



# Our Activities 2024

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 19 staff dispatched from Japan and 5 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	13	Shirawaka City (Fukushima), Tochigi, Tsumagoi Village (Gunma), Saitama, Tokyo, Uozu City (Toyama, ), Ichinomiya City (Aichi), Yamaguchi, Kitakyushu City (Fukuoka), Miyazaki, Kagoshima, Kagoshima City, Ichikikushikino City (Kagoshima)
Division Director	3	Nagano, Kochi, Kumamoto
Local Staff	5	





# Promoting local government level exchange

## ◎Regional Exchange Promotion Programme \*Scheduled to be held in Thailand and Vietnam in FY2024

### 【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



【Participants receiving a briefing about the operations of One Stop Services (Bekasi City Hall)】

### 【Programmes in previous years】

FY	City
2023	Singapore / Jakarta, Bekasi (Indonesia)
2022	Singapore
2019	Singapore / Kuala Lumpur, Petaling Jaya (Malaysia)
2018	Delhi, Agra, Tapkala, Mumbai (India)

## ◎Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar 【Seminar Participants in Previous Years】

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 2023, nine participants from six countries visited Tokyo and Shirakawa City in Fukushima Prefecture and attended the Tokyo seminar and the Local Government Exchange Programme (Theme: Shirakawa City's Efforts in the Creation and Promotion of Regional Appeal based on Existing Local Resources).



【Courtesy visit to Shirakawa City Hall】

Country	Number of Participants				Total
	1995-2019	2021	2022	2023	
Thailand	38	1	1	-	40
Malaysia	36	-	-	1	37
Philippines	30	1	1	2	34
Vietnam	25	-	1	1	27
Indonesia	25	1	1	3	30
Laos	23	-	1	-	24
Cambodia	20	1	1	1	23
Myanmar	15	-	-	-	15
India	10	1	1	-	12
Singapore	6	-	-	-	6
Brunei	5	-	-	-	5
Sri Lanka	1	2	1	1	5
Total	234	7	8	9	258

## ◎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.

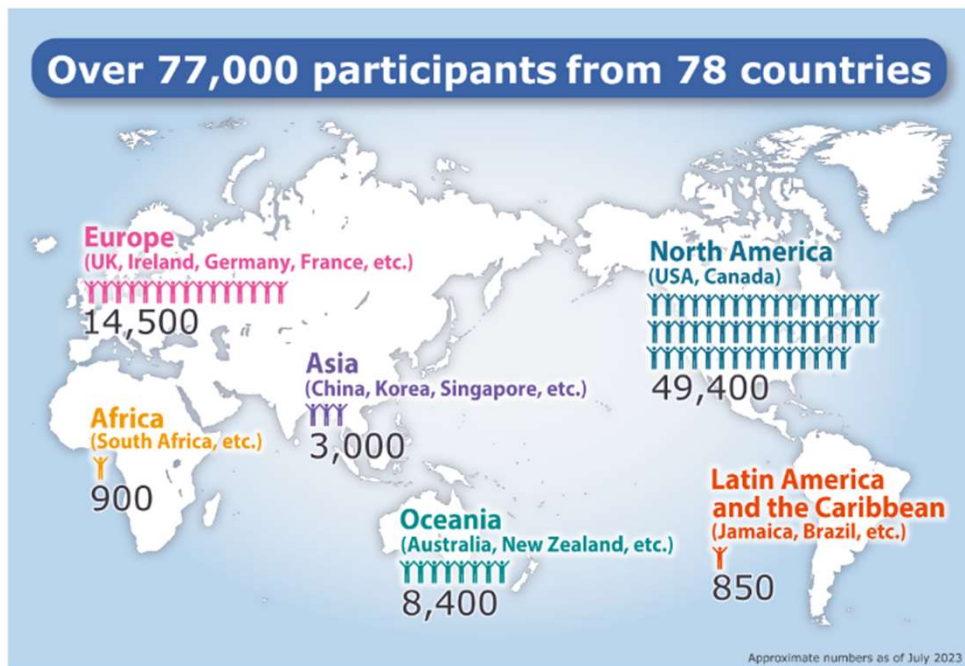
The JET Programme enables local authorities (prefectures, designated cities and other municipalities) to employ foreign youths from all over the world as ALTs for schools nationwide or as CIRs and SEAs for local governments.

Currently, more than 5,800 participants are employed. More than 77,000 people from 78 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



### 【JET Participants in FY2023】

Country	ALT	CIR	SEA	合計
Singapore	54	12	0	66
Indonesia	0	5	2	7
Philippines	242	4	0	246
Malaysia	0	3	0	3
Thailand	0	6	0	6
Vietnam	0	20	0	20
Myanmar	0	1	0	1
India	0	1	0	1
Total	296	52	2	350



### ◎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, 57 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
FY2023	Thailand (hybrid)	DLA-CLAIR-MIC Joint Hybrid Seminar on Strategic Initiatives for SDGs and Community Development by small and medium-sized localities
	Indonesia (online)	Indonesia-Japan Knowledge Exchange Seminar 2023
	Philippines (online)	Japan-Philippines Local Administration Seminar

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

	Country (City)	Themes
FY2023	Indonesia (Jakarta)	Regional revitalization and rural development: A framework to achieve equitable development

#### ○Seminar on Best Practices of Japan

	Country	Venue
FY2023	Philippines	The University of the Philippines Los Baños
	Malaysia	University Utara Malaysia
	Brunei Darussalam	Universiti Brunei Darusalam



【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
	1996-2018	2019	2022	2023	
Indonesia	54	2	1	1	58
Thailand	47	—	—	—	47
Philippines	45	—	1	—	46
Vietnam	34	1	—	1	36
Myanmar	31	1	—	—	32
Malaysia	22	—	1	—	23
Laos	9	—	—	—	9
Cambodia	8	—	—	—	8
Sri Lanka	1	—	—	—	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>260</b>

## ◎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
2023	Malaysia	2	Public housing, Nursing home
	Thailand	1	Preventing long-term care
	India (Online)	1	Air pollution
2022	Indonesia	1	Agriculture
	Philippines	1	Commerce
	Malaysia	1	Disaster Prevention
	Malaysia (Online)	1	Complaint Management, Public Participation, Public Sports Facility Management, Public Relations



【Local training on public housing 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。

なお、本ホームページからの無断転載はご遠慮下さい。

**CLAIR REPORT**

各海外事務所が担当国・地域の地方行政事情、開発事例等さまざまな領域にわたる海外の最新情報をまとめた冊子です。

[一覧へ](#)

**各国の地方自治シリーズ**

海外各国の地方自治制度の体系的な解説としてまとめたものです。また、海外に日本の地方公共団体や地方行政制度等を紹介するための冊子があります。

[一覧へ](#)

- 海外の諸制度など
  - 各国の地方自治シリーズ
  - 海外の経済事情シリーズ
  - CLAIR SUMMARY
  - 海外比較調査シリーズ
  - 専門家海外派遣調査
- 日本の制度など
  - 日本の地方自治シリーズ
  - FACT SHEET (日本の地方行政に関する資料)

CLAIR刊行物

← CLAIR Report

← 各国の地方自治シリーズ

← 比較地方自治シリーズ

← 海外の経済事情シリーズ

← 海外の地方自治シリーズ

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← 海外の地方自治シリーズ

← Local Autonomy

#### 【J.CLAIR Singapore's website】



HOME

各国における自治体の活動状況

海外で活動される際は +

海外での観光PRを支援 +

海外振興の刷新を支援 +

国際交流の支援 +

国際協力支援 +

調査報告 +

事務局概要 +

2020年07月10日 【シンガポール】  
【シンガポール事務所】 実習！とりのつエディング

2020年06月12日 【シンガポール】  
【シンガポール事務所】 新型コロナウイルス対策にあるシンガポールのお国柄

2020年05月08日 【シンガポール】  
【シンガポール事務所】 人種を知るつば、ならぬ、グルメを知るつば！?

2018年11月01日 【スリランカ】  
新たな所管国「スリランカ」市場の魅力を探る

2019年09月18日 【インドネシア】  
「日本インドネシア知識交流セミナー 2019」を開催！！

2019年10月11日 【その他】 【ベトナム】  
ベトナム前日旅行市場の動向を探る ～「International Travel Expo HCMC」～

2019年09月01日 【タイ】  
法熱地が「コク」にて旅行業振興&魅力をPR

← Local Autonomy

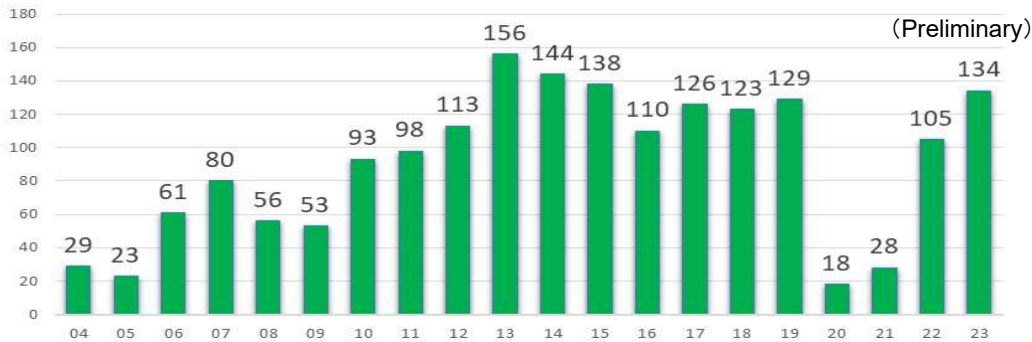
← CLAIR Report



## ◎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 Hyogo Prefecture's booth operation in Thailand (Hyogo Prefecture)】

### 【Some activities supported by J.CLAIR Singapore in FY2023】

Japanese Local Government	Content of Support
Kagoshima Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Vietnam)
Miyazaki Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Vietnam)
Okayama Prefecture	Operational support for their booth in NIPPON HAKU BANGKOK 2023 (Thailand)
Nagano Prefecture, Ota Ward Tokyo, Hyogo Prefecture	Operational support for their booth in FIT Travel Fair2023 (Thailand)
Nagano Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Himeji City, Yamaguchi Prefecture	Operational support for their booth in Food Japan 2023 (Singapore)
Toyama Prefecture	Accompanied the delegation for meetings with government officials (Singapore)
Kyoto Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Vietnam)
Tochigi Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Singapore)
Saitama Prefecture	Co-organized online tours for High school students (Singapore)
Iwate Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Singapore)
Hyogo Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Vietnam)
Saga Prefecture	Accompanied the Governor for his meetings with government officials (Malaysia)
Aichi Prefecture	Operational support for their booth in Singapore Airshow 2024 (Singapore)
Koriyama City	Operational support for their booth in Japan Vietnam Festival 2023 (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 FY2023】

Fair	Country (City)	Month
Japan Travel Fair 2023	Indonesia (Jakarta)	August
Japan Travel Fair 2023	Singapore	September
Visit Japan FIT Fair #15	Thailand (Bangkok)	October
Japan Travel Fair	Cambodia (Phnom Penh)	December
Travel Tour Expo 2024	Philippine (Manila)	February



【Japan Travel Fair 2023 (Singapore)】

## ◎ 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 that target people who are interested in Japanese anime, manga and games.

In 2023, J.CLAIR Singapore set up a 'Visit Japan' promotional booth at Anime Festival Asia Singapore 2023 (AFASG23). The aim was to introduce various anime and manga themed initiatives and events organized by the local governments, as well as the real-life locations where these anime and manga were based. Visitors could learn more through PR pamphlets and promotional videos.



【AFASG 2023 (Singapore)】



**J.CLAIR Singapore**

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