Japan-Mobility and Internationalisation: Re-engaging and Accelerating Initiative for future generations
Background

COVID-19, climate change, food and energy problems, Russian aggression in Ukraine... The international community and order have been shaken, and the world is facing a major crisis.

From building and strengthening international cooperation and solidarity to ensuring peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community, the youth hold the keys to the future.

It is required to build a diverse, inclusive, and sustainable society through developing human resources who will play a leading role in the world's most advanced fields as well as in regional growth and development.

Therefore, Japan will...

- Expand the outbound of Japanese students
- Enhance the inbound of international students
- Promote the internationalisation of education

through this initiative.
## Goals for 2033

### Outbound Japanese Students
- **500,000 students**
  - 222,000 students pre-COVID-19
  - To a level comparable to France and Germany (non-English speaking countries)

### Inbound/Retaining International Students
- **400,000 students**
  - 318,000 students pre-COVID-19
  - Maintain the growth rate of Plan for 300,000 Exchange Students

### Internationalisation of Education
- Develop an international educational environment and promote in-person and online interactions

#### Universities, vocational school, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Pre-COVID-19</th>
<th>Post-COVID-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of students studying abroad long-term</td>
<td>62,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students studying abroad middle and short-term</td>
<td>113,000</td>
<td>230,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study tour (less than 3 months)</td>
<td>43,000</td>
<td>110,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying abroad (more than 3 months)</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### High schools, etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Pre-COVID-19</th>
<th>Post-COVID-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of international students</td>
<td>312,000</td>
<td>380,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of international students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate:</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s:</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate:</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of international students</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of international students</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-graduation employment rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-graduation employment rate of international students in Japan</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Programmes based on inter-university exchange agreements with overseas universities

### Universities, etc.
- English-only programmes
  - Undergraduate: 86, 200
  - Graduate School: 276, 400
- Universities that have exchanges with overseas universities based on exchange agreements
  - 48%, 80%
- Number of joint degree programs*
  - 27, 50
- Number of double degree programs
  - 349, 800
- Junior high and high schools, etc.
  - Schools where students can take multiple subjects in English
    - 50 schools, 150 schools
  - Conducting international exchanges in-person
    - 18%, 50%
  - Online international exchanges, etc.
    - 20%, 100%
Outbound Japanese Students

Outbound of 500,000 students by 2033

- Nurture the necessary skills to study abroad in the future
- Facilitate studying abroad at overseas universities and graduate schools through enhanced support
- Relieve concern of finding employment after studying abroad

At Elementary, middle, and high school
- Help children develop their English reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills
- Enhance teachers' instructional skills through opportunities for overseas experience and practical training
- Expand support for students to study abroad at the high school level and to enter universities abroad

At University
- Enhance scholarships (JASSO, etc.) through both the public and private sectors
- Advance efforts to increase the number of exchange students (exchange agreements)
- Encourage working adults to study at overseas graduate schools

Connection to society
- Provide necessary information to find employment after studying abroad
- Encourage a variety of opportunities for job application, including year-round recruitment, to reduce the mismatch in timing between returning to Japan and job hunting
- Build momentum so that studying abroad is positively evaluated by companies
Inbound/Retaining International Students

Inbound of 400,000 international students by 2033

Advance efforts prior to students’ arrival in Japan, making smoother first steps toward studying in Japan.

Before studying in Japan:
- Enhance overseas Japanese language education
- Encourage admission and selection before arrival to Japan through online interviews, registrations, etc.

While studying in Japan:
- Increase the number of faculty members with degrees from abroad and enhance courses that allow students to graduate with English-only
- Improve the quality and attractiveness of campuses
- Introduce fall and year-round enrollment

Create a comfortable working environment for graduating international students in Japan.

Promote efforts to create a fruitful learning and comfortable study abroad environment at universities and other institutions in Japan.

After studying in Japan:
- Encourage Japanese companies to review their internal systems and improve their corporate culture to make it easier for international students to work in Japan
- Expand opportunities for matching international students with companies throughout Japan
- Strengthen employment counseling and support at Hello Work (public employment security offices), etc., including multilingual support
Develop an international educational environment and promote in-person and online interactions.

- Create learning opportunities where people from various backgrounds can gather and grow together.
- Organise an attractive educational environment for children of foreign human resources coming to Japan.
- Advance the overseas expansion of Japanese-style education, which is receiving strong interest from other countries.

Internationalisation of universities, etc.
- Encourage joint/double degrees with overseas universities, credit transfers, and exchange agreements.
- Promote recruitment and training of staff with advanced and specialised knowledge and experience in international exchange, etc.
- Promote hybrid international exchanges that utilise online.

Improving the educational environment for the success of foreign human resources
- Promote the development and operation of international secondary education institutions that are attractive to foreign children, etc.
- Strengthen support for foreign children by increasing the number of teachers for Japanese language instruction, etc., and establish special quotas for high school entrance examinations.

Overseas expansion of Japanese-style education
- Support the introduction of Japanese-style colleges of technology (KOSEN) based on requests from other countries.
- Secure and enhance teachers dispatched at overseas educational facilities to create educational environments that are equivalent to that in Japan.

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In Support of this Initiative

Messages from the members of the Council for the Creation of Future Education

SEIKE Atsushi
President of the Japanese Red Cross Society/Professor Emeritus of Keio University

I highly encourage you to study in Japan. You will be able to obtain many things by studying in Japan. First of all, you can learn things that you can only learn at the Japanese institution where you are coming to study. Secondly, you can make friends with Japanese students and students from all over the world who are also studying in Japan. Thirdly you can get familiar with Japanese culture, history, and nature. And fourthly, you can look at your own country from Japan, recognize challenges of it, and at the same time rediscover the charms of your country. By studying in Japan, you will be able to get these valuable things at the same time. Japanese educational institutions and the Japanese society warmly welcome you all.

AKASHI Junichi
Professor, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Tsukuba

I believe that a university campus is an invaluable asset to society as a whole, where young people of diverse values and cultural backgrounds study and inspire each other to improve. Such an environment nurtures intellectual creativity. That is why I welcome international students from all over the world to challenge themselves in pursuit of an academic degree in Japan. I will support them from the educational field so that they can gain various experiences together with Japanese students, pursue the careers they are looking for, and be active on a global stage.

IKEDA Keiko
Professor, Division of International Affairs, Kansai University

I sincerely hope to provide students with opportunities to have rich and fulfilling life experiences that incorporate time spent in Japan. You will likely find a new career pathway as a result of having such experiences. Japanese universities and special training colleges are now offering many innovative and interdisciplinary ways of learning, particularly by collaborating with industries. Study together with Japanese local students as well as international students from all over the world, and build a network that you will treasure for a lifetime. Consider leaping into a new world by seizing opportunities for personal growth and development in Japan! Japan welcomes all talented international students to participate in both education and private sectors.
Read the initiative “J-MIRAI”

Visit “Study In Japan” (JASSO)

**In Support of this Initiative**

Messages from the members of the Council for the Creation of Future Education

**OHNO Tadadataka**

Chairman of the Board, Denshi Gakuen / Vice-President, National Association of Vocational Schools of Japan

Social environment surrounding Japan is currently undergoing great changes due to technological innovations, changes in industrial structures, intensifying international competitions, and decreasing the working-age population. Thus we need to create a diverse range of human resources, from highly skilled persons to engineers who can contribute to the growth of specialized fields, and support local communities and industries.

In this time of change, I sincerely wish that various talented foreigners will study in Japan to realize their dreams and will play active and important roles in the Japanese society.

**OHNO Hideo**

President of Tohoku University

The universities in Japan offer a diverse range of advanced learning and cutting-edge research opportunities across various disciplines. In recent years, there has been a significant increase in internationalization and diversification, with more and more international students choosing to study here. The Council for the Creation of Future Education has recently recommended initiatives to enhance the support system for overseas students, including post-graduation settlement. Studying at a Japanese university allows you to actively pursue your passions, make lifelong friends, and carve out an exciting new path for yourself. Don’t miss this opportunity to enrich your life and broaden your horizons!

**HIGASHIHARA Toshiaki**

Director Executive Chairman Representative Executive Officer

In this proposal, we made a comprehensive discussion on what is needed for diverse talent to play an active role in Japan, such as development of financial and social support for overseas students and actions to connect graduates to employment.

I myself feel the power of diversity very strongly whenever I have discussions with energetic people working in Japan and abroad.

Japan is now in the process of transforming itself into a more attractive place to learn and work. I hope you will choose Japan as a place to work together to solve social issues.

**J-MIRAI: Japan-Mobility and Internationalisation: Re-engaging and Accelerating Initiative for future generations**

This material was prepared by the Office of the Council for the Creation of Future Education, Cabinet Secretariat, chaired by the Prime Minister, based on the Second Proposal of the Council for the Creation of Future Education (Japan-Mobility and Internationalisation: Re-engaging and Accelerating Initiative for future generations <J-MIRAI>, April 27, 2023).