government to authorize municipal plans to maintain and improve good environments of urban areas consisting of a combination of historically valuable architecture and people's activities rooted in the region's history and tradition. The system is capable of earning focused support from the national government.

Community development at localities utilizing historic and cultural features



11 World Heritage



World Heritage: Fujisan, Sacred Place and Source of Artistic Inspiration
Courtesy of Fuji City, Shizuoka Pref.



World Heritage: Tomioka Silk Mill and Related Sites
Courtesy of Gunma Pref.



World Heritage: Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining
Courtesy of the Consortium for the Promotion of the Modern Industrial Heritage in Kyushu and Yamaguchi to Inscription on the World Heritage

The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 1972, calls for the protection of irreplaceable cultural and natural heritage for all humanity. Currently, 191 countries have ratified it including Japan (as of July, 2015).

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee inscribes the properties of outstanding universal value on the World Heritage List.

In January 2015, with the regard to inscription on the World Heritage List, Churches and Christian Sites in Nagasaki and the National Museum of Western Art as one of the assets for the Architectural work of Le Corbusier — An outstanding contribution to the Modern Movement (the French government is taking the lead to register) were submitted to UNESCO.

In July 2015, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee inscribed the Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining on the World Heritage List as Japan's 19th property on the list.

As a result, 19 Japanese properties (15 cultural sites and 4 natural sites) currently appear on the World Heritage List.

Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List in Japan

As of July 2015

Cultural Properties	Natural Properties
Buddhist Monuments in the Horyu-ji Area	Yakushima
Himeji-jo	Shirakami-Sanchi
Historic Monuments of Ancient Kyoto (Kyoto, Uji, and Otsu cities)	Shiretoko
Historic Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama	Ogasawara Islands
Hiroshima Peace Memorial (Genbaku Dome)	
Itsukushima Shinto Shrine	
Historic Monuments of Ancient Nara	
Shrines and Temples of Nikko	
Gusuku Sites and Related Properties of the Kingdom of Ryukyu	
Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range	
Iwami Ginzan Silver Mine and its Cultural Landscape	
Hiraizumi-Temples, Gardens and Archaeological Sites Representing the Buddhist Pure Land	
Fujisan, Sacred Place and Source of Artistic Inspiration	
Tomioka Silk Mill and Related Sites	
Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution: Iron and Steel, Shipbuilding and Coal Mining	

12 Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage

The UNESCO General Conference in 2003 adopted the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage as the first international legal framework for the protection of intangible cultural heritage. The Convention entered into effect on April 20, 2006. Having taken leadership from the process of the formulation of the Convention, Japan became the third nation to sign on in June 2004, with the aim of ensuring that the Convention would come into effect quickly.

With the aim of protecting intangible cultural heritage, the Convention includes provisions on the inscription on the “Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity,” the establishment of a system for international cooperation for the protection of intangible cultural heritage, and the actions that the signatory countries need to take.

At the Eighth Session of the Intergovernmental Committee held in UNESCO Headquarters, Paris in November 2014, “Washi, craftsmanship of traditional Japanese hand-made paper,” nominated by Japan, was registered on the Representative List. This brought the number of intangible cultural assets from Japan on the list to twenty-two.

For inclusion on the list in the future, Japan submitted a proposal to UNESCO in March 2015 for “Yama, Hoko, Yatai, float festivals in Japan,” which consists of (33) Yama, Hoko, Yatai ceremonies, significant intangible folk cultural properties of Japan, including “Yamahoko, the float ceremony of the Kyoto Gion festival” and “Hitachi Furryumono” that were registered on the list in 2009.

List of Intangible Cultural Properties inscribed on the Representative List (22 items) in Japan

Name	Year Inscribed
Nohgaku theatre	2008
Ningyo Johruri Bunraku puppet theatre	2008
Kabuki theatre	2008
Gagaku	2009
Ojija-chijimi, Echigo-jofu	2009
Hitachi Furryumono (Ibaraki Pref.)	2009
Yamahoko, the float ceremony of the Kyoto Gion festival (Kyoto Pref.)	2009
Koshikijima no Toshidon (Kagoshima Pref.)	2009
Oku-noto no Aenokoto (Ishikawa Pref.)	2009
Hayachine Kagura (Iwate Pref.)	2009
Akiu no Taue Odori (Miyagi Pref.)	2009
Chakkirako (Kanagawa Pref.)	2009
Dainichido Bugaku (Akita Pref.)	2009
Daimokutate (Nara Pref.)	2009
Traditional Ainu dance (Hokkaido Pref.)	2009
Kumiodori	2010
Yuki-Tsumugi	2010
Mibu no Hana Taue (Hiroshima Pref.)	2011
Sada Shin Noh (Shimane Pref.)	2011
Nachi no Dengaku (Wakayama Pref.)	2012
Washoku, traditional dietary cultures of the Japanese	2013
Washi, craftsmanship of traditional Japanese hand-made paper	2014



Sekishu-Banshi



Hon-Minogami



Hosokawa-shi

In cooperation with museums, art galleries, and diverse related organizations, as well as local governments, it aggregates information on cultural heritage with the aim of offering a comprehensive list of cultural heritage in Japan.

The site also has a gallery of photographs of cultural heritage and a database where visitors can search for and find information on all registered cultural heritage by periods, types and system of cultural properties.

In addition, the site also contains information about art galleries and museums, notices and event information, as well as World Heritage and intangible cultural assets, videos of intangible cultural assets and other special content.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs has been posting about Japan's cultural heritage on Twitter since March 2015.

<http://bunka.nii.ac.jp/>

twitter: @bunkaisanonline



Gallery

Browsing photographs and locations of site of cultural heritage

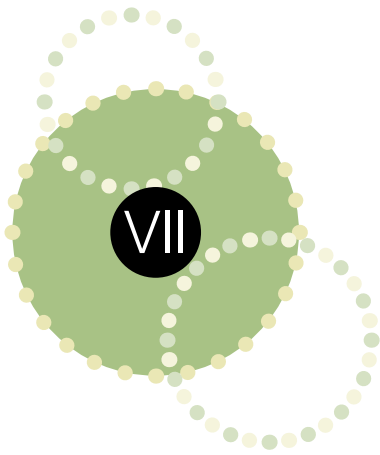
In addition to browsing the cultural heritage by timeline and area, it is possible to use associative searching to look up a specific cultural heritage and any associated cultural heritage, and to use maps to search and display. By using these functions on a portable device, it is possible to find cultural heritage material of interest in the collections of nearby art galleries and museums.



Cultural Heritage Database

Search for information about Japan's registered cultural heritage! In addition to the associative search available in the Gallery, it is also possible to undertake full text searches including commentaries, and to search by museum collection.





Responding to Copyright Policies for a New Era

1. Partial Amendment of the Copyright Act

The Copyright Act has been revised in a timely manner from the standpoint of responding to the progress of digitalization and networks advance in recent years, while striking a balance between the protection of copyrights and the fair use of copyrighted works etc.

In 2014, the Copyright Act was revised to respond to changes in the circumstances surrounding publication, such as the prevalence of electronic books. As a result of the revision, the system of publication rights, which previously covered publication using paper media only, has been amended, so that placing the publication rights on so-called electronic publishing has become possible

((1)). In addition, to enhance the international protection of audiovisual performances by actors and dancers, etc., regulations have been developed associated with the implementation of the Beijing Treaty on Audiovisual Performances (hereinafter the “Treaty on Audiovisual Performances”), so that audiovisual performances by people from the signatory countries of the Treaty on Audiovisual Performances have now become subject to protection under the Copyright Act ((2)).

In this amendment, (1) came into force in January 1 2015 and (2) will come into effect on the day when the Treaty on Audiovisual Performances takes effect in Japan.

Reference: See the website of the Agency for Cultural Affairs for detailed information.

Regular Diet session in 2014 on the amendment to the Copyright Act

http://www.bunka.go.jp/seisaku/chosakuken/hokaisei/h26_hokaisei/ (Japanese only)

2. Discussion at the Copyright Subcommittee Meetings

At the Copyright Subcommittee of the Council for Cultural Affairs has discussed numerous issues concerning copyrights, including the matters stated in the Intellectual Property Strategic Plan 2014 (decision of the Intellectual Property Strategy Headquarters in July 2014), etc. In fiscal 2014, the Subcommittee on the Appropriate Protection and the Use and Distribution of Copyrighted Works etc., the Legal Issue Subcommittee and the Subcommittee on International Issues were established to discuss the issues.

The Subcommittee on the Appropriate Protection and the Use and Distribution of Copyrighted Works etc., discussed problems concerning the cloud services and copyrights, etc., and compiled a report in February 2015. The report made the following proposals:

(1) Concerning the so-called “locker type cloud service (*),” a type of service with which users save content they have prepared in the cloud and use the content on various terminals they have is basically within the range of “for private use” to which the exceptive clause in the law applies, and therefore

the permission of the copyright holder, etc. is unnecessary.

(2) Concerning other types of cloud services, efforts to establish the music collective management center (provisional name) that is proposed by a group of copyright holders should be promoted in order to reduce contract processing costs to obtain the permission of copyright holders, etc.

In addition, various issues concerning the appropriate reward to the creators of copyrighted works were discussed.

The Legal Issue Subcommittee discussed measures to secure and improve opportunities for handicapped people to access information for concluding the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled (provisional name) (hereinafter the “Marrakesh Treaty”) and measures to archive published works, etc. The Subcommittee on International Issues discussed actions against Internet-based cross-border piracy and international actions to protect copyrights.

(*) Locker type cloud service: A service that enables users to use content saved on servers (lockers) in the cloud on their various mobile terminals, etc.

3. Promoting Smooth Distribution

Widespread Internet use, together with the digitalization of copyrighted works, has meant that the form of distribution of copyrighted works has been dramatically changed. In this situation, the Agency for Cultural Affairs takes the following measures in terms of the promotion of distribution of copyrighted works.

(1) Appropriate operation of the Law on Management Business of Copyright and Related Rights

The Law on Management Business of Copyright and Related Rights regulates collective management system for copyrighted works, which is widely used for the convenience of users of copyrighted works and for increasing effectiveness of rights management. The Agency for Cultural Affairs supervises the collective management of copyrights that conduct these operations through collection of annual business reports and regular on-site inspections based on the Law on Management Business of Copyright and Related Rights (number of registered copyright Collective Management Organization (CMO): 33 (as of April 1, 2015)).

(2) Compulsory license for the use works etc. in case where the copyright owner is unknown

In cases where the copyright owner is unknown, the Agency grants compulsory license for the legal use of such works etc.

In FY2014, the Agency issued decisions concerning the use of 1,278 authored works in books or for performance in broadcast programs. In addition, in order to promote the use of assets of past content, including works which the copyright owner is unknown, the Agency for Cultural Affairs revised the public notice of the Agency and relaxed the requirement of “considerable effort” as required for the search of the copyright owner improving the operations.

(3) Others

In addition, the Agency for Cultural Affairs conducts research on the distribution of copyrighted works in response to changes in the times, holds symposiums for discussing new business development in relation to copyrighted works, and encourages the use of the Free Use Mark.

Free Use Mark

For details, please refer to the website of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
<http://www.bunka.go.jp/jiyuriyo/> (Japanese only)



4. Addressing International Issues

1. Anti-Piracy Initiatives Overseas

The copyrighted works of Japan such as animation, music, movies and video games have become highly popular, mainly in Asian countries. On the other hand, large volumes of pirated copies have come to be produced, distributed and also infringing copyrights on the Internet in such countries, which is now a grave problem that cannot be ignored.

To cope with this problem, the Agency for Cultural Affairs proactively takes the environmental improvement to ensure the effectiveness of exercising owner's right.

For example, the following measures are taken to help Japanese copyright owners exercise their rights in other countries: (1) requesting of stronger regulations of pirated copies to the regions and countries where copyright infringements occur through bilateral consultations, (2) supporting stronger rights enforcement from the legal aspect in the countries and regions where infringements occur, (3) holding training seminars for law enforcement personnel in regions and countries where copyright infringements occur, (4) supporting overseas enforcement of Japanese right holders (content industries, etc.), and (5) working on the growing awareness program about copyright in the countries and regions where

infringements occur.

For (4), the Agency for Cultural Affairs is planning to create a practical handbook and to hold seminars through surveys on situation, cases, countermeasures, etc. of online copyrights infringements as an additional measure in FY2015.

2. Participation in International Rulemaking

The WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organization) is holding discussions concerning the formulation of new treaties on copyrights and other frameworks.

In June 2012, the Treaty on Audiovisual Performances, and in June 2013, the Marrakesh Treaty was adopted for facilitating access to and use of copyrighted works for the blind, visually impaired and otherwise print disabled.

The conclusion of the Treaty on Audiovisual Performances was adopted at the Diet in May 2014 and acceded to the Treaty in June 2014. Japan has been actively participating in discussions the formulation of new treaties on broadcasting organizations and other frameworks.

In addition, the Agency for Cultural Affairs is encouraging Asian countries to conclude treaties related to copyrights centered on countries in Asia in the negotiation of economic partnership agreements (EPA).

5. Liability for Criminal Penalty for Illegal Downloading

In the amendment of the Copyright Act in 2009, illegal downloading (of sound or video recordings) became illegal even if the downloads are used for personal purposes, but it was exempted from criminal penalty.

However, since damage due to illegal downloading remained significant, in the amendment of the Copyright Act in 2012, even if the downloads are used for personal purposes, when the content is music or video recordings sold or music or video recordings distributed for fee, and when such downloading is done knowingly, a criminal penalty is applied (however, this crime constitutes an

offense that warrants a complaint, and prosecution may not be instituted without a complaint by the copyright owner).

National and local governments are obligated to improve education on the prevention of illegal downloading through a variety of occasions in schools, etc.

In addition, the Agency for Cultural Affairs releases frequently asked questions and answers concerning liability for criminal penalty for illegal downloading, and is also working on informing more people of the amendment of the Act.

For details, please refer to the website of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

- Liability for criminal penalty for illegal downloading:
<http://www.bunka.go.jp/seisaku/chosakuken/hokaisei/online.html> (Japanese only)
- Q&A on liability for criminal penalty for illegal downloading (two types: for adults and children):
http://www.bunka.go.jp/seisaku/chosakuken/hokaisei/download_qa/index.html (Japanese only)

6. Enhancing Education about Copyrights

Awareness and knowledge of copyrights are increasingly important today, and the junior and senior high school curriculum guidelines stipulate that copyrights must be taught. The Agency for Cultural Affairs holds lecture classes throughout Japan and creates and provides materials. Concerning lecture classes, the Agency holds classes for the public, officers in charge of copyrights in each prefecture, library workers, etc. and teachers in more than 10 locations every year. In addition, with regard to materials, specifically, the Agency for Cultural Affairs widely provides software on learning about copyrights for pupils and students, collections of cases of guidance for teachers, video materials for university students and corporations, textbooks for beginners, and the “Naruhodo

Shitsumonbako” Q&A database on copyrights etc. through the website of the Agency for Cultural Affairs (<http://www.bunka.go.jp/seisaku/chosakuken/seidokaisetsu/> (Japanese only)).



Picture of 2014 lecture class on copyrights for library workers, etc. (Kyoto)

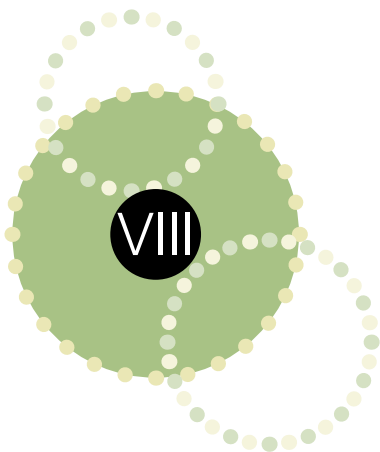
7. Copyright Registration System

The Agency for Cultural Affairs operates a registration system for copyrights etc. under the Copyright Act. Unlike patent rights, utility model rights and other industrial property rights where the rights arise at registration, copyright arises automatically when a work is created, so formalities to obtain copyright are not necessary. The

purpose of this registration system is not to obtain rights, but registering the facts of public announcements of works, or transfers of copyright has a certain legal effect for estimates of the date of announcement, or for perfection against third parties.

For details, please refer to the website of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

- Registration system for copyrighted works:
http://www.bunka.go.jp/seisaku/chosakuken/seidokaisetsu/toroku_seido/ (Japanese only)



Japanese-Language Policy and Japanese-Language Education Policy

1 Enhancing Policy Related to the Japanese Language

The notation of the Japanese language has been improved based on discussions at the former Japanese Language Council and, as of 2001 when the Japanese Language Council was reorganized, the Subdivision on the Japanese Language of the Council for Cultural Affairs. The council has issued resolutions regarding the Japanese writing

system, including the *joyo kanji-hyo*, or national list of Chinese characters in common use, *gendai kana zukai*, or modern kana usage (contemporary Japanese syllabic writing), and the notation of borrowed foreign words as a guideline or standards in general social life.

Major Reports and the Status of Their Implementation

(1) The reports concerning Cabinet notifications or directives

The Japanese Language Council					Subdivision on the Japanese Language of the Council for Cultural Affairs								
Consultation	Report	Cabinet Notification/Directive	Consultation	Report	Cabinet Notification/Directive	Consultation	Report (Council for Cultural Affairs)	Cabinet Notification/Directive					
1. Matters related to control of national language	<i>Toyo kanji-hyo</i> (Nov. 1946)	<i>Toyo kanji-hyo</i> (Nov. 1946)	Concrete measures for improving national language (Jun. 1966)	<i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (Mar. 1981)	<i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (Oct. 1981)	Modality of kanji policy for the information age (March 2005)	Revised <i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (June 2010)	<i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (Nov. 2010)					
2. Matters related to surveys of kanji	<i>Toyo kanji on-kun-hyo</i> (Sept. 1947)	<i>Toyo kanji on-kun-hyo</i> (Feb. 1948)							<i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (Mar. 1981)	<i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (Oct. 1981)	Modality of kanji policy for the information age (March 2005)	Revised <i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (June 2010)	<i>Joyo kanji-hyo</i> (Nov. 2010)
3. Matters related to the revision of use of kana	<i>Toyo kanji jitai-hyo</i> (June 1948)	<i>Toyo kanji jitai-hyo</i> (April 1949)											
4. Matters related to improvements in style (Mar. 1935)	Modern kana usage (Sept. 1946)	Modern kana usage (Nov. 1946)							Revised Modern kana usage (Mar. 1986)				Modern kana usage (Jul. 1986 part rev. Nov. 2010)
				Notation of borrowed foreign words (Feb. 1991)				Notation of borrowed foreign words (June 1991)					
				Revised Guide to the use of <i>okurigana</i> (June 1972)				Guide to the use of <i>okurigana</i> (June 1972 part rev. Oct. 1981, part rev. Nov. 2010)					
	Recommendation							Uses of Roman alphabet (Dec. 1954)					
	Guide to the use of <i>okurigana</i> (Nov. 1958)	Guide to the use of <i>okurigana</i> (July 1959)											
	The integration of uses of Romanized Japanese words (Mar. 1953)												

(2) The reports not concerning Cabinet notifications or directives

The Japanese Language Council	
Consultation	Report
Modalities of the Japanese language policy to suit a new age (Nov. 1993)	Honorific expressions in modern society (Dec. 2000) Fonts for characters not listed in the <i>joyo kanji-hyo</i> (Dec. 2000) Modalities of the Japanese language corresponding to the global society (Dec. 2000)

Subdivision on the Japanese Language at the Council for Cultural Affairs	
Consultation	Report (Council for Cultural Affairs)
Japanese language proficiency which is required for the future (Feb. 2002)	Japanese language proficiency which is required for the future (Feb. 2002)
Formulation of concrete guidelines regarding honorific expressions (Mar. 2005)	Guidelines on honorific expressions (Feb. 2007)

Recently, the Council for Cultural Affairs reported the findings of the revised *joyo kanji-hyo* in June 2010. After some alterations in consultation with the stakeholders, the *Joyo Kanji-hyo* was newly defined by the Cabinet announcement on November 30, 2010. And then, in February 2014 the report on “‘Example of proper use of

“‘Iji-dokun” kanji (report)” was compiled based on the “‘Issues that should be handled by the Subdivision on the Japanese at the Council for Cultural Affairs in the future (report)” (February 2013). Now, the Council for Cultural Affairs is continually discussing about the “‘Creating the guideline for the ‘handwritten letter form’ and ‘printed

letter form” from 2014.

In addition to matters concerning the notation of the Japanese language, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has undertaken an opinion survey on the Japanese language every year since 1995, which contributes to the planning of measures for the Japanese language and to stimulating public interest in and attention to the Japanese language. In addition, the Agency for Cultural Affairs takes the necessary measures to deepen public interest in and understanding of the Japanese language on a continuous basis, including “Conference on the Japanese Language Issues,” “the offering of the Japanese Language Policy Information,” “Keigo Omoshiro Sodanshitsu (Guidelines for Honorific Language)” and “Kotoba Shokudo e Yokoso! (A guide for using Japanese idiomatic phrases)” based on the “opinion survey on the Japanese language,” which

were published on the website of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

In addition, the Agency for Cultural Affairs continuously surveyed the current status and efforts for the preservation and succession of eight language and dialects in Japan: the Ainu language, the Hachijo dialect, the Amami dialect, the Kunigami dialect, the Okinawa dialect, the Miyako dialect, the Yaeyama dialect and the Yonaguni dialect, which UNESCO announced were in danger of extinction in February 2011. The Agency reported the result and, at the same time, surveyed the current status of the dialects of areas struck by the Great East Japan Earthquake and provided support for their revitalization, and undertook research into archiving the Ainu language. The reports on these activities are available on the website of the Agency for Cultural Affairs.



First scene of a movie *Kotoba Shokudo e Yokoso!* based on the opinion survey on the Japanese language.



Scene of the debrief session for the survey research on the archiving for preserving and inheriting Ainu language. (Hokkaido, January 2015)

2

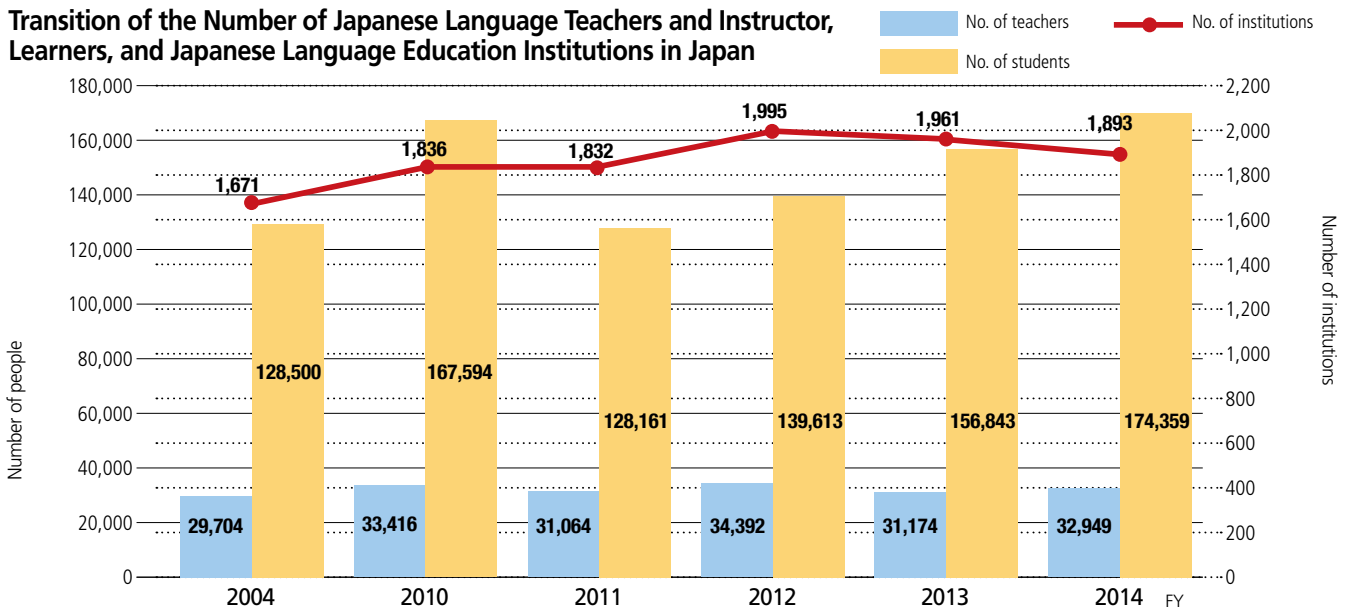
Promoting Japanese Language Education for Foreigners

(1) Japanese Language Education for Foreigners

Though the number of non-Japanese registrants and Japanese language students peaked in FY 2009 before starting to decline due to the Great East Japan Earthquake, nearly 2.12 million (as of the end of 2014; data provided

by the Ministry of Justice) and the number of Japanese language learners in Japan is approximately 170,000 (as of November 2014; data provided by the Agency for Cultural Affairs). Many foreigners living in Japan learn the Japanese language for a variety of purposes.

Transition of the Number of Japanese Language Teachers and Instructor, Learners, and Japanese Language Education Institutions in Japan



Major programs for Japanese Language Education

Japanese Language Education Program for “Foreigners Living in Japan”

In order to improve Japanese language education for foreigners living in Japan so that they can lead easy lives as members of Japanese society, Japanese language education has been implemented in accordance with the actual conditions in each area. Additionally, human resource development is supported, educational materials are created, and support efforts have been established to promote the preparation of a system for Japanese language education in each area.

- Practical programs for community Japanese language education (A) (B)
- Training courses for coordinators of community Japanese language education
- Practical research studies related to the development of a comprehensive promotion system for community Japanese language education

Japanese Language Programs for Convention Refugees and Resettled Refugees

As part of a support program for the resettlement of refugees accepted under the Convention Refugees and Resettled Refugees, Japanese language education is provided at resettlement support centers. After refugees leave the centers, counseling for Japanese language education, distribution of learning materials and other support are provided to refugees, support groups, and the like.

Survey and Survey Research of Japanese Language Education

To obtain more information on educational institutions, facilities, and teachers, a fact-finding survey is performed as well as a variety of surveys to provide basic data for discussing measures for Japanese language education.

Conference of Research on Japanese Language Education

To promote the understanding of Japanese language education and to contribute to the improvement of the level of Japanese language education and the promotion of Japanese language education, seminars on Japanese language education and training courses are held in order to explain measures and provide information about efforts for Japanese language education.

- Conventions for Japanese Language Education
- Conference of Research on Japanese Language Education
- Training for people in charge of Japanese language education in each prefecture, city, town, or village

Cross-ministerial Collaboration in the Development of Foundation for Japanese Language Education

This program undertakes exchanges of opinion and information concerning Japanese language education through the Conference on Japanese Language Education. The program has also produced and published the NHOJONGO Education contents Web sharing System (NEWS), which facilitates cross-sectional use of various contents about Japanese language education.







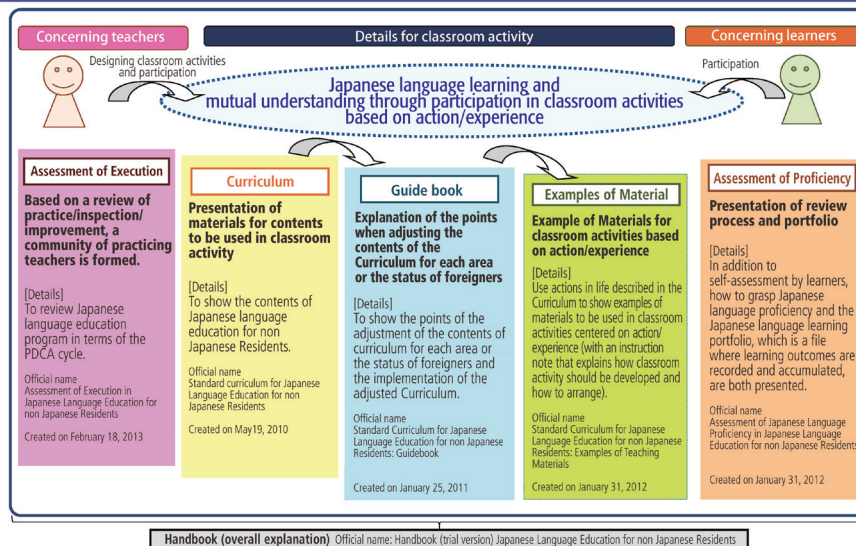

(2) Improvement of Content and Method of Japanese Language Education for Foreigners Living in Japan

In July 2007, the Commission on Japanese Language Education was established in the Japanese Language Division of the Council for Cultural Affairs. After completing systematic studies of the content and methods of Japanese language education for foreign residents,

the Subcommittee compiled the Plan for a Standard Curriculum for Japanese Language Education for Foreigners Living in Japan.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs will publicize this plan to be utilized further as the basis for the promotion of Japanese language education in each region.

Five Sets for Japanese Language Education Programs for non Japanese Residents

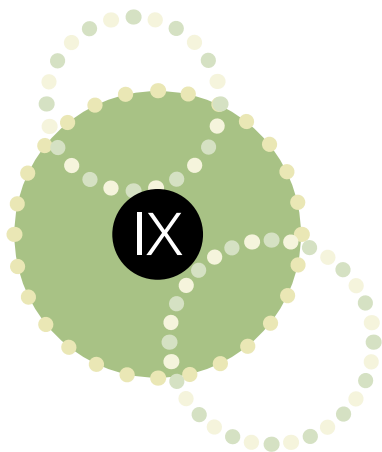


(3) Examining Measures to Further Promote Japanese Language Education

For responses to the changes where Japanese language education is concerned, the Working Group for summarizing the status on Japanese Language Education was formed under Commission on Japanese Language Education of the Council for Cultural Affairs. In February 2015, the Summary of Thinking and Points for the Promotion of Japanese Language Education (report) was

compiled. Eleven points of the argument for the promotion of Japanese language education were summarized. In January 2014, the Summary of Opinions Concerning the Main Points for the Promotion of Japanese Language Education (report) was compiled.

The Working Group examines specific measures such as “Volunteers in the Japanese Language Education (point 7)” and the “Research System on Japanese Language Education (point 8).”



Dissemination of Japanese Culture and Measures for International Cooperation through International Cultural Exchange

1 Outline of International Cultural Exchange and Cooperation

In accordance with the Fundamental Law for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts and basic policies of the Japanese government formulated on its basis, the Agency

for Cultural Affairs has implemented a variety of measures to facilitate international cultural and artistic exchanges and protect cultural heritage overseas.

1. Participation in International Forums regarding Culture

In addition to participating in international meetings for Ministers of Culture including the Japan-China-ROK Culture Ministers' Meeting, the ASEAN+3 Culture Ministers' Meeting, which brings together the Ministers of Culture of ASEAN countries with the Ministers of Culture of Japan, China and Republic of Korea, and ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting which brings together the Ministers of Culture of the ASEM (the Asia-Europe

Meeting attended by 51 countries and 2 organizations in Asia and Europe), we participate in UNESCO meetings in order to contribute to their debates. In particular, at the 6th Trilateral (Japan-China-Republic of Korea) Culture Ministers' Meeting held in Yokohama, ministers adopted the Yokohama Joint Statement which prescribed a detailed action plan for trilateral cultural exchange and cooperation.

International Forums on Culture

Meeting Designation	Year	Host Country	Meeting Designation	Year	Host Country	Meeting Designation	Year	Host Country
Japan-China-ROK Culture Ministers' Meeting			ASEAN+3 Culture Ministers' Meeting			ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting		
First	2007	China	First	2003	Malaysia	First	2003	China
Second	2008	Republic of Korea	Second	2005	Thailand	Second	2005	France
Third	2011	Japan	Third	2008	Myanmar	Third	2008	Malaysia
Fourth	2012	China	Fourth	2010	Philippines	Fourth	2010	Poland
Fifth	2013	Republic of Korea	Fifth	2012	Singapore	Fifth	2012	Indonesia
Sixth	2014	Japan	Sixth	2014	Viet Nam	Sixth	2014	Netherlands
Seventh (scheduled)	2015	China						

2. International Exchange of Artists and Specialists

To publicize Japanese culture overseas, the Agency implements the Japan Cultural Envoy program to dispatch top-level artists and specialists overseas. The Agency also invites outstanding foreign artists and specialists to exchange opinions with stakeholders in Japan.

Furthermore, the Agency supports Artists-in-Residence program which invites young foreign artists to Japan for art creations.

In addition, the Agency offers opportunities to upcoming

artists of Japan in various fields including fine arts, music, dance and so on to study abroad at artistic organizations or similar facilities.

In the field of cultural properties, the Agency sends specialists to other countries, and invites experts from abroad to cooperate in management and restoration techniques for works of Japanese classical fine art, cultural property architecture and so on.

Projects for Exchanging Artists and Specialists

Dispatching Top-Level Artists and Specialists

· "Japan Cultural Envoy" Program

Invitation of Outstanding Artists and Specialists

· Invitation Program for Outstanding Artists and Cultural Property Specialists

Invitation of Young Artists

- Program to Create International Base for the Promotion of Arts and Culture

Training abroad program for artist's development

- Program of Overseas Training for Upcoming Artists

Dispatching and Inviting Specialists in Cultural Properties

- Program for Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage Buildings in Asia Pacific
- Program for Promoting Cooperation to Protect World Heritage and other Cultural Properties of the Asia-Pacific Region
- Management of the Center for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage*

*Implemented as a project funded by the National Institute for Cultural Heritage

3. Hosting and Supporting Participation in International Events concerning Arts and Culture

To promote exchange with countries where the current year is designated as International Exchange Year and countries in East Asia, the Agency for Cultural Affairs supports events organized in relation to these countries and performances by Japanese cultural and artistic associations in these countries. The Agency also implements a range of culture and artistic projects to promote mutual understanding among the East Asian countries and, at the same time, the Agency supports hosting arts and film festivals which will be held in Japan on an international scale. In addition, we support the submissions of modern artworks and dispatching of artists to international art festivals to encourage their disseminations overseas.

Projects for Hosting and Supporting Participation in International Events concerning Arts and Culture

Designation	Outline
International Cultural Exchange /Cooperation Project	Implements art and culture communication projects and international exchange projects at the top level where a response as a nation is necessary on the basis of the significance of cultural policy and the significance from the perspective of international contribution at events related to the arts and culture undertaken in full calendar years designated by heads of state and governments.
Supporting International Arts Festivals	For details please refer to page 63.
Promoting Dissemination of Modern Art to Overseas	Supporting submission of modern artworks and dispatching artists to the international festivals held overseas.

4. Promotion of International Exchange and Cooperation in Culture and Arts

To promote international exchange of outstanding art, we support overseas performances by Japanese artistic associations and participation in overseas festivals. We also support joint productions and performances with overseas artistic associations as well as international festivals held in Japan.

Since FY2002, we have organized recitals of wonderful performances, inviting several professional orchestras from the Asian countries for orchestral performances at arts festivals sponsored by the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

In the field of media arts, we organized events overseas including exhibiting the excellent media arts works at media arts-related festivals held overseas, in order to introduce excellent media arts works and film productions to the international community. We have also supported the cost of entering works at film festivals held overseas.

In addition, we are implementing projects to translate contemporary Japanese literature to English and other languages, and to publish the works in several foreign countries.

Programs for Promotion of International Exchange and Cooperation in Culture and Arts

Overseas performances by Japanese artistic groups and other organizations and domestic performances by invited artistic groups and other organizations

- Support for international exchange by the arts

International exchanges concerning media art

- Exhibiting works from the Japan Media Arts Festival at overseas festivals and events
- Japanese Film Festival in Asia
- Support for Participation in Overseas Film Festivals
- International exchange concerning film*

* Implemented as a project funded by the IAI National Museum of Art.

Publicizing Japanese Modern Literature

- Japanese Literature Publishing Project

For details of international exchanges concerning media arts, please see page 62.



Chelfitsch Theatre Company: Super Premium Soft Double Vanilla Rich, supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan in FY 2014

5. Promotion and Cooperation for International Exchange in Cultural Properties

Cultural heritage in Japan and the rest of the world is the common property of mankind, and international exchanges and cooperation are indispensable for its protection. International exchange through cultural properties

contributes to increasing cultural exchange among nations and mutual understandings. Based on this idea, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has implemented the following programs. (For details, please see pages 66-68.)

Programs for International Cooperation on Cultural Heritage Protection

Program	Summary
International Cooperation based on requests from other countries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project for International Contribution to Cultural Heritage Protection 	Complying with a request from overseas, Japanese specialists are dispatched for on-site surveys, preservation, and restoration as the overseas cooperation for the preservation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and overseas experts are invited for training. Furthermore, international conferences are held and support is provided for the operation of the international cooperation consortium of cultural heritage to enforce international cooperation efficiently and effectively.
Training for Specialists in Preservation and Restoration of Foreign Cultural Properties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Program for Promoting Cooperation to Protect World Heritage and other Cultural Properties of the Asia-Pacific Region 	With a view to enhancing international cooperation for the protection of the Asia-Pacific region's cultural heritage, this program implements training and other activities for those working in areas relevant to cultural properties, in cooperation with Nara City, Nara Prefecture, and the Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation Office, Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU).
Promoting Cooperation with International Organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of tie-ups with agencies cooperating on the protection of the world's cultural heritage 	To promote collaboration with the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and encourage international cooperation for the protection of cultural properties, this program dispatches staff from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and other organs to ICCROM.
Promotion of International Exchange through Cultural Properties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overseas Exhibition of Japanese classical art 	This program organizes exhibitions in other countries to contribute to international goodwill and to advance understanding of the history and culture of Japan by introducing outstanding cultural properties from Japan to countries overseas.
Preventing Illegal Export and Import of Cultural Properties	For details, please see page 68
Promoting Protection of the World Heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting World Heritage protection Project for disseminating and utilizing World Heritage information 	This program aims to promote the nomination of cultural heritage in Japan for inscription on the World Heritage List, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention and to send representatives to a variety of international expert meetings. In addition, information concerning World Heritage is disseminated to deepen understanding about cultural properties.
Program for international cooperation on cultural heritage protection at National Institutes for Cultural Heritage* <small>* Implemented as a project funded by the IAI National Institutes for Cultural Heritage</small>	(IAI) National Institutes for Cultural Heritage conduct international exchanges in research regarding the conservation and restoration of the world's cultural heritage, cooperate on conservation and restoration projects, and expand international cooperation by training specialists and other means. In addition, international symposia and seminars are organized by inviting researchers from Japan and abroad for presentations and discussions regarding the current situations of and measures taken for cultural heritage protection in different countries.
Program for Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage Buildings in Asia Pacific	Based on requests from partner countries, this program dispatches staff from the Agency for Cultural Affairs with expertise in preserving cultural heritage to provide technical cooperation for joint surveys, preservation and restoration of historical buildings. The program also invites specialists and others involved in the administration of cultural heritage preservation in partner countries to Japan for training.

6. Promotion of Measures to Support Japanese-Language Education for Foreigners

<Details provided on page 56>

7. Cooperation Related to Copyright

The Agency for Cultural Affairs organizes seminars, symposia, training programs and dispatching of experts for developing countries to assist improvement of copyright systems in cooperation with international organizations and programs such as the Asia-Pacific Copyright Systems Enhancement (APACE) Program.

Programs for Cooperation Related to Copyright

Overseas support for development of copyright systems

- Asia-Pacific Copyright Systems Enhancement (APACE) Program



World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) special course on the enforcement of copyright and related rights in Tokyo

The advance of globalization not only brings with it the need to proactively transmit overseas Japan's diverse culture and arts, from traditional culture to modern cultural and artistic activities. It also requires us to boost the promotion of culture and the arts as well as enhance Japan's image and further mutual understanding with foreign countries by promoting international cultural exchange in all cultural and artistic fields.

With consideration given to the Fundamental Law

for the Promotion of Culture and the Arts and the basic policies of the government developed based on the Act, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has sought to bolster measures designed to make Japan a nation founded on culture, through artistic creativity that we can present proudly to the world, the provision of information both within Japan and to other countries, the promotion of cultural and artistic international exchange, and other initiatives.

1. Transmitting Japan's Culture

The Agency for Cultural Affairs have been transmitting the Japanese culture to overseas by promoting a program called "Japan Cultural Envoy" which sends Japanese top artists and specialists to overseas. They will stay overseas for a fixed period to deepen appreciation of Japanese culture in other parts of the world. The program also includes activities to form and strengthen cultural networks among people in Japan and overseas. They conduct activities involving Japanese culture, such as giving lectures, workshops, performances, collaborations with local artists or cultural figures.

In FY 2014, eight persons served as Japan Cultural Envoy. In FY 2015, seven persons were nominated as Specialists Dispatched Overseas.

The Japan Cultural Envoy Forum (the 12nd Briefing Session on the Activities of the Japan Cultural Envoys) at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (Tokyo) on March 6, 2015 featured activity reports and performances by the Cultural Envoys who engaged in overseas activities from FY2013 to FY2014.



Cooking performance by Nakazawa Hiroko, a food culture researcher and a professor of Nagano Prefectural College (Warsaw, Poland)

Japan Cultural Envoys in FY2014

Name	Profile	Location of activity
Okada Toshiki	Playwright, novelist	China, Republic of Korea, Thailand
Nakazawa Hiroko	Food culture researcher, Professor of Nagano Prefectural College	France, Germany, Poland, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia, UK
Hayashi Eitetsu	Taiko Player	USA, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba
Hayashida Hiroyuki	CG Artist	Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Viet Nam, Thailand
Hirano Keiko	Storyteller	Germany, Turkey
Yamai Tsunao	Noh actor in Komparu school	France, USA, Canada
Sakurai Akiko	Biwa (Japanese lute) player	El Salvador, Guatemala, Brazil, USA, UK, Italy, Switzerland, Albania
Wakamiya Takashi	Producer of Hikoju Makie (gold-relief lacquerware)	UK, France, China

(Alphabetical order)

Japan Cultural Envoys in FY2015

Name	Profile	Location of activity (scheduled)
Aoki Ryoko	Noh Performer	Ireland, France, Hungary, Germany, etc.
Onodera Shuji	Mime, Contemporary Dance, Leader of Company Derashinera	Viet Nam, etc.
Hatakeyama Naoya	Photographer	Mexico, etc.
Fujita Rokurobyoue	Noh Flute Player 11th Generation Master, Fujita School of Noh Flute	USA, UK
Yanaiharu Mikuni	Choreographer, Director, Playwright Associate professor of Performing arts course, Kinki University	Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore
Yanagihara Naoyuki	Vice President of Yanagihara School of Traditional Japanese Cuisine, Culinary Specialist of Japanese traditional cuisine	New Zealand, Brazil, USA, Canada, etc.
Yoshida Kenichi	"Yoshida Brothers" Tsugaru Shamisen player	Spain, UK, etc.

(Alphabetical order)

2. Exchange with the East Asian Countries and the Nations established International Exchange Year

The Agency for Cultural Affairs is making efforts to deepen the national exchange with East Asian countries and other nations with which the National Exchange Year is settled.

1. International Exchange Year

National Exchange Year is established with various countries to deepen goodwill and mutual understanding by means of sponsoring and carrying out exchange programs in the public and private sector in culture, education, sports and various other fields.

The main National Exchange Year initiatives scheduled for 2015 and after are indicated in the right-side list.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs organizes or supports bilateral exchange programs in an extensive range of fields, from traditional culture to contemporary performing arts and media arts among these countries

Main List of International Exchange Year

2015

The 50th Anniversary of the Normalization of Relations between Japan and the Republic of Korea

The 120th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Brazil

Japan-SICA Friendship Year 2015

The 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Saudi Arabia

2016

The 150th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Italy

The 50th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Singapore

The 150th Anniversary of Friendship between Japan and Belgium

The 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Nepal

The 50th Anniversary of Normalization of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and the Philippines

The 60th anniversary of Japan's accession to the United Nations

*For more information, please see the Exchange Year site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/culture/koryu/kuni/jigyo/topics_2.html, Japanese only)

2. Cultural Exchange with the East Asian Countries

With the strengthening of relations with the East Asian countries including China, Republic of Korea and the ASEAN countries becoming important for the nation as a whole, the strengthening of cultural exchanges that contribute to mutual understanding at the national level

has become an issue.

Therefore, we carry on several projects based on the result of discussions at the Trilateral Culture Ministers' Meeting, and ASEAN+3 Culture Ministers' Meeting (see the table below).

Name	Venue
Culture City of East Asia	To promote cultural exchange and fostering the sense of solidarity and cooperation, cultural and artistic events are held in the core cities selected from within three nations—Japan, China and Republic of Korea (ROK). 2014: Yokohama City (Japan), Quanzhou City (China), Gwangju Metropolitan City (ROK) 2015: Niigata City (Japan), Qingdao City (China), Cheongju City (ROK)
Trilateral Arts Festival 2014: Communication by Dance	Holding dance performances from Japan, China and ROK in the form of gala. Each performance was mixture of the modern and the traditional. (September 4, 2014, Yokohama City)
Trilateral Culture Art Education Forum	Holding a symposium on cultural art education and a drama workshop for high school students from the three countries. (November 15-17, 2014, Yokohama City)
Trilateral Youth Cultural Exchange Program (co-production of animated film by students)	Students from representative art universities in the field of animation gathered from the three countries for making short films. Trilateral mixed teams will have a film-making camp for about a week. Review meeting, screening of short movies by the teams and a symposium will be held. (in 2015)
Trilateral Creative City Network Forum	Mayors and stakeholders from Creative Cities of the three countries will have a dialogue on the challenges to solve the social issues through cultural activities. (October, 2015, Niigata City)
Program for Dispatching Experts of pop-culture to ASEAN countries	Dispatching experts in the field of pop-culture which Japan keeps an advantage to ASEAN countries and holding intensive lectures on pop-culture for young students in the region who will lead the cultural exchange in the future. (held in Singapore and Malaysia in FY 2014)

3. Creation of Base for the Promotion of Japanese Arts and Culture

1. Program to Support International Arts Festivals

International arts festivals bring together outstanding art from around the world in one place, and they also present opportunities to communicate the arts of the countries concerned to the wider world. By supporting core

international contemporary art festival and film festival, we aim to nurture a global center for arts and culture also in Japan.

2. Program to Create International Base for the Promotion of Arts and Culture

In recent years, projects for the promotion of international cultural exchange and Japanese culture overseas have been shouldered by diverse organizations such as local governments, NGOs and NPOs.

To address this situation, hubs for the creation and international dissemination of culture will be developed through support for acceptance of foreign artists to lead cross-cultural exchange, creation of international culture and art, an artist-in-residence program and other initiatives to facilitate unique projects for international cultural exchange that are implemented in the relevant regions.

Twenty-two organizations gained support in FY 2014.



Center for the Science of Human Endeavor
CfSHE / Mokuhanga Innovation Laboratory (MI-LAB) Artist-in-Residence
Japanese Watercolor Woodblock Printmaking Program

3

Promoting International Exchange and Cooperation for the Arts and Culture

1. Japan Media Arts Festival in Foreign Countries

Highly acclaimed overseas, Japanese media arts works are also instrumental for deepening understanding of and interest in Japan. The Agency for Cultural Affairs exhibits and screens outstanding works at overseas media arts festivals to publicize Japanese media arts and to further enhance international appreciation.



Scene from the showcase of Lucca Comics & Games 2014 (Italy)



Scene from the workshop by an artist at FILE2014 (Brazil)
Photo: Camila Picolo

2. Japanese Film Festivals in Asia

The Agency for Cultural Affairs has sought to create new opportunities for featuring and showing in Asian countries Japanese films that reflect the culture and society of Japan, with the aim of increasing understanding and appreciation of Japanese culture and developing film arts in Japan. In FY 2014, films were shown in

Viet Nam (14 programs, 35 films) and, as an exchange program, a Phenakistoscope*-making workshop were also held during the film festivals, which attracted many visitors. The Festival for FY2015 is planned to be held in Indonesia.



Film festival poster in Viet Nam



Scene from the Workshop for making the game board "Phenakistoscope"

*A sort of a disc-shaped device in pre-film history which shows a succession of images like a moving picture.

3. Support for Participation in Overseas Film Festivals

The Agency for Cultural Affairs has undertaken programs to help Japanese filmmakers participate in overseas film festivals, with the aim of fostering Japanese films and promoting Japanese culture.

Through the program, a number of outstanding Japanese films have been shown at overseas film festivals, and opportunities for filmmakers to participate in these festivals have grown.

Winners in international film festivals whose participation was supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs

Film Festival	Title	Director	Awards
FY 2010			
Montreal	Villain (Akunin)	LEE Sang-il	Best Actress Award
Vancouver	Good Morning to the World! (Sekai, Good Morning!)	HIROHARA Satoru	Best Film
San Sebastian	Genpin	KAWASE Naomi	FIPRESCI Prize
Berlin	Heaven's Story	ZEZE Takahisa	NETPAC Award and others
FY 2011			
Venice	Himizu	SONO Sion	Marcello Mastroianni Award for Best New Young Actor and Actress
Venice	Kotoko	TSUKAMOTO Shinya	Orrizonti Award
Locarno	Tokyo Koen (Tokyo Park)	AOYAMA Shinji	Golden Leopard Special Jury Prize
Montreal	Antoki no Inochi	ZEZE Takahisa	Innovation Award
Montreal	Waga Haha no Ki (Chronicle of My Mother)	HARADA Masato	Special Grand Prix of the Jury
San Sebastian	Kiseki / I Wish	KORE-EDA Hirokazu	SIGNIS Prize
Berlin	Kazoku no Kuni (Our Homeland)	YANG Yonghi	C.I.C.A.E.
FY 2012			
Zagreb	beluga	Hashimoto Shin	Jury Special Awards
Zagreb	A Gum Boy	Okuda Masaki	Jury Special Awards (in the Student Competition)
Anney	Modern No.2	Mizue Mirai	Sacem Award for original music
Montreal	Karakara (Japan/Canada)	Claude Gagnon	Openness to the World Award and Public Award
Montreal	Dearest	Furuhata Yasuo	Special mention of the Ecumenical Jury
Toronto	The Land of Hope	Sono Shion	NETPAC Best Asian Film Award
Busan	Transferring	Kanai Junichi	Sonje Award Special Mention
FY 2013			
Cannes	Like Father, Like Son	KORE-EDA Hirokazu	Jury Awards
Moscow	The Ravine of Goodbye	OMORI Tatsushi	Special Jury Prize
Toronto	Why Don't You Play in Hell?	SONO Shion	People's Choice Award in the Midnight Madness section
Montreal	Ask this of Rikyu	TANAKA Mitsutoshi	Best Artistic Contribution Award
Berlin	The Little House	YAMADA Yoji	Silver Bear for Best Actress
FY 2014			
Anney	Giovanni's Island	Nishikubo Mizuho	Jury Distinction
Moscow	My Man	Kumakiri Kazuyoshi	Golden George, Best Actor (Asano Tadanobu)
Montreal	The Light Shines Only There	O Mipo	Best Director
Montreal	Cape Nostalgia	Narushima Izuru	Special mention of the Ecumenical Jury

4. Translation and Dissemination Programs for Contemporary Japanese Literature

Since 2002, under the Japanese Literature Publishing Project, some of the best Japanese Literary works have been translated into English and other languages and published in other countries, aiming to introduce the Japanese culture to other countries and to raise the profile of Japanese Literature.

The works have been translated mainly into four languages: English, French, German, and Russian.

· Japanese Literature Publishing Project website
<http://www.jlpp.go.jp/en/index.html>

Major works translated and published

Title	Author
Rashomon and Seventeen Other Stories	AKUTAGAWA Ryunosuke
Undercurrents-Episodes from a Life on the Edge	ISHIHARA Shintaro
Hanshichi torimono-cho (The Curious Casebook of Inspector Hanshichi: Detective Stories of Old Edo)	OKAMOTO Kido
Jiyu gakko (School of Freedom)	SHISHI Bunroku
No Reason for Murder	SONO Ayako
Growing Up / Troubled Waters / The Thirteenth Night	HIGUCHI Ichiyo
Kinshu (Autumn Brocade)	MIYAMOTO Teru
Bedtime Eyes / The Piano Player's Fingers / Jesse	YAMADA Amy
A Wife in Musashino	OOKA Shohei
Ako Roshi (The Forty-seven Ronin)	OSARAGI Jiro
Embracing Family	KOJIMA Nobuo
The Hundred-yen Singer	SUENAGA Naomi
Rivalry (A Geisha's Tale)	NAGAI Kafu
Ukigumo (Floating Clouds)	HAYASHI Fumiko
Strangers	YAMADA Taichi
Yugure Made (Until Nightfall)	YOSHIYUKI Junnosuke

4

Promoting International Exchange and Cooperation Concerning Cultural Properties

As cultural properties are heritage shared by all humankind, international exchange and cooperation are

vital to their protection. Therefore, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has implemented the following projects.

1. Law on the Promotion of International Cooperation for the Protection of Cultural Heritage Abroad

In June 2006, the Law on the Promotion of International Cooperation for the Protection of Cultural Heritage Abroad was enacted, which stipulates the responsibilities of the Japanese government and of education and research institutions with regard to international cooperation on protecting cultural heritage abroad, the establishment of a fundamental policy for such international cooperation, and the measures to be taken, which include reinforcing coordination among the

agencies concerned. In December 2007, a fundamental policy was established under the Law stipulating the responsibilities of the national government, research institutions, and the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage, designating Asia as a priority area, and mentioning greater coordination with economic cooperation. In February 2014, the revision for international promotion of protecting intangible cultural heritage was made to reflect various changes.

2. Establishing the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage

In June 2006, the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage was created, which is constituted by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, education and research institutions, independent administrative institutions, and private assistance organizations.

This Consortium aims to allow each of the constituent organizations and participating experts to fully display their abilities in their areas of excellence, while at the same time promoting efficient and effective international cooperation in the area of cultural heritage.

3. International Contribution Project for Cultural Heritage

To protect cultural properties that have suffered from wars and disasters, we dispatch and accept specialists in the International Contribution Project of Cultural Heritage, which addresses urgent problems.

In addition, we have undertaken exchange and cooperation projects since 2007 with overseas

International Contribution Project for Cultural Heritage in FY 2014

- FY 2011- Exchange program to protect the cultural heritage in Armenia and countries in Caucasia
- FY 2011- Exchange program to protect the cultural heritage in the Kyrgyz Republic and countries in Central Asia
- FY 2012 Exchange program to preserve traditional buildings in the Kingdom of Bhutan
- FY 2012 Exchange program for local promotion of historical areas in Indonesia
- FY 2013 Exchange program to protect the cultural heritage of Myanmar
- FY 2013 Exchange program to preserve unearthed wooden articles in Vietnam
- FY 2014 Exchange program to protect the cultural heritage of Pacific Islands
- FY 2014 Exchange program to protect the cultural heritage of Five ASEAN countries
- FY 2014 Damage investigation program (expert exchange) on cultural heritage of Syria

organizations that play important roles in protecting cultural heritage in each country and region. We are involved in cooperative efforts in the conservation and restoration of cultural heritages of the Angkor and post-Angkor periods in Cambodia, and other heritage sites in Indonesia and Central Asia. At these locations, training is being provided to cultivate local human resources engaged in the protection of cultural heritage.



Exchange program to protect the cultural heritage of Myanmar (Courtesy of Independent Administrative Institution, the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo)

4. International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)

International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) is one of the institutes which consists of National Institutes for Cultural Heritage. IRCI is a research center under the auspices of UNESCO (UNESCO Category 2 center) to promote

the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage in the region, established in October 2011. The Centre supports researchers and research institutes in the field of intangible cultural heritage and conducts on enhancement of international safeguarding for intangible cultural heritage.

5. Research Cooperation on the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Properties

An Independent Administrative Institution, the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, a part of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, is implementing cooperative projects, such as investigation and research, in Myanmar, Afghanistan, South Pacific countries, and so on.

In addition, the Agency for Cultural Affairs cooperates in the preservation and restoration of Japanese cultural properties held in foreign countries. Through this program, the Agency for Cultural Properties promotes the

restoration and passing down of Japanese works of art for posterity and the understanding of Japanese culture locally to contribute to cultural exchanges.



A workshop in Bangladesh (Courtesy of the Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation Office, Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU))

Independent Administrative Institution, the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo

http://www.tobunken.go.jp/index_e.html

Cultural Heritage Protection Cooperation Office, Asia/Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)

<http://www.nara.accu.or.jp/english/index.html>

6. Bilateral Exchange and Cooperation concerning Cultural Heritage

Japan has begun cooperating with Italy, which has many years of experience in the area of preservation and restoration of cultural properties, and international cooperation.

In March 2007, Francesco Rutelli, the Italian Minister for Cultural Patrimony and Activities (vice prime minister), and Ibuki Bunmei, the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, signed a document on international cooperation on cultural heritage between Japan and Italy. Based on this, in March 2008, the “first working-level meeting on cooperation between Japan

and Italy concerning the protection of cultural properties” was held. The two nations agreed to commence in FY 2008 cooperative efforts designed to maintain a balance between conservation/repair and the use of murals, as well as protecting cultural scenery and historic cities.

In FY 2014, Japan and Italy revised the document by adding Japan’s new cooperation and support for protecting damaged cultural properties.

7. Overseas Exhibitions

Overseas Exhibitions of Japanese Classical Art

International exchanges through cultural properties contribute to promoting cultural exchange and to deepening mutual understanding. Every year since 1951, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has held overseas exhibitions of Japanese classical art including National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties to introduce Japan’s superb cultural properties to other countries, to deepen understanding of Japanese history and culture, and to further international cultural exchange.



Overseas Exhibitions of Japanese Classical Art: Theatre of dreams, theatre of play: Noh and Kyogen in Japan (Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia)

8. Regulating the Illicit Import, Export, and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Properties

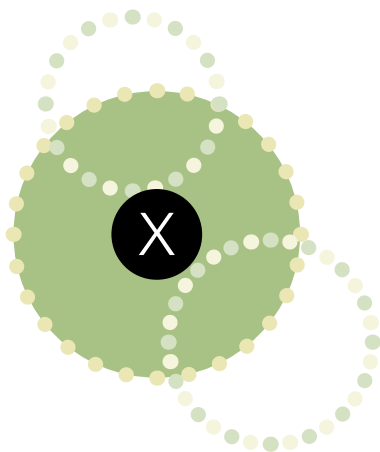
To prevent illegal transactions of cultural properties and protect every country’s cultural properties from illegal import or export, the Japanese government in 2002 ratified the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Since then, the Law on Controls on the Illicit Export and Import and other matters of Cultural Property has been implemented.

Among other things, this law establishes import restrictions of cultural property stolen from a foreign museum by designating it as a Specific Foreign Cultural Property, and a special extension to ten years of the time period during which a claim for recovery, based on indemnity payments stipulated in civil law, may be made by victims of theft of Specific Foreign Cultural Properties.

9. Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict

As a means to protect cultural property during a time of armed conflict, Japan concluded the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, and passed the Law on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed the Conflict. Among other things, this law establishes import

restrictions of cultural property that has been removed from occupied areas by designating is as a Cultural Property from Occupied Areas. During armed conflict, the law penalized as acts of combat any incident in which cultural property is used for military purposes or is damaged.



Promotion of the Ainu Culture

In May of 1997, in view of the current state of the Ainu traditions and cultural properties that are a source of pride for the Ainu people, the Law for the Promotion of the Ainu Culture and for the Dissemination and Advocacy for the Traditions of the Ainu and the Ainu Culture was enacted. By advancing various policies to promote Ainu traditions and culture, the law aims to create a society that respects the ethnic pride of the Ainu and also contribute to the development of Japan's cultural diversity.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs strives to promote Ainu culture through programs carried out in accordance with this law by the Foundation for Research and Promotion of Ainu Culture, which include assistance for research

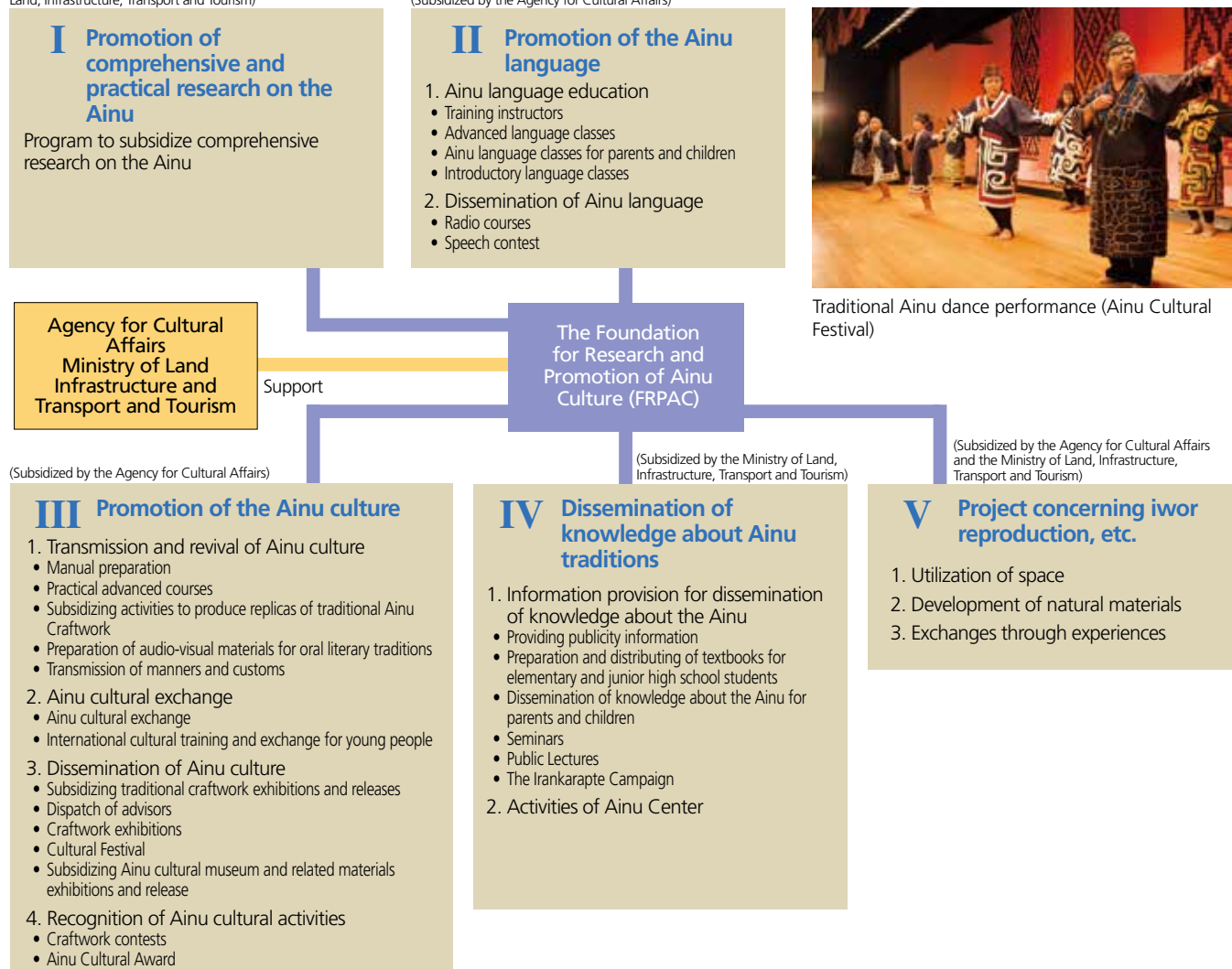
regarding Ainu, promotion of the Ainu language, projects for transmitting and reproducing Ainu culture, cultural exchanges on Ainu culture, projects for diffusing Ainu culture, commendation of outstanding Ainu cultural activities, and the project for reproducing traditional Ainu living spaces (iwor).

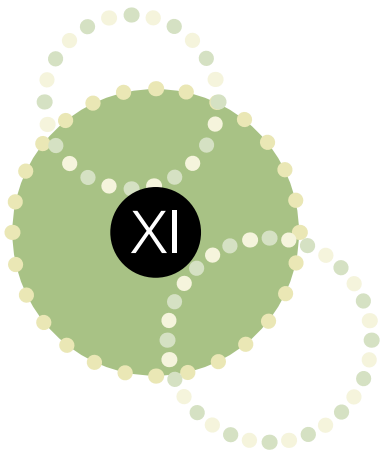
In addition, concerning the development of the Symbolic Space for Ethnic Harmony, which is the core of the measures promoted under the Council for Ainu Policy Promotion (head: chief cabinet secretary), the Agency for Cultural Affairs is currently formulating a basic museum plan for the development of the Ainu National Cultural Museum (tentative name).

Schematic Diagram of FY 2015 Project

(Subsidized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)

(Subsidized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs)





Religious Juridical Persons and Administration of Religious Affairs

Today, in Japan, there are many different religious entities varying in size, including large religious organizations such as denomination (*kyoha*, *shuha* or *kyodan*), shrines (*jinja*), temples (*jiin*) and churches, which engage in a diverse range of religious activities. Among these religious organizations, approximately 182,000 are incorporated as religious juridical persons based on the Religious Juridical Persons Act.

The purpose of the Religious Juridical Persons Act, which stipulates the Religious Juridical Persons System, is to grant corporate status to religious organization, and to secure the

basis for the management of properties and organizations for freedom and autonomy in activities. The Religious Juridical Persons System by religious organization, on the basis of freedom of religion and principle of the separation of religion and government guaranteed by the Constitution, minimizes the involvement of the competent authority and gives religious juridical persons autonomy and independence in operation, to guarantee maximum freedom in the religious activities of religious juridical persons. However, the general system is constructed in a way that clarifies the responsibilities of religious juridical persons, with their public nature as a principal element.

Number of Religious Juridical Persons

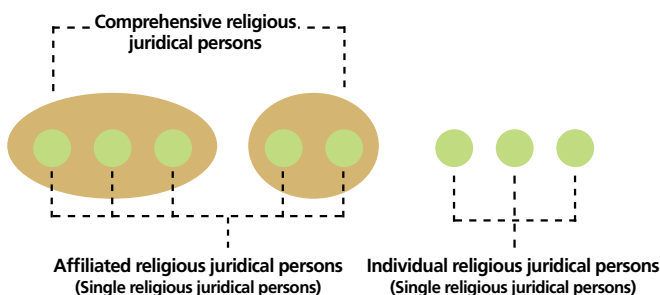
Jurisdiction	Category		Comprehensive religious juridical persons	Single religious juridical persons	Total
	Religion				
Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	Shinto		124	95	219
	Buddhism		157	298	455
	Christianity		64	251	315
	Others		29	79	108
	Subtotal		374	723	1,097
Prefectural governors	Shinto		6	84,918	84,924
	Buddhism		11	77,052	77,063
	Christianity		7	4,335	4,342
	Others		1	14,534	14,535
	Subtotal		25	180,839	180,864
Total			399	181,562	181,961

As of Dec. 31, 2013

Note: Under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology: any religious juridical person whose precinct buildings are in multiple prefectures. Under the jurisdiction of a prefectural governor: any religious juridical person whose precinct buildings are in only a single prefecture.

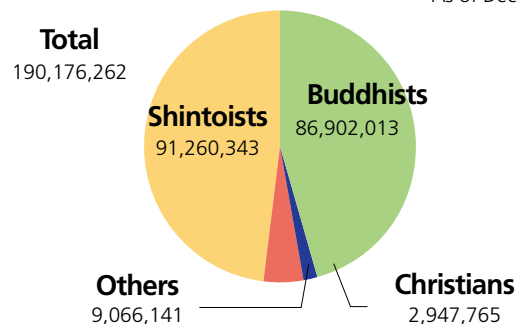
Source: *Shukyo Nenkan (Religious Yearbook) 2014* by ACA

Category of Religious Juridical Persons



Number of Followers by Classification of Religion

As of Dec. 31, 2013



Note: *Data collection methods for believers vary with the religious group.
Source: *Shukyo Nenkan (Religious Yearbook) 2014* by ACA

Comprehensive religious juridical persons

Shinto denominations, Buddhist denominations, Christian denominations, and others that encompass single religious juridical persons

Single religious juridical persons

Shrines (*jinja*), temples (*jiin*), churches, and other corporate religious entities having establishment for worship

Affiliated religious juridical persons

A religious juridical person that is under the coverage of another religious juridical person

Individual religious juridical persons

A religious juridical person that is not under the coverage of another religious juridical person

1. Promotion of Management and Operation of Religious Juridical Persons

The Agency for Cultural Affairs conducts affairs stipulated in the Religious Juridical Person Act, such as certifying incorporation, alteration of the article of incorporation, merger and voluntary dissolution of religious juridical persons as the competent authority.

The Agency also provides guidance and advice to the prefectural administration for religious affairs, holding lectures for administrative officers in charge of religious affairs at the prefectural level, running practical seminars for religious juridical persons and producing manuals for them.

In addition, to review religious trends of Japan, the Agency each year has conducted a statistical survey on religious juridical persons and published the results in the *Shukyo Nenkan (Religious Yearbook)* with the cooperation of religious juridical persons. Moreover, the Agency has worked on gathering materials related to religion and overseas surveys on religious situations.



Shukyo Nenkan (Religious Yearbook) and other publication

2. Promotion of Measures on Inactive Religious Juridical Person

Among religious juridical persons there exist so-called inactive religious juridical persons, who have ceased activities for any reason after establishment. Inactive religious juridical persons may cause social problems, for example, if a third party buys out the corporate status of inactive religious juridical person, and abuses it for conducting business. Cases such as this could impair social trust in the religious juridical person system generally.

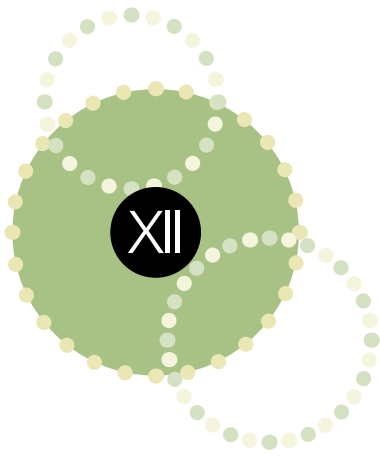
In this context, ACA and prefectures tackle such issues if inactive religious juridical persons can not be back in action through certification of amalgamation by absorption-type merger or voluntary dissolution, or if such measures are not feasible, by a petition for dissolution order to the court.



Meeting on countermeasures for inactive religious juridical persons (Kyoto)

3. The Religious Juridical Persons Council

To ensure the religious juridical persons' freedom of religion and duly consider their individual distinctive characteristics from a religious perspective, the Religious Juridical Persons Council was established as an advisory organ of the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.



Promoting Museums

1 Support for Art Museums and History Museums

1. Project to Support Creative Activities at Art Museums and History Museums as the Core of the Local Community

1. Overview of the project

This project seeks to contribute to the realization of the Nation Based on Culture and the Arts by supporting efforts to utilize and strengthen art museums and history museums, such as the promotion of the opening to the public of cultural properties existing in local communities centered on art museums and history museums, the cultivation of human resources such as curators, and multilingual services for foreigners visiting Japan, with art museums and history museums taking the leading role in disseminating culture as the heart of local communities.

2. Projects to be covered

1) Promotion and international dissemination of local culture

(i) Conservation and management of cultural properties existing in the local community as the efforts of the entire community to utilize them

1. Comprehensive grasping of cultural properties existing in the local community and information sharing
2. Formulation of a community to use cultural properties existing in the local community

(ii) International dissemination in multiple languages

1. Enhancement of the display of exhibit explanations and guide signboards inside museums in foreign languages
 2. Enhancement of information transmission using the Internet
 3. Cultivation and hiring of human resources with the ability to speak a foreign language
 4. Enhancement of programs and services for foreigners, etc.
- 2) Support for creative activities in collaboration with the local community
Outreach activities in the local community, interactive volunteer activities, invitation and dispatch of curators, etc., and support for artistic activities of handicapped people and activities for children, etc.
- 3) Support for the promotion of focused areas related to art museums and history museums
Support for initiatives to work on urgent and focused areas related to art museums and history museums among various issues concerning the promotion of culture and the arts in Japan



(Project example) Preservation of cultural properties in the local community
Supporting program for image experience of museum for children in the reference room at school



(Project example) Art-themed game experiencing device
Promoting the globalization of museum by collaboration of four national and public museums

2. Training Support Personnel for Art Museums and History Museums

Art museum and history museum activities need to be enriched in order to enhance specialist knowledge and technical skills of curators of public and private art museums and history museums. To this end, the Agency for Cultural Affairs, in collaboration with national museums, holds various training sessions and courses of study (see page 31).



Scene from the group work of the 4th museum Educator Training

2

Indemnity System for Works of Art etc.

The Indemnity System for Works of Art indemnifies works of art temporarily borrowed from abroad for exhibitions when they are damaged.

This system was established in 2011, based on the Act on the Indemnification of Damage to Works of Art in Exhibitions established and enacted in the same year. Eighteen exhibitions have been applied (as of April 1, 2015) and they include works of art from the Musée du Louvre (France) and the Museo del Prado (Spain). It is expected to relieve exhibition organizers of the burden of insurance expenses and to ensure that high quality exhibitions be held consistently all around the country.

The Act on the Facilitation of Disclosures of Foreign

Works of Art in Japan was enacted and came into effect in 2011. Specifying such measures as the ban on forcible execution concerning works of art from abroad, the Act includes provisions about development and improvement of museums and other national institutions. This Act enables works of art that were previously difficult to borrow due to the absence of guaranteed bans on forcible execution and other issues, to be borrowed and exhibited. Combined with the abovementioned governmental indemnification system, twenty-nine exhibitions have been applied by April 1, 2015. This Act is expected to increase opportunities for people to experience the cultural diversity of the world.

Main exhibitions where the Indemnity System for Works of Art has been applied

	Exhibition	Organizer	Period
1	Treasured Masterpieces from the National Palace Museum, Taipei	Tokyo National Museum Kyushu National Museum NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) NHK Promotions Inc. The Yomiuri Shimbun The Sankei Shimbun Fuji Television Network, Inc. The Asahi Shimbun The Mainichi Newspapers	- June 24 to September 15, 2014 - October 7 to November 30, 2014
2	Selected Works from the YAGEO Foundation Collection	The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo Nagoya City Art Museum Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto	- June 20 to August 24, 2014 - September 6 to October 26, 2014 - December 20, 2014 to March 8, 2015 - March 31 to May 31, 2015
3	James McNeill Whistler Retrospective	The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto Yokohama Museum of Art NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) NHK Promotions Inc.	- September 13 to November 16, 2014 - December 6, 2014 to March 1, 2015
4	Louvre Museum: Genre Painting - Scenes from Daily Life	The National Art Center, Tokyo Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art Nippon Television Network Corporation The Yomiuri Shimbun	- February 21 to June 1, 2015 - June 16 to September 27, 2015
5	René Magritte	The National Art Center, Tokyo Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art The Yomiuri Shimbun	- March 25 to June 29, 2015 - July 11 to October 12, 2015

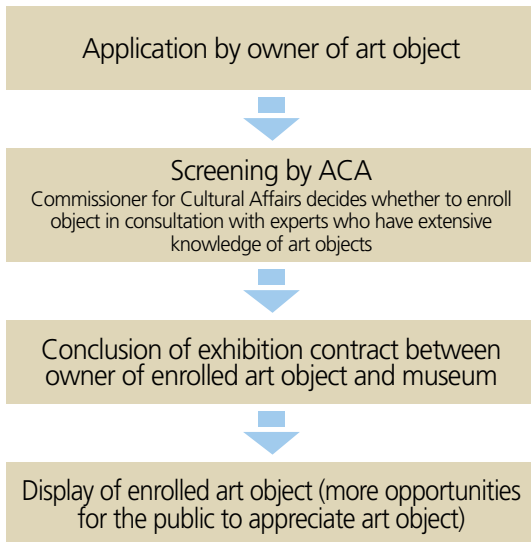
Main exhibitions where the Act on the Facilitation of Disclosures of Foreign Works of Art in Japan has been applied

	Exhibition	Organizer	Period
1	Ninnami Dohachi: An Observant and Brilliant Potter	Suntory Museum of Art The Asahi Shimbun	December 20, 2014, to March 1, 2015
2	Money and Beauty. Botticelli and the Renaissance in Florence	Tokyu Bunkamura, Inc. NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) NHK Promotions Inc. The Mainichi Newspapers	The Bunkamura Museum March 21 to June 28, 2015
3	René Magritte	The National Art Center, Tokyo Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art The Yomiuri Shimbun	- March 25 to June 29, 2015 - July 11 to October 12, 2015
4	Ancient Egyptian Art & Magic Treasures from the Fondation Gandur pour l'Art, Geneva, Switzerland	Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art The Hokkaido Shimbun Press Fukui Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts The Fukui Shimbun Fukui Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. The Shoto Museum of Art Gunma Museum of Art, Tatebayashi	- April 17 to June 21, 2015 - July 3 to August 30, 2015 - October 6 to November 23, 2015 - January 5 to March 21, 2016
5	Art Nouveau Glass. The Gerda Koepff Collection from the Museum Kunstpalast Dusseldorf	The Chunichi Shimbun Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art The Hokkaido Shimbun Press Panasonic Shiodome Museum Matsuzakaya Art Museum Fukuoka City Museum TVQ Kyushu Broadcasting Co., Ltd.	- April 18 to June 17, 2015 - July 4 to September 6, 2015 - September 12 to October 18, 2015 - February 11 to March 27, 2016 Hagi Urugami Museum - April 23 to June 19, 2016 The Museum of Art, Kochi - June 26 to August 28, 2016

3

The System of Art Objects Enrollment

<Process for Enrollment and Display of Art Objects>



The growing interest in fine arts in recent years has led to an increasing number of museums and visitors to museums. Despite numerous outstanding works of art in Japan, such works are not all being fully utilized since they are not publicly exhibited in museums.

Considering the above situation, the system of enrollment for art objects has been utilized on the basis of the Law Concerning Public Display of Art in Museums (enforced in December 1998). This system aims to give the public more opportunities to appreciate outstanding art objects by enabling individual or corporate owners of outstanding art objects to have them enrolled by the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs for public display in museums. All of the 67 art objects (8,377 works) enrolled thus far are available for public viewing in museums.

Hopefully this system will encourage many valuable art objects to be extensively exhibited to the public in the future. (as of April 1, 2015)

<Merits of Enrollment of Art Objects>

- Enrolled art objects are safely and properly handled and conserved by specialists at the art museum, and are systematically exhibited to the public for five years or more
- Ownership rights to art objects are not transferred with enrollment
- For inheritance tax payment, it is simpler for enrolled art objects than unenrolled art objects (due to an exceptional provision of inheritance taxation)



Name of Work: <Tani-ke Nohgaku Shiryō> (Noh materials of the Tani Family)
Noh costume <Benimurasaki dan-o ryunami marumoyo atsuita> and Noh mask <Yamanba> (short-sleeved kimono dyed red-purple color and designed by traditional patterns and Noh mask of mountain witch)
(Showing at the Kyushu National Museum)



Name of Work: <Myoho-rengkyo Gensan Maki-no-Dai roku> (Volume 6 of the Praising the Profundity of the Lotus Sutra of the Wonderful Law)
(Showing at the Tokyo National Museum)



4

National Archives of Modern Architecture

Aims

Internationally acclaimed, modern architecture in Japan is an important part of the culture and arts worldwide, but so far, efforts to pass on the academic, historical and artistic value to the next generation have been inadequate. In recent years, some of the sketches, drawings, models, documents and photographs of modern architecture are being lost, damaged or deteriorated. Also, some architectural materials of famous architects are in danger of flowing out of the country.

Meanwhile, the Basic Policy on the Promotion of Culture and the Arts (3rd Basic Policy), endorsed by the Cabinet in February 2011, promotes collecting information about repositories of works and materials from potential

fields with the aim of establishing an arts and culture archive in order to ensure that the arts and culture are passed on to the next generation.

In this context, the National Archives of Modern Architecture was established in November 2012 to collect, store, study and exhibit architectural archives of Japanese modern architecture aiming to protect and pass down those collections to the next generations as precious cultural resources. The Archive works to store architectural materials of famous architects including Sakakura Junzo, Yoshizaka Takamasa and Otaka Masato and others. The Archive holds exhibitions to introduce Japanese modern architecture based on such materials and study.

Past Exhibitions

FY2013

- Tokyo Olympics in Architectural Documents from the 1964 Yoyogi National Stadium to the 2020 New National Stadium
- Junzo Sakakura in Architectural Documents — une architecture pour l'homme

FY2014

- National Archives of Modern Architecture, Agency for Cultural Affairs Annual Review Exhibition 2014 Toward an Architectural Archives
- The Spirit of Architecture, Kiyonori KIKUTAKE in Architectural Archives

Access

4-6-15 Yushima, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 113-8553, Japan
TEL 03-3812-3401

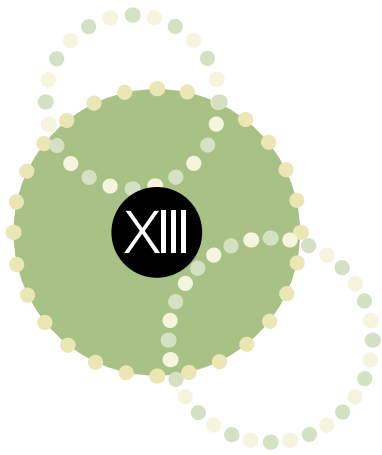
<http://nama.bunka.go.jp/global/eng>



The Spirit of Architecture, Kiyonori KIKUTAKE in Architectural Archives (October 29, 2014 to February 1, 2015)



Processing of materials



National Cultural Facilities

1. Japan Arts Council

<http://www.ntj.jac.go.jp/english.html>

Aiming to improve the arts and other elements of culture in Japan, the Japan Arts Council (1) assists cultural and artistic activities, (2) preserves and promotes traditional performing arts of Japan, and (3) promotes and popularizes modern performing arts. The Council has established the National Theatre, the National Engei Hall, the National Noh Theatre, the National Bunraku

Theatre, the National Theatre Okinawa and the New National Theatre, Tokyo to function as theater facilities for the traditional and modern performing arts. At each of the venues, the Council operates integrated programs to present public performances, train artists and collect traditional and modern performing arts materials.

National Theatre and National Engei Hall

The National Theatre (Large Theatre, Small Theatre) opened in November 1966 and the National Engei Hall opened in March 1979.

Public performances of the traditional arts remain as close as possible to the classical traditions, and efforts are made to preserve and promote the arts in their correct form by the Japan Arts Council which manages the Theatre. The Council also conducts training programs for successors, research and collection of data on traditional performing arts.

The Traditional Performing Arts Information Centre at the site houses an exhibition area, a reading room and a lecture room.

http://www.ntj.jac.go.jp/english/access/facilities_01.html
http://www.ntj.jac.go.jp/english/access/facilities_02.html

Performance Schedule in the FY 2015

Kabuki	5 productions	123 performances
Bunraku	4 productions	132 performances
Buyo (traditional dance)	4 productions	6 performances
Hogaku (traditional music)	4 productions	5 performances
Gagaku (court music)	2 productions	3 performances
Shomyo (Buddhist chant)	1 production	1 performance
Minzoku Geino (folk performing arts)	3 productions	5 performances
Special programme	4 productions	7 performances
Popular stage entertainment	56 productions	286 performances
Kabuki performance for beginners	2 productions	90 performances
Bunraku performance for beginners	1 production	24 performances



4-1 Hayabusacho, Chiyoda-ku,
 Tokyo 102-8656
 Tel: +81-(0)3-3265-7411

Large Theatre 1,610 seats
 Small Theatre 590 seats
 National Engei Hall 300 seats
 Traditional Performing Arts Information Centre

5-min. walk from Hanzomon Station (Exit 1 Hanzomon Line)
 8-min. walk from Nagatacho Station (Exit 4, Yurakucho, Hanzomon and Namboku Lines)



National Noh Theatre

http://www.ntj.jac.go.jp/english/access/facilities_03.html

The National Noh Theatre opened in September 1983. Aiming at dissemination of Noh and getting a new spectrum of people as audiences, the Theatre presents performing arts of Noh and Kyogen. It also conducts training programs for successors, research and collection of data on traditional performing arts.



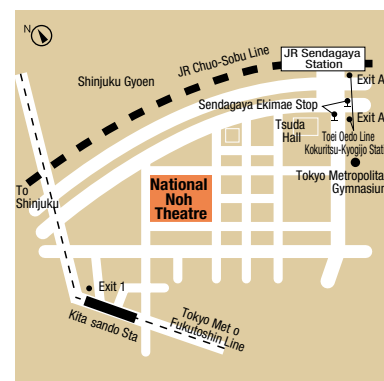
4-18-1 Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0051
Tel: +81-(0)3-3423-1331

Performance Schedule in the FY 2015

Regular performance	20 productions	20 performances
Dissemination performance	10 productions	10 performances
Special programme	20 productions	21 performances
Noh performance for beginners	1 production	10 performances

Noh stage 627 seats

5-min. walk from Sendagaya Station (JR Chuo-Sobu Line)
5-min. walk from Kokuritsu-Kyogijo Station, Exit A4 (Toei Oedo Line)
7-min. walk from Kita-sando Station, Exit 1 (Fukutoshin Line)



National Bunraku Theatre

http://www.ntj.jac.go.jp/english/access/facilities_04.html

The National Bunraku Theatre opened in March 1984. Mainly Bunraku is staged. The Theatre performance aims to preserve and pass down mainly Bunraku and other performing arts in the Kamigata area around present-day Osaka to the next generation. It also conducts training programs for successors, research and collection of data on traditional performing arts.



1-12-10 Nippombashi, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi,
Osaka 542-0073
Tel: +81-(0)6-6212-2531

Performance Schedule in the FY 2015

Bunraku	4 productions	187 performances
Buyo (traditional dance)	1 production	2 performances
Hogaku (traditional music)	1 production	1 performance
Special programme	2 productions	2 performances
Popular stage entertainment	8 productions	27 performances
Bunraku performance for beginners	1 production	28 performances

Bunraku Theatre 753 seats
Small Hall 159 seats



1-min. walk from Nippombashi Station, Exit 7 (Sakaisuji, Sennichimae and Kintetsu Lines)

National Theatre Okinawa

<http://www.nt-okinawa.or.jp/english.html>

The National Theatre Okinawa opened in January 2004. It aims to become the base of exchange with the Asia-Pacific region through traditional culture. It shows the traditional performing arts of Okinawa such as Kumiodori, conducts training programs for successors, research and collection of data on traditional performing arts.



4-14-1 Jitchaku, Urasoe-shi, Okinawa 901-2122
Tel: +81-(0)98-871-3311

Regular performance	17 productions	21 performances
Special programme	7 productions	9 performances
Research performance	1 production	1 performance
Kumi Odori, Ryukyuan Dance, Okinawan Drama performance for beginners	5 productions	14 performances

Large Theatre 632 seats
Small Theatre 255 seats



By bus: 10-min. walk from Jitchaku bus stop
1-min. walk from Kokuritsugekijo Okinawa (Yui no machi)
By taxi: 20 min. from Naha Airport

New National Theatre, Tokyo

<http://www.nntt.jac.go.jp/english/>

The New National Theatre, Tokyo, opened in October 1997. It aims to disseminate modern performing arts, such as opera, ballet, dance, and drama. It also conducts training programs for artists, research and collection of data on modern performing arts. The Stage Set & Design Centre conserves and maintains the stage installations, and preserves and exhibits the selected items for modern performing arts.

Opera	10 productions	48 performances
Ballet	6 productions	29 performances
Dance	3 productions	11 performances
Drama	7 productions	131 performances
Opera for beginners	1 production	6 performances
Ballet for beginners	1 production	8 performances
Dance for beginners	1 production	8 performances
Drama for beginners	1 production	26 performances

Opera House 1,814 seats
Playhouse around 1,000 seats
The Pit around 440 seats
Stage Set & Design Centre

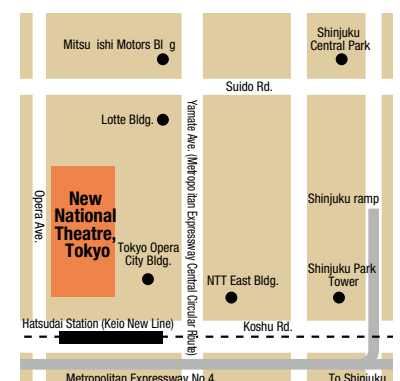
1-min. walk from the central exit of Hatsudai Station (Keio New Line, which shares tracks with the Toei-Shinjuku Line)
By car: Parking is available for about 860 cars at the intersection of Yamate Ave. and Koshu Rd, near the Shinjuku or Hatsudai Exit ramp of the Metropolitan Expressway No.4, Nakano-chojabashi Exit of Metropolitan Expressway Central Circular Route



1-1-1 Honmachi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0071
Tel: +81-(0)3-5351-3011



Stage Set & Design Centre
1-1044, Toyosatodai, Choshi-shi,
Chiba 288-0874
Tel: +81-(0)479-30-1048



2. National Museum of Art

<http://www.artmuseums.go.jp/> (Japanese only)

Independent Administrative Institution National Museum of Art is tasked with implementing diverse activities that suit the range of people's curiosity and interests and changes in situations related to contemporary art, with an objective of creating and developing the arts and culture. For this purpose, the five museums-National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto; National Museum of Western Art; National Museum of

Art, Osaka; and National Art Center, Tokyo-collaborate and cooperate in collecting and exhibiting works of art, art education activities, and research activities, while making use of their respective unique characteristics. At the same time, these museums serve as the basis for promoting the arts in Japan, implementing measures such as exchanges with overseas museums and artists and offering advice to public and private art museums.

National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo <http://www.momat.go.jp/english/>

The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo opened in 1952 as the first national museum of fine arts. It collects, houses, exhibits, and conducts research on works of modern and contemporary art, film, and other relevant materials.

In addition to the Art Museum, the Crafts Gallery (opened in 1977), National Film Center (opened in 1970), and National Film Center Sagami-hara Annex (opened in 1986) have been established within the museum.



Art Museum



Crafts Gallery

(Art Museum and Crafts Gallery)

- Hours: 10:00-17:00 (last admission: 16:30)
- Extended hours: 10:00-20:00 (last admission: 19:30)
- Extended hours apply only to the Art Museum on Fridays
- Closed: Every Monday (or the following day if a national holiday falls on a Monday)
- During exhibition preparation periods
- New Year's period (Dec. 28, 2015 to Jan. 1, 2016)
- Number of visitors: 589,000 (as of FY 2014, including visitors to National Film Center)
- Collection: Japanese and Western paintings..... 2,146 works
- Watercolors, drawings and prints..... 7,036 works
- Sculptures 466 works
- Photographs 2,446 works
- Craft works (including designs 3,544 works
- Others 736 works
- Total 16,374 works
- (Including deposits, as of the end of FY 2014)

(National Film Center)

- Screenings: Cinema 1 and 2
- Shown 2-3 times a day for each program
- Check the film schedule, leaflets and the website for details
- Hours: Exhibition Gallery: 11:00-18:30, Tuesday to Sunday (last admission 18:00)
- Closed: Every Monday; preparatory period for screenings and exhibition; New Year's period (Dec. 27, 2015-Jan. 4, 2016)
- In storage: 83,960 films
- (Including deposits, as of the end of FY 2014)



National Film Center

Art Museum

3-1 Kitanomaru-Koen, Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo

102-8322

Tel: +81-(0)3-3214-2561

Crafts Gallery

1-1 Kitanomaru-Koen Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo

102-0091

Tel: +81-(0)3-3211-7781

National Film Center

3-7-6, Kyobashi, Chuo Ward, Tokyo 104-0031

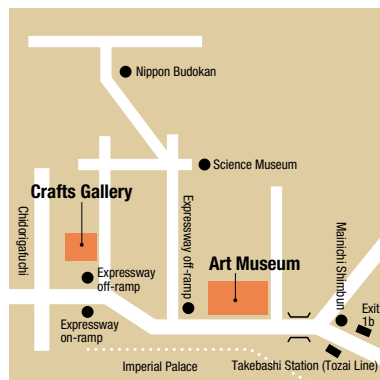
Tel: +81-(0)3-3561-0823

Sagami-hara Annex

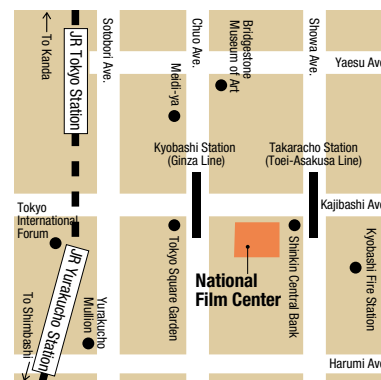
3-1-4, Takane, Chuo Ward, Sagami-hara,

Kanagawa 252-0221

Tel: +81-(0)42-758-0128



3-min. walk from Exit 1b of Takebashi Station (Tozai Line), and 8-min. walk to the Crafts Gallery.



1-min. walk from Kyobashi Station Exit 1 (Ginza Line)
1-min. walk from Takaracho Station Exit A4 (Toei-Asakusa Line)
10-min. walk from Tokyo Station, Yaesu-Minami Exit

National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto

<http://www.momak.go.jp/English/>

Established in 1963 as the Kyoto Annex Museum of the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, this museum became independent in 1967 and was renamed the National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto.

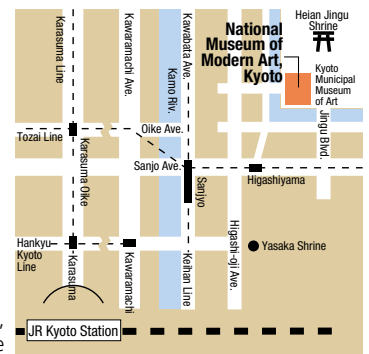
The museum collects, houses, exhibits, and researches artworks and other materials related to modern and contemporary art of western Japan centering on Kansai region.



Okazaki Enshojicho, Sakyo Ward, Kyoto
606-8344 (Within Okazaki Park)
Tel: +81-(0)75-761-4111

Hours: 9:30-17:00 (last admission: 16:30)
Extended Hours: 9:30-20:00 (last admission: 19:30)
Extended hours only apply on Fridays from March 31 to August 16, 2015 during special exhibitions
Closed: Every Monday (or the following day if a national holiday falls on a Monday), Exhibition replacement period
New Year's period

Number of visitors: 246,000 (as of FY 2014)
Collection: Japanese and Western paintings 1,910 works
Watercolors, drawings and prints 4,322 works
Sculptures 108 works
Photographs 1,977 works
Craftworks (including designs) 2,782 works
Others 1,300 works
Total 12,399 works
(Including deposits, as of the end of FY 2014)



10-min. walk from Higashiyama Station,
Kyoto City Tozai Line

National Museum of Western Art

<http://www.nmwa.go.jp/en/>

This museum was established in April of 1959, upon the occasion of the return of the Matsukata Collection to Japan, and its main building opened two months later in June. The facilities have since been expanded by the addition of a new wing in May of 1979 and special exhibition wing in December of 1997.

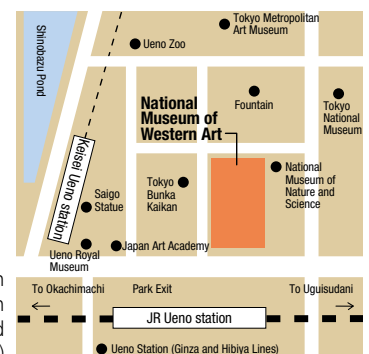
This museum collects, houses, exhibits, and researches the Matsukata Collection returned by the French Government and other materials concerning Western art.



7-7 Ueno-Koen, Taito Ward,
Tokyo 110-0007
Tel: +81-(0)3-3828-5131

Hours: 9:30-17:30 (last admission: 17:00)
Extended Hours: 9:30-20:00 (last admission: 19:30)
Extended hours apply only on Fridays
Closed: Every Monday (or the following day if a national holiday falls on a Monday)
New Year's period (Dec. 28, 2015-Jan. 1, 2016)

Number of visitors: 476,000 (as of FY 2014)
Collection: Western paintings 428 works
Watercolors, drawings and prints 4,144 works
Sculptures 101 works
Craft works (including designs) 815 works
Others 184 works
Total 5,672 works
(Including deposits, as of the end of FY 2014)



1-min. walk from JR Ueno Station
7-min. walk from Keisei Ueno Station
8-min. walk from Ueno Station (Ginza and Hibiya Lines)

National Museum of Art, Osaka

<http://www.nmao.go.jp/en/index.html>

Founded in 1977, the National Museum of Art, Osaka, utilizes the building and facilities of the Expo Museum of Fine Arts built for the 1970 World Exposition. It moved to Nakanoshima, the central district of Osaka, in November, 2004. This museum collects, houses, exhibits, and researches work of arts and related materials (mainly after 1945) that are necessary for making clear the relations between the development of fine arts in Japan and the rest of the world.



4-2-55, Nakanoshima, Kita Ward,
Osaka 530-0005
Tel: +81-(0)6-6447-4680

Hours: 10:00-17:00 (last admission: 16:30)
Extended hours: 10:00-19:00 (last admission: 18:30)
Extended hours apply only on Fridays
Closed: Every Monday (or the following day if a national holiday falls on a Monday)
New Year's period (Dec. 28, 2015-Jan. 15, 2016)
Exhibition replacement period

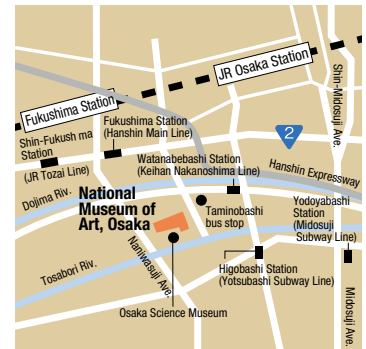
Number of visitors: 188,000 (as of FY 2014)

Collection:

Japanese and Western paintings	796 works
Watercolors, drawings and prints	3,278 works
Sculptures	401 works
Photographs	799 works
Craft works (including designs)	1,363 works
Others	800 works
Total	7,437 works

(Including deposits, as of the end of FY 2014)

5-min. walk from Watanabebashi Station (Keihan Nakanoshima Line)
10-min. walk from Higobashi Station (Yotsubashi Subway Line)
15-min. walk from Yodoyabashi Station (Midosuji Subway Line or Keihan Main Line)
10-min. walk from Fukushima Station (Hanshin or JR Osaka Loop Line) or Shin-Fukushima Station (JR Tozai Line)



National Art Center, Tokyo

<http://www.nact.jp/english/index.html>

The National Art Center, Tokyo was opened to the public in January 2007 as the fifth national art institution. Instead of maintaining a permanent collection, the Center makes full use of its exhibition space of 14,000 m², which is among the largest in Japan, to serve as a venue for the exhibition by artist associations with a national membership base, for exhibitions organized by the Center itself that highlight the latest trends in art, and for exhibitions co-organized with mass media companies and other art institutions. In addition, the Center collects information and materials related to art, primarily exhibition catalogs, and makes them accessible to the public. Through its educational programs, the Center also promotes outreach activities for a wide range of audiences.



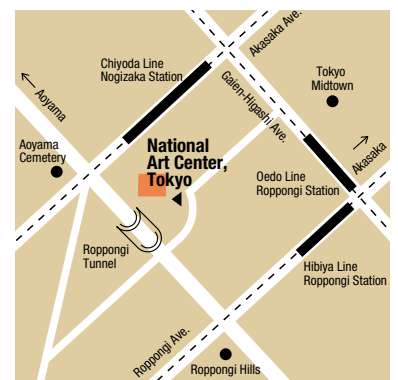
7-22-2 Roppongi, Minato Ward, Tokyo
106-8558
Tel: +81-(0)3-6812-9900

Hours: (For exhibitions organized by the Center)
10:00-18:00 (last admission: 17:30)
10:00-20:00 on Fridays during the exhibition period (last admission: 19:30)
(For Artist associations' exhibitions)
10:00-18:00 (different depending on associations)

Closed: Every Tuesday (or the following day if a national holiday falls on a Tuesday)
New Year's period (Dec. 22, 2015-Jan. 5, 2016)

Number of visitors: 1,426,000 (FY 2014)

Directly linked to Nogizaka Station, Exit 6 (Tokyo Metro Chiyoda Line)
5-min. walk from Roppongi Station, Exit 4a (Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line)
4-min. walk from Roppongi Station, Exit 7 (Toei Oedo Subway Line)



3. National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (National Museums and Research Institutes for Cultural Properties)

<http://www.nich.go.jp/english/index.html>

The National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (NICH) was established in April 2007, by integrating an independent administrative institution comprising the Tokyo National Museum, Kyoto National Museum, Nara National Museum and Kyushu National Museum, together with another comprising the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, and Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties. Furthermore, in October 2011, NICH established the International Research Centre

for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region as its seventh institution.

The mission of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage is to conserve and utilize cultural properties, which are invaluable assets for the people of Japan. The institutions have conducted research and investigations related to cultural properties, collected, preserved and managed tangible cultural properties, and planned and held exhibitions.

Tokyo National Museum <http://www.tnm.jp/?lang=en>

This museum was established in 1872 and has the longest history among museums in Japan. It was established following an exposition held at the Confucian temple named Yushima Seido in Yushima, Tokyo. Named the Imperial Museum in 1889, it was renamed the Tokyo National Museum in 1952.

As Japan's most comprehensive national museum focusing on the humanities, the Tokyo National Museum collects, preserves, and holds public exhibitions of artworks, archaeological artifacts, and other tangible cultural properties of the Asian region, with a focus on Japan. It also gathers books on fine arts, stone rubbings, photographs and other materials, makes such materials accessible to researchers, and also conducts associated research, training, and public education programs.

Hours: 9:30-17:00 (last entry: 16:30)
 Extended hours: 9:30-20:00 (last entry: 19:30; only on Fridays during special exhibition periods from April to December)
 9:30-18:00 (last entry: 17:30; only on Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays from April to September)
 During special exhibition periods, the opening hours and closure dates are subject to change.
 Closed: Mondays (if a Monday is a national or other holiday, the museum opens that Monday and closes on the following weekday), New Year period (Dec. 24, 2015-Jan. 1, 2016)
 *Some of the facilities may be closed for improvements of exhibition environment.

Number of visitors:	1,913,000 (as of FY 2014)
Collection:	
(with works on Long-term Loan to the Museum)	
Paintings	11,630 works
Calligraphy	2,207 works
Sculptures	1,353 works
Archaeological objects	28,812 articles
Applied art objects	31,155 works
Asian art and archaeological objects	18,638 works
Others	25,537 works
Total	119,332 works
	(As of the end of FY 2014)



13-9 Ueno Park, Taito-ku, Tokyo, 110-8712
 Tel: +81-(0)3-3822-1111



10 min. walk from JR Ueno Station,
 10 min. walk from JR Uguisudani Station,
 15 min. walk from Keisei Ueno Station,
 and 15 min. walk from Ueno Station
 on the Ginza and Hibiya Lines.

Kyoto National Museum <http://www.kyohaku.go.jp/eng/index.html>

The Kyoto National Museum opened in 1897 as the Kyoto Imperial Museum, after a decision was made in 1889 to establish an imperial museum in Kyoto. It was donated to the city to commemorate the marriage of the Crown Prince and renamed the Imperial Gift Museum of Kyoto in 1924. In 1952, the jurisdiction of the museum was returned to the national government, and it was given its current name.

The Kyoto National Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits works of art and historical artifacts from temples and shrines in the Kyoto area, focusing primarily on objects made in the early capital from the Heian to Edo periods. It also conducts research related to its collection, exhibitions, and management. The Conservation Center for Cultural Properties on the museum grounds was established for the restoration, conservation, and replication of National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties.

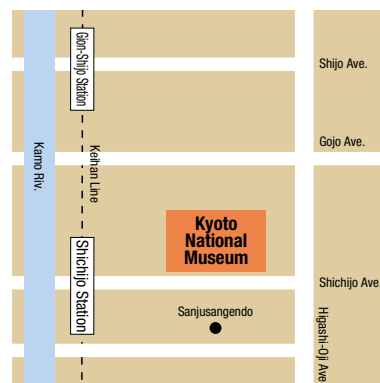


527 Chaya-cho, Higashiyama Ward, Kyoto City,
Kyoto 605-0931
Tel: +81-(0)75-541-1151

Hours: 9:30-17:00 (last admission: 16:30)
Extended hours: During special exhibitions, 9:30-18:00, and Fridays 9:30-20:00 (last admission: 19:30)
Closed: During installation periods before and after special exhibitions (September 14-October 9, November 24 - December 14, 2015 and March 22 - April 11, 2016)
Mondays (open if Monday is a national holiday, and then closed on Tuesday), New Year's period (Dec. 26, 2015-Jan. 1, 2016)

Number of visitors: 539,000 (As of FY 2014)
Collection: Paintings.....4,147 works
Calligraphy, manuscripts, and historical documents.....2,235 works
Sculptures.....401 works
Archaeological artifacts.....1,112 works
Decorative and applied arts.....4,845 works
Others.....370 works
Total.....13,110 works
(As of the end of FY 2014)

7-min. walk east from Shichijo Station (Keihan Railway)
1-min. walk from "Hakubutsukan Sanjusangendo-mae" bus stop of the 206 or 208 bus that leaves the D2 bus stop in front of Kyoto station (JR or Kintetsu Line)



Nara National Museum http://www.narahaku.go.jp/english/index_e.html

After the decision to establish an imperial museum in Nara in 1889, the Nara Imperial Museum opened in 1895. It adopted its present name of Nara National Museum in 1952.

Nara National Museum collects, preserves, maintains, and exhibits cultural properties focusing on Buddhist art, and the museum also researches the cultural properties. It has an attached facility where cultural properties are restored, preserved and managed. In addition to the Exhibition from the Permanent Collection of Buddhist art, the museum holds Special Exhibitions, the Exhibition of Shoso-in Treasures, Feature Exhibition, and other exhibitions.



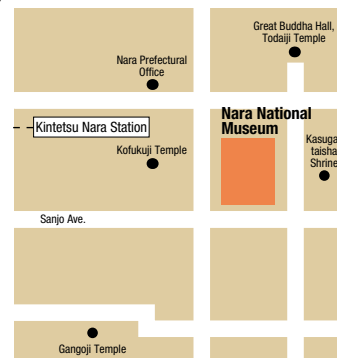
50 Noborioji-cho, Nara City 630-8213
Tel: +81-(0)742-22-7771

Hours: 9:30 -17:00
The museum is open late until 19:00 on following days.
• Fridays from the last week in April until the 3rd week in September.
• Fourth Saturday in January, February 3, March 12, August 5-15 and December 17.
The museum closes at 18:00 on following days.
• July 18-August 4, August 16-September 23 (except Fridays) and March 1-14 (except March 12)
The museum is open late until 20:30 from February 8 to 14.
*Last admission is 30 minutes before the closing time.

Closed: Closed on Mondays
(When Monday falls on a national holiday, the museum remains open on that day and is closed on the following Tuesday. The museum remains open during consecutive holidays and is closed the day after the holidays.)
Closed on January 1

Number of visitors: 477,000 (As of FY 2014)
Collection: Paintings885 works
Writings, manuscripts and historical documents461 works
Sculptures519 works
Archaeological works962 articles
Decorative arts.....891 works
Others.....143 works
Total3,861 works
(As of the end of FY 2014)

15 min. walk from Kintetsu Nara Station
1-min. walk from "Himuro jinja / Kokuritsu Hakubutsukan" bus stop of the Nara Kotsu City Loop Bus "Shinai junkan Sotomawari"



Kyushu National Museum <http://www.kyuhaku.com/>

In October 2005, the Kyushu National Museum became the first national museum to open in about a century. As the importance of Asia has grown in international society, the museum was established with a new concept of understanding how Japanese culture was formed from the perspective of Asian history, to deepen mutual understanding between Japan and other Asian countries. Since its opening, the Museum has welcomed many people. The Museum celebrated its 10th Anniversary in October, 2015. As a national museum befitting the 21st century, the Kyushu National Museum intends to continue its activities in museum science, education, promotion, and improvement by collecting and exhibiting works of art and historical and archaeological artifacts. It continues as a "Living Museum" open to international and regional society.

Hours:	9:30-17:00 (last admission: 16:30)
Closed:	Mondays (if a Monday is a national holiday, the museum opens that Monday and closes on the following Tuesday), year-end period
Number of visitors:	804,000 (as of FY 2014)
Collection:	Paintings243 works
(Including works on loan)	Books, manuscripts and historical documents100 works
	Sculptures27 works
	Archeological items142 works
	Craft works604 works
	Others191 works
	Total1,307 works
	(As of the end of FY 2014)



4-7-2 Ishizaka, Dazaifu City, Fukuoka 818-0118
Tel: +81-(0)92-918-2807

By car: [By Kyushu Expressway] Get off at the Dazaifu Interchange or Chikushino Interchange, head toward Dazaifu Tenmangu via Takao intersection (approx. 20 min.)

[By Fukuoka Urban Expressway] Get off at the Mizuki exit, head toward Dazaifu Tenmangu via Takao intersection (approx. 20 min.)

By taxi: From JR Futsukaichi Station (approx. 15 min.) or from Fukuoka Airport (approx. 30 min.)

By train: Nishitetsu Train: From Nishitetsu Fukuoka (Tenjin) Station, take the Nishitetsu Tenjin-Omura line, (13 min. by limited express or 17 min. by express), change trains to Nishitetsu Dazaifu Line at Futsukaichi Station then get off at Nishitetsu Dazaifu Station (5 min.) and walk (approx. 10 min.)

* No extra charge for both limited express and express

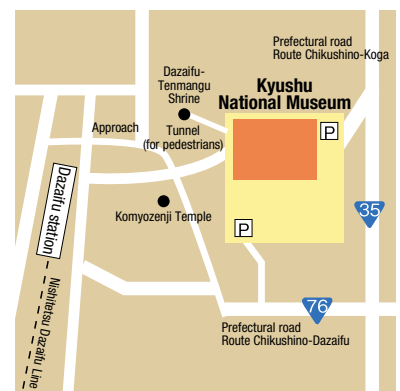
JR: From JR Hakata Station, take the JR Kagoshima Main Line to Futsukaichi Station (15 min.) then walk (12 min.) or take the bus (5 min.) to Nishitetsu Futsukaichi Station, take the Dazaifu Line from Nishitetsu Futsukaichi Station

By bus: Get on a Nishitetsu bus bound for Dazaifu Station at the Hakata Bus Terminal, get off at Nishitetsu Dazaifu Station bus stop (approx. 40 min.), and walk (approx. 10 min.)

From airport: Take a taxi from Fukuoka Airport (approx. 30 min.)

Alternatively, take the subway from Fukuoka-kuko (Airport) Station and change to the Nishitetsu Line at Fukuoka (Tenjin) Station, proceeding as indicated above for the Nishitetsu Line.

Get on a Nishitetsu bus bound for Dazaifu at the Fukuoka Airport International Terminal and get off at Nishitetsu Dazaifu Station bus stop (approx. 25 min.), and walk (approx. 10 min.)



National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo

http://www.tobunken.go.jp/index_e.html

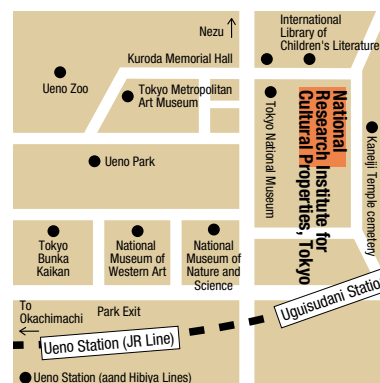
The Institute is engaged in surveys and research primarily on tangible and intangible cultural properties, ranging from basic surveys to research utilizing methods based on advanced science and technologies. While publishing and utilizing the results of such research, it serves as a hub for Japan's international cooperation in preservation and restoration of cultural properties.



Scene from the joint survey with the Tokyo National Museum

13-43 Ueno Park, Taito-ku, Tokyo 110-8713
Tel: +81-(0)3-3823-2241

10-min. walk from Uguisudani Station (JR Line)
15-min. walk from Ueno Station (JR Line)
15-min. walk from Nezu Station (Chiyoda Line)
20-min. walk from Keisei-Ueno Station (Keisei Line)
20-min. walk from Ueno Station (Ginza or Hibiya Line)



Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties

<http://www.nabunken.go.jp/english/index-e.html>

The Institute is engaged in comprehensive studies on valuable cultural properties. It conducts surveys and research on individual cultural properties such as architectural structures and historical documents, including archaeological investigations at the Nara and the Asuka-Fujiwara Palace Sites, as well as research, exhibitions, and activities for raising public awareness regarding the preservation of Asuka.



Scene from the excavation of the Imperial Audience Hall Compound at the Fujiwara Palace Site

297-1 Saki-cho, Nara City, Nara 630-8577
Tel. +81-(0)742-30-6733

10-min. walk from Yamato-Saidaiji Station (Kintetsu Line)



International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region <http://www.irci.jp/>

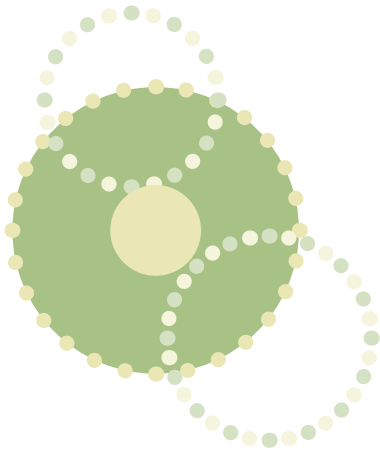
The centre is an international research institution (UNESCO Category 2 Centre) established based on the agreement between UNESCO and the government of Japan as a hub for promoting the safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in the Asia-Pacific region. Its mission includes the enhancement of the safeguarding of ICH through instigating and facilitating researches in cooperation with various researchers and institutions.

Sakai City Museum, 2 Cho, Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku, Sakai City, Osaka, 590-0802
Tel: +81-(0)72-275-8050



6-min. walk from Mozu Station (JR Hanwa Line),
 4-min. walk from Sakai-shi Hakubutsukan-mae bus stop (Nankai Bus)





Agency for Cultural Affairs' Actions After the Great East Japan Earthquake

1 Supporting Reconstruction Through Art and Culture

1. Damage of cultural facilities and restoration efforts

The Agency for Cultural Affairs has been informed that the Great East Japan Earthquake reportedly caused 278 public cultural facilities to suffer from ceiling falls or breakage, breakage or destruction of lighting apparatuses and cracks in walls and floors.

Through a subsidy for the restoration of disaster-affected

public social education facilities, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has provided the affected public cultural facilities with governmental subsidies for restoration. In FY 2015, the Agency remains focused on restoration of public cultural facilities that should serve as hubs for culture and art in the affected areas.

2. Restoration efforts through art and culture

(1) Program for sending artists to schools and evacuation centers (Dispatch Program)

Since FY 2011, the Agency for Cultural Affairs undertook a program for sending artists to schools and evacuation centers in affected areas. This program continues in FY 2015, pursuing an environment for children in the affected areas to grow up healthily through contact with art and culture.

(2) Arts and Culture Consortium for Reconstruction

In May 2012, the Arts and Culture Consortium for Reconstruction was established with the aim of facilitating cross-disciplinary cooperation among administrative agencies, artists, art organizations, businesses, foundations and many other organizations and individuals in an effort to support the reconstruction of affected areas through art and culture. The Consortium is co-organized by the Association of Public Theaters and Halls in Japan and the Japan Council of Performers'

Organizations. The Consortium undertakes survey research, gathers information, and develops personal and organizational networks to promote reconstruction through the arts and culture.

(3) Regional revitalization through culture and the arts and projects to disseminate them internationally

One objective of the regional revitalization through culture and the arts and projects to disseminate them internationally is spiritual renewal through culture and art. The Agency for Cultural Affairs supports cultural and artistic endeavors of local public organizations in affected areas, and provision of opportunities to appreciate demonstrating art.

By staying updated on conditions in the affected areas, the Agency for Cultural Affairs will stay focused on the abovementioned activities aimed at helping effective reconstruction.

1. Damage Caused to Cultural Properties

The Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011 damaged numerous cultural properties. 744 cultural properties, including nationally designated ones, were reported as damaged. Damaged cultural properties include almost all types of tangible and intangible cultural properties.

Since immediately after the earthquake, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has taken actions, through prefectural governments. For example, the ACA gave necessary policies to facilitate restoration and reconstruction, such as a moratorium on legal obligations during an emergency, flexible application of excavation and research of buried

cultural properties in the context of the reconstruction project, and actions taken in response to the emergency crisis level on cultural properties and buildings.

In cooperation with relevant local municipalities, the ACA sent Senior Cultural Property Specialists when necessary in an effort to remain updated on the status of damage. Since the damaged properties were too numerous and spread across a wide area, the ACA needed to ask related organizations for urgent cooperation in field research and preservation, and the system for mobilizing numerous/multiple specialists needed to be organized.

2. Efforts for Restoration and Reconstruction

(1) Support for Cultural Properties

Where fine arts and crafts, tangible folklore cultural assets, and other movable cultural properties and works of art are concerned, the Agency for Cultural Affairs launched the Rescue Program for Cultural Properties Damaged in the Great East Japan Earthquake (the Cultural Property Rescue Program) at an early stage, and set up the secretariat of the Rescue Committee for Disaster-Affected Cultural Properties (the Rescue Committee) at the National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo to urgently preserve damaged cultural properties and to prevent the destruction and ultimate loss of important cultural properties incidental to the demolition of damaged buildings. The Committee Rescue undertook activities for two fiscal years until March 2013 under the program.

As of FY2012, cultural properties will undergo stabilizing treatments such as sludge removal and desalting before returning to their owners under the Program to Revitalize Disaster-Affected Museums, which assists for repairing, organizing, archiving and other treatments of museum materials damaged in the disaster, to guarantee places for storage, and to assist with other reconstruction projects.

Where buildings are concerned, ACA past support structures have provided technical support aimed at recovery and to carry out emergency measures according to requests from owners etc., as well as to survey the damage situation. Operations for Retrieval and Recovery

from the Great East Japan Earthquake (Dispatch Conservators for Historic Monuments) was set up in cooperation with the Architectural Institute of Japan, the Japan Institute of Architects and other related organizations to provide continuous support. About 600 inspectors have been dispatched to 217 municipalities in 11 prefectures to survey approximately 4,500 buildings.

Furthermore, the Agency has supported other restoration activities.



Scene from the restoration of damaged historical or cultural materials under the Program to Revitalize Disaster-Affected Museums (Iwate Prefectural Museum)

(2) Project to Support Excavation of Buried Cultural Properties in the Disaster Areas

Where buried cultural properties are concerned, with the cooperation of local governments, experts in buried cultural properties have been dispatched to the disaster areas since FY 2012 to handle excavation surveys of buried cultural properties before full-scale reconstruction work in the disaster areas (Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima Prefectures) is carried out in a desirable manner. In the first half of FY2015, 49 experts were dispatched those areas. Four years later, full-scale reconstruction plan is being accelerated. The Agency for Cultural Affairs will continue to dispatch experts to support the disaster areas to ensure the recovery activities do not interfere with the protection of buried cultural properties.

In addition, where excavation surveys of buried cultural properties are required at the time of reconstruction, the Agency for Cultural Affairs strives to alleviate the financial burden on the municipalities affected by the disaster by including such surveys among the core projects eligible for the Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Grant and introducing the latest technologies.



Project to Support Excavation of Buried Cultural Properties in the Disaster Areas



Scene from an international expert meeting on "Cultural Heritage and Disaster Resilient Communities" (Photo: Courtesy of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage)

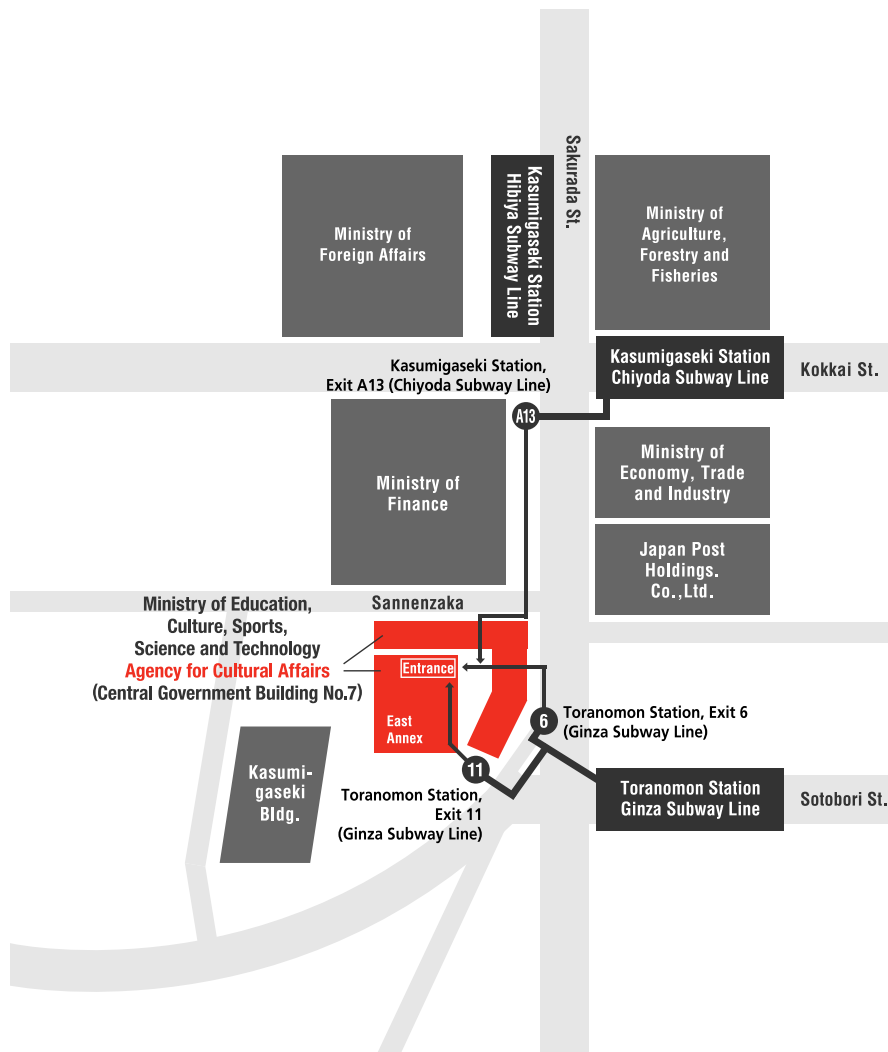
(3) For enhancing and strengthening the system

Of the cultural properties designated or selected by the government, the Agency for Cultural Affairs has been providing government subsidies to restoration projects conducted by the owners and management groups of cultural properties that have sustained serious damage. For registered cultural properties, etc. to which the full financial support of the government is not given, subsidies have been provided from donations contributed to the Foundation for Cultural Heritage and Art Research in response to the appeal of the Commissioner for Cultural Affairs for donations. With the cooperation of the World Monuments Fund in the United States, donations contributed by companies, groups and individuals in Japan and overseas were used for projects to restore cultural properties designated by prefectures and municipal governments or various undesignated cultural properties with value equivalent to these, and for support for the Cultural Property Rescue Program and the Dispatch Conservators for Historic Monuments, etc.

Reflecting the understanding of damage to cultural properties by the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent efforts to restore them, the Agency for Cultural Affairs is working to build a system to implement rescue programs promptly after the Earthquake. In 2013, the Agency for Cultural Affairs established the Cultural Properties Damage Control Committee in the Cultural Properties Department. In addition, the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage established the National Task Force for the Japanese Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Mitigation Network in fiscal 2014 to promote day-to-day disaster prevention for cultural properties and the building of a contingency framework in cooperation with the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

As part of these efforts, in March 2015, the Agency for Cultural Affairs held an international expert meeting on "Cultural Heritage and Disaster Resilient Communities" within the framework of the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction jointly with UNESCO, the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage in order to be able to collect information in Japan and overseas and build connections widely with related groups.

The Agency for Cultural Affairs will continue to support the reconstruction and restoration of the areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and strive to enhance and strengthen the contingency framework, so that cultural properties will serve to assist with the emotional recovery of people and the reconstruction of communities.



Directions

2-min. walk from Toranomon Station, Exit 6 or 11 (Ginza Line)

5-min. walk from Kasumigaseki Station, Exit A13 (Chiyoda, Hibiya and Marunouchi Lines)

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Descriptions of this paper are based on information as of April 1, 2015.
 Some policies of this paper are reflected revisions made by July 2015.

Note: All Japanese names in this pamphlet are written in the Japanese order, family name first.
 Note: In all Japanese government reports, the Japanese Fiscal Year (FY) begins on April 1 and ends on March 31 of the next year. For example, FY 2015 runs from April 1 of 2015 to March 31 of 2016.



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Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan