



Our Activities 2017



**The Japan Council of Local Authorities
for International Relations (J.CLAIR), Singapore**

一般財団法人自治体国際化協会シンガポール事務所

About CLAIR

The Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) was established in July 1988 in response to rising concern for local-level internationalization in Japan. CLAIR was created as a joint organization of local governments to promote and provide support for local internationalization.

CLAIR's headquarters are located in Tokyo with seven representative offices in Singapore, New York, London, Paris, Seoul, Sydney and Beijing.

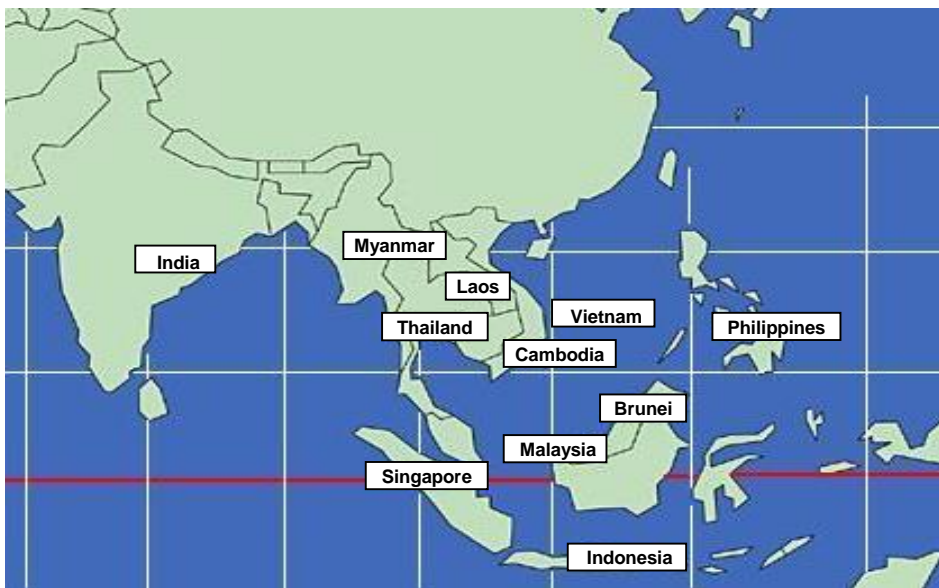


J.CLAIR Singapore

J.CLAIR Singapore was set up in October 1990 and conducts activities in the 10 ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) and India.

Our Main Activities

1. Introducing Japan's local administration and finance systems as well as its various policies to ASEAN countries and India
2. Promoting local level exchange between Japan and ASEAN countries as well as India
3. Conducting research on local administration and finance systems as well as the various policies in ASEAN countries and India
4. Supporting Japanese local governments' activities in ASEAN countries and India



Office Profile Our office consists of 26 staff dispatched from Japan and 6 local staff.

	No.	Dispatched from
Executive Director	1	Ministry of Internal Affairs & Communications
Deputy Executive Director	1	Kyoto
Senior Deputy Director	1	Hyogo
Deputy Director	20	Akita, Gunma, Hagi City, Ichikikushikino City, Kagoshima, Kagoshima City, Koto City (Tokyo), Miyazaki, Miyazaki City, Oita City, Okayama, Oyama City, Saitama, Sapporo City, Sendai City, Shimane, Tokai City, Tokyo, Toyohashi City, Yamaguchi City
Division Director	3	Kumamoto, Nagano, Yamagata
Local Staff	6	-

1. Introducing Japan's local administration and finance systems

Seminars and Exchange Sessions on Local Administration

【Objective】

With an aim to enhance cooperation and exchange in the area of local administration, J.CLAIR Singapore actively proposes organizing seminars and exchange sessions with local government officials and related parties in Southeast Asian countries and India. These initiatives provide a platform for academics and practitioners of local governance from both sides to discuss best practices and exchange new insights on local administration.

Local Administration Seminars Organized by J.CLAIR Singapore

J.CLAIR Singapore plans and implements local administration seminars with cooperation from our counterparts in order to promote knowledge exchange on issues of particular concern, as well as support the development of local administrative systems in Japan and the respective host countries.

【Seminars in FY2017】

Name of Seminar	Country (City)	Schedule
CLAIR – LGA Seminar	Philippines (Manila)	TBD
CLAIR – NIPA Seminar	Indonesia (Jakarta)	27 July 2017



【Group photo of the speakers and participants in Philippines】

【Seminars in FY2016】

Country (City)	Schedule	Overview of Seminar
Philippines (Manila)	26 July 2016	Sharing of case studies of both Filipino and Japanese local governments for local administrators in the Philippines, on building a resilient and sustainable local economy. All speakers and participants also exchanged views on local issues and solutions at the knowledge café.

Local Administration Seminar Series Organized by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

J.CLAIR Singapore actively assists in the local administration seminar series held annually by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan in cooperation with a host country in Southeast Asia. CLAIR Singapore coordinates the details of the seminar with the co-organizer in the host country and ensures the smooth operation of the actual event.

【Seminars in FY2016/17】

FY	Country (City)	Schedule	Themes
2017	Vietnam (Hanoi)	14-15 September (Tentative)	Municipality merger, urban government administration etc
2016	Indonesia (Jakarta)	25-26 August	Policies on how to raise the competitiveness of village

Seminar on Best Practices of Japan

J.CLAIR Singapore established a new initiative entitled 'Seminar on Best Practices of Japan', which functions as a platform for academics as well as practitioners of local governance in the ASEAN region to understand Japan's local administration system and the leading urban policies implemented by Japanese local governments.

Staff of J.CLAIR Singapore will participate as speakers, presenting case studies of Japanese local governance and interacting with the students during group discussions on a wide array of topics.

【Seminars in FY2017】

	Country	Venue	Schedule
2017	Malaysia	Universiti Utara Malaysia	18 May 2017
	Philippines	University of the Philippines los Banos	August 2017 (Tentative)
	Brunei	TBD	September 2017 (Tentative)

1. Introducing Japan's local administration and finance systems

Specialist Dispatch Project

【Objective】

- To improve the quality of local administration, technical expertise and human resources in foreign local governments.
- To increase friendly ties between Japanese and foreign local governments.

【Content】

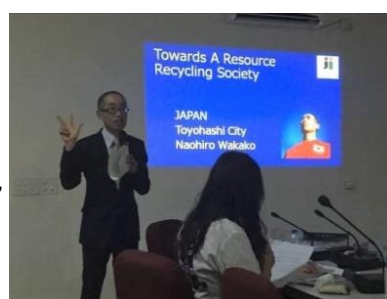
Since 2000, J.CLAIR Singapore has been dispatching Japanese government officials (including retirees), with knowledge or technical skills related to international cooperation as specialists to foreign local governments etc. in response to their requests.

【The specialists' areas of expertise】

Disaster Prevention, Waste Management, Tourism, Fire and Disaster Prevention, Sewerage Management, Health and Sanitation, Environmental Conservation, Education, Public Health, Agriculture and Commerce, Social Welfare, Pottery, Library Management, Water Supply, Local Administration etc.

【Projects Held in Previous Years】

FY	Country	Specialists	Area of Expertise
2016	Malaysia	1	Social Welfare
	Thailand	1	Health and Sanitation
	India	1	Waste Management
	Vietnam	1	Japanese Education
2015	Indonesia	1	Environmental Conservation
	Thailand	2	Food and Sanitation Town and Country Planning
	Brunei	1	Fire and Disaster Prevention
2014	Indonesia	1	Disaster Prevention
	Malaysia	1	Waste Management
	Thailand	1	Tourism
	Vietnam	2	Fire and Disaster Prevention



【A specialist conducting a lecture to the local participants in India】



【A specialist giving guidance during a local site visit in Thailand】

Local Government Officials Training Program (LGOTP)

【Objective】

To provide trainees with the know-how and technical skills of Japanese local governments and thereafter, contribute to the development of the trainees' respective local governments.

【Content】

Jointly organized by CLAIR and Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, overseas local government officials are hosted as trainees in Japanese local governments, where they will attend lectures and acquire the know-how and skills in various fields such as general administration, environment, agriculture, education, tourism, economic etc. After an initial introductory training period of about 1 month, trainees are posted to individual host institutions to begin their specialized training and deepen their understanding of Japanese culture and traditions.

【Duration】

The training typically lasts for 6 – 10 months.

【LGOTP Participants in Previous Years】

Country	No of participants				Total
	1996-2013	2014	2015	2016	
Thailand	46	-	-	1	47
Indonesia	39	2	-	2	43
Philippines	39	1	-	2	42
Vietnam	30	2	1	1	34
Malaysia	22	-	-	-	22
Myanmar	19	2	1	2	24
Laos	8	1	-	-	9
Cambodia	7	-	-	-	7
Total	210	8	2	8	228



【A trainee from the Philippines learning about plant cutting and breeding】

2. Promoting local level exchange

Regional Exchange Promotion Programme

【Objective】

To enable Japanese local government to achieve the following:

- Fostering closer understanding of the current situation and challenges pertaining to Japan-foreign countries' relations
- Building capacity in leaders who will assume the responsibilities of internationalization of the local areas
- Creating opportunities for the promotion of future Japan-foreign countries' regional exchange
- Celebrating the 130th anniversary of Japan-Thailand diplomatic relations (2017)

【Targeted Participants】

- Japanese local government officials
- Staff of recognized local international exchange associations
- Staff of NPOs referred by local governments

【Exchange Programs held in previous years】

FY	City
2016	Singapore (Singapore) / Kuala Lumpur, Johor Bahru, (Malaysia)
2015	Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam)
2014	Kuala Lumpur, Johor Bahru (Malaysia)
2013	Bangkok, Phitsanulok (Thailand)
2012	Singapore (Singapore) / Jakarta (Indonesia)
2011	Mumbai, Pune, Chennai (India)

【Tentative Program for FY2017】

Country	Schedule	Places of visit
Thailand	13 -19Jan	Local governments, Japanese government & trade organization etc,



【Cultural exchange with students learning Japanese in Singapore】



【Exchanging views at Kuala Lumpur City Hall and visiting sites in Johor Bahru】

Local Government Exchange & Cooperation Seminar

【Objective】

The purpose of the programme is to increase participants' knowledge of local administration systems in other countries and build networks of contacts.

【Content】

Overseas local government officials etc. are invited to Japan to discuss and exchange information on the current situation and various issues of local administration facing local governments in both Japan and their home countries. In addition, the seminar encourages regional exchange as participants visit local governments during their stay in Japan, go on site visits and have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Japanese culture. For the programme in 2017, participants will be visiting Kitakyushu City.

【Seminar in FY 2016】

【Seminar Participants in Previous Years】

Country	No of Participants				Total
	1995-2013	2014	2015	2016	
Thailand	31	1	2	1	35
Malaysia	30	2	1	1	34
Philippines	24	1	1	1	27
Vietnam	21	-	2	-	23
Indonesia	19	-	1	1	21
Laos	18	-	1	1	20
Cambodia	14	1	1	1	17
Myanmar	10	-	1	1	12
Singapore	4	2	-	-	6
India	5	-	1	1	7
Brunei	5	-	-	-	5
Total	181	7	11	8	207



【Visit to the National Diet Building in Tokyo】



【 Tea Ceremony experience in Tokyo】



【Visit to Budokan (martial arts hall) in Miyazaki】

3. Conducting research on local administration and finance systems

Support for Sister City Affiliation and Exchange

The first sister city agreement between Japan and this region was signed by Yokohama and Mumbai in 1965. At present, 44 affiliations have been concluded.

CLAIR facilitates sister city affiliation and exchange in response to requests. We provide support for international exchange corresponding to the needs of the region and also provide consultation on sister city affiliation. Please contact J.CLAIR Singapore if you wish to establish an affiliation with a Japanese local government.

The Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme

【Objective】

To increase cross-cultural understanding as well as contribute to internationalization efforts within Japan.

【Content】

The JET Programme enables local authorities (prefectures, designated cities and other municipalities) to employ foreign youths for the purpose of improving foreign language education as well as promoting international exchange at the local level. By teaching foreign languages at schools nationwide and assisting with international exchange activities organized by local authorities, JET participants engage in international exchange at a variety of levels with local residents.

After returning home, many JET alumni continue to contribute towards Japan-related activities through the JET Alumni Association Singapore (JETAA Singapore).

ALT: Assistant Language Teachers who provide language instruction in elementary, junior and senior high schools in Japan

CIR: Coordinators for International Relations who work for Japanese local governments to promote international exchange activities

SEA: Sports Exchange Advisors who promote international exchange through sports

【JET Participants in FY2016】

	ALT	CIR	Total
Singapore	46	8	54
Indonesia	0	4	4
Philippines	37	1	38
Malaysia	0	1	1
Thailand	0	2	2
Vietnam	0	5	5
Total	83	21	104



【An ALT teaching lessons to students in a local Japanese school】



【A CIR conducting a cooking session to promote cross-cultural understanding】

Research and Publications

J.CLAIR Singapore Newsletter

J.CLAIR Singapore publishes our own English language newsletter that features the various programmes and activities our organization implements. The newsletter is available in the electronic format and is distributed to our counterparts in the ASEAN region as well as India.

For viewing back numbers of our newsletter, please visit:

<http://www.clair.org.sg/newsletter/index.html>



Research on Local Autonomy Systems and Policies in ASEAN countries and India

J.CLAIR Singapore conducts research on the various policies, local administration and finance systems in ASEAN countries and India, and then compiles them into reports or publications. We have issued several publications in Japanese to disseminate the outcomes of our research to Japanese local governments.

These publications can be found on CLAIR's website: <http://www.clair.or.jp/j/forum/pub/index.html> (Japanese text only)

4. Supporting Japanese local government's activities

Support For Overseas Activities of Japanese Local Governments

To support Japanese local government officials and local government-related personnel in their overseas events, research activities and field trips etc. in the 10 ASEAN countries and India, J.CLAIR Singapore introduces the appropriate organizations and individuals, arranges appointments with government agencies, accompanies them on these site visits, conducts briefings on administration systems etc. and provides related materials. In FY 2016, J.CLAIR Singapore assisted in 110 cases.

【Some Activities J.CLAIR Singapore Assisted in FY2016】

Japanese Local Government	Content of Support
Kagoshima Prefecture	Operational support for a promotional event of Kagoshima specialties (in Singapore)
Nagasaki City	Accompanied visits to IR and attendance at summit conference led by the Mayor of Nagasaki City (in Singapore and Vietnam)
Osaka City	Accompanied delegation on visits for formulation of a tourism hub led by the Mayor of Osaka City (in Singapore)
Tokyo	Operational support for a promotional event during IGEM 2016 (in Malaysia)
Tokai City	Operational support for promotional events of Tokai specialties and tourism during Food Japan 2016 and Japan Travel Fair (in Singapore)
Gunma Prefecture	Operational support for a promotional event of Gunma specialties and tourism at Japanese Food & Gift shop IBARAKI・TOCHIGI・GUNMA (in Vietnam)
Miyazaki City	Accompanied delegation to conduct a market survey of exports from Japan (in Singapore)



【Attending to Japanese local government officials at Singapore Expo on their visit】



【Conducting briefings at J.CLAIR Singapore Office】

Tourism Promotion

Tourism Promotion at International Travel Fairs

【Objective】

To support Japanese local governments' attempts to boost local economies through tourism, J.CLAIR Singapore ties up with JNTO to participate in international travel fairs in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, India, and Indonesia.

J.CLAIR Singapore compiles reports on the events and disseminates the findings to Japanese local governments.



【J.CLAIR Singapore staff at travel fair】

【Travel Fairs Participated in FY2016】

Fair	Country(City)	Time
Travel Revolution	Singapore (Singapore)	August
Japan Travel Fair		October
FIT Travel Fair	Thailand (Bangkok)	June/ November
MATTA Fair Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)	September
Japan Travel fair		November
JAPAN Travel Fair Jakarta	Indonesia (Jakarta)	September/ March
Travel Tour Expo	Philippines (Manila)	February

Japan Local Specialty Fair

In order to support Japanese local food manufacturers exploring new overseas markets in Southeast Asia, CLAIR organizes the Japan Local Specialty Fair which aims to provide a test-marketing platform for local signature products sourced through local governments across Japan. The Fair was held in Singapore (2014) and for 4 years consecutively in Bangkok (2013 – 2016), and garnered a lot of participation from suppliers from many local regions in Japan.



【Thai consumers trying specialties at the fair】



J.CLAIR Singapore

The Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations, Singapore

6 Battery Road, #26-01/02 Singapore 049909

TEL 65-6224-7927 FAX 65-6224-8376

E-mail info@clair.org.sg

URL <http://www.clair.org.sg>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/clairsg/>

Newsletters <http://www.clair.org.sg/newsletter/>