

Reporting Yokohama's Major
International Projects

YOKOHAMA INTERNATIONAL DIGEST

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[Africa and Yokohama entrepreneurs hold discussion at workshop]

Yokohama shares policies to promote women in the workplace and female entrepreneurship with African businesswomen

On July 28, 16 female entrepreneurs and government representatives from five African nations visited Yokohama.

As part of the Africa-Japan Business Women Exchange Seminar organized through the cooperation of JICA and the City of Yokohama, the training program introduced participants to the city's initiatives supporting women in the workplace and female entrepreneurship as well as provided an opportunity to discuss issues with their peers in Yokohama.



Deputy Mayor Watanabe and Chairman Sato of the JAPAN-AFRICA Friendship Yokohama City Council Members' League received the group at City Hall. Afterwards, the group was introduced to some of the city's support initiatives: F-SUS, a shared office space for women-led startups; mentoring programs to receive experienced advice from other female entrepreneurs; and the "Female Entrepreneur UP Room," an establishment offering consultations.

The workshop allowed the participants to share their experiences with each other and to examine what kinds of assistance are most needed.

Yokohama collaborates on urban planning project in Seberang Perai

The City of Yokohama is assisting with an urban planning project in the Seberang Perai Municipality in Malaysia, modeled on Yokohama's urban design, through a JICA Grassroots Technical Cooperation Project.



Yokohama dispatched city personnel and various private experts to the region for the third time this year, from August 14 to 18, to survey a market area in the Bukit Mertajam district to help guide its urban design and contribute to discussions regarding planning.

Assistance program for citizen activities promoting cross-cultural understanding, hospitality

To help realize a creative society through diversity, and in anticipation of the 2019 Rugby World Cup™ and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games, Yokohama's International Affairs Bureau has launched a program to provide grants for citizen's groups or NPOs that promote hospitality for foreign visitors, multicultural understanding, or activities of foreign residents.

Through this program, the city will continue to develop communities with respect to the commitment to multiculturalism embodied in the "Yokohama Vision" statement as well as to the legacy of the two global events. Application instructions and other details are available at the following page (through 9/29) :

<http://www.city.yokohama.lg.jp/kokusai/multiculture/tabunkahojokin.html> (Japanese only)

Kanagawa Biennale, Tsuzuki Ward Festival to include exchange projects with Botswana

Among various exchange programs scheduled for this year, two upcoming events will feature Botswana: in September, a collaborative project through the Kanagawa Biennale will exhibit an archive of children's art from past exchange programs; and on November 3 the Tsuzuki Ward Citizen's Festival will again present a booth from the Republic of Botswana Embassy, which enjoyed popularity last year.



Director General Hatazawa of Tsuzuki Ward visited the Botswana Embassy to share an informal talk on further exchange with Ambassador Nkoloji, who had assumed the post in June.