In this edition, we introduce you to an article from the City of Nagasaki, one of the most popular tourist destinations in Japan, regarding the utilization of historic and cultural heritages and tourism promotion.

I. "Restoration and Maintenance of Dejima" and "Nightscape Tourism" (Article from Nagasaki City)

Dejima, a small artificial island, was Japan's only contact point with the West during the period of national isolation. Not only with European countries, Dejima was also connected with Southeast Asian countries through trade with the Netherlands, which had a trading base in Batavia (present-day Jakarta, Indonesia).

Silver, copper and ceramics were exported from Japan. On the other hand, woolen fabric and glassware from Europe, and dyed fabric, sugar and ingredients of herbal medicines (spices) from Southeast Asia were brought in to Japan through Dejima.

Since the Meiji period after the opening of Japan, the reclamation of around Dejima started and in 1904, the original fan shape of the island was lost. However, the history of Dejima during the period of national isolation was highly evaluated for its significant impact to the modernization of Japan, and in 1922, Dejima was designated as a national historic site.

The restoration work of Dejima is underway; 10 buildings, including the Chief Factor's Residence, and stone walls around Dejima have been restored so far.
Six buildings and warehouses where Japanese government officials used to work in will be restored this fall, and an exhibition showing the ties between Nagasaki and the rest of the world is planning to be held in one of such buildings. Furthermore, the construction of the Dejima Main Gate Bridge will be completed next year.

Nightscape Tourism

The Port of Nagasaki is located at the bottom of a bowl-shaped topography with surrounding mountains. This landform creates a unique and three-dimensional nightscape. Nightscape can be enjoyed from many viewpoints, including Mt. Inasa, Mt. Nabekanmuri, and Kazagashira Park. These attributes were highly praised, and in 2012, the nightscape of Nagasaki was recognized as one of the "world's new top three night views" along with Monaco and Hong Kong.

Especially, the night view from Mt. Inasa is praised as the "ten million dollar nightscape," known as one of the best night view spots in Japan and enjoys high popularity.

Nightscape is an important resource for tourism of Nagasaki City as it attracts overnight guests. As a result of the nightscape tourism promotion, Nagasaki City saw a record-high of 6.3 million visitors and 2.74 million overnight guests in fiscal 2014. The number of visitors to Nagasaki City continues to grow.

In order to attract more people to its night view, Nagasaki City has taken various measures, including development of the Mt. Inasa Lookout and a ropeway. In March 2016, the Mt. Nabekanmuri observation deck will be reopened. In this way, the city continues to enhance the attractiveness of its unique nightscape that can be enjoyed from many viewpoints.

Expert Group Meeting – Showcasing Japan's Advanced Environmental Technologies and Know-hows

The UN-HABITAT ROAP-Fukuoka has held the Expert Group Meeting in Fukuoka City since 2009 to introduce Japan's advanced environmental technologies and know-hows.

The 7th Expert Group Meeting in 2015 was held on November 16-17 under the theme of "disaster prevention."
The meeting was initiated in 2009 with the following background: as Asia-Pacific cities were experiencing rapid economic growth and population increase, various urban problems began to surface. For example, urban infrastructure and basic services improvement have not caught up with the rapid changes, and cities sprawl because of lack of urban planning. There was an increase in awareness of the importance of building sustainable cities based on well-conceived plans for continued and stable economic growth.

Among countries seeking solutions to their problems, especially among booming small and medium cities, there was a growing demand for Japan’s advanced environment technologies and know-hows, which have helped Japan overcome similar challenges that these countries are also facing. In response to such demand, the Expert Group Meeting was established to introduce Japan's advanced environment technologies and know-hows.

In the 2015 meeting, participants include central and municipal government officials and field officers of UN-HABITAT from 13 countries and regions* within the Asia-Pacific region. Japanese participants were from central and local governments, private companies which own disaster prevention know-how and develop emergency supplies, and organizations focusing on disaster preparation.

*Participating Countries and Regions:
Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pacific Islands, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam

On day one, representatives from foreign cities shared the current situations and major challenges of their respective cities. A common disaster-related issue facing the Asia-Pacific region is repetitive flooding and landslides caused by monsoons or typhoons.

Issues were raised from participants, such as how to protect cities from natural disasters, and how to build disaster resilient cities.

On day two, both public and private sectors in Japan shared specific disaster prevention measures. The Japanese Government and local authorities shared about disaster prevention policies and specific disaster prevention measures promoted with residents. On the other hand, private companies and groups shared about collection and provision of disaster information using information technology, disaster assessment measures, construction method to prevent embankments and riverbanks from erosion or destruction by water, and delivery of emergency relief goods smoothly to the affected area which are carried out beyond an individual corporate framework.

Many specific questions from Myanmar and other participating countries for Japanese presentations resulted in an active Q&A session.
In the afternoon of day two, participants visited disaster-prevention facilities in Fukuoka City.

They learned about the operation of flood protection barriers used to prevent entry of stormwater, and artificial reservoir that adjusts the volume of a swollen river to avoid flood damage. At the Fukuoka City Disaster Prevention Center, where one can experience the danger of disasters through simulations, they physically experienced how much strength they needed to open a door against water pressure.

The environmental technologies and know-hows introduced at the Expert Group Meeting are diverse – from planning and enlightenment and education to residents, which are low-cost and easy to adopt, to facility construction, which requires considerable expense. Several pilot projects have been developed from this meeting so far, through which Japan's advanced technologies and know-hows have contributed to the building of sustainable and eco-friendly cities in Asia-Pacific region.

As a result of the 6th meeting, a pilot project was conducted in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in April 2015. The project using coal ash in road paving was carried out by Environment and Greening Conservation Consultant Co., Ltd.

The last article of this edition is about a cultural event in Fukuoka City. There are three municipal museums in Fukuoka City: Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum and Fukuoka City Museum. The oldest among them is the Fukuoka Art Museum which opened in 1979.

We introduce you to a special exhibition at the Fukuoka Art Museum from April 17 to June 12, 2016.
Peranakans are descendants of mainly Chinese migrants who came to Southeast Asia, married to local women and settled down in the area. For hundreds of years, Peranakans who settled in countries, such as Singapore the key traffic point, Malaysia, and Indonesia, have assimilated cultures of Asia and Europe and created a unique hybrid culture. One example of the culture is a female fashion combination of blouse called kebaya and sarong, a skirt made from batik which is dyed in Indonesia.

The exhibition will show about 140 items of sarongs, kebayas, robes made from chintz, jewelry and beaded sandals mainly from collections of Asian Civilisations Museum and the Lee family, a distinguished Peranakan family. It aims to analyze the multilayered Peranakan culture which transcends a national framework and its relationship with Japan from 18th century to 20th century of Peranakan fashion.

The highlight of the exhibition is the transition of Peranakan female fashion over 100 years since the late 19th century. The exhibition traces the history: baju panjang or kebaya panjang (long blouse) made from batik using natural dyes in the late 19th century were replaced by sheer European organdy with gorgeous patterns in the early 20th century; baju panjangs were transformed into kebayas with delicate lace and kebayas made from richly embroidered colorful fabric by taking in the form of waist-length white kebayas that were worn by European women. Sarong kebayas have expressed the new beauty by adopting elements of various areas extending from China in the east to the Europe in the west. Dynamic exchanges that extended far beyond the simple limitation of a nation or an area can be traced in the history of sarong kebaya.

Batiks to be exhibited in combination with kebayas are fine items by famous batik artists including Eliza van Zuylen and Oey Soe Tjoen. Accessories, such as beaded sandals and handkerchiefs that were worn with these costumes will also be exhibited. Among other things, gold and silver with embedded diamonds, gorgeous jewelry unique to Peranakan fashion, that added charm to bajus and kebayas are must see.
As a gateway to the Asia Pacific region, Fukuoka City has been actively interacting with other countries. Introducing Asian art has been one of the major activities of Fukuoka Art Museum since its establishment in 1979. 2016 will mark the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Singapore, and this exhibition will be held in commemoration of the anniversary. Although Singapore is often considered as a young nation, the traces of hundreds of years of Peranakan history can be found in the fashion from the 18th to the 20th century. By introducing "traditional culture" of Singapore, a leading port city in Southeast Asia, and its correlation and common traits with Japan, the exhibition is expected to promote mutual understanding and friendship between Singapore and Japan.

Organizers
Organizers: Fukuoka Art Museum, Shoto Museum of Art, and Asian Civilisations Museum, Singapore
Sponsored by: Singapore Tourism Board
Official Carrier: Singapore Airlines

Venue and Period
Period: Sunday, April 17, 2016 – Sunday, June 12, 2016
Venue: Fukuoka Art Museum
1-6 Ohori Park, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka City, 810-0051 Japan
Tel: +81-92-714-6051  FAX: +81-92-714-6145
www.fukuoka-art-museum.jp/
Admission Fee: 200 yen

★To all the contact persons of our member cities: We are waiting for articles from you.
Please feel free to send us information on hot topics and new projects of your city and your efforts to address urban issues that might be helpful to other cities.
(Newsletters are posted on the Asian-Pacific City Summit website and sent to member cities and other addresses via email.)

Future Asian-Pacific City Summit Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name of the Conference</th>
<th>Host City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November or December 2016</td>
<td>The 11th Working-Level Conference</td>
<td>Ipoh City (Malaysia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Asian-Pacific City Summit has been building cooperative relations and networks among cities through Mayors Conferences, Working-Level Conferences and other activities, working toward solutions for urban problems in the Asia-Pacific region.

### Asian-Pacific City Summit Member Cities  30 Cities from 13 Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Auckland City (New Zealand)</th>
<th>Kagoshima City (Japan)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (Thailand)</td>
<td>Kita-kyushu City (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brisbane City (Australia)</td>
<td>Kuala Lumpur City (Malaysia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Busan Metropolitan City (Korea)</td>
<td>Kumamoto City (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changsha City (China)</td>
<td>Manila City (The Philippines)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalian City (China)</td>
<td>Miyazaki City (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fukuoka City (Japan)</td>
<td>Nagasaki City (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guangzhou City (China)</td>
<td>Naha City (Japan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gwangyang City (Korea)</td>
<td>Oita City (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)</td>
<td>Pohang City (Korea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (China)</td>
<td>Saga City (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honolulu City (USA)</td>
<td>Shanghai City (China)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ipoh City (Malaysia)</td>
<td>Republic of Singapore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jakarta Capital City Government (Indonesia)</td>
<td>Urumqi City (China)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeju Special Self-Governing Province (Korea)</td>
<td>Vladivostok City (Russia)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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