

# ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



OSAKA-KANSAI  
JAPAN  
**EXPO 2025**



World Expo 2025  
Candidate

私は、ここに、二〇二五年国際博覧会立候補国である日本政府を代表して、開発途上国支援プログラムを提出いたします。

昨年九月二十五日に、二〇二五年国際博覧会開催に向けて、「いのち輝く未来社会のデザイン」をテーマとして、ビッドドシエを提出いたしました。その中で記載しておりますように、この国際博覧会でSDGsの達成を後押しするとともに、世界の八十億人が参加できる国際博覧会とすることを目指しています。

これらの目標を達成するためには、博覧会への開発途上国の参加が不可欠であり、開発途上国への支援プログラムを提出する機会を与えていただいたことに感謝の念を表明いたします。

最後に、私は、この支援プログラムが着実に実施され、また二〇二五年国際博覧会が万全の準備のもと開催されるとともに、二〇二五年国際博覧会を成功裏に終え、この国際博覧会が人類の発展に寄与するものとなることをお約束いたします。

平成三十年二月九日

日本国内閣総理大臣

安倍晋三

博覧会国際事務局長

ピセンテ・ゴンザレス・ロセルタレス 閣下

February 9, 2018

Mr. Vicente Gonzalez Loscertales  
Secretary General  
Bureau International des Expositions

Dear Secretary General,  
On behalf of the Government of Japan as a World Expo 2025 candidate country, I am pleased to submit our programme to assist developing countries.

On September 25 of last year, we submitted our bid dossier for hosting World Expo 2025 with the theme of “Designing Future Society for Our Lives.”

As presented in the dossier, we propose that the Expo be a forum for supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and an event that welcomes the active participation of the world’s 8 billion people.

In order to achieve these important goals, we believe that the participation of developing countries is absolutely essential. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for providing us with this opportunity to submit our programme on how we will support the participation of developing countries.

To conclude, please allow me to reiterate that we are strongly committed to implementing the assistance programme and to ensuring all preparations for the success of the Expo in Osaka. I truly believe that we will contribute to the prosperity of humankind through EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN.

Sincerely yours,  
Shinzo Abe  
Prime Minister of Japan

As chairman of the 2025 Japan World Expo Committee, I am leading the effort to realise the World Expo 2025 in Osaka, Kansai, working closely with the Government of Japan, the local governments, the business community, and other stakeholders under an “All Japan” framework.

Currently, Japanese public and private sectors are jointly promoting a nation-wide project, “Society 5.0,” which is designed to realise a future society where people's lives are optimised and global issues are solved. The project calls for the full use of innovative technologies, such as IoT, AI, robotics, and Big Data to name a few. Such a society would be exactly the embodiment of a society, in which the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been achieved.

Realising such a future society requires the involvement of as many developing countries as possible, and we believe that World Expo 2025 is the perfect occasion to share and promote the vision of such a future society with the world. The proposed assistance programme for developing countries, which we believe thoroughly caters to the needs of developing countries, ensures the smooth and integrated participation of developing countries in World Expo 2025.

We are confident that this programme, once implemented, works to bring a greater number of countries and people to EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN. We are committed to making the Expo an occasion for co-creation of ideas and solutions to global challenges, bringing all of us closer together for our shared future.



Sadayuki Sakakibara  
Chairman, 2025 Japan World Expo Committee

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## **Significance of assisting developing countries**

EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN (hereafter referred to as “EXPO 2025 OSAKA” or “the Expo”), with the theme of “Designing Future Society for Our Lives,” calls on people to think about their ideal lives, empowering them to realise their full potential and to create a shared vision to live together in a sustainable global society.

In line with this theme, the Expo is designed to work as a “laboratory” for future societies. The concept of a “People’s Living Lab” makes it especially possible for the world’s 8 billion people to come together in one forum to co-create new shared values for future socioeconomic systems.

Our proposed theme also calls for the Expo to make progress toward the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations. For this, it is crucial that we promote the participation of people from all corners of the world to share their insights on solving issues of global concern.

With this in mind, we have formulated a comprehensive assistance programme on how we can support developing countries and encourage their active and valuable participation.

As we believe that the Expo should work as an event that stimulates the curiosity and interest of people from around the world, the comprehensive assistance programme is laid out for realising such an Expo.

We are sure that this assistance programme encourages developing countries to participate in the Expo without difficulty and gives them opportunities to present their sophisticated exhibitions in line with the theme. Diverse exhibits by a variety of countries should promote communication among participants and visitors, thereby facilitating innovation and co-creation.



## Overview of the assistance programme

In light of the importance of the participation of developing countries at EXPO 2025 OSAKA, the bid dossier submitted last year included a variety of measures to support developing countries.

The assistance programme here covers these measures in detail, and additionally, gives consideration to how the Expo would support progression toward the achievement of the SDGs.

As described above, EXPO 2025 OSAKA is designed to encourage the participation of 8 billion people from around the world, so this assistance programme is designed to cater to the needs of developing countries in the hope of maximising the number of participating countries, hence realising a true “World” Expo.

Our programme in essence is to prepare approximately 24 billion yen<sup>1</sup> to cover a wide range of expenses, from the initial planning and preparation stages through the duration of the Expo, and beyond. Such assistance includes the construction of pavilions, holding pre-events as well as support of communications and other forms of assistance during the event, to name a few.

Even after the submission of this programme, we will provide careful support depending on the needs of the developing countries.

<sup>1</sup> Based on the assumption that 100 countries will receive assistance; approximately 220 million US dollars, based on an exchange rate of 110 yen/ US dollar; or approximately 190 million euros, based on an exchange rate of 128 yen/euro



## Assistance amount and categories

The assistance programme will fully cover the expenses related to participation in EXPO 2025 OSAKA. Our intention is to make it possible for developing countries to create a valuable experience for themselves, as well as for the Expo as a whole.

As previously discussed, the total amount of assistance is approximately 24 billion yen<sup>2</sup>. The countries eligible to receive this assistance will be from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, Oceania and other regions.

The categories of assistance listed below are in line with what has been discussed in Chapters 6, 13, and 14 in the EXPO 2025 OSAKA bid dossier, and the cost calculations and other figures are consistent with the previous submission.

<sup>2</sup> Based on the assumption that 100 countries will receive assistance; approximately 220 million US dollars, based on an exchange rate of 110 yen/ US dollar; or approximately 190 million euros, based on an exchange rate of 128 yen/euro

Category	Average amount of assistance per country in yen	Total amount of assistance in yen
Venue expenses	130,135,500	13,013,550,000
Operating expenses	35,247,600	3,524,760,000
Expense and support for Communications	41,000,000	4,100,000,000
Travel and lodging expenses	28,138,000	2,813,800,000
National Day expenses	5,000,000	500,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>239,521,100</b>	<b>23,952,110,000</b>

Category	Reference: Total amount of assistance in US dollars	Reference: Total amount of assistance in euros
Venue expenses	118,305,000	101,668,359
Operating expenses	32,043,273	27,537,188
Expense and support for Communications	37,272,727	32,031,250
Travel and lodging expenses	25,580,000	21,982,813
National Day expenses	4,545,455	3,906,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>217,746,455</b>	<b>187,125,860</b>
	Calculated using the same exchange rate of 110 yen/US dollar as per the bid dossier submitted September 2017.	Calculated using average exchange rate for 2017 of 128 yen/euro.

\* The planned amount of assistance is based in Japanese yen.

\* The total planned amount of assistance is based on the assumption that 100 countries will receive assistance.

The following is a detailed description of the above-mentioned categories.

**•Venue expenses**

- Assistance for venue expenses covers those related to the construction, designing, decoration and dismantling of pavilions. The amount of assistance depends on the size of the exhibit space of each country. In addition, transport and related costs will be covered if participating countries decide to ship items to display at the Expo venue.
- As described in the bid dossier, developing countries are expected to make exhibitions mainly in Type B Module Pavilions or Type C Shared Pavilions.

**•Operating expenses**

- Assistance for operating expenses covers facility maintenance as well as on-site operations including attendants, security, cleaning and interpreters for smooth operations at EXPO 2025 OSAKA.
- Countries are also eligible to receive support from special consultants in order to develop high-quality exhibitions and attractive content.
- Pre-event guidance will be provided for the Expo staff members (such as the Commissioner General of Section and the Pavilion Director) of the developing countries to ensure smooth operations at the Expo. This includes staff travel, lodging, speaker expenses and other related costs.
- In addition, expenses for water, electricity and other utilities, as well as insurance, will be covered.

**•Expense and support for Communications**

- Assistance for communications includes expenses for digital and media broadcasting communications, for the planning and operation of events, and for media professionals from respective countries on assignment to cover the Expo.
- Full support on communications will be provided not only during the event period, but also before and after the Expo as required.

### •Travel and lodging expenses

- This covers travel, lodging and meals for staff and family members from each country, as well as the curators who are involved in enhancing their countries' exhibit contents.
- For staff members, in addition to the pre-event guidance mentioned above, the expenses of travel, lodging and meals will be covered from the preparation stage until after the conclusion of the Expo.
- Travel, lodging and meals for VIPs and related persons, as well as those who perform on the National Day of the respective countries, will be covered.
- For travel during the Expo, free shuttle bus services between the Expo Village and the venue will be available.

### •National Day expenses

- Expenses necessary for the organisation of the National Days of developing countries will be covered, as holding attractive and creative National Day events is expected to draw more visitors and spark greater interest across the board.  
Expenses for travel, lodging and meals pertaining to the visits of VIPs, related persons and those who perform on National Days will be as described above.

## Eligible countries

We expect that from 80 to 100 countries would be eligible to receive this assistance. They will basically be selected from countries falling under the categories listed below, and some of them may be chosen in view of fully achieving the theme of EXPO 2025 OSAKA.

The assistance is primarily aimed at promoting the active participation of developing countries, but is also based on Japan's long-term vision and commitment to giving aid to developing countries in general. This is characteristically grounded in our philosophy of nurturing the ability of developing countries to achieve growth, and of promoting measures suited to each country.

This commitment is a direct reflection of the belief that Japan owes its success and recovery from the devastation of World War II to the financial aid it received from the World Bank. As a way of giving back to the international community, Japan therefore provides support for programmes in developing countries through Official Development Assistance (ODA) and other forms of cooperation, and has worked to find solutions for global-scale problems while seeking peace and prosperity for the international community.

Japan has thus far provided a total of 354.2 billion US dollars in support to 190 countries and regions, and has made large contributions to growth and poverty reduction in developing countries, and to global peace, stability and prosperity.

**(A) Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**

Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are those that were recognised by a resolution of the UN General Assembly as having particularly low indicators of development, following an examination by the UN Economic and Social Council based on standards approved by the United Nations Committee for Development Policy (CDP).

**(B) Low Income Countries (LICs), Lower Middle Income Countries (LMICs)**

Low Income Countries (LICs) are those with a 2016 per-capita GNI of 1,005 US dollars or less, and Lower Middle Income Countries (LMICs) are those with a 2016 per-capita GNI of between 1,006 and 3,995 US dollars. These definitions are in accordance with the World Bank categories used by OECD/DAC in the list of countries receiving ODA.

**(C) Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**

Small Island Developing States are developing countries composed of small islands, where sustainable development is considered difficult to achieve. Their challenges are partly due to the susceptibility to damage caused by rising sea levels as a result of global warming, and partly due to the unique problems characteristic to island nations, such as small populations, remoteness and natural disasters.

**(D) Land-Locked Developing Countries**

Land-Locked Developing Countries (LLDC) are developing countries that are isolated from the ocean and are geographically disadvantaged in terms of development.

