

This newsletter is being sent to current and former The Nippon Foundation fellows, and persons who have asked to be added to the mailing list or have been introduced by The Nippon Foundation staff.



[The Nippon Foundation News] Cosplay Umigomi Zero in Osaka

Greetings from The Nippon Foundation. On May 27, a Cosplay Umigomi Zero event was held in Namba, a popular entertainment and shopping area of Osaka. *Umigomi* is a combination of the Japanese words for ocean (*umi*) and waste or trash (*gomi*), and refers to ocean debris consisting primarily of drifting plastic waste. The event was part of The Nippon Foundation's Umi-to-Nippon Project (The Ocean and Japan Project). As much of this debris flows into the ocean from towns and cities, the event was held to promote awareness of the issue by picking up trash in Osaka, with participants dressed as their favorite characters from Japanese *anime* (animation), *manga* (comic books), and video games. Making this a cosplay event was a way to increase awareness of ocean debris among both participating cosplayers and passersby who may not have otherwise noticed that a cleanup event was taking place.



Group photo of participants at the Cosplay Umigomi Zero event at Namba, Osaka (left), and The Nippon Foundation Executive Director Mitsuyuki Unno, dressed as Jotaro Kujo from the popular manga series *JoJo's Bizarre Adventure*, participating in the event (right)

News

- Japan-China Private-Sector Exchanges to Resume (2023.05.30)
- 4th Awareness Survey of 10,000 Women - Declining Birthrate and Raising Children (2023.05.23)
- Facility Dogs Visiting Children's Hospitals Across Japan (2023.04.05)
- New Public Toilets Open in Hatagaya, Sasazuka Greenway, and Nishisando (2023.03.24)

Japan-China Private-Sector Exchanges to Resume

Japan-China Field Officer Exchange to restart after 4 years

Japan-China Sasakawa Medical Fellowship to mark 35th anniversary after 1-year postponement

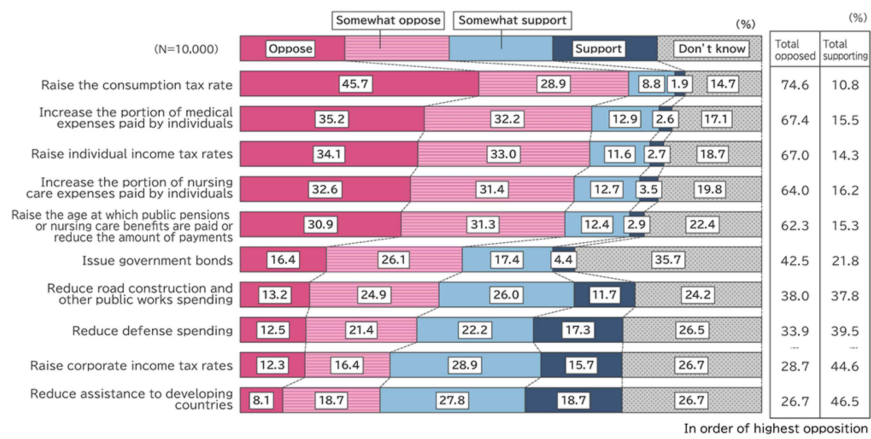


A press conference was held at The Nippon Foundation's head office on May 30 to announce the resumption of two private-sector exchange programs between Japan and China. The Japan-China Field Officer Exchange program, which had been suspended for four years because of the coronavirus pandemic, is scheduled to resume with the visit of a group of People's Liberation Army officers to Japan in July. In addition, a ceremony to mark the 35th anniversary of the Japan-China Sasakawa Medical Fellowship, which was postponed from last year because of the pandemic, is scheduled to take place on July 28.

[Full Article](#)

4th Awareness Survey of 10,000 Women - Declining Birthrate and Raising Children

40% consider 2 children to be ideal, while 70% oppose raising consumption tax to cover public costs



With the declining birthrate having become a major issue for Japan, in March 2023 The Nippon Foundation conducted its 4th Awareness Survey of 10,000 Women, on the topic of “Declining Birthrate and Raising Children.” While 40% of respondents replied that if they had no constraints, their ideal number of children would be two, one in five replied that they did not want to have any children. Regarding parents’ responsibility toward children’s growth, the top reply, at close to 40%, was that parents’ responsibility lasts until the legal adulthood.

[Full Article](#)

Facility Dogs Visiting Children’s Hospitals Across Japan

Providing emotional support to children with serious illnesses



Facility dogs are service dogs specifically trained to be close to children hospitalized with serious illnesses. They are part of the hospital staff and provide emotional support to children and their families. The dogs accompany children when doing things like going to the operating room or when having blood samples taken, and their presence helps to relieve the children’s stress, approach their treatment with a positive attitude, and promote a healthy appetite and rehabilitation.

[Full Article](#)

New Public Toilets Open in Hatagaya, Sasazuka Greenway, and Nishisando

15th, 16th, and 17th facilities of The Nippon Foundation's THE TOKYO TOILET project



The Nippon Foundation's THE TOKYO TOILET project is recreating public toilets in 17 locations in Shibuya, Tokyo, to make them accessible to everyone. The 15th facility, in Hatagaya (3-37-8 Hatagaya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo; UTokyo DLX Design Lab / Miles Pennington, creator) opened to the public on February 22; the 16th facility, in Sasazuka Greenway (1-29 Sasazuka, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo; Junko Kobayashi / Gondola Architects, creator), opened on March 10; and the 17th facility, in Nishisando (3-27-1 Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo; Sou Fujimoto, creator), opened on March 24.

[Full Article](#)

Yohei Sasakawa Blog

Chairman of The Nippon Foundation



[A Quarter of the World's Ocean Floor Now Mapped Under Seabed 2030 Project \(4\)](#) [2023/06/07]

[A Quarter of the World's Ocean Floor Now Mapped Under Seabed 2030 Project \(3\)](#) [2023/06/06]

[A Quarter of the World's Ocean Floor Now Mapped Under Seabed 2030 Project \(2\)](#) [2023/06/05]

[A Quarter of the World's Ocean Floor Now Mapped Under Seabed 2030 Project \(1\)](#) [2023/06/02]

[40% of Japanese Children Want the Government to Make High School, College Education Free](#) [2023/05/24]

[\[Photo Diary\] \(2\) Visit to the United Kingdom](#) [2023/05/19]

[\[Photo Diary\] \(1\) Visit to the United Kingdom](#) [2023/05/18]

[The Nippon Foundation, U.K.'s Nekton Launch Largest Program in History to Discover 100,000 New Marine Species in a Decade \(2\)](#)
[2023/05/12]

[The Nippon Foundation, U.K.'s Nekton Launch Largest Program in History to Discover 100,000 New Marine Species in a Decade \(1\)](#)
[2023/05/11]

[Yohei Sasakawa Blog Top Page](#)

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 .



[Remove an existing address](#) | [Add a new address](#)

To change an existing address, [remove the existing address](#), then [add a new address](#).