

Guide to Fukuoka City's Facility Visit and Training Programs



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CITY OVERVIEW

Fukuoka City has served as a gateway to continental Asia since ancient times. The city developed as a base for diplomacy and trade early in its history, which can be seen with its establishment of the Korokan, a guest house for foreign diplomats that served as a departure and arrival point for Japanese missions to the Silla Kingdom in Korea and Tang China. Later in the medieval period, the city became a base for overseas trade, and as a free city with a unique atmosphere, it was where many merchants set out to pursue opportunities overseas.

Today, Fukuoka continues to develop as the hub of the Kyushu region and western Japan, with the establishment of a United Nations agency, as well as central government organizations, branches of major corporations, foreign diplomatic missions, and financial and service businesses all being concentrated in the city.

In addition, Fukuoka Airport, major conference venues, and the downtown area are all located within a 2.5 km radius, and shrines, temples, seaside resorts, and state-of-the-art shopping facilities are compactly located in the urban heart of Fukuoka. Fukuoka is a captivating city that perfectly blends Japanese traditions and contemporary culture.

◆ Area

343.46 km²

◆ Population

About 1.6 million (as of August 2020)

◆ Number of households

Approximately 830,000 households (as of August 2020)

◆ Mayor

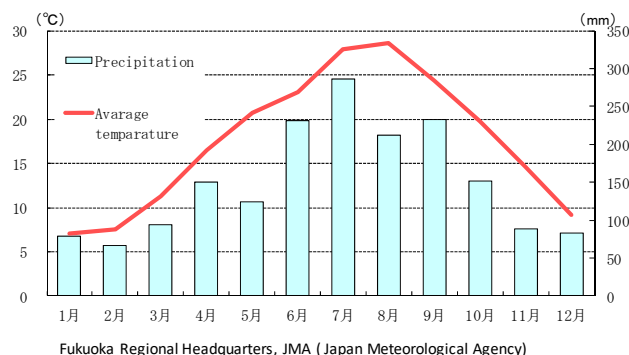
TAKASHIMA Soichiro

◆ United Nations agency in Fukuoka

UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office

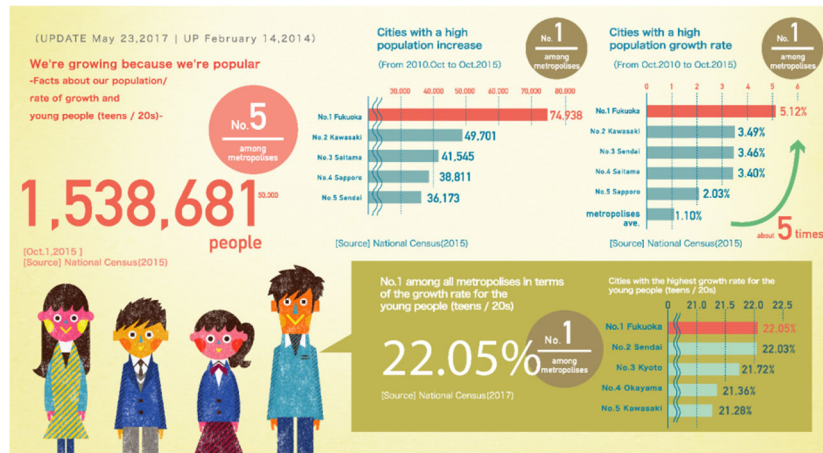
◆ Climate

Average annual temperature: 17.5 °C

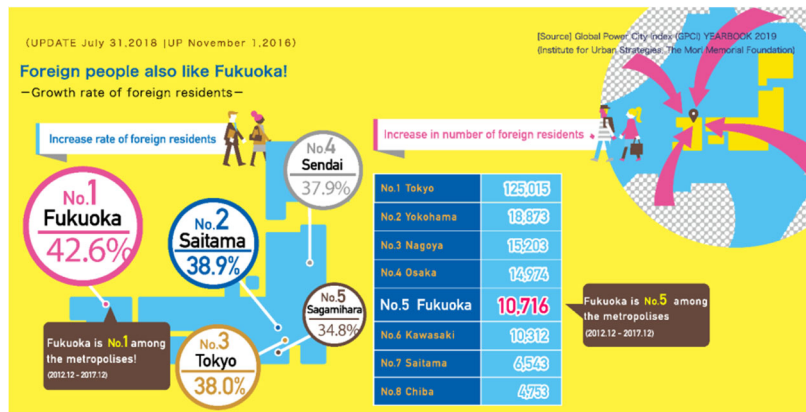


FEATURES

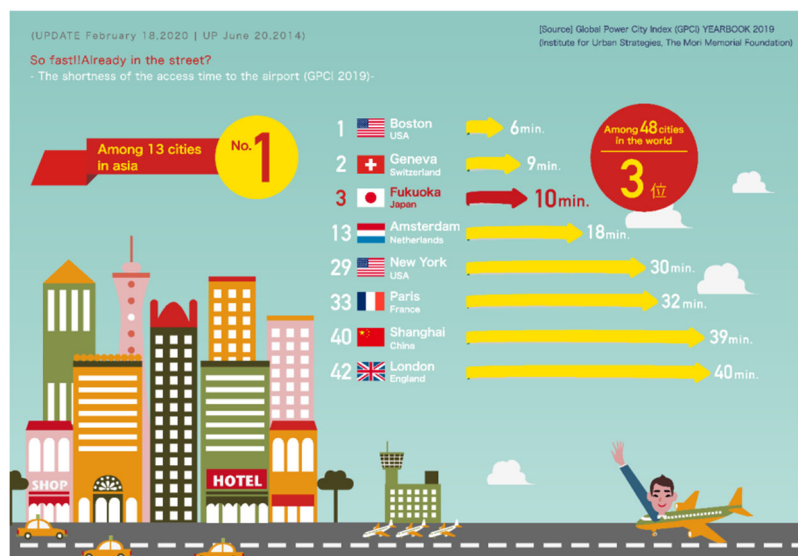
No. 1 in Japan for population growth, growth rate, and ratio of young people.



No. 1 for the growth rate of foreign residents among all Japanese cities



Compact urban structure



INITIATIVES

◆ City Strategy

With the input from many residents, Fukuoka City has created the *Fukuoka City Comprehensive Plan*, a document laying out the city's strategic vision to achieve a virtuous cycle that balances improving residents' quality of life and urban growth. The city is aiming to become the leading city in Asia and has been promoting urban development that achieves harmony among people, the environment and urban vitality.

As a result, more than 90% of Fukuoka residents praise the city for its livability. At the 2011 Asia-Pacific Urban Forum held in Bangkok, Thailand, Fukuoka was selected as a model example for cities with populations of 500,000 to 1 million, being described as "compact, dynamic, and livable". Fukuoka City is highly rated both in Japan and abroad as easy to live in and energetic.

◆ International Presence

Fukuoka City is also working on the following international initiatives.

Sister and Friendship City Relationships

Fukuoka City currently has sister and friendship city relationships with:

- Oakland | United States of America
- Guangzhou | People's Republic of China
- Bordeaux | Republic of France
- Auckland | New Zealand
- Ipoh | Malaysia
- Busan Metropolitan City | Republic of Korea
- Atlanta | United States of America
- Yangon | Republic of the Union of Myanmar

The city holds various exchanges with these eight cities in areas such as youth, economy and administration.



International Contribution and Cooperation Efforts

While overcoming the various problems associated with urbanization, Fukuoka City has amassed the technologies and expertise needed to create a livable city. The city utilizes these technologies and expertise to contribute to the international community through initiatives in the fields of water supply, sewerage and the environment, mainly around the Asian region.



International support efforts
at the Htein Bin landfill in Yangon, Myanmar

Support for UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office

The UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office was established in 1997 as the only UN agency in Kyushu. It is responsible for 28 countries and regions around Asia and the Pacific, and has field offices in 14 countries. The Fukuoka City government provides support for the activities of the UN-HABITAT Fukuoka Office, together with the national government, Fukuoka Prefectural government, and the business community.



The Fukuoka Prize

To promote the extraordinary cultures of Asia and to further understanding and peace in the region, the Fukuoka Prize was established in 1990 through the collaboration of the city government, academia, and private businesses. The Prize honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the preservation and creation of the unique and diverse cultures of Asia. As of the 30th awards, a total of 115 people from 28 countries and regions have been honored.



Asian-Pacific City Summit

Established by the Fukuoka City in 1994, the Asian-Pacific City Summit (APCS) is a platform for international leaders that functions as an opportunity for city leaders from the Asia-Pacific region to gather under one roof to create cooperative relationships. It is an ideal chance to build and expand networks for further urban development by sharing best practices for solving urban issues and actively exchanging opinions.

A total of 12 Mayors Summits and 10 Working-Level Conferences have been held so far with 32 member cities from 15 countries attending.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

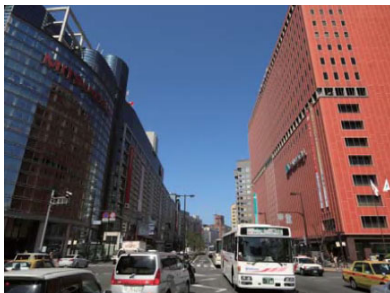
Fukuoka City achieved rapid development and, as a result, has confronted various problems brought on by the accompanying sudden urbanization and population growth. To present the city's responses and experience of solving the problems associated with urbanization and also to propagate better urban development, Fukuoka City accepts visits and provides training programs in the following five key urban development areas:

- ① Urban Landscapes
- ② Welfare
- ③ Water Resources
- ④ Environment
- ⑤ Disaster Management

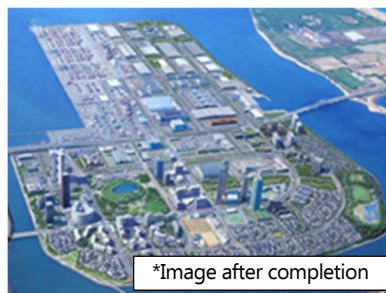
① Urban Landscapes— Urban development with city design in mind

Fukuoka is a city developing itself with attention to design. The urban development projects in the city not only utilize its historical resources to their full potential, but we also combine the strengths of residents, businesses, and the government to create a city with abundant green spaces through programs like the *Hitori Hitohana* Flower City Project, which encourages the cultivation of flowers and plants throughout the city. One of our flagship projects is Island City, an area created by repurposing the earth and sand generated as a byproduct when dredging shipping routes. Island City has become a growth center of Fukuoka and is being developed as a model example of an advanced city.

Examples of Visit Sites



Urban landscape formation area



Island City



Chuo Wharf Cruise Center

② Welfare— Creating a livable city for all

An All-Fukuoka project involving industry, academia, government, and residents, the city is making progress with Fukuoka 100, a city-wide welfare project that anticipates the era of the 100-year life. The project aims to create a comprehensive barrier-free environment and support the independence of people with disabilities to achieve a sustainable society where everyone can live with dignity in good health, both physically and mentally.

Examples of Visit Sites



Fukuoka Citizen Welfare Plaza



Home-Nursing Care
Training Center



Maizurun-
Senior Citizen Welfare Center

③ Water Resources— Water conservation

Fukuoka is a city with no major rivers and in the past has dealt with major droughts. Considering these characteristics of the region and its river environment, the city is working to promote using water reclaimed from treated wastewater to create a water-conservative environment. We are also working on efficient water-supply control to manage our limited water resources effectively.

Examples of Visit Sites



Water Management Center



Meotoishi Purification Plant



Chubu Sewage Treatment Center

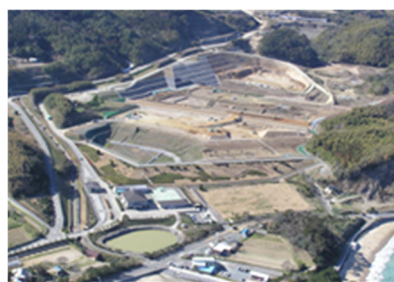
④ Environment— Environmentally friendly development

By planting green curtains on buildings and taking other measures to counter the heat island effect, Fukuoka City is working to create a comfortable and good living environment via environmentally friendly means. The city also encourages international cooperation and support other regions to introduce Fukuoka's own original environmental technology centered on the Fukuoka Method semi-aerobic landfill technique.

Examples of Visit Sites



Rinkai Incineration Plant



Nakata Landfill Site



Rinkai 3R Station

⑤ Firefighting and Disaster Management— Creating a safe and secure city

The Fukuoka Metropolitan Area Joint Fire Command and Control Center strives to improve services for residents through effective and efficient emergency call and dispatch firefighting services in the Fukuoka metropolitan area. Actions are taken to prevent river flooding and urban flooding caused by heavy rains, and also to reduce the damage caused by the flooding.

Examples of Visit Sites



Fukuoka Citizens' Disaster Prevention Center



Fukuoka City Fire Academy
(only for disaster management staff)



Sanno No. 2 stormwater detention chamber

Urban Development with City Design in Mind

◆Systematic urban development that enhances the attraction of the city



Fukuoka City works together with citizens and private businesses to develop the cityscape in a way that makes the most out of its historical resources. This systematic approach to Fukuoka's urban development enables us to enhance the attractiveness of the city and form a cityscape that is both appealing and fully utilizes its regional characteristics.

◆Green urbanization



The city's green urbanization initiatives work to actively maintain and manage parks and roadside trees, afforest both public spaces and private land, and also preserve green spaces to create a beautiful, safe, and comfortable urban environment.

For example, residents, businesses and the government are collaborating to promote the *Hitori Hitohana*: Flower City Project and other initiatives to encourage the cultivation of flowers and trees in order to create a city full of color and charm.

◆The Island City Project



*Image after completion

Island City was created by effectively making use of the earth and sand generated when dredging shipping routes. We are promoting the development of Island City as a growth center for Fukuoka City and an advanced model for urban development. The project will also form an internationally competitive logistics distribution hub that drives economic activity and civic life in western Japan as well as in the Kyushu region.

◆Extending the Nanakuma Subway Line



Nanakuma Line(Fukuoka City Subway)

Fukuoka City boasts a clean, efficient and easy-to-use subway system spanning three lines throughout the city. However, after gradually making progress with several construction projects such as new stations, new tunnels, tracks, train carriages and other related facilities, the city is aiming to open the newly extended Nanakuma Line in 2022. We have been taking all possible measures to ensure safety and, at the same time, the city is providing easy-to-access and detailed information on the progress of the project.

Creating a livable city for all

◆Universal Design



Based on the Fukuoka City Ordinance on Urban Development for Social Welfare and other regulations, Fukuoka City continues to promote a barrier-free society by incorporating universal design principals into renovated and newly built buildings, passenger facilities, roads, parks and more, so all residents can use the facilities with ease. At the same time, the comprehensive barrier-free construction is promoted through both hard and soft technologies.

◆Fukuoka 100



In anticipation of the era of the 100-year life, Fukuoka City is promoting the Fukuoka 100 project, a project made up of 100 goals that work towards achieving a model city of advanced health. The project involves all branches of society such as industry, academia, government and residents with the aim of creating a sustainable society where everyone can live with dignity and in good health both mentally and physically.

◆Community-based integrated care



To achieve a community-based integrated care system where the elderly can continue to live in their own community with peace of mind, Fukuoka City is developing special care homes and community-based services, securing human resources for welfare and nursing care, and building a system for cooperation between at-home medical care and nursing care. Additionally, the city has its own Dementia-Friendly City Project so that people with dementia can live comfortably in their communities. We are also taking measures to support people with dementia and their families, to raise society's awareness of dementia and allow everyone to live in harmony with dementia.

◆Supporting independence and social participation



Fukuoka City Employment Support Center
for Persons with Disabilities

Fukuoka City works hard to support people with disabilities to maintain their independence and participation in society. The city has greatly enhanced its support, focusing on services for people with severe disabilities. For example, establishing new operating subsidies and expanding mobility support for group homes to promote the acceptance of people with severe disabilities. The city is also promoting the development of facilities that provide integrated support for people with developmental disabilities and also employment support for people with disabilities.

WATER RESOURCES

Water conservation

◆Efficient use of water



Water Management Center

Fukuoka City carries out efficient water supply control to effectively use our limited water resources, such as 24-hour monitoring of the flow rate and water pressure of distribution pipes and remote operation of motor-operated valves to maintain proper water pressure. We also share supplies between water purification plants depending on water supply conditions. The City also works to improve the use of water by systematically checking for leakages in water distribution pipes and water supply pipes buried under public roads thus detecting them at an early stage as well as allowing us to replace any aging pipes.

◆Safe and high-quality water supply



Water quality inspection using state-of-the-art equipment

Fukuoka City is renowned for its high-quality tap water. We work to enhance our inspection system by systematically upgrading our water quality testing equipment and conducting highly accurate water quality tests based on the Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) for water quality testing (GLP for Water Supply). This process allows us to deliver safe and high-quality tap water. We have also set our own quality targets that are actually stricter than Japan's national standards, ensuring thorough quality management.

◆River maintenance



Riverfront Place

We also endeavor to maintain the rivers around the city. We strive to create riverside environments where residents can easily enjoy interacting with the water. Fukuoka City develops these riverside areas into pleasant and friendly environments, but is still careful to consider the rivers' natural environments and the characteristics of each area.

◆Sewerage system maintenance



Chubu Water Treatment Center

Fukuoka City improves its city environment by systematically developing facilities including sewer pipes, pumping stations and treatment centers. We also aim to build separate sewerage systems to preserve the quality of public water and also build new facilities along with the city's urban planning. In order to use resources effectively, we use reclaimed water from treated wastewater, and actively use renewable energy sources. For example the city has introduced facilities for the conversion of sewage sludge to clean solid fuel.

Environmentally friendly development

◆Achieving a comfortable and favorable living environment



Keyaki-dori Avenue

As part of the city's promotion of a more comfortable living environment, we carefully monitor air pollutants such as yellow sand and PM 2.5, and provide residents with easy-to-understand information. In addition, based on the Fukuoka City Asbestos Countermeasure Promotion Plan (Second Stage), the city carefully monitors and provides guidance on building demolition, which is increasing every year. Also the city promotes the use of green curtains to counteract the heat island effect.

◆Recycling-oriented city



"Reduce, reuse, recycle." The city makes full use of its resources through the 3Rs. We promote the 3Rs through public relations and education, forming a strong base through appropriate division of roles between residents, businesses and government. We actively use resource recovery, too, focusing on the 2Rs to build a recycling-oriented society. To accommodate changes in environmental administration, we consider our goals and new measures, and address urgent issues such as the reduction of plastic waste and food loss. In addition, we ensure proper management of waste disposal by enforcing measures on emissions, efficient waste collection and transportation, manage treatment facilities, and work with neighboring municipalities.

◆A low-carbon city for the future



In order to achieve a decarbonized society, we are revising the Fukuoka City Action Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures, and supporting voluntary and systematic efforts by businesses under the Energy Conservation Plan System for Business Establishments. We are also expanding subsidies for installing charging facilities to promote electric vehicles, as well as implementing the Next Generation Mobility Service Demonstration Support Service, which utilizes advanced technologies such as ICT and AI.

◆Connecting people, communities, and systems for environmental conservation



International cooperation and technical support

To cope with environmental administration that is becoming more widespread in areas such as waste disposal and environmental conservation, Fukuoka City exchanges information and holds public awareness programs with neighboring municipalities. We also assist international cooperation efforts and support the use of Fukuoka's own environmental technology, with a focus on promoting the Fukuoka Method, a semi-aerobic landfill technique.

FIREFIGHTING AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Creating a safe and secure city

◆Achieving disaster-resilience



Fukuoka City Comprehensive Hazard Map

To ensure its residents can evacuate safely during disasters, Fukuoka City has unique measures in place to cope with power outages, such as using electric vehicles as emergency power sources for community centers. The city also created multiple disaster-specific hazard maps for floods, storm surges, tsunamis, landslides and other disasters, and is actively informing residents on them so they know how to take appropriate evacuation actions in the event of a disaster. Fukuoka City also supports community-led initiatives such as holding workshops and training experts on evacuation shelter management, and providing lectures to residents associations.

◆Flood prevention



Sanno No.2 underground stormwater detention chamber

To prevent river flooding and pluvial urban flooding triggered by heavy rain and to mitigate the damage caused by any potential floods, Fukuoka City is constantly improving its river ways, such as by replacing bridges, and its sewerage system by improving its sewer pipes and pumping stations. The city also has built several facilities such as detention chambers to control rainwater runoff. We systematically repair and renew aging facilities to extend their service life.

◆Enhancing systems and activities for disaster prevention



Fukuoka Metropolitan Area Joint Fire Command and Control Center

We strive to improve emergency services for residents through the Fukuoka Metropolitan Area Joint Fire Command and Control Center by effectively and efficiently executing firefighting communication and operations in the Fukuoka metropolitan area.

Fukuoka City also develops its human resources through enhancing education and training at the Firefighting Academy to improve the skills and knowledge of firefighters and firefighting team members regarding disaster response activities.

◆Enhancing emergency systems

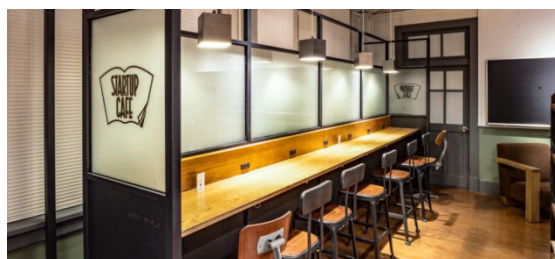
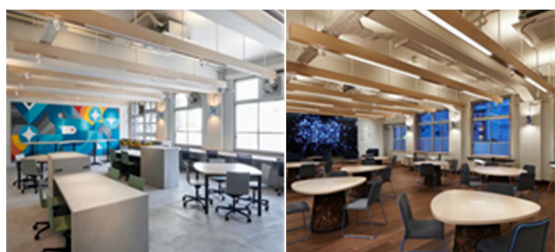


High-standard ambulance

To enhance emergency medical response in Fukuoka City and to improve a patients' chance of being saved, we ensure that its paramedics are able to expand the variety of treatments they can provide as part of pre-hospital first-aid at the scene of an emergency or on the way to the hospital, (such as tracheal intubation procedures and administering drugs). In addition, to improve the quality of paramedics, we are working to enhance the medical control system through post-emergency assessment of emergency activities by doctors and emergency workstation training.

OTHER INITIATIVES

◆One of the most advanced startup business support plans in the country



Fukuoka City aims to be the easiest city in Japan in which to start a business. In order to achieve this, we have already implemented projects to support startups.

Fukuoka Growth Next, a public-private collaborative startup support facility in the center of Fukuoka City, opened in 2017 to provide support for startup companies and to revitalize small and medium-sized enterprises, thus contributing to job creation and regional economic development. It also supports companies to create new values and take on the challenges of the global market. This facility provides various kinds of support for startups, including incubation functions, collaboration with existing companies and investors, community building through mentoring and exchange meetings, freely provided Internet infrastructure, training for entrepreneurs and business matching. In addition, the Startup Café consultation service provides consultations on all aspects of starting a business, and the onsite café/bar can be freely used by anyone to meet possible partners and investors.

◆Vegefru Stadium



The Fukuoka City Central Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Market, more commonly known as the Vegefru Stadium, is a fruit and vegetable market that was opened in 2016 with the relocation and integration of Fukuoka City's three wholesale markets (Fruit and Vegetable Market, Western Market, and Eastern Market) on Island City.

The majority of the wholesale areas are enclosed, temperature-controlled fixed-temperature areas with cold-chain compatibility. This allows the market to supply safe and reliable produce to the public through advanced quality control. Visitors can freely view the wholesale market from the special visitors' route, and can also observe pesticide residue testing (please note that pesticide residue testing is not conducted every day).

APPLICATIONS AND INQUIRIES



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 [urc visit training](#)

- The URC will customize the visit and training program to suit your needs and schedule, including visit destinations and lecture contents.
- To apply, e-mail or post your application to the URC via the contact address provided above at least one month prior to your desired date. (If you wish to apply for a program less than one month before the date of your desired visit/training, please consult us.)
- We will discuss the details of the visit, lecture contents, and date and time after your request.
- You can also apply to receive training online.
- Please contact us for details if you have any other requests that are not included in this guide.
- The lectures of the training will be given in Japanese, so you will need to arrange an interpreter.