



[The Nippon Foundation News] Repurposing Facilities in Response to New Coronavirus

Although Japan to date has had fewer infections from the new coronavirus than have been seen in some other countries, the number of infections is increasing and measures are being implemented to slow the spread of the pandemic. Even before the prime minister declared a state of emergency for seven prefectures including Tokyo, Tokyo's governor had requested that residents stay indoors and postpone non-urgent, non-essential weekend outings and refrain from going out after work on weeknights. The Nippon Foundation began implementing internal measures from February 20, and from March 17 these measures were expanded to include telework for all employees.

At a press conference held on April 3, the Foundation announced that The Nippon Foundation Para Arena, located next to the Museum of Maritime Science in Odaiba, Tokyo, would be repurposed and heavy-duty tents set up in the adjacent parking lot and park area to accommodate roughly 1,000 hospital beds for COVID-19 patients should they become necessary. There will also be rest and dining areas for medical staff, and some of the tents will be set up to allow patient's family members to stay with them. These plans were made in consultation with medical experts who said that hospital capacity is likely to be one of the greatest challenges in the event of a surge in infections. The structures are scheduled to be ready by the end of April, with the specific configuration and equipment to be installed to be coordinated by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The Nippon Foundation has also begun accepting donations for this effort; please click on the link below for more information.

[<Request for Donations> Call for Emergency Support in Response to Spread of New Coronavirus \(2020.04.07\)](#)



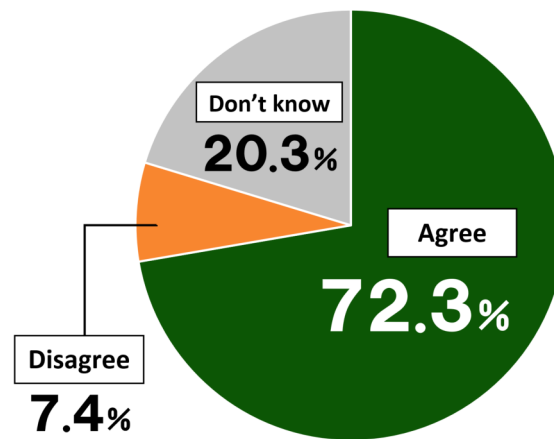
The parking lot where heavy-duty tents will be erected, with the Museum of Maritime Science in the background (left); The interior of The Nippon Foundation Para Arena (right)

News

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Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds

23rd installment surveys awareness of inequality



The 23rd installment of the Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds was carried out in late February on the theme of "Inequality." The survey found that more than half of respondents felt a sense of economic inequality in their daily lives, while less than one-fourth believed this inequality could be rectified. In response to the fact that the world's billionaires possess more wealth than 60% of the global population, roughly one-third considered this unavoidable while slightly more than one-fourth considered this to be a problem.

[Full Article](#)

Stimulating a Sense of Curiosity

Project administrator discusses manga that open new worlds



The Nippon Foundation launched the Manga Edutainment Project to Open New Worlds in 2015 to identify and promote manga that are generally read for entertainment, but are also full of wisdom and knowledge that can spur further study into a wide range of fields. We asked Yasuhiro Yamauchi, director of the Manga Edutainment administrative office, about the project's goals and for some recommendations for manga for children to read while they are staying at home with their schools closed because of the new coronavirus.

[Full Article](#)

Social Person - What Companies Need Today Is an Inclusive Perspective

A conversation with social entrepreneur Caroline Casey



Social entrepreneur Caroline Casey is the founder and creator of The Valuable 500, an unprecedented initiative to have the CEOs of 500 globally influential companies pledge to create workplace environments in which persons with disabilities can work freely. We asked her about the hidden potential for companies and society when persons with disabilities are able to participate actively.

[Full Article](#)

Yohei Sasakawa Blog

Chairman of The Nippon Foundation



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Please send your comments or suggestions by e-mail to
The Nippon Foundation Public Relations Team
email : pr@ps.nippon-foundation.or.jp
TEL.+81-3-6229-5131 / FAX.+81-3-6229-5130 .



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