



## Our Activities 2023

The Japan Council of Local Authorities for International Relations, Singapore

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

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

## Main Activities

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), India as well as Sri Lanka.

1. Promoting local government level exchange and international cooperation
2. Conducting research on local administration and finance systems as well as the various policies
3. Supporting Japanese local governments' overseas activities

## Organizational Structure

Our office consists of 18 staff dispatched from Japan and 6 local staff.

	No.	Dispatched from
Executive Director	1	Ministry of Internal Affairs & Communication
Deputy Executive Director	1	Kyoto
Senior Deputy Director	1	Hyogo
Deputy Director	12	Akita, Shirawaka City (Fukushima), Saitama, Tokyo, Ota City (Tokyo), Toyama, Nagano, Aichi, Okayama, Miyazaki, Kagoshima, Kagoshima City (Kagoshima)
Division Director	3	Nagano, Kochi, Kumamoto
Local Staff	6	



## ◎Regional Exchange Promotion Programme \*Scheduled to be held in Singapore and Indonesia in FY2023

### 【Objectives】

To enable Japanese local governments to achieve the following:

- Fostering closer understanding of the current situation and challenges pertaining to relations between Japan and foreign countries.
- Building capacity in leaders who will assume the responsibilities of internationalization of the local area.
- Creating opportunities for the promotion of future regional exchange between Japan and foreign countries.

### 【Targeted Participants from Japan】

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



【Lecture on urban planning in Singapore】

### 【Programmes in previous years】

FY	City
2022	Singapore
2019	Singapore / Kuala Lumpur, Petaling Jaya (Malaysia)
2018	Delhi, Agra, Tapkala, Mumbai (India)
2017	Bangkok, Sukhothai, Ayutthaya, Chonburi (Thailand)

## ◎Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar

The purpose of the seminar is to increase participants' knowledge of local administration systems in other countries and build a network of contacts. 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 2022, eight participants from eight countries visited Tokyo and Koriyama City in Fukushima Prefecture and attended the Tokyo seminar and the Local Government Exchange Programme (Theme: Sustainable Resilient City Development Based on SDGs).



【Site visit at the Fukuyama Clean Center】

### 【Seminar Participants in Previous Years】

Country	Number of Participants				Total
	1995-2018	2019	2021	2022	
Thailand	37	1	1	1	40
Malaysia	35	1	-	-	36
Philippines	29	1	1	1	32
Vietnam	25	-	-	1	26
Indonesia	24	1	1	1	27
Laos	22	1	-	1	24
Cambodia	19	1	1	1	22
Myanmar	14	1	-	-	15
India	9	1	1	1	12
Singapore	6	-	-	-	6
Brunei	5	-	-	-	5
Sri Lanka	-	1	2	1	4
Total	225	9	7	8	249

## ◎The Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme

### 【Objective】

To improve foreign language education as well as promote international exchange at the local level

### 【How It Works】

The JET Programme is administered through the collaboration of Japan's local government authorities, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), and CLAIR.

The JET Programme enables local authorities (prefectures, designated cities and other municipalities) to employ foreign youths from all over the world as ALTs for schools nationwide or as CIRs and SEAs for local governments.

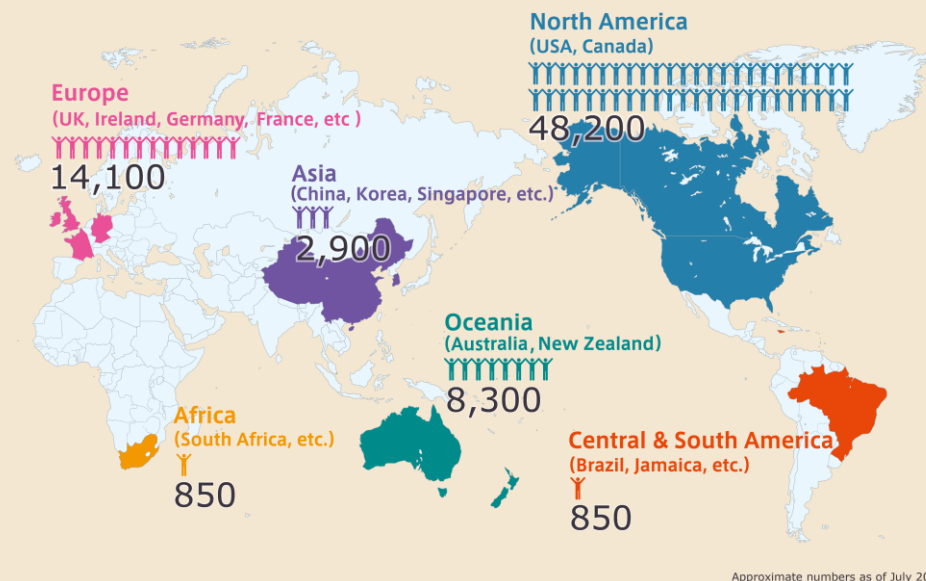
Currently, more than 5,700 participants are employed. More than 75,000 people from 77 countries around the world have participated in the JET Programme so far. After returning home, many JET alumni continue to contribute towards Japan-related activities through the JET Alumni Association (JETAA).

**ALT:** Assistant Language Teachers who provide language lessons 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

Over 75,000 participants from 77 countries



### 【JET Participants in FY2022】

Country	ALT	CIR	SEA	Total
Singapore	55	12	0	67
Indonesia	0	5	2	7
Philippines	215	3	0	218
Malaysia	0	3	0	3
Thailand	0	5	0	5
Vietnam	0	20	0	20
Myanmar	0	1	0	1
India	0	2	0	2
Total	270	51	2	323



## ◎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, 56 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.

## ◎Seminars and Exchange Sessions on Local Administration

With an aim to enhance cooperation and exchange in the area of local administration, J.CLAIR Singapore actively conducts seminars and exchange sessions with local government officials and related organizations in ASEAN countries, India as well as Sri Lanka. 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

	Country	Name of Seminar
FY2022	Thailand (hybrid)	DLA-CLAIR-MIC Joint Hybrid Seminar on Tourism Promotion in Local Regions 2022
	Indonesia (hybrid)	Indonesia-Japan Knowledge Exchange Seminar 2022

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

	Country (City)	Themes
FY2022	Philippines (Manila)	Enhancing Local Disaster Resilience and Revitalizing Local Communities

### ○Seminar on Best Practices of Japan

	Country	Venue
FY2022	Philippines	The University of the Philippines Los Baños
	Malaysia	University Utara Malaysia
	Brunei Darussalam	Universiti Brunei Darussalam



【DLA-CLAIR-MIC Joint Hybrid Seminar in Thailand】

## ©Local Government Officials Training Programme (LGOTP)

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

### 【Details】

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 development and so on. 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 6-12 months.

【LGOTP Participants in Previous Years】

Country	Number of Participants				Total
	1996-2016	2017	2018	2019	
Indonesia	52	1	1	2	56
Thailand	47	0	-	-	47
Philippines	42	2	1	-	45
Vietnam	33	-	1	1	35
Myanmar	24	3	4	1	32
Malaysia	22	-	-	-	22
Laos	9	-	-	-	9
Cambodia	7	-	1	-	8
Sri Lanka	1	-	-	-	1
Total	237	6	8	4	255

## ©Specialist Dispatch Project

- 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

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

FY	Country	Specialists	Area of Expertise
2022	Indonesia	1	Agriculture
	Philippines	1	Commerce
	Malaysia	1	Disaster Prevention
	Malaysia (Online)	1	Complaint Management, Public Participation, Public Sports Facility Management, Public Relations
2021	Thailand (Online)	1	Agriculture
	Philippines (Online)	1	Disaster Management



【Local training on flood management】

## ◎Research and Publications

### Research on Local Autonomy Systems and Policies in ASEAN countries, India as well as Sri Lanka

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

These publications can be found on CLAIR's website (<https://www.clair.or.jp/j/forum/pub/index.html>) and J.CLAIR Singapore's website (<https://www.clair.org.sg/j/localautonomyofeachcountry/clairreport/>).

\*Both websites are only available in Japanese.

#### 【CLAIR's website】



#### CLAIR刊行物

当協会では、海外各地域の地方行政事情、開発事例等様々な領域にわたる海外の最新情報を中心に分野別にまとめ、各都道府県、政令指定都市をはじめとする各関係団体に情報を提供しています。

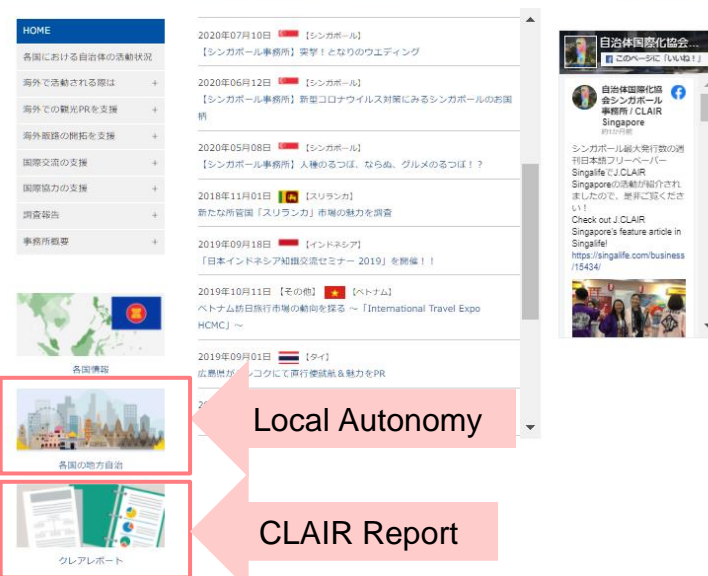
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#### CLAIR Report

#### Local Autonomy

#### 【J.CLAIR Singapore's website】



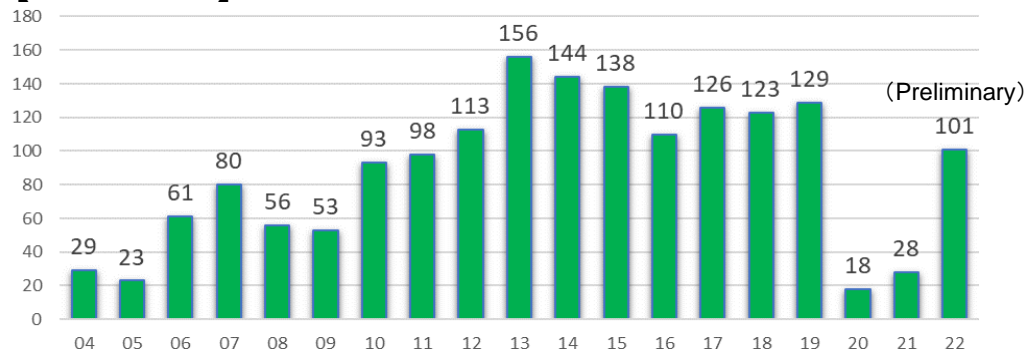
#### Local Autonomy

#### CLAIR Report

## ◎Support for Japanese local government officials and related personnel overseas

To support Japanese local government officials and related personnel in their various activities (events, research, field trips etc.) in the 10 ASEAN countries, India and Sri Lanka, J.CLAIR Singapore helps to liaise with the appropriate organizations and individuals. We assist in arranging appointments with government agencies, accompany them on these site visits, conduct briefings where applicable, and provide related reference materials for the officials.

### 【Achievement】



【Support for Okayama City's booth operation in Malaysia (Okayama City, Okayama Prefecture)】

### 【Some activities supported by J.CLAIR Singapore in FY2022】

Japanese Local Government	Content of Support
Kochi Prefecture	PR support for the 31st National High School Manga Championship (Singapore)
Oyama City	Co-organized online tours for parents and children (Singapore)
Tokyo Metropolitan Government	Accompanied the Governor for her meetings with government officials (Malaysia)
Okayama City	Operational support for their booth in Japan Travel Fair2022 (Malaysia)
Tono City	Cooperation in organising online tours for citizen(Singapore)
Yamaguchi Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for various events attendance (Singapore)
Toyama Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Vietnam)
Tochigi Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Vietnam, Thailand)
Aichi Prefecture	Accompanied the delegation for meetings with government officials (Singapore)
Nagano Prefecture, Tochigi Prefecture, Okayama Prefecture	Operational support for their booth in FIT Travel Fair2022 (Thailand)
Ebino City	Online exchange event between elementary and junior high school students and Singaporeans (Singapore)
Hyogo Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Singapore)
Miyazaki Prefecture	Operational support for their booth in Japan Vietnam Festival Travel Fair2022 (Vietnam)



## ◎ Tourism Promotion at International Travel Fairs

At international travel fairs and other events, J.CLAIR Singapore works with local governments to set up booths to promote the charm of the various regions of Japan. We engage in activities to attract tourists and raise the profiles of the local regions. In addition, J.CLAIR Singapore provides information that is considered useful to local governments, such as the types of inquiries and travel concerns from visitors.

### 【Travel Fairs in FY2022】

Fair	Country(City)	Month
NATAS Holidays	Singapore	August
Japan Travel Fair 2022	Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)	September
The Japan Rail Fair 2022	Singapore	October
Japan Travel Fair 2023	Indonesia (Jakarta)	February
MATTA Fair 2023	Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)	March



【Travel fair in Malaysia】

## ◎ Inbound Promotion Project using Japanese Pop Culture

In order to stimulate new demand for visiting Japan, J.CLAIR Singapore provides local governments with PR opportunities targeting "people who are interested in Japanese anime, manga, and games."

In 2022, J.CLAIR Singapore set up a promotional booth for visitors to Japan at Anime Festival Asia Singapore 2022 (AFASG22), introducing local government initiatives, events, and spots related to anime and manga.

In addition, two local government tourism PR programs using anime and manga were also produced and distributed on AFA's online platform "AFA Station TV" from December.



【Online distribution of tourism PR videos】



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