Kani City Promotion Plan for Multicultural Coexistence

FY 2011 ~ FY 2015

“KANI CITY: A CITY OF MULTICULTURAL UNITY, MADE BY ALL AND FOR ALL”

Syllabus Version

Foreign Residents

In this program, the term “foreign residents” refers not only to persons of foreign nationality residing in Kani City, but also to persons who are of Japanese nationality and have cultural background on foreign countries. In addition, the term “residents” also includes foreign residents who will acquire Japanese citizenship in the future.

Multicultural Coexistence

“Where persons of different nationalities and ethnic groups recognize and accept their mutual cultural differences, and who coexist and establish equal relationships as members of their regional society.”

(Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC): “Workshop Report on Promotion of Multicultural Coexistence,” March 2006)
Since the 1990 implementation of amendment laws regarding the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Immigration Control Act), there has been a significant increase in the number of registered foreign residents in Kani City. As of April 2010 that number reached 5,988, which represents 5.9% of the total city population. As more and more foreign residents are permanently settling in Japan, there is a growing awareness of both Japanese and foreign residents as being equal residents living together in their respective communities. Because of such awareness, it is vital that we promote the development of cities of multicultural coexistence in which foreign and Japanese residents live together in harmony by accepting their mutual cultural differences and providing support for each other.

Promotion of multicultural coexistence will result in residents of various cultures and values participating in a multitude of regional activities, as well as the deepening of new independent residential interactions and alliances, which will ultimately lead to the development of a comfortable and appealing way of life for all community residents.

Changes in Registered Foreign Resident Population (as of April 1st for each year)

Based on previous efforts for internationalization, current conditions and issues concerning foreign residents, and needs regarding multicultural coexistence, the “Kani City Promotion Program for Multicultural Coexistence (Information & Assistance)” has been established as a summary of policies geared towards the realization of multiculturally coexistent societies involving the unification of various parties including residents, administrations and other related organizations. This program, based on the top priority “Kani City’s Fourth Comprehensive Program” for city development, is established in conformity with Kani City promotion guidelines for human rights policies and other related programs. It stipulates basic concepts, specific policies and promotional systems for realization of a multiculturally coexistent society, and is an indicator of guidelines for city-level development of multicultural coexistence.
Kani City’s activities for internationalization became definitive after the December 2000 institution of Kani City Outlines for Internationalization Policies. Since then, efforts have been made to resolve a multitude of issues arising from foreign resident needs for support for community living and from differences in language, culture and living practices. In the future, it will be necessary to promote regional internationalization from the standpoint of harmonious multicultural existence, where foreign and Japanese residents recognize and respect their mutual differences of culture, while simultaneously living together as mutual members of their regional communities which they themselves will develop.

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<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Main Policies &amp; Projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Established Kani City Outlines for International Policies, Assigned one Coordinator for International Relations, Published Kani City Portuguese Language Newsletter</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Established foreign resident consultation counter, Participated in “Council for Cities with High Concentration of Foreign Residents”</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Assigned one Coordinator for International Relations to foreign resident consultation counter</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>Conducted fact-finding survey regarding educational environments for foreign children in Japan (until 2004)</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>Established Committee for the Promotion of Foreign Resident Support, Assigned two Coordinators for International Relations to foreign resident consultation counter, Assigned one Portuguese interpreter to Dota Nursery</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Established International Exchange Section to Community Partnership Division, Assigned 3 Coordinators for International Relations to foreign resident consultation office, Published life guide books in Portuguese, Established Portuguese &amp; English homepage, Started learning assistance programs for foreign children/students, Established “Bara School KANI,” Established association for international education coordinators</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Established liaison committee for coordination with foreign employment-related companies, Held guidance orientation for foreign children/students/parents, Established round-table conference with foreign employment agencies</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Built Kani City Multicultural Center, Published Kani City English Language Newsletter, Started multi-language (Portuguese, English) email service for newsletters &amp; emergency/disaster information, Published life guide books in English</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Opened Kani City Multicultural Center - Frevia, Assigned 4 Coordinators for International Relations to foreign resident consultation office, Created DVDs regarding multi-language living support &amp; enlightenment on multicultural life</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>Established school attendance support fund for foreign children, Started children educational financial relief for unemployed foreigners &amp; their children (Feb.~ Dec.), Established Committee for Enactment of Multicultural Coexistence Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Started “anshin” Trusted Rental Housing Project</td>
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Basic Concepts

1. Basic philosophy

“Kani City: A City of Multicultural Unity, Made By All And For All”

This endeavor involves a process where all community residents of varying cultures and customs, regardless of differences such as nationality and ethnicity, mutually respect their diverse backgrounds, as they function as participating members of society in developing a city where all its residents can live together in peace with love and visions for their regional community.

2. Focal policy points

I Coexistence with language

For foreign residents possessed of a variety of cultural backgrounds, it is essential to acquire Japanese language skills and correctly grasp information necessary for daily life, in order that they may adapt to Japanese society and live among others in comfort and peace. Because of this, promotional activities will be carried out to expand upon opportunities for Japanese language study, and to provide information in the various languages of foreign residents in Japanese communities.

II Coexistence in child education

Improvements in educational environments and support for school attendance will be promoted for total and comfortable access by all to fundamental education, so that foreign children of diversified cultural backgrounds can grow up healthy in Japanese society with confidence and pride, and can someday be active in the pursuit of their hopes and dreams not only in Japan but also in the societies of their native countries.

III Coexistence in daily life

Promotion will be carried out for maintenance and improvement of a comfortable living environment with careful consideration of mutual cultures and living practices, to enable residents of various cultural backgrounds to support each other and live stable, anxiety-free lives as equal occupants of their regional community.

IV Coexistence in regional communities

Regional development and international exchange will be promoted in which residents with various cultural backgrounds, no matter what differences in nationality and ethnicity they might have, will regard and respect each other’s human rights and deepen mutual interaction and connections as they actively participate as members of their regional community, and will be able to make use of their knowledge and abilities as partners in city development.
3. Basic policies

Coexistence with language

1. Support for Japanese language educational studies
   Increases will be made in opportunities for Japanese language study and improvements will be made in systems for Japanese education, to enable foreign residents to acquire Japanese ability necessary for living independent lives in the regional community.

2. Providing of multi-language information
   Multilingualization will be promoted for information necessary for foreign residents in their daily lives in the regional community, and methods for information distribution will be improved to enable accurate conveyance of correct information.

Coexistence in child education

1. Improvements in education environment
   Improvements will be promoted for systems of acceptance of foreign children/students by public elementary and junior high schools, in order to guarantee educational opportunities for foreign children and to strive for zero non-attendance in schools.

2. Promotion of support for school attendance
   Regional promotion will be carried out for supporting school attendance by foreign children, by raising interest regarding this issue throughout the regional community.

Coexistence in daily life

1. Enhancement of consultation system
   Promotion activities will be carried out for improvement of consultation office services and for coordination with related agencies, in order to respond to various issues and life-related consultation issues arising in the lives of foreign residents in the regional community.

2. Enhancement of living infrastructure
   Promotion will be carried out for improvement of living and working environments necessary for ensuring a stable living infrastructure for foreign residents.

3. Enhancement of social infrastructure
   An environment will be created which will allow everyone smooth access to medical, health and welfare services which are indispensable for healthy and comfortable living.

4. Enhancement of disaster prevention systems
   Promotion will be carried out for enhancement in regional community and foreign resident awareness of disaster prevention, as well as for maintenance and improvement of systems for enabling appropriate and rapid response and support during times of disaster.

Coexistence in regional communities

1. Development of regional multicultural coexistence
   Awareness building will be promoted in regards to multicultural coexistence, which will involve all residents living together while deepening their mutual understanding of differences in their cultures and values, as well as mutually recognizing and respecting each other’s human rights.

2. Participation in city development
   Foreign residents will be encouraged to participate as vital community partners in their regions and society, and a system will be created and promoted for allowing the opinions of foreign residents to be reflected in city development issues. In addition, resident-based activities will be promoted involving independent and proactive international exchange and international cooperation.
I – 1 Support for Japanese language education

(1) Expanding opportunities for Japanese language education
Efforts will be made to increase Japanese language education opportunities, to allow foreign residents to acquire Japanese ability and communication skills necessary for independent life, interactive life in their community, and other various needs which may exist for foreign residents as students of Japanese.

1. Implementation of Japanese classes at Kani City Multicultural Center
2. Increases in Japanese classes in the community and in companies hiring foreigners
3. Information dissemination regarding Japanese classes

(2) Enhancement of Japanese language education system
In order to increase opportunities for Japanese language education in the community, efforts will be made in the training of both Japanese language teachers and Japanese language study support volunteers (volunteer teachers) for foreign residents.

4. Training of Japanese language teachers
5. Creation of system for access to Japanese language teachers
6. Increase of Japanese language teaching materials at Kani City Multicultural Center, libraries, etc.

I – 2 Providing information in various languages

(1) Promotion of multilingual translation of information
Efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of foreign residents by providing them with information in a variety of languages and easily understood Japanese, in order to ensure that they can understand information essential for community life such as administrative services, rules and obligations such as tax payment regulations.

7. Establishment of standards for multi-lingual translation of administrative documents, etc.
8. Increases in multi-lingual supply of information
9. Increases in multi-lingualization of pamphlets/other publications, billboards/advertising displays, etc.
10. Content enhancement of foreign language editions of life guide books
11. Enhancement/increases in foreign language editions of guide maps

(2) Improvement of mediums for information conveyance
Efforts will be made in the provision and proliferation of multi-lingual information, through the use of various forms of media (Internet, magazines, etc.), public facilities used by large numbers of foreign residents, etc.

12. Increases in provision of information in coordination with community associations, companies, shops, foreign resident community groups, etc.
13. Increases in cross-links with Kani City homepages, prefecture/government multi-language information websites, etc.
14. Promotion of registration for foreign language newsletter email services
15. Increases in public multi-language information sections/areas, etc.
16. Increased information provision for foreigners registering for residence in Japan


Ⅰ－1 Improvement of education environment

(1) Enhancement of learning environment

Efforts will be made in understanding and alleviating the circumstances of children not
enrolled in school, as well as in improving both learning environments and educational
systems.

17. Improving projects for ensuring learning opportunities for foreign children/students
18. Fact-finding/support for children/students not attending school
19. Improving educational abilities of foreign student teachers, etc.
20. Implementation of mother-tongue education for foreigners in the community

(2) Enhancement of educational counseling

Efforts will be made in establishing accessible consultation system, educational/support
standards and educational systems for children with developmental handicaps and other
difficulties, as well as in providing awareness regarding family education.

21. Multi-lingual counseling
22. Support for foreign children with developmental difficulties, etc.

Ⅰ－2 Promotion of support for school attendance

(1) Enhancement of school attendance support system

Efforts will be made to support school attendance by foreign children, through deeper ties
and mutual coordination between guardians (parents), schools, international community
organizations, and other related groups/individuals.

23. Support of first-time school attendance
24. Increased school attendance support for non-attending children/students
25. Increased school attendance support for children over the regular school age
26. Use of school attendance support fund for foreign children
27. Providing of information on school attendance subsidy system

(2) Raising awareness regarding school education

Efforts will be made in providing detailed information regarding school education and the
rights of compulsory school-age children to study at school, as well as in raising the concerns
and interests of foreign parents in the education of their children.

28. Providing information regarding school education in foreign languages
29. Coordination with companies, etc. employing foreign workers
30. Enhancement of academic orientation
31. Holding of academic guidance sessions

Ⅰ－1 Improvement of consultation systems

(1) Improvement of foreigner consultation services

Efforts will be made to enhance foreign consultation counter services, in order to enable
multilingual response to a variety of life-related issues and concerns experienced by foreign
residents in the community.

32. Enhancement of consultation for foreign residents
33. Introduction of consultation cases using the Internet
(2) Coordination with related agencies & groups
   Efforts will be made in establishing a system enabling responses to various consultation
cases in coordination with prefectural government and related agencies and groups.
34. Providing information on consultation offices offering multi-lingual support
35. Consultations in various foreign languages
36. Creating networks with foreign resident support groups and other related agencies

– 2 Improvement of infrastructure
(1) Improvement of living environment
   • Efforts will be made to create more opportunities and venues for foreign residents to know
     about living practices and rules necessary for regional/community life.
   • Efforts will be made in increasing access to “anshin” trusted rental housing project, as well as
     in providing information on housing accessible to foreign households and supporting
     foreigners in achieving residence.
37. Raising awareness on life-related rules
38. Enhancing housing consultation systems & providing multi-language housing
    information
39. Promotion of “anshin” trusted rental housing project

(2) Improvement of work environment
   Efforts will be made to provide foreign residents with employment support and overall
awareness of improvements in work environments for foreign employees.
40. Raised awareness for local companies regarding improvements in working
    environment/conditions for foreign employees
41. Providing labor-related consultation services and information
42. Providing multi-language information regarding support for foreign entrepreneurs
43. Support for acquisition/improvement of Japanese language skills necessary for
    employment

– 3 Improvement of social infrastructure
(1) Information dissemination regarding social security system
   • Efforts will be made in the providing of multi-language information regarding services including
     medical, health and welfare services, as well in the promotion of smooth access to such
     services.
   • Efforts will also be made to promote foreign resident registration for social security, as well as
     to raise awareness regarding payment of insurance fees and taxes.
44. Promotion of awareness of and enrollment in the social security system
45. Providing of information regarding the social welfare system
46. Providing of information regarding maternal & child health, vaccinations, and health
    screenings
47. Assurance of environments with easy access to health screenings and health-related
    consultations
48. Providing information regarding medical facilities capable of multi-language
    assistance
(2) Enhancement of child-rearing support
   Efforts will be made in providing multi-language information and awareness regarding
child-raising.
49. Multi-language assistance at nurseries, etc.
50. Improvement of multi-lingual maternal and child health service projects
51. Raising of guardian (parent) awareness regarding assurance policies for school attendance by foreign children

4 Improvement of disaster prevention systems
(1) Raising awareness regarding disaster prevention
Efforts will be made to enhance foreign citizen awareness regarding disaster prevention, and to promote foreign citizen participation in disaster prevention drills.
52. Providing multi-language information regarding disaster prevention
53. Conducting disaster prevention drills which allow for foreign resident participation
54. Raising disaster prevention awareness in coordination with companies, etc.
(2) Promotion of disaster countermeasures
To enable effective response to the needs of foreign victims in the event of an occurring disaster, efforts will be made in improving disaster support systems and in providing multi-language information on disaster conditions and disaster support.
55. Providing disaster-related information in a variety of languages
56. Establishing support systems for disasters
57. Improvement of Kani City Multicultural Center’s systems and functions as an active base of operations for disaster prevention
58. Disaster time coordination with cities with high concentration of foreign residents, etc.
59. Promotion of mutual aid relationship-building for disasters
(3) Promotion of community safety measures
Through coordination with related agencies/organizations, etc. to provide multi-language information and awareness enhancement, efforts will be made to raise foreign resident awareness regarding community safety aspects such as crime prevention, traffic safety and consumer affairs.
60. Increased foreign resident awareness regarding crime prevention, traffic safety and consumer life

1 Harmonious multicultural regional development
(1) Awareness-building regarding respect for human rights
Efforts will be made in the development of a city based on mutual respect for human rights, through improvement of both human rights awareness activities and multi-lingual consultation systems.
61. Awareness raising regarding respect for human rights
62. Multi-language consultation services regarding human rights
(2) Awareness-building regarding multicultural coexistence
Efforts will be made in the promotion of mutual understanding between foreign and Japanese residents, through increased understanding and awareness by all community residents regarding harmonious multicultural living and through the creation of opportunities for exposure to a variety of languages and foreign cultures.
63. Awareness-raising regarding multicultural coexistence
64. Providing opportunities and venues for experience-based learning programs regarding foreign cultures
65. Lectures, events, etc. regarding multicultural coexistence
66. Use of Kani City Multicultural Center as a base of operations for multicultural activities
2 Participation in city/community development

(1) Promotion of participation in regional society

Efforts will be made to create an environment in which foreign residents can easily participate in regional society/city development as members of their community.

67. Promotion of foreign resident participation in community association activities, etc.

68. Promotion of participation by foreign community groups in community social activities

69. Promotion of foreign resident participation in city development

(2) Promotion of international exchange/interaction

- Efforts will be made for broad-range independent international exchange by Kani City residents.

- Additionally, efforts will also be made to promote international cooperation through coordination with international cooperation assistance agencies, etc.

70. Promotion of extensive Kani City resident exchange/communication with Rota Island

71. Promotion of international exchange by Kani City residents within the region/community

72. Promotion of international cooperation through civic participation
In order to realize a society of harmonious multicultural living, Kani City will comprehensively promote measures for multicultural coexistence through mutual coordination and cooperation, which will involve a multitude of entities such as administration, city residents, various organizations, groups, companies and businesses carrying out their roles as supporters of multicultural life.

1. Division of roles
   
   (1) **Kani City** will improve upon promotion systems for realizing a multicultural society, through efforts to grasp regional issues and administrative needs regarding regional internationalization, while also working for further enhancement of administrative services and expansion upon multicultural coexistence measures. As part of this effort, the Kani City Board of Education will strive to grasp and alleviate the circumstances of foreign children not attending school, in order to guarantee that foreign children of the age for compulsory schooling who are willing to attend school have opportunities to receive education in the community.

   (2) **Public elementary and junior high schools** will work to improve acceptance and educational systems, in order to allow foreign children to receive education in a safe, comfortable manner.

   (3) **Nurseries and kindergartens** will carry out childcare and education to help foreign children develop skills for adapting to group living in Japan. This process will involve assisting foreign children in acquiring basic Japanese language skills and learning Japanese living customs.

   (4) **Foreign resident schools** will provide education based on the curriculums of the children’s home countries, and will also promote efforts and activities for adapting foreign children to Japanese society and preventing issues of nonattendance at school.

   (5) **City residents** will all be required to live together and participate in their community as equal members of society based on an understanding of the significance of harmonious multicultural living, regardless of any differences in nationality or culture which may exist between them.

   (6) **NPO Kani City International Exchange Association** will be expected to carry out the core functions of strengthening ties with regions and administration in order to promote regional internationalization.

   (7) **NPOs, volunteer groups, etc.** will make full use of their respective human resources and know-how in performing activities for connecting foreign and Japanese residents, as well as in providing support for foreign residents facing various issues not covered by the municipal administration.

   (8) **Regional community groups**, including community associations, will accept foreign residents as equal residents of the community/region and promote mutual understanding between all regional residents, while also encouraging foreign resident participation in regional activities.

   (9) **Foreign community groups** will encourage active participation by foreign residents in regional activities, while also making coordinated efforts with the regional community and administration to solve various foreign resident-related issues.

   (10) **Companies and businesses** will make efforts to improve working environments for foreign workers and promote foreign resident adaption to Japanese society, while also striving to solve a number of regional issues which include promotion of the employment of foreign residents.

   (11) **National and prefectural government** will be required to comprehensively promote reform for a variety of systems, etc. to allow for smooth and definite provision of various administrative services to foreign residents, and will also be expected to promote a number of measures for foreign resident support.
2. Promotional Systems

(1) Improvement of city administration internal systems

A Liaison Committee for Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Measures will be established within government for communication, coordination and sharing of issues and measure activity-related fact-finding between related divisions, in order to effectively promote measures for harmonious multicultural living based on this Promotion Program.

(2) Establishment of Committee for Promotion of Multicultural Coexistence

A Committee for Promotion of Multicultural Coexistence will be established through the participation of interested residents. To definitively promote this Promotion Program, this committee will conduct verification and reviews of the Program every fiscal year, and will also propose Program reviews, etc. in response to social condition changes, new issues, etc.

(3) Network building for multicultural living

Kani City Multicultural Center, acting as a primary base due to its central role in international exchange and the formation of a multicultural society, will encourage coordination and networking between city residents and city groups, etc., and will cooperate with all related parties to promote development of a multiculturally harmonious city.

(4) Reflection of foreign resident opinions

Foreign resident round table conferences and questionnaire surveys will be conducted regularly to gather the opinions of foreign residents. This information regarding foreign residents’ administration-related needs and regional issues will be shared amongst the related parties, and the opinions obtained will be reflected in the workings of city government.

(5) Coordination with Council of Cities with High Concentration of foreign Residents

Exchanges of information, issues etc. will be carried out in coordination with other cities regarding various increasingly prevalent problems related to regional multicultural coexistence, and requests will be made to national/prefectural government and other related agencies for improvement in systems including legal and support systems geared towards solutions to the issues at hand.

Kani City Promotion Plan for Multicultural Coexistence
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