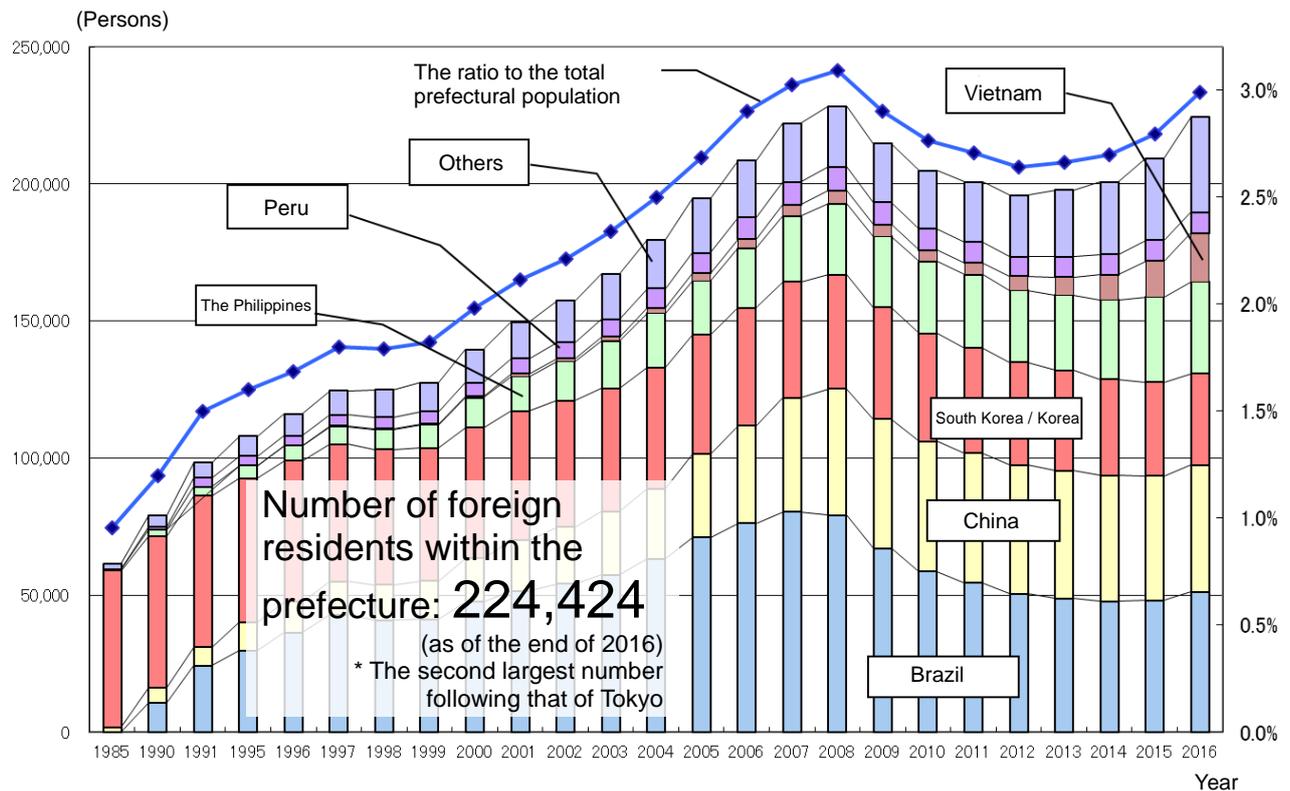


Aichi Multicultural
Coexistence Promotion
Plan **2022**
—Designing a Multicultural
Communal Society in Aichi

<Outline>



Planning background

Although the number of foreign residents living in Aichi Prefecture showed a decrease during the recession period some years ago, the downturn trend has increasingly turned positive again in terms of both number and nationality. Currently, more and more people with foreign backgrounds are residing in Japan with a residency status of “permanent resident,” “technical intern trainee,” “student” or the like. Despite such growing internationalization, Japanese residents’ awareness of multicultural coexistence has not yet reached a satisfactory level in the prefecture.

Planning purposes

To date, Aichi Prefecture has conducted various policies of multiculturalism based on the first plan (devised in March 2008) and the second plan (devised in March 2013). However, as a result of the more prolonged residence of people with foreign backgrounds in the prefecture, first-generation foreign-born residents have become increasingly older, resulting in the necessity of support services appropriate to their individual lifecycle stages. It is also expected that an increasing number of second-generation residents (those born in Japan who have at least one foreign-born parent) will play an active, important role as a driving force in the future Aichi Prefecture. Therefore, it has become an urgent issue for the prefecture to accelerate its efforts to spread the spirit of multicultural coexistence among local Japanese residents.

In light of these rapidly changing situations, Aichi has devised the third Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan, with the objectives of carrying out well-designed comprehensive policies of multiculturalism and promoting the creation of a multicultural communal society.

Status of the Plan

The Aichi Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan is intended to serve as a guideline indicating the prefecture’s fundamental principles for creating a multicultural communal society, and also as a mid-term action plan for systematic, comprehensive promotion policies jointly conducted by the prefecture and the Aichi International Association. To ensure step-by-step advances in promoting the creation of a multicultural communal society, the Plan also describes the roles of the main promoters, such as the national government, Aichi Prefecture, local municipalities, the Aichi International Association, prefectural residents, NPOs, business entities, and universities, thereby helping them put the spirit of multicultural coexistence into practice.

Planning processes

- Discussions by the New Aichi Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan (tentative) Committee members
- Holding of a Aichi Multicultural Town Meeting to listen to a wide variety of public opinions (in three locations)
- A session program on multicultural coexistence by Aichi Prefecture and Meijo High School to receive ideas from younger residents
- Briefings about the Plan during the public comment period (in three locations)

Fundamental planning philosophy

To realize the following fundamental objective, the Plan specifies the three policy goals described below.

<Fundamental objective of the Plan>

Achievement of affluent, vigorous regional development through the creation of a multicultural coexistence society

* Definition of “a multicultural coexistence society”

“A multicultural coexistence society” used in this Plan refers to a society in which the prefectural residents of different nationalities and ethnicities acknowledge each other’s cultural differences and differences in ways of thinking, live together in peace and comfort, and play active social roles as community members.”

<Policy goals>

I. Continued support responding to respective life-cycle stages

Like Japanese residents, prefectural foreign residents with long-term or permanent residence in Japan face various problems at every stage of their lifecycle from infancy to old age. At the same time, however, they also experience problems/difficulties specific to people with foreign backgrounds due to language, institutional and psychological barriers. Therefore, considering the necessity of providing continued support throughout the entire lifecycle stages to them, Aichi Prefecture is determined to conduct comprehensive support programs in collaboration with welfare organizations, medical institutions, educational institutions and disaster preparedness-related organizations, rather than offering individual support programs separately.

👉 **The prefecture aims to realize “ties through support.”**



Continued support responding to respective lifecycle stages

II. Support for promoting mutual cooperation between and among Japanese and foreign residents

It is not unusual for foreign residents living in Japan for a long time to provide consultation and advice, based on their experience, to new fellow residents who have not yet become accustomed to everyday life in Japan. There are also cases where foreign residents, who have received various kinds of support in Japan, may play an indispensable role in supporting Japan’s aging population in the future. In this way, it is often the case that if a situation changes, support recipients may become support providers, and vice versa. Taking such interdependent relationships into consideration, Aichi Prefecture strives to promote mutual cooperation between and among foreign residents and Japanese residents.

👉 **The prefecture aims to realize “ties among residents.”**



Support for promoting mutual cooperation between and among Japanese and foreign residents

III. Support for building local communities based on equal relationships with foreign residents

Although it is not unusual for residents with foreign backgrounds to live in the prefecture, there are still some areas where local Japanese residents feel confused by their foreign neighbors. Therefore, to help local Japanese residents become accustomed to living together with people from overseas countries in their communities, the prefecture provides necessary information, advice and other support programs to individual local community associations, etc. In addition, because the spirit of multicultural coexistence has not been fully recognized among the prefectural residents, the prefecture also focuses on enlightenment programs to raise the awareness of all the residents of the significance of building a multicultural communal society.

👉 **The prefecture aims to realize “ties with local communities.”**



Support for building local communities based on equal relationships with foreign residents

Direction of promotion programs

To achieve the three policy goals, the prefecture strives to conduct specific, case-by-case multicultural coexistence promotion programs as summarized below.

Fundamental objective	Achievement of affluent, vigorous regional development through the creation of a multicultural coexistence society	
Policy goals	Details of promotion programs	
I Continued support responding to respective lifecycle stages	① Infancy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of childbirth/parenting support in collaboration with the relevant departments/offices Establishment of "multicultural parenting salons" Adequate implementation of mother-and-child health service projects Support for smooth enrollment in primary schools Support for language acquisition, starting from infancy ② Childhood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensured learning opportunities at public schools Consideration of support for children with special needs Support for schools for international students Advice for schools for international students on conducting regular health checkups Support for helping children achieve sound development and their self-fulfillment Preventive measures against juvenile delinquency and efforts to protect children from crime Support to help children acquire language skills 	③ Youth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement of learning opportunities at high schools and other higher educational institutions Support for promoting young people' social independence Development of networks among second-generation foreign residents Countermeasures against harmful environments Enhancement of Japanese language education programs for young people ④ Adult <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of the "charter for foreign workers" Implementation of more vocational trainings in collaboration with the national government Improvement of working environments to assist in the finding of employment Information provision to help the starting up of businesses Support for marriage and family planning Support for life planning Support to help foreign residents smoothly move into their residences Support services for residents with mental health problems or other disabilities Enhancement of Japanese language education programs in collaboration with relevant organizations
II Support for promoting mutual cooperation between and among Japanese and foreign residents	⑦ Cooperative relationships among foreign residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for increased opportunities for mutual learning among foreign residents Support for increased opportunities for foreign residents to establish/maintain their ethnic identities Support for increased opportunities of mutual cooperation and exchanges among different generations ⑧ Cooperative relationships between foreign residents and Japanese residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitation of support for elderly Japanese residents and homeless people by foreign residents Promotion of mutual cooperation and support in times of disaster Promotion of volunteer work by prefectural Japanese residents ⑨ Involvement of foreign residents in local communities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouragement for local communities and business entities to capitalize on foreign residents' skills/abilities Provision of information translated into many foreign languages Greater participation of foreign residents in the planning/implementation processes of various policies and programs 	⑤ Old age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of how to address an aging population More publicity of nursing interpretation services and nursing care insurance systems Improvement of living environments with due consideration for elderly residents with foreign backgrounds Support for the elderly making preparations for the end of their life More residents covered by a pension plan ⑥ All generations of residents (Medical care) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spread of the Aichi Medical Interpretation System Skill improvement of medical interpreters Information provision on medical institutions available in foreign languages (Disaster preparedness) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functional reinforcement of the Aichi Prefecture Multilingual Disaster Support Center Spread of the "easy-to-understand Japanese words and expressions" guidebook Enhancement of the Disaster Prevention Network for a Multicultural Society
III Support for building local communities based on equal relationships with foreign residents	⑩ Support for local communities, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for municipalities Support for local communities Support for business facilities Support to increase residents' understanding of different religions and cultures ⑪ Enlightenment of all residents within the prefecture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for increased awareness of multicultural coexistence Implementation of education on multiculturalism for children Development of a society that respects human rights 	(Systems) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement of counseling service systems by multicultural social workers Close cooperation with the consulate general of Brazil in Nagoya Efforts to increase officials' awareness and knowledge Continued close relationships with experts Collaboration with organizations and individuals from various fields

Priority programs and numerical targets

Program	Present situation	Numerical target	Partner departments/offices and collaborating organizations	
1	Establishment of “multicultural parenting salons”	Not established yet	To be established in 15 locations	Department of Community Affairs, Department of Health and Public Welfare, individual municipalities, NPOs, etc.
2	Efforts to decrease the number of foreign children not enrolled in compulsory school	2,664 students	1,800 students	Department of Community Affairs, boards of education, individual municipalities, NPOs, etc.
3	Efforts to increase the number of foreign students attending high school	1,295 students	1,500 students	Department of Community Affairs, boards of education, NPOs, etc.
4	Initial Japanese language education in local communities	Not conducted yet	To be conducted in three areas	Department of Community Affairs, experts, NPOs, etc.
5	Information provision to have more residents covered by a pension plan and/or nursing care insurance	Not conducted yet	To be provided twice a year	Department of Community Affairs, social welfare councils, etc.
6	Increased dispatch of interpreters under the medical interpreter dispatch system	1,279 cases of dispatch	1,500 cases of dispatch	Department of Community Affairs, Department of Health and Public Welfare, medical institutions, etc.
7	Holding of town meetings	(To devise the plan)	To be conducted three times a year	Department of Community Affairs, various actors, etc.
8	More opinion exchanges to be conducted in communities of foreign residents	Not conducted yet	To be conducted twice a year	Department of Community Affairs, communities of foreign residents, etc.
9	More opportunities for prefectural foreign residents to convey the attractiveness of their local area	Under consideration	To be provided in three areas	Department of Community Affairs, individual municipalities, international exchange associations of municipalities, the prefectural foreign residents, etc.
10	Provision of useful information for community associations and other local bodies for creating a multicultural communal society	Not conducted yet	To be offered three times a year	Department of Community Affairs, individual municipalities, residents' associations, NGOs, etc.
11	“Delivery” lectures to raise children's awareness of multicultural coexistence	Not conducted yet	To be offered three times a year	Department of Community Affairs, primary schools, etc.

* The numerical targets listed above are estimates for increasing the effectiveness of individual programs. To achieve the Plan's fundamental objective and respective policy goals, the prefecture will make revisions to them as necessary, listening to wide-ranging opinions from various stakeholders.



[Establishment of multicultural parenting salons]

In collaboration with local municipalities, the prefecture is intended to establish “multicultural parenting salons” as focal points where local parents with foreign backgrounds can receive information necessary for rearing children and learn the Japanese language through exchanges of opinions and playing with their children. Because Japanese parents and children are also welcome, the salons are expected to promote cultural exchange and mutual understanding between and among Japanese/foreign parents and children, serving as exemplary settings for multicultural coexistence.

[Initial Japanese language education in local communities]

Discussing with specialist organizations the necessity of initial Japanese language education as a social infrastructure for accepting foreign residents, the prefecture intends to offer initial Japanese language education classes on a pilot basis, targeting the prefecture's foreign residents who can hardly speak Japanese.



[Holding of town meetings]

In the course of turning Aichi Prefecture into a multicultural society, not only Aichi Prefecture but also local municipalities, the Aichi International Association, NPOs, business entities, universities, schools, community associations and local residents can play a decisive role in advancing various programs and efforts. In light of this, the prefecture intends to conduct town meetings so that these wide-ranging promoters can discuss the prefecture's multiculturalism policies from different points of view, capitalizing on their respective advantages and working/cooperating with each other on an equal footing.

[“Delivery” lectures to raise children's awareness of multicultural coexistence]

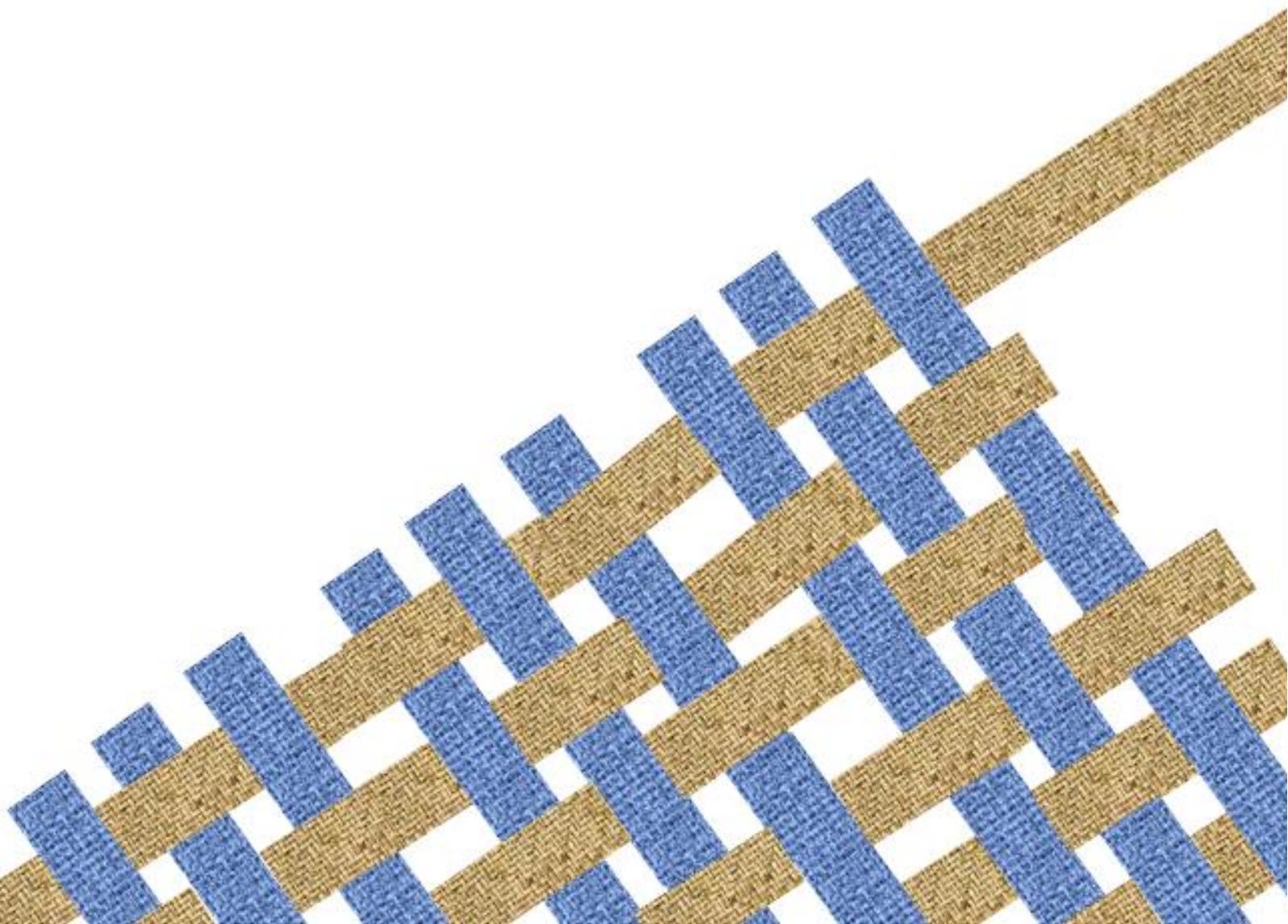
Prefectural officials visit primary schools, etc. to provide lectures to students on mutual understanding in a multicultural society, using images, pictures and other forms of materials.



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Effective period of the Plan: 2018 to 2022



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