

Overview of the 2019 Iwate Vision Plan to create a bright future with foreign residents

Objective

We are developing a long-term vision plan that will focus on creating a prosperous future for all residents of Iwate in order to adapt to the recent increase in foreign residents* and various changes relating to international cultural exchange.

Scope and Time Frame

We oversee all international relations pertaining to our prefecture. By being flexible about our future vision, we will achieve our goals through the various directions we plan to take. Therefore, the Iwate Vision Plan will cover a 10 year period.

Roles of the Iwate International Association

- Contribute to international and multicultural understandings that is appropriate with the current times
- Provide overall assistance relating to international interactions and multicultural society building.
- Act as a point of contact for general assistance for all foreign residents
- Coordinate with other organizations
- Operate as a network base that connects Iwate to all areas of the world
- Nurture globally-minded human resources and encourage their retention

Overview image of the Iwate Vision Plan



Our Goal After 10 Years

We hope that, as contributing members of the region, a future where both local and foreign residents can live comfortably by demonstrating each of their own abilities and respecting each other is realized.

We desire for Iwate as a whole to acquire a deep understanding of various cultures and develop an infrastructure to accept and provide assistance to foreign residents in need.

We aspire to successfully establish and nurture globally-minded human resources that can contribute to creating more vibrant and culturally-diverse communities within the prefecture.

Necessary Steps To Achieve The Iwate Vision

Projects that will allow us to overcome changes in the international exchange environment

We will actively promote these six projects in order to fulfill a leading role in promoting our long-term vision plan all the while being flexible to new situations.

30-year Anniversary

By reflecting back on our progress for the past 30 years, along with celebrating the association's anniversary, we will establish operations that can be passed onto future generations.

Support the ILC

By cooperating with other organizations promoting the ILC, we will aim to build and prepare Iwate to become an efficient base for international research.

Support Foreign Workers

We will consult the needs of foreign workers and help with the daily struggles they may encounter by promoting businesses to become more approachable and foreigner friendly.

Develop Diversified Regions

With local Japanese residents, we will build a more internationalized community by effectively applying each foreign resident's cultural diversity and skills.

Nurture "Glocalized" Individuals

Through frequent international exchanges and diversity workshops, we will work to select and nurture future globally-minded individuals that will help build a stronger bridge between Iwate and the world.

Job Search Support for International Students

Our aim is to secure jobs for foreigners within Iwate Prefecture with Japanese language ability and an appropriate level of understanding of Japanese culture and social systems.

1 Promote local international exchange and understanding

We will make use of the unique aspects of local areas to promote international exchange and understanding within the local communities.

- Improve information services offered by the International Exchange Centers.
- Offer the latest information and technical knowledge to municipal international exchange associations and their staff.
- Assist funding of international exchange organizations.
- Introduce personnel and loan equipment suitable to holding international exchange events in order to support independence in international exchange in all local areas.

2 Develop regional multiculturalism

We will endeavor to create an environment in which Japanese residents and foreign residents can easily live together, and respect each other's cultures.

- Offer and facilitate various exchange and international cultural events.
- Utilize our supporters and telecommunication skills to offer and facilitate opportunities to learn Japanese.
- Support local Japanese language classes and train newly appointed Japanese language teachers.
- Offer information in multiple languages, including simple Japanese.
- Create system for specialist consultations.
- Cooperate with educational institutions to support children in need of Japanese language instruction.
- Increase functionality of multilingual disaster support system.
- Implement system to receive those seeking medical attention, and offer information to promote understanding of social security system.

3 Prepare people to lead the next generation

We aim to build vigorous communities using people with global perspectives.

- Offer opportunities to learn about global perspective and communication methods that can reach a global audience.
- Cooperate with educational institutions to incorporate systematic human resource development appropriate to every level of education.
- Support youth in taking the steps towards studying abroad etc.

Resources Necessary To Achieve Iwate Vision

Stronger organizational capability

- Strengthen company core/ competence.
- Improve staff skills.
- Appropriately assign responsibilities within the association.
- Improve administrative efficiency.
- Increase number of plan participants.
- Build confidence and trust within the association.

Stronger financial stability

- Actively pursue all routes of financial aid.
- Secure safety and maximize profitability of hard assets.
- Minimize expenditure.
- Increase number of supporting members.

Cooperation with active municipal organizations

- Support facilitation of events and strengthening of coordination.
- Offer and share technical knowledge.

*Our definition of foreign residents includes those with foreign residency or has acquired permanent Japanese citizenship, children from international marriages with cultural background of their non-Japanese parents, and those with foreign roots who similarly require bureaucratic assistance as that of foreign nationals.