

Japan - Mobility and Internationalisation: Re-engaging and Accelerating Initiative for future generations (J-MIRAI) Outline

Council for the Creation of Future Education, April 27, 2023

I. Human Investment in Post-Covid Global Society

- It is essential to **invest in people** to realise a **New Form of Capitalism** based on the concepts of a "virtuous cycle of growth and distribution" and "development of a new post-pandemic society."
- Developing and securing a broad and diverse base of human resources, from **highly skilled professionals** in the world's most advanced fields to **those who support regional growth and development** and **the building of a diverse, inclusive, and sustainable society**, is vital for boosting Japan's growth and **international competitiveness and contributing to world peace and stability.**
- Regarding international student exchange, **in addition to existing focus on the quantity of international student exchange, The Government of Japan will also place an emphasis on improving quality with the aim of increasing the number of Japanese students studying abroad and promoting the acceptance of promising international students.**
- In the future, **we will strengthen the exchanges of people at the higher education level** by actively promoting exchange at high-quality universities with international students, as well as enhance diversity and inclusion in education at the elementary and secondary school levels.
- **Reforming the system for accepting highly skilled foreign professionals to achieve world-class levels, facilitating the employment of Japanese students who have studied abroad, and encouraging international students who wish to play an active role in their fields to settle in Japan.**

II. Future Directions

1. Outbound and Inbound students

(1) Outbound Japanese students

- The Government of Japan will **increase the number and percentage of Japanese students studying at overseas universities and graduate schools for mid- to long-term study, and promote degree attainment, especially among graduate students.** For this purpose, The Government of Japan will promote gradual efforts throughout the levels from high school to graduate school, which lead to degree acquisition from short- to mid-term and long-term study abroad.

(2) Inbound international students

- The Government of Japan **will promote the strategic acceptance of talented and highly motivated international students.** In doing so, to create an environment where students will learn and mutually understand values based on diverse cultural backgrounds, The Government of Japan will **diversify the regions from which students are accepted** and increase acceptance at the graduate school and at the undergraduate and high school levels, where international student ratios are low.

2. Developing a secure post-graduation environment for those studying abroad

- To help students make the decision to study abroad with predictability and peace of mind about their future career paths before entering school overseas, The Government of Japan will **facilitate the smooth employment of Japanese students who have studied abroad, and help international students settle in Japan if they so choose after graduation** by promoting the employment of international students by companies and supporting entrepreneurship.

3. Internationalisation of education

- The Government of Japan will promote the internationalisation of education by realising: **an educational and research environment where values based on diverse cultural backgrounds gather and create mutual understanding;** and **an educational environment for children such that highly skilled foreign professionals can come to Japan with their children without anxieties.**

III. Goals by 2033

Outbound Japanese Students



500,000 by 2033

(222,000 pre-COVID)

Similar level to France and Germany (non-English-speaking countries)

<Universities, vocational schools, etc.>

- Number of Japanese students **studying abroad long-term** for the purpose of earning a degree, etc.
62,000 → **150,000**

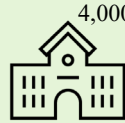
- Number of students studying abroad **short- to medium-term** based on agreements, etc.
113,000 → **230,000**

<High Schools, etc.>

- Number of **students studying abroad at the high school level**

Study tour (less than 3 months)
43,000 → **110,000**

Study abroad (more than 3 months)
4,000 → **10,000**



Inbound/Retaining International Students



400,000 by 2033

(318,000 pre-COVID)

Maintain the growth rate of "Plan for 300,000 Exchange Students"

< Universities, vocational schools, Japanese language schools, etc.>

- Number of **international students**
312,000 → **380,000**

- **Percentage of international students**

Undergraduate: 3% → 5%
Master's: 19% → 20%
Doctorate: 21% → 33%

<High Schools, etc.>

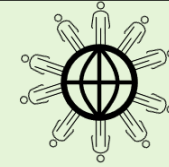
- Number of **international students** (high school)
6,000 → **20,000**

- **Percentage of international students**

High school: 0.2% → 0.7%

- **Post-graduation employment rate in Japan** (excluding students moving on to higher education)
48% → 60%

Internationalisation of Education



<Universities, etc.>

- **English-only** undergraduate and graduate programmes

Undergraduate: 86 → 200
Graduate: 276 → 400

- Percentage of universities that have **exchanges with overseas universities based on exchange agreements**

48% → 80%

- **Joint degree programmes**

27 → 50

- **Double degree programmes**

349 → 800

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

<Junior High and High Schools, etc.>

- High schools where students can take **multiple subjects in English (including courses)**

50 → 150

- Percentage of high schools with **in-person international exchanges**

18% → 50%

- Junior high and high schools with **international exchanges through online and other means**

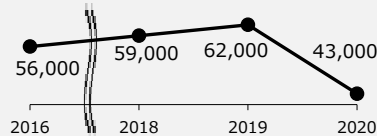
20% → 100%

Current situation

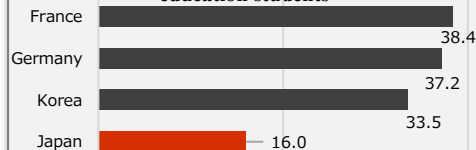
Outbound Japanese Students

Stagnation of Japanese students studying abroad

Number of Japanese students studying abroad, mainly long-term (including degree-seeking students)

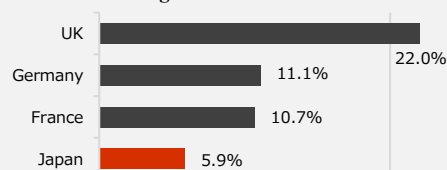


International comparison of the number of students sent abroad per 1,000 higher education students



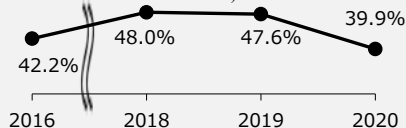
Inbound / Retaining International Students

Percentage of international students in higher education



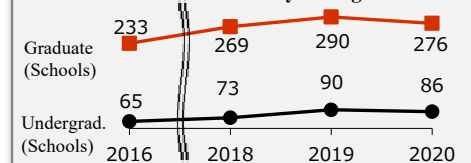
The domestic employment rate of international students increased only slightly

International students who are employed in Japan after graduation (excluding students moving on to higher education)

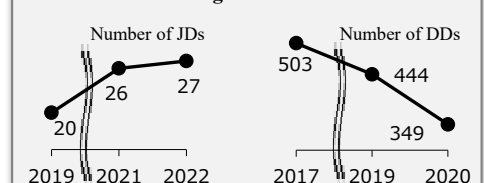


Internationalisation of Education

Undergraduate/graduate schools with degrees attainable exclusively in English



Joint Degree (JD) and Double Degree (DD) Programmes



IV. Specific Measures

1. New post-covid measures for outbound and inbound students

(1) Measures for outbound Japanese students

- ① Promoting outbound Japanese students from the high school to graduate school levels
 - Strengthen public relations through social media, etc.
 - Build alumni networks
 - Promote local government initiatives that support students going on to higher education at overseas universities
 - **Promote efforts to increase exchange agreements (mutual tuition waiver)**
 - In order to significantly increase the number of students who aim to study abroad in the mid- to long-term and pursue degrees at foreign universities, toward the realisation of the indicators for outbound of students, the public and private sectors will collaborate to implement structural and fundamental policies and **steadily expand grant-type scholarships** in line with the development and progress of these measures. Furthermore, the **public and private sectors will collaborate to increase economic support**, such as by promoting the use of scholarships contributed by businesses and individuals.
 - **Promote the use of proxy repayment systems by companies** and **repayment support efforts by local governments.**
 - **Promote the development of “Tobitate! (Leap for tomorrow) Study Abroad Initiative”** through public-private collaboration.
 - **Promote outbound of doctorate and other human resources abroad**
 - Promote working adults to study at overseas graduate schools, etc.
- ② Promoting English and international understanding education at the elementary and secondary education levels, as well as education that fosters the ability to identify and solve problems, etc.
 - Promote digital performance tests to develop the four English skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking).
 - Promote inquiry-based learning, hands-on activities to foster interest in nature, society, culture and the arts, and education that deepens international understanding.
 - Promote the development of an educational environment that allows students to take international educational programs such as the International Baccalaureate.
 - Improve teacher’s teaching skills of English and international understanding education by increasing opportunities for teachers to study abroad during their training, increasing opportunities to get overseas experiences after hiring, and improving practical teacher training.
 - **Promote online exchange with overseas by utilising one device per student** etc.

(2) Measures for inbound international students

- ① Creating opportunities to study in Japan
 - Improve local systems to integrally promote student recruitment from an early stage, public relations, information delivery, and Japanese language education
 - Improve information on portal sites where information related to international student acceptance can be obtained centrally
 - **Establish programmes to strengthen the early acquisition of excellent students**
 - Enhancement of Japanese language education overseas
 - **Review Japanese Government Scholarships, such as by focusing on specific regions and fields of study** etc.
 - ② Making flexible requirements and procedures at the application and admission stage
 - Promote student selection before arrival in Japan through digital transformation
 - Online processing of student visas
 - Reduce the burden of opening bank accounts etc.
 - ③ Improving the quality and appeal of the education and research environment of Japanese universities
 - **Flexible tuition fees for international students** and **more flexible capacity management**
 - **Improve the quality and attractiveness of campuses**, develop dormitories for international students and foreign faculty members using private funds, etc., and develop the rental housing environment to accept international students etc.
 - ④ Thoroughly implementing and strengthening measures for appropriate enrollment management and technology leakage prevention
 - **Publicise the names of schools such as universities with inadequate enrollment management, not permit the applicants in such schools to acquire the “Student” status of residence, strictly subsidies for private schools**, and enhance disclosure of information on the number of international students, etc.
 - Ensure security export control, promote research integrity, etc.
- ### **(3) Promoting international exchange**
- Promote international exchange by **enhancing and strengthening the “Asia Kakehashi Project”** and the Japan’s Friendship Ties, as well as by promoting sister school partnerships and the assignment of study abroad coordinators.
 - Promote hybrid international exchanges online such as through COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning), VE (Virtual Exchange), etc.
 - Strengthen human resource development for decarbonisation, promote international exchange activities and study abroad for students studying in fields such as agriculture, and promote the exchange of students in cultural and artistic fields as well as young artists.

IV. Specific Measures

2. Developing a secure post-graduation environment for those studying abroad

(1) Improving the environment to facilitate the smooth employment of Japanese students

- Provide employment information to students studying abroad and expand participation in overseas job fairs
- **Promote the various opportunities of application** for students after returning home through **year-round and fall hiring, internships, etc.**
- Building momentum to broaden the scope of initiatives in which companies actively evaluate the knowledge and expertise gained through studying abroad, in terms of hiring, human resource development etc.

(2) Improving the retention rate of international students and other highly skilled foreign professionals

- ① Promote efforts to encourage international students to find employment in Japan
 - Improve the employment by strengthening consultation and support functions and centers, including multilingual support at Hello Work (public employment security offices), etc.
 - **Establish a Regional Consortium for the Employment of Highly Skilled Foreign Professionals** to support the employment and retention of international students in regional companies by providing internship opportunities tailored to regional characteristics, as well as implement accompanying support for small and medium-sized companies in solving issues related to foreign human resource acceptance through the **Open for Professionals** etc.
- ② Improve the corporate culture and enhance environment of employing companies
 - Clarify recruitment policies, review internal systems, promote the public disclosure of recruitment policies and performance etc.
- ③ Improve the relevant residence status systems
 - Reform systems for accepting highly skilled foreign professionals to a world-class level (**establish the Japan System for Special Highly - Skilled Professionals and the Japan System for Future Creation Individual Visa for specific activities**) and consider granting graduates of Japanese universities who meet certain requirements the same measures
 - **Establish an accreditation system for high quality vocational schools and review the operation of permission to change status of residence for graduates of such schools** etc.

3. Internationalisation of education

(1) Internationalising Japanese universities

- Promote joint and double degrees with overseas universities, credit transfers, and inter-university exchanges and exchange agreements
- Promote the hiring and training of administrators with advanced and specialised knowledge and experience in international exchange, etc.
- **Improve the environment to ensure that universities continue to make commitments to thorough internationalisation and the development of global human resources**
- Provide incentives for universities and other institutions that are actively engaged in internationalisation
- **Establish a certification system for universities leading the way in internationalisation**
- Promote inter-university collaboration and student exchange with countries and regions where international student exchange should be promoted strategically
- Realise the Global Startup Campus Initiative by attracting top-class universities in Europe and the U.S., etc.

(2) Improving the educational environment for the success of foreign human resources

- Enrich information on and understanding of the situation of international schools, facilitate the connection between schools, and **promote the development of international secondary education institutions and support the school management of these institutions**
- Strengthen support for foreign students in Japanese schools who have difficulties
- **Establish an accreditation system for Japanese language education institutions to maintain and improve their quality** etc.

(3) Exporting Japanese-style education, including overseas branches of domestic universities and colleges of technology (KOSEN)

- Promote environmental improvements for the establishment of overseas branch campuses of domestic universities, etc.
- Support the introduction of Japanese-style KOSEN based on requests from other countries
- Support the development of educational environments equivalent to those in Japan, as well as support for strengthening safety measures, facilities, and so on at overseas educational facilities etc.