



EU-JAPAN CENTRE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Earlier this year, the EU-Japan Centre celebrated the 30th anniversary of its creation. On that occasion, the EU-Japan Centre published a book "30 Years Together", available online: http://cdnsite.eu-japan.eu/sites/default/files/publications/docs/booklet_web.pdf. Paper copies can be sent upon request. Since 1987, the Centre has welcomed over 2,000 EU companies on its business or training missions in Japan and Europe, 900 alumni of its Vulcanus programmes, 25,000 participants in 300 policy seminars, and over 200 analytical reports and e-learning videos.



Nevertheless, the management of the Centre is well aware that it cannot live exclusively on the back of its heritage. Instead the EU-Japan Centre must continuously evolve, expand and calibrate its mission to meet the current and future needs of the EU and Japanese industrial and business communities, particularly in the new era to be opened with the conclusion of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).

THE AGENDA FOR 2018 INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- Business missions in Japan (a Nanotech mission in February, a Food & Drinks mission in March, an ICT mission in May, a Biotech mission in October and a 'Get Ready for Japan' mission in November).
- WCM/Kaizen training missions in Japan, in June and in September as well as WCM/Kaizen missions in the EU: Visit of Schaeffler Technologies AG & Co. in Austria in March, "Four days' of operational excellence" in Dublin and Stuttgart in May, visits to IKEA in Sweden and to TROMONT in Croatia later in the year.
- The annual meeting of the EU-Japan Business Round Table will take place in Japan in April.
- Annual sessions of our Vulcanus programmes will start in April and September, respectively for Japanese students and EU students.

On top, publications will be released on a vast range of sectors in Japan, a series of cross-cultural workshops will take place in a number of cities throughout the EU and policy seminars will be organised all around the year.

Of course our permanent services will be operational all year long.

We can only invite you to refresh your memory by visiting our website and get updated about our "Step in Japan", "Keys to Japan", several helpdesks (Tax & Public Procurement, Clusters, Technology Transfer) partnering support services, information portal, GNSS activities and much more. ➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/services-business>

TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS, READERS AND SUPPORTERS, THE EU-JAPAN CENTRE EXTENDS ITS BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!



EU-Japan Centre
for Industrial Cooperation
日欧産業協力センター

日欧産業協力センターでは、季刊英文ニュースレター「EU-Japan News」を通じて、さまざまな日・EU関係の情報を発信しています。

欧州連合日本政府代表部/欧州委員会より

- News from Japan..... 15-23
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EU-JAPAN SPACE BUSINESS WEEK

EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation and Japan Space Systems organised the EU-Japan Space Business Week-Link & Launch in Tokyo, Sapporo and Obihiro in Hokkaido from 5th to 8th September 2017.



The event welcomed 5 European SMEs and 1 Italian industry cluster involved in Space Industries both upstream and downstream with a central focus on Earth Observation industries and applications. The European participants were – ACRI-ST, Astro- und Feinwerktechnik Adlershof GmbH, Deimos Imaging, Planetek and Sinergise. This 4-day long mission was co-organised with EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation and Japan Space Systems (JSS - <http://www.jspac-esystems.or.jp/>) with the support of the National Space Policy Secretariat, Cabinet Office of Japan (CAO), the Japanese Ministry of Economy Trade

and Industry (METI), as well as the Hokkaido Prefectural Government. The mission consisted of a mix of keynote speeches from stakeholders, presentation of Japanese case studies and success stories, pitch presentations from selected European participants, networking and best practice sharing events in Tokyo and Hokkaido, as well as field visits in Hokkaido to space-related companies including Interstellar Technologies, Michishita Hironaga Nojo and Space-Agri.

Interstellar Technologies is a private, space venture-capital company developing a small launch system for sub-orbital flights and dedicated smallsat launch. Space-Agri is an SME offering Earth-Observation data service for agricultural applications, such as crop growth map and fertiliser map in Hokkaido's Tokachi region. Lastly, Michishita Hironaga Nojo is a Farming company that has been utilising satellite remote-sensing data to support their farming practices and production.

Through this 4-day mission, the participants and Japanese industries found some interesting cooperation areas, and EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation and Japan Space Systems will continue to support them in fostering future partnerships.

JAPANESE INDUSTRY AND POLICY NEWS RELEASED

Topics covered in the October 2017 issue:

LEGISLATION AND POLICY NEWS

- Tokyo Initiative 2017" for Connected Industries Announced
- Winners of the IoT Lab Selection Announced
- Priority Area for Introducing Nursing Care Robot Revised
- New Standard for Robots for Lumbar Support Established
- Winners of Resource Recirculation Technologies Selected
- 27 Areas Designated for Geothermal Potential Survey

SURVEY AND BUSINESS DATA

- Wage Increase Trend Prevails
- METI Established Database of Civil Satellite Parts

COMPANY NEWS

- World's First Bamboo Biomass Power Station to be Constructed
- Mitsubishi Motors Test First "Vehicle to Grid" Project in the Netherlands
- Mitsui & Co. to Participate in the Mobility House for Commercialization of Energy Management Services with EVs
- Sekisui House Declares to Use 100% Renewable Energy
- Yamada Denki to Sell Small EVs of FOMM

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

- Tokyo Will Introduce 4 Carbon Free Days during 2020 Olympics and Paralympics
- NEDO Launches Field Operational Tests of Automated Driving System

➡ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/publications/october-2017-japanese-industry-and-policy-news>



HORIZON 2020 INFO DAY 2017 HELD IN TOKYO

On 24 November 2017, the National Contact Point for Horizon 2020 in Japan, together with the Delegation of the European Union to Japan, organised the event titled “Horizon 2020 – Work Programme 2018-2020: Cooperation opportunities for researchers in Japan” in Tokyo at the occasion of the publication of the new work programme.



Over 150 people attended this seminar hosted at the EU Delegation in Tokyo. This event highlighted the opportunities for Japanese participation in Horizon 2020 by presenting the new Work Programme 2018-2020 in light of cooperation with Japan.

It further featured examples of Japanese participation by introducing the VISION, EuroCirCol and iKaas projects among others. Support services for Horizon 2020 in Japan such as NCP Japan and EURAXESS Links Japan were also introduced. For the calls for proposals in Horizon 2020 closing in 2018, calls with funding from the Japanese side are available in the fields of ICT and Secure Societies.

A detailed list of calls in the Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020 mentioning Japan can be downloaded from the NCP website, which includes links to the full text of the calls and Japanese translations of the call texts: <http://bit.ly/2i0EIXR> NCP Japan can help you with advice on Horizon 2020, administrative procedures and partner search.

➔ <http://www.ncp-japan.jp/news/26290.html>

LOOKING BEYOND THE HORIZON

FUTURE EU-JAPAN COLLABORATION ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

With the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement set to transform the EU-Japan relationship, the opportunities for greater EU-Japan collaboration on science and technology issues will be enhanced.

There will be greater possibilities for Japanese public, private and academic research entities to work with their European counterparts on research and innovation.

This seminar, held on the 13 November 2017 in Brussels, brought together Japanese & European industry and research institutions to exchange their experiences, expectations and achievements in EU framework programme for research & innovation, to understand the EU's current priorities for collaboration with Japan and to discuss how to facilitate EU-Japan collaboration in Horizon 2020 and beyond.



The seminar was co-organised with Japan Business Council in Europe.

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/looking-beyond-horizon>

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EU-JAPAN CENTRE AND THE JAPAN BIOINDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

DURING BIO-EUROPE AND BIOFIT



The EU-Japan Centre participated in both Bio-Europe in Berlin and BioFIT in Strasbourg with the aim to promote, among various support services funded by the European Commission for the benefit of EU SMEs and clusters, the organisation of a biotech mission to be held in October 2018 in Yokohama, Japan and to present its partnering support service to EU companies within the framework of Enterprise Europe Network (<http://een.ec.europa.eu/>).



"It was a great pleasure to collaborate with the EU-Japan Centre. We are especially grateful for the Centre's excellent support during Bio-Europe, in Berlin and BioFit in Strasbourg. During these 2 partnering conferences, we had fruitful meetings with many participants mainly from the EU Member States. Considering this as a great opportunity, we would like to expand our network in Europe."

Hironori TANAKA, Director at Japan Bioindustry Association

New this year and thanks to the support of Japanese entities -among which the Japan Bioindustry Association who played a central role in gathering most of its members' profiles, the EU-Japan Centre displayed on its booth more than 30 Japanese companies and organisations (incl. clusters) which raised quite a lot of interest among the European trade fairs audience. It was a step forward in terms of support to facilitate the partnering process between EU and Japanese biotech companies.

SAVE THE DATE!

On 12-14 March 2018, the EU-Japan Centre will be exhibiting at BioEurope in Amsterdam (NL) and will be most happy to welcome you there!

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT IN TOKYO FOR EU SMES

For EU SMEs entering into or expanding within Japan, the EU-Japan Centre implemented "Step in Japan" a free logistical support and business assistance in its Tokyo office, for up to one month.

THE SUPPORT MEASURES INCLUDE:

- a "hot desk" in Tokyo on the Centre's premises including an internet connection and telephone
- full access to meeting and seminar facilities within the Centre's premises;
- a help desk for all information inquiries on business in Japan;
- assistance with using the Enterprise Europe Network service while in Japan.

For more info contact: StepInJapan@eu-japan.gr.jp

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/other-activities/step-in-japan>



EUROPEAN BIOTECH & PHARMA PARTNERING CONFERENCE, OSAKA 2017



Osaka Prefectural Government and the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation successfully co-organised the 2nd “European Biotech & Pharma Partnering Conference 2017” in Osaka on 10 October 2017 with support from European and Japanese clusters in the sector of bio technology and life science.



Over 60 organisations from 11 European countries: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom were gathering at Grand Front Osaka for one-to-one bilateral meeting with Japanese companies and institutes.

375 bilateral meetings were held among 119 participants on that day. The number of meetings has been increased of approximately 30% compared with the same event last year. The event was held in cooperation with Senri Life Science Foundation, Osaka Business and Investment Centre, JETRO, PMK Initiative, Business France, Advantage Austria, Flanders Investment and Trade, bioXclusters plus, BioM Biotech Cluster Development GmbH and Bio Turku which would lead further collaboration and partnership between Europe and Japan.

SUCCESS STORY: REMEMBRANE SRL - PATIENCE IS A KEY WORD WHEN DEALING WITH JAPAN

Remembrane Srl is a biotech start-up company established in 2010 and headquartered in Italy. In 2015, Remembrane's CEO Dr Chatgialloglu was selected for the EU-Japan Centre's Biotech mission (<https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/biotech-cluster-sme-mission>) organised in the margins of BioJapan Expo. This mission was an opportunity to meet with new potential partners and start doing business in Japan. During the Biotech Mission, Dr Chatgialloglu met with three different distributors and was able to sign a contract with one of them that now sells Remembrane's products in Japan.

WHY JAPAN?

Operating in the cell culture field for already a few years, Remembrane was looking for new market opportunities to expand its activities abroad. The Italian company became interested in the Asian market, and especially in Japan, while seeing opportunities that this market had to offer in terms of Biotech developments. Japanese companies are indeed very active in the biotechnology market and many of them are using cell cultures-related technologies, such as cell and gene therapies in their activities. For Remembrane, Japan was therefore targeted as a strategic place to sell technologies.

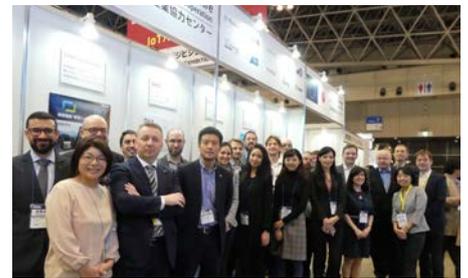
STEPS TAKEN

Before the 2015 Biotech Mission, Remembrane did not have any Japanese partners. During the mission, Dr Chatgialloglu met with three different distributors and was able to sign a contract with one of them that now sells Remembrane's products in Japan. Dr Chatgialloglu explains that this distributor relies on its network among universities and national companies to sell and promote Remembrane's products. The past year, Remembrane has received orders from two different Japanese universities and Dr Chatgialloglu is confident about future sales. The full article is available at below link.



ICT CLUSTER AND SME MISSION TO JAPAN

For a Business Mission to Japan in the field of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) from 7-10 November, the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation welcomed nineteen representatives of innovative SMEs and clusters from eleven European countries.



Some of the participants had already some experience in the Japanese market, while others visited the country for the first time.

The Business Matching Event was held with support from JETRO and the Smart IoT Acceleration Forum.

Through a pre-departure webinar organised by the Centre, participants had the chance to learn basics about cultural differences with Japan and current trends in the Japanese market for ICT.

The mission started off with a business matching event on 7 November in Tokyo, where European participants could meet and discuss business with Japanese system integrators, software resellers, IT venture companies and service suppliers. The business matchmaking (<https://www.b2match.eu/ict-tokyo-2017>) was open to other European companies and several organisations from Lithuania joined for this occasion. During the three following days, the 19 representatives of selected companies and clusters exhibited within the Centre's joint booth at the Japan IT Week at Makuhari Messe, on the outskirts of Tokyo. Companies and clusters presented their technologies such as geolocation and positioning systems, augmented reality, fintech and advanced mobile/web applications as well as cybersecurity solutions. The Centre's joint booth, which provided a small space and a Japanese language poster for each company/cluster, received much attention from Japanese fair visitors. Interpreters and the Centre's bilingual staff helped with communication and

supported ad hoc meetings with Japanese companies during the fair. Although many participants made excellent contacts, a persistent strategy in the Japanese market will be needed for their success. Through its other services such as the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), the EU-Japan Centre will offer continued support to the participants for follow-up their promising leads.



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS IS OPEN FOR THE NEXT ICT MISSION IN MAY 2018. (See also page 7)

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/ict-cluster-sme-mission>

By **Hatem OUESLATI**, CEO and CoFounder, IoTerop ➔ <http://www.ioterop.com>

"IoTerop co-founders have already a long collaboration history with Japan. Indeed, the team was leading the French R&D center of ACCESS Co. Ltd, a Japanese Group, between 2005 and 2010. Developing its business and technology footprint in Japan was thus a natural strategy envisioned by IoTerop. The EU-Japan Centre's ICT Mission 2017 was the perfect opportunity to start such an initiative.

Indeed, the IoT market in Japan is booming and should soon dominate the ICT industry. We wanted to assess if our solution - a standardisation middleware for IoT devices for better interoperability, security and device management - could attract a strong interest in the Japanese IT and electronics industry.

The EU-Japan team has done an amazing work in organising an ICT Business Matching Event (in Tokyo) so that we could meet with 10 different Japanese prospects in our industry. Followed by an exhibition at the Japan IT week, a major 3-day fair in Chiba (THE place to be for IoT), during which we could expose our solutions and identify dozens of innovative Japanese system integrators, network operators and IoT device manufacturers, all large potential customers of our technologies.

The EU-Japan Centre staff has provided a wonderful help, in preparing and securing our exhibition logistics (translating our marketing materials in Japanese for example), facilitating communications with our prospects (with live translations during the exhibition), pushing our company and solutions visibility during the show.

This mission was extremely positive to us. We already decided to come back to subsequent ones as this experience has confirmed first the business traction for our solutions and second our willing to grow our business within the Japanese market".

NEXT ICT MISSION IN JAPAN - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

- Mission dates: 8-11 May 2018
- Application deadline: Thursday, 22 February 2018
- Preferred profile: EU SME, EU Cluster operating in MtoM, IoT, Industry 4.0

The Centre is currently inviting EU Clusters and SMEs to apply for its "ICT mission" in Japan. This 4-day mission includes 1-day Business matching event (fully organised by the Centre) and 3-day (free) exhibition space at the Japan IT Week trade fair in Tokyo (<http://www.japan-it.jp/en>).

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/ict-cluster-sme-mission>

NEW TRAINING PROGRAMME - GET READY FOR JAPAN

The EU-Japan Centre will launch "Get Ready for Japan", a 2-week long training which will take place in Japan, aimed at helping EU managers make better partnering decisions when entering or expanding into the Japanese market.

- Date: 19-30 November 2018
- Application deadline: Thursday, 21 June 2018.

This mission, whose contents are inspired/drawn from the 4-week long Human Resources Training Programme that was run by the Centre for 30 years, will offer a concentrated combination of:

1. business seminars about Japan
2. practical exercises to help understand Japanese decision-making and business negotiation
3. selected field visits
4. a dedicated matchmaking service aimed at supporting participants with the search for partners while in Japan.



This mission is "ideally" suited for executives of EU SMEs who need a quick and practical preparation to maximize their chance of building a successful partnership.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/get-ready-for-japan-training-programme>

NEXT WCM TRAINING MISSION IN JAPAN

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The 5-day World Class Manufacturing training mission (WCM) gives senior European engineers the perfect opportunity to visit some of the world's most advanced factories to see for themselves:

- how leading Japanese companies use world-class manufacturing techniques to drive their businesses
- how to interact with senior Japanese production engineering managers and lean experts.

The training mission in Japan provides participants with:

- in-depth analysis of Japanese manufacturing methodology
- Lectures, seminars and panel discussions presented by experts from Japanese industry
- Company and factory floor (Gemba) visits
- Preparation and post-visit review

No tuition fee for SMEs and the European Commission grants €600 to participants from SMEs.

- Training dates: 25-29 June 2018
- Application deadline: Thursday, 22 March 2018

➔ <http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/world-class-manufacturing>



By **Kent JOHANSSON**, Production Manager, Aros Electronics AB,

➔ <http://www.aros.se/>

Attended WCM Mission in June 2017

"The mission was a perfect mix between visits of various Japanese companies with focus on production system and Gemba, networking possibilities with other LEAN-maniacs and also very good lectures from seniors working in or around the TPS-mentality.

My largest reflections was the top managers focus on detail knowledge in Gemba and also the general focus on training activities, for instance the Dojo rooms. I will bring ideas to our company and implement an Obeya, with ideas from the visits. I will also expand our training programme and implement some kind of training room (like a dojo) and clarify our escalations process more in detail, and following the Toyota plant example, with giving our teamleaders both time and authority to be the first Andon person in line.

I think this mission really is an eye opener, if you are in a top management level, not at least for the head it self. I really recommend management on top level and production management level to apply for the next mission."

LEAN SERVICES VISIT

The 16th Lean in Europe visit focused on lean in services and included visits to two companies – Phonovation and Topflight Travel Group. 35 participants from 8 nationalities joined our joint Lean in Service visit on 5 December 2017.

Phonovation is Ireland's largest interactive SMS and voice services' company and aims to become the leading provider of interactive SMS and voice services in each of its markets. The visit focused on how Phonovation drives business value using kanban, business prioritisation and capacity based planning; using a monthly lean operations review for the whole business to share performance data, understanding and areas of focus and improvement; and developing incremental continuous improvement and "lean thinking" by using experimentation & micro learning events.



Topflight Travel Group is a market leader in quality holidays both to summer destinations, as well as an award-winning ski programme. The visit there addressed Topflight's lean journey – from its very first 'step' to how it has embedded Lean thinking into its office design including use of Visual Management and 5S. It also looked at how the company uses Hoshin Kanri and X-Matrix to empower its software development team solve business problems and also at finance processes.

➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/lean-europe-visits-ireland>

NEXT LEAN IN EUROPE VISIT - CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The next Lean in Europe visit will be to Schaeffler Austria GmbH, near Vienna. It will take place on 27 March 2018, with a preparatory evening on 26 March. For more details see: ➔ <https://www.eu-japan.eu/events/lean-europe-visit-17-schaeffler>

WORLD CLASS COLLABORATIONS IN INDUSTRY 4.0 AND DIGITAL MANUFACTURING

Internationalisation, innovation and multidisciplinary. These are the guidelines from which collaborative projects between the WCM Development Center in Turin and various academic and industrial organisations were born, including the EU-Japan Center for Industrial Cooperation and its visionary student exchange programme, Vulcanus.

This is the context in which Atsushi Nakamura, graduate student from the Toyota Technological Institute, has decided to pursue his European experience. After an initial training period aiming to introduce the automotive manufacturing environment and FCA's Production System, the World Class Manufacturing methodology, the student has now begun working on the project to which he has been assigned, through which he will be able to witness the evolution of WCM through Industry 4.0 and Digital Manufacturing.

In addition to the training and internship activities in the FCA facilities, Atsushi has also been involved in several team building and soft-skill training activities with fellow interns

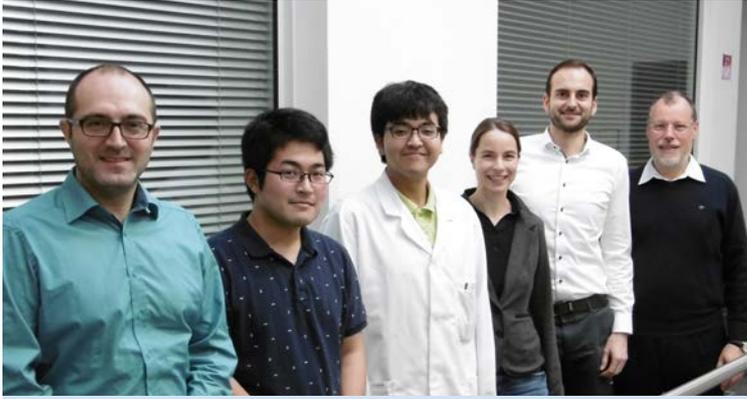


and colleagues: specific events in the WCM Academy, visits to the most representative industrial and automotive landmarks of the city and strategy gamification in the region's valleys. From the plains of Nagoya to the mountains of Turin; from the Toyota Technological Institute to FCA's World Class Development Center. Through the creation of World Class experiences and collaborations, the company's objective remains that of building bridges across countries and, especially, to bring business and academia closer together, thus reaching out for innovative skills and visions not only from the local territory, but from those top players representing global excellence in the spheres of universities, research and innovation.

By **Andrea BELLAGARDA**, FCA Italy S.p.A., host company Vulcanus in Europe 2017-18 ➔ <https://www.wcm.fcagroup.com>

JAPANESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS IN THE WORLD OF BRAKE FRICTION

The Vulcanus in Europe programme provides Japanese students precious experience to work in European companies with their local languages.



 From left: Tsuyoshi and Yotaro together with their supervisors from physical research and laboratory departments

The students find the advertisements of the programme at the Japanese leading universities or on the website of the EU Japan Centre. The students major in science or engineering and they were selected with the strict selection criteria. While screening, they had an interview based on their academic activity and their wills towards the development of the relationship between the EU and Japan. This year 23 students came to 12 European countries.

Yotaro Kawakami and Tsuyoshi Uchida learnt German for four months at a language school in Berlin. They now work for TMD Friction as trainees. It is one of the world's leading brake friction manufactures with a Japanese mother company, Nisshinbo Holdings Inc. The students

attend meetings with Japanese partners, and by doing so, strengthen the relationship between the two sides. TMD also learns Japanese culture from them. They are engaged in the development of brake pads and its system through their academic major and they have the opportunity to give and discuss ideas with researchers and engineers at TMD. Through that, they improve their skills as engineers and scientists, while the company receives the results through their research.

By **Tim PELARGUS**, Group Communications Manager, TMD Friction Holdings GmbH, host company Vulcanus in Europe 2017-18

 <http://www.tmdfriction.com>



TESTIMONIAL FROM A VULCANUS STUDENT IN ESTONIA

By **Tatsumi TSUJI**, Vulcanus in Europe 2017-18, Trainee at Protobios Ltd, Estonia

 <http://www.protobios.com>

"I'm taking part in Vulcanus in Europe 2017. I was assigned to an Estonian Biotechnology company, which is truly a good match for me, as I desired to work in R&D department.

I'm doing a broad variety of tasks mainly about autoimmune diseases. Before coming to Estonia, I also had done quite a bit of research about them. Through these tasks, I can cultivate a better understanding. In addition, all the members of Protobios surely stimulate my personal growth as a researcher.

Now, I live in this lovely city of Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. In comparison to my hometown, it is an international and stimulating city for me. IT and startup businesses are successful enterprises in Estonia (ex: Skype, Transferwise, Taxify). Protobios has introduced me to many opportunities to study them through related seminars and events. They are also so welcoming of someone who doesn't have background knowledge of IT and business, yet I can learn about both in due time and not only about biotechnology. How amazing this is!

I really appreciate this programme and people who accepted me in their company and gave a lot of opportunities to study. I'm learning so much every day. I really enjoy my stay here".



ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (EPA) BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND JAPAN - FINALISATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN SHINZO ABE

“Following the agreement reached today between the chief negotiators and endorsed by European Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström and Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, we welcome the finalisation of the negotiations of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the European Union and Japan.

The finalisation of the negotiations on the EU-Japan EPA demonstrates the powerful political will of Japan and the EU to continue to keep the flag of free trade waving high, and sends a strong message to the world.

Beyond its considerable economic value, this Agreement is also of strategic importance. It sends a clear signal to the world that the EU and Japan are committed to keeping the world economy working on the basis of free, open and fair markets with clear and transparent rules fully respecting and enhancing our values, fighting the temptation of protectionism.

The EU-Japan EPA is one of the largest and most comprehensive economic agreements that either the EU or Japan have concluded so far.

Source: European Commission

➔ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-17-5182_en.htm

This EPA will create a huge economic zone with 600 million people and approximately 30 percent of the world GDP, and it will open up tremendous trade and investment opportunities and will contribute to strengthening our economies and societies. It will also strengthen economic cooperation between Japan and the EU and reinforce our competitiveness as mature yet innovative economies.

We are confident that, once in place, this Agreement will deliver sustainable and inclusive economic growth and spur job creation, while at the same time confirming our commitment to the highest level of labour, safety, environmental and consumer protection standards and fully safeguarding public services.

The EPA reinforces the EU and Japan’s actions on sustainable development and climate change, notably via a strong and unambiguous commitment to working together to implement the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement.

With the finalisation of the negotiations, the path is now clear to complete the internal procedures leading to the signature, ratification and full implementation of the Agreement”.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE MISSION TO JAPAN

Five members of the European Economic and Social Committee have made their annual mission to Japan in November 2017.

The Economic Partnership Agreement in principle reached between the EU and Japan in July this year is of direct concern to the EESC as well as to its Japanese partners – economic, social and environmental stakeholders – because of the provisions establishing a monitoring mechanism for civil society as part of the chapter on Trade and Sustainable Development. According to the provisions included in the published, agreed chapter, Domestic Advisory Groups (DAGs) on both sides will be set up, as well as a Joint Dialogue. In view of this achievement the EESC has been advocating for, the main objective of this mission was to explore with Japanese partners the possible role, scope, set-up and work of these DAGs and the Joint Dialogue.

The EESC is also looking for ways to start cooperation in advance of the entry into force of the finalised agreement, so as to build trust, understanding and enhance the effectiveness of

EESC ➔ <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/tags/japan>

the civil society bodies, with the aim of ensuring they will be operational from the start. The mission programme included meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan Business Federation KEIDANREN, Japanese Trade Union Confederation RENGU, environmental organisations SusCon and the Pacific Asia Resource Center, the Japanese Consumers’ Co-operative Union, Co-op, and the European Business Council.

On the last day of the mission, the EESC delegation took part in the Jean Monnet Seminar entitled 'Past, Present, Future of European Integration - 60 Years of Rome Treaty' organised by the Kyushu University EU Centre in Fukuoka. Members made contributions reflecting on the most important achievements of 60 years of European integration from a civil society perspective, and discussed the civil society contribution to the ongoing debate on the Future of Europe, currently taking place in the EU.

Kyushu University EU Centre ➔ <http://eu.kyushu-u.ac.jp>

4TH EU-JAPAN JOINT COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION IN TOKYO

On 24 November 2017, the 4th EU-Japan Joint Committee on Science and Technology (S&T) Cooperation was held in Tokyo, organised under the EU-Japan Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement (http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/policy/agreement_japan.pdf), which entered into force on 29 March 2011. The meeting was opened by H.E. Takeshi Nakane, Ambassador for Science and Technology Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and H.E. Viorel Isticioaia-Budura, Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Japan.



Participants at the 4th EU-Japan Joint Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation in Tokyo (©Anne Haglund-Morrissey)

The Joint Committee Meeting was held with the participation of a wide range of ministries and agencies from Japan and the European Commission. It discussed recent Science, Technology and Innovation policy developments, and assessed progress achieved since the last Joint S&T Committee meeting in Brussels in May 2015. The meeting was successful and achieved its objectives, in particular to jointly work towards the full implementation of the EU-Japan Strategic Partnership in Research and Innovation (http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/joint_summary_3rd_jcm.pdf), as adopted by the 3rd EU-Japan Joint S&T Committee and endorsed by the EU-Japan Summit in May 2015.

Both sides noted the improvement of the framework conditions to facilitate the EU-Japan cooperation, among others, the agreement of Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) to continue co-fund projects in open Horizon 2020 calls, such as on technologies for first responders. Furthermore, cooperation will be promoted through the cooperation arrangement between the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the European Research Council (ERC).

Joint summary (EN)

➔ http://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/eu-japan_joint_summary_2017.pdf

Joint summary (JP)

➔ http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/dns/isc/page22_002905.html

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) were highlighted as an important instrument to promote researchers' mobility. Both sides agreed on continuing the solid cooperation in ICT, Aeronautics and Advanced materials, and noted the interest in strengthening cooperation in Automated Driving Technologies, Health/Medical research, Renewable Energy Research, Arctic Research, Disaster Risk Reduction (including Nature based solutions and Earthquake Early Warning System), and Quantum Technology.

Further, the meeting welcomed the Research Framework Arrangement between the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), and confirmed the importance of the Horizon 2020 National Contact Point in Japan, and of outreach activities to promote public engagement. The next meeting is planned for 2019 in Brussels. More information on below links.

THE UNITARY PATENT GUIDE

The European Patent Office (EPO) has recently released the first edition of the Unitary Patent Guide.

The publication aims at providing companies, inventors and their representatives with advice on how to obtain, maintain and manage Unitary Patent. The 40-page document offers a summary of the procedural steps to be undertaken, including references to the primary and secondary legislation applicable to each step of the process.

The Guide also includes practical information on the accessory procedures relating to unitary patents - for example the compensation scheme for translation costs - as well as the rules on how to pay the renewal fees. It is expected that unitary patents will be granted by the EPO in 2018.

Source: EPO

➔ [http://documents.epo.org/projects/babylon/eponet.nsf/0/C3ED1E790D5E75E0C125818000325A9B/\\$File/Unitary_Patent_guide_en.pdf](http://documents.epo.org/projects/babylon/eponet.nsf/0/C3ED1E790D5E75E0C125818000325A9B/$File/Unitary_Patent_guide_en.pdf)

THE EU-JAPAN JOINT CALL H2020-EUJ-2018

The European Commission has published the draft of the three-year 2018-20 work programme for Horizon 2020 (https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/sites/horizon2020/files/h2020-leit-ict-2018-2020_pre_publication.pdf), among which from page 107 to 113 the EU-Japan Joint Call H2020-EUJ-2018 is announced.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

- EUJ-01-2018: Advanced technologies (Security/Cloud/IoT/BigData) for a hyper-connected society in the context of Smart City
- EUJ-02-2018: 5G and beyond

Announced publication date of the call: 31 October 2017

Announced deadline for proposal submissions: 31 January 2018



<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/h2020/calls/h2020-euj-2018.html#c.topics=callIdentifier/t/H2020-EUJ-2018/1/1/1/default-group&callStatus/t/Forthcoming/1/1/0/default-group&callStatus/t/Open/1/1/0/default-group&callStatus/t/Closed/1/1/0/default-group&+identifier/desc>

FIRST EU-JAPAN DIGITAL WEEK

The first EU-Japan Digital Week took place from 2 to 6 October 2017 in Tokyo. This Digital Week was composed of a series of meetings and discussions with the government and stakeholders.



- On 2 October, a government-to-government meeting, involving MIC and METI took place to discuss data economy, platforms and ICT Statistics.
- On 3 October the 6th workshop on Digital Strategies was held involving government and industry to discuss topics covered in the EU's Digital Single Market strategy and in the Japanese Society 5.0 initiative. This workshop focused on 5G and IoT standardisation, blockchain, electronic authentication, IPR polices and data economy (data flow, data market, liability...).
- On 4 October, the 23rd ICT Dialogue between DG CONNECT and the Ministry of Internal Affairs & Communications (MIC) co-chaired by Deputy-Director General Khalil Rouhana and Vice-Minister Masahiko TOMINAGA.
- On 5 October, the first ICT Dialogue between DG CONNECT and the Ministry of Economics, Trade & Industry (METI) co-chaired by Deputy-Director General Khalil Rouhana and Director-General Tetsuro FUKUNAGA.
- On 6 October, a Digital Single Market workshop took place at the CEATEC conference/exhibition. CEATEC is the largest ICT tradeshow in Japan.

Source: European Commission - DG CONNECT

EUROPEAN MEDICINE AGENCY TO BE BASED IN AMSTERDAM

The European Medicines Agency will relocate to Amsterdam in the Netherlands. This decision was taken by the EU 27 Member States in the margins of the General Affairs Council. The relocation of EMA from London is a consequence of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.

Source: European Medicines Agency



http://www.ema.europa.eu/ema/index.jsp?curl=pages/news_and_events/news/2017/11/news_detail_002857.jsp&mid=WC-0b01ac058004d5c1



<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2017/11/20/european-medicines-agency-to-be-relocated-to-city-country/>

EBA WELCOMES COUNCIL DECISION ON ITS RELOCATION

The European Banking Authority (EBA) welcomes the Council's decision on its relocation to Paris, in light of the UK's intention to withdraw from the EU. This is an important decision for the Authority that guarantees a seamless continuation of its activities by reassuring its current and future staff over the new location and putting an end to a period of uncertainty.

Source: European Banking Authority



<http://www.eba.europa.eu/-/eba-welcomes-council-decision-on-its-relocation>



<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2017/11/20/european-banking-authority-to-be-relocated-to-city-country/>

JAPAN – PREPARATORY BRIEFING ANALYSIS REPORT IS AVAILABLE



The analysis report prepared by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform, the preparatory briefing on Japan, is available! This report is the result of the collection of relevant cluster information in the country, including business and sector trends, cluster policies and programmes, as well as a cluster mapping.

- ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/news/japan-preparatory-briefing-analysis-report-available>
- ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/international-cooperation/japan>

EUROPEAN STRATEGIC CLUSTER PARTNERSHIPS GOING INTERNATIONAL (ESCP-4i) STRONGLY INTERACT WITH JAPAN



The European Strategic Cluster Partnerships – Going International (ESCPs-4i) are transnational cluster partnerships that develop and implement a joint internationalisation strategy and support SME internationalisation towards third countries beyond Europe.

They were labelled by the European Commission, DG Growth and the Executive Agency for SMEs of the European Commission following the COSME call COS-CLUSTER-2014-3-03 – Cluster Go International and their activities started as ESCP-4i labelled partnerships at the beginning of 2016. The European Commission has selected 25 "European Strategic Cluster Partnerships – Going International" (<https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/eu-cluster-partnerships>) as a result of the COSME call "Cluster Go International" (COS-CLUSTER-2014-3-03).

There are no less than 7 ESCP-4i partnerships targeting Japan in their internationalisation ambitions, addressing sectors such as future materials, healthcare, aerospace, sports, food process and manufacturing and advanced materials:

- AdPack ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-profiles/adpack>
- bioXclustersPlus ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-profiles/bioxclusters>
- EACP Abroad ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-profiles/abroad>
- EU4SPORTSCLUSTERSALL ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-profiles/eu4sports>
- FoodPackLab ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-profiles/foodpacklab>
- New Frontier in Food ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-profiles/new-frontier-food>
- WIINTECH2020 ➔ <https://www.clustercollaboration.eu/escp-profiles/wiintech-2020>

Japan is indeed a cooperation partner country in focus when it comes to high level manufacturing processes, innovative technologies and reliable products adapted to the growing requirement for quality manufacturing.

Throughout the last years, the different ESCP-4i partnerships have set up a number of activities to support in particular their SME members in their international collaboration efforts with Japan.

For example, BioXclustersPlus has organised the "European Biotech & Pharma Partnering Conference" in Osaka, on 10 October 2017. The partnership supported a large delegation of EU companies for B2B meetings – an action that is part of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2016 between bioXclusters Plus and the Osaka Bio Headquarters (<https://osaka-bio.jp/english>).

In the aerospace sector, a first "fact finding mission" was organised by EACP-ABROAD in October 2016, followed by a business mission to Nagoya/Japan from September 25th -29th, 2017, called the "Chubu Aerospace Week". The mission covered three main events: the France-Japan workshop on Civil Aviation Industry Cooperation (Sept. 25th), Aeromart Nagoya (Sept. 26th-28th) and the International cluster seminar and industry site visits (Sept. 29th).

The partnership WIINTECH2020 successfully set up collaboration with Japanese organisations in the sectors of clean tech and high efficient building which led to the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with Nagano Techno Foundation. All partnerships and involved cluster organisations are visible on the European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) one of the 2 initiatives of the European Commission showcased at the World Trade Organization on 31 October 2017. ECCP supports the internationalisation of SMEs through cluster organisations by fostering cluster collaboration at both European and global level.

- ➔ <http://www.clustercollaboration.eu>

TAKING THE PULSE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY POTENTIAL IN JAPAN WITH EU GATEWAY | BUSINESS AVENUES

Smarter Grid Solutions (<https://goo.gl/t3sQjN>) is an EU Gateway | Business Avenue alumnus and a Scottish company specialised in products and services that enable utilities and developers to integrate Distributed Energy Resources (DER) and renewable resources to the grid. The company also provides world-leading Active Network Management (ANM) products, planning tools and a range of consultancy and engineering services.

Thanks to the Enterprise Europe Network' suggestion, Smarter Grid Solutions applied and was selected to participate in the inaugural EU Gateway | Business Avenues mission to Osaka on Green Energy Technologies, reaching closer to its goals of expanding into the Japanese market.

The company attended and exhibited its products at the World Smart Energy Week Osaka 2017 (<http://www.wsew.jp/en>). Participating Japanese companies were exceptionally interested in the latest company's platform for the control and coordination of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) required with high penetrations of renewables.

Having already implemented similar solutions in Europe and other markets, Smarter Grid Solutions was looking to do the same in Japan, for instance reducing renewable curtailment levels in Northern Japan. Thanks to its participation to the mission and to the EU Gateway | Business Avenues organisers who helped them interact with targeted prospects, the Scottish company managed to establish early relationships with Japanese counterparts.

The next Green Energy Technologies market scoping mission for 2018 is open for application. Browse through the online calendar (<https://goo.gl/ecUU9Y>) for an overview of all upcoming missions!



EUREKA – GOING GLOBAL

Over its more than 30 years of existence, EUREKA has proved to be a valuable network for innovative firms from all over the world wishing to cooperate with European partners.



Its decentralised, intergovernmental nature, bottom-up approach and variable geometry grant it greater flexibility. This is also reflected in EUREKA's Internationalisation Strategy (<http://www.eurekanetwork.org/sites/default/files/MC35-04%20-%20Internationalisation%20Strategy%20of%20EUREKA.pdf>) endorsed at the Madrid Ministerial Conference in June 2017.

The strategy highlights EUREKA's role as a platform for international cooperation in a global context. Its main objective is making EUREKA a preferred tool for European industry to cooperate globally in R&D&I.

EUREKA is of particular interest to SMEs because it is:

- Highly flexible;
- Works with a 'bottom-up' structure;
- Avoids bureaucracy;
- Employs simple rules;
- Provides a basis to begin commercial collaborations across geographical borders.

It provides three different ways for third countries, such as Japan, to participate in EUREKA instruments:

- Through project-by-project cooperation as a 'third country' participant alongside two EUREKA country partners in the consortium;
 - Through a GlobalStars call – a targeted multi-lateral call with a third country;
 - Through obtaining Associated Country status.
- GlobalStars is a new type of EUREKA multilateral call targeting a third country. It allows different EUREKA countries to join forces and to bring individual bilateral agreements with third countries to a multilateral level.

EUREKA constantly explores new opportunities to launch Globalstars joint calls with platforms for regional cooperation in other continents, in order to create better medium-to-long term conditions for trade in goods and services with Europe. Through its actions, EUREKA is presently not only stepping up its engagement with its international partners, but is also trying to cooperate in those areas where it can add most value, where there is a clear common interest and mutual benefit and where the potential impact is the greatest.

THE PORT CITY, KOBE, NOW **LEADING THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY IN JAPAN AND GLOBALLY**

The port city of Kobe, celebrating the 150th anniversary of its opening in 1868, has started a new challenge of establishing a centre of excellence for highly advanced medical technology to attract healthcare-related industry as one of the economic recovery measures from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

The project, which is called the Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster (KBIC), has been leading the Japan's healthcare industry since its inception in 1998, especially focusing on 'translational research' in such areas as medical device, pharmaceuticals and regenerative medicine.

The KBIC is now home to around 350 healthcare-related businesses, research institutions and hospitals, and a number of collaborative research projects are going on to create innovation in the advancement of medical technology. One of the outstanding outcomes has been witnessed in the past few years in tissue engineering technology; the world-first clinical application of iPS cells, transplantation of autologous iPS cell-derived retinal pigment epithelial (RPE) sheet to the patient suffering from age-related macular regeneration, was conducted in September 2014, which now advanced to another epoch-making stage of using allogenic iPS cells towards its practical application. Other remarkable areas of research include therapeutic immune regulation of inflammation-related disorders including cancers and pathologic clarification of aging-related diseases such as Alzheimer's disease.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary next year, the KBIC is not only strengthening the ties within the cluster but also international collaborations with EU countries, exemplified by the conclusion of a Letter of Intent (LOI) in May 2016 with the Life Science Nord (LSN) in the north region of Germany to collaboratively contribute to the growth of healthcare industry in both regions. The ties between the KBIC and the EU regions will provide more promising R&D and commercialisation environment for healthcare business in the respective areas.

➔ <http://www.kobe-bic.org/english/>



▲ The signing ceremony of the LOI between the LSN and the KBIC



▲ The bird's-eye view of the KBIC (taken on 26th of October, 2017)

RESULTS OF JETRO'S 2017 SURVEY ON BUSINESS CONDITIONS OF JAPANESE-AFFILIATED COMPANIES IN EUROPE

Between 25 September and 23 October 2017, the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) conducted its latest survey on the business conditions of Japanese-affiliated companies in Europe.

Summary points (abstracts)

- 54.3% of all respondents said that the Japan-EU EPA would be a major advantage for their business, showing a substantial increase of 16.5 percentage points compared to the previous year, revealing increasing expectations on the final agreement.
- For Brexit contingency plans, out of 54 UK based companies who responded that they were currently reviewing or considering to review the location of their base, approximately 60% selected reviewing relocation of their Sales function. Furthermore 50% selected relocation of regional headquarter functions.
- This year "Securing Human Resources" emerged as the biggest operational challenge of which more than 60% of all respondents were based in Germany, the UK, the Netherlands and Central Eastern & European countries, indicating that the tightening of their labour markets has pushed securing talent to become the biggest issue.

For the full survey see below link.

Source: JETRO

➔ <https://www.jetro.go.jp/en/news/releases/2017/aa69fb794e4db59f.html>

SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE **MoU BETWEEN THE ENERGY AGENCY. FUKUSHIMA AND THE ENERGY AGENCY. NRW**

The Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for strengthening the cooperation on renewable energy, energy efficiency and storage technologies between the Energy Agency. FUKUSHIMA and the Energy Agency. NRW was held on 7 November in Fukushima City, Japan.

Managing Director Yasuhiro Hattori of the Energy Agency. FUKUSHIMA and Managing Director Frank-Michael Baumann of the Energy Agency. NRW signed the MoU. At the ceremony, Mr. Hattori and Dr. Baumann agreed to work together on further strengthening and developing projects to stimulate the local economy as well as to revitalise the communities in Fukushima Prefecture, Japan and the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany.

The cooperation framework sets forth in the MoU include bilateral exchange and transfer of knowledge about the topics on renewable energy, together with integration of renewable energies in the power/heat/transport sector and market schemes and strategies.

The Energy Agency. FUKUSHIMA and the Energy Agency. NRW will collaborate to support networking between companies, institutes and research facilities in the both regions. The projects organised and hosted by the two agencies include conferences, workshops and project visits that promote and foster project developments and research exchanges.



For further information, please get in touch with:
Miho Kiyomatsu, kiyomatsu@f-open.or.jp
➔ <http://energy-agency-fukushima.com/en>

HITACHI SOCIAL INNOVATION FORUM 2017 TOKYO - DIGITAL AVATAR

The following extract has not been drawn from an Asimov's novel, rather it accurately articulates Hitachi's Social Innovation Forum's ethos: "A physical entity will have a "twin" on the digital world that leads its physical counterpart by an autonomous Artificial Intelligence system fed by big data gathering and analytics".

Last November, the colossal Tokyo International Forum witnessed a neat statement of intent that surely will have a broad influence in what have been already called Society 5.0.

When the term digital society or Society 5.0 was born back in 2016, such an idea may have seemed hazy and difficult to envisage. Now in the second half of 2017, the concept has come of age, especially in Japan, where a new social frame has been precisely outlined based on set targets relating to technological innovation and the needs of future society.

Simply put, Society 5.0 stands for a fully cloud-connected society, from traffic signals and appliances to whole buildings and train networks. Sensor, geographical location systems, cameras and heat detection devices monitor real entities and deliver a massive amount of information to the digital world. Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology enables big data to be assessed and decisions to be made based on the real-time situation.

This flamboyant but undoubtedly reality is already taking roots. Yet two key factors, frequently promoted during the event, have to be strengthened: embrace

pressing social and environmental issues and support cross-industrial co-creation. Resilience has become a highly valued quality to social entities (be it a company or a nation) to fight the uncertainty of today. Sustainability, workforce efficiency and co-creation must take part in organisations' long-term strategic roadmaps as they face the future.

Structured by master speeches, business sessions, discussion panels, seminars and a showroom, the event gathered business experts, government entities and international well-known figures that pooled their voices to set the leaps on the forthcoming post-industrial society.

DISCUSSION OVER THE IMPACT OF EPA BETWEEN 2 OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST ECONOMIES, EU AND JAPAN

On 6 July 2017 the EPA Agreement between EU and Japan was signed in principle. What could be the impact for this? The panel discussion was held over this topic at European Forum for New Ideas organised by Lewiatan in cooperation with JETRO and EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation, one of the biggest economic conferences in Poland on 29th September.



Named "EU and Japan: A Common Vision for a New Trade Order?" this session had 6 panelists: Hosuk Lee-Makiyama, Director, European Center for International Political Economy, Marco Chirullo, Deputy Chief Negotiator for EPA with Japan, Directorate-General for Trade, European Commission, Shigeo Matsutomi, Ambassador of Japan, Lukasz Porazynski, Director, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Economic Development, Jan Bossak, Professor, Department of International Comparative Studies, Warsaw School of Economics, Ichiro Hara, Director for International Affairs, Keidanren, Japan with the moderator Luisa Santos, Director for International Relations, Business Europe. During the discussion, the importance of this agreement was emphasised not only as an economic stimulator, but also as the chance to develop a global standard initiator. Though there are more steps to actualisation of this agreement, the importance of this agreement and its impact were recognised again in the discussion.

Source: JETRO Warsaw

EU-JAPAN CSR BUSINESS DIALOGUE

On 6 November, under the framework of the EU-Japan Working Group on CSR, Japan Business Council in Europe (JBCE) co-organised the 2nd EU-Japan CSR Business Dialogue with CSR Europe, Business Policy Forum, Japan (BPF) and Council for Better Corporate Citizenship (CBCC) in Tokyo. The dialogue brought together around 90 people both from European and Japanese business and officials (DG GROW and METI).

The main theme of the dialogue was "Exploring the possible areas of collaboration between Japanese and European companies to achieve SDGs*." The discussion was very active and both European and Japanese business proactively shared their experiences, good practices and challenges related to SDGs. It was often pointed out by participants that the continuation of this kind of platform is essential for further collaboration between Japanese and European companies. The outcome of the Business Dialogue was shared at the policy dialogue session held the next day.

JBCE believes that dialogue is a powerful tool to advance mutual trust among companies, policy makers, and stakeholders, and supports the realisation of maximising positive impacts and minimising the negative impacts. JBCE is ready to contribute actively to the continuous dialogue between EU and Japan on the topic of CSR and SDGs.

The 3rd EU Japan CSR Business Dialogue will be held in Brussels next year.

*Sustainable Development Goals

➔ <https://www.jbce.org/csr/2nd-eu-japan-csr-business-dialogue-tokyo/>

➔ http://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2017/1108_001.html



SKILLED SMES' CHALLENGE TO THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY

REPORT ON THE REGIONAL CLUSTER'S ACTIVITY BASED ON MIE PREFECTURE, CHUBU AREA OF JAPAN

Many people may consider Chubu Area, including Aichi, Gifu and Mie Prefecture, as the kingdom of Automotive Industry. However, this area is also known as the accumulated area of aerospace industry in Japan. More than 50% of airframe and aircraft parts are produced in this area by so called "3HIs", which means Mitsubishi Heavy Industry, Kawasaki Heavy Industry, and Fuji Heavy Industry (name changed to SUBARU Corp.).

So far, Japanese Aerospace Industry was mainly supported by military demand but in the last ten years, it was stimulated by growing business of Boeing B787 and MHI's Regional Jet-Liner (MRJ) Development Projects.

In this situation, Mie Aerospace Industry Project (MASIP) was founded in Mie on 2012. Members are SMEs, which have unique and/or advanced techniques, seeking to chance to expand their business into aerospace industries. Around 50 companies join this cluster and brushing up their skills and expanding business networks, through the seminar and inspection tour to advanced area such as Seattle WA. USA and CFK Valley Stade Germany.



On 26 October, it was a great honour for MASIP to discuss with DDG Pierre Delsaux and his mission member of the European Commission, together with Eikei Suzuki the Governor of Mie Prefecture. The meeting is expected to be the first step toward building a strong relationship between Japan and EU SMEs' from Aerospace industries.

➡ <http://www.masip.jp>

INVITATION TO THE "ECONOMIC FORUM JAPAN" IN MUNICH

17 JANUARY 2018, MUNICH, GERMANY

Companies in Germany and Japan are more and more looking for business partners in each other's countries in order to stay competitive. The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) will hold an "Economic Forum Japan" in Munich, Germany, to inform on German-Japanese collaboration and how German companies can be supported entering the Japanese market. The focus will be on the automotive industry, mechanical engineering and the internet of things.

Speakers from companies like Fujitsu, Beckhoff Automation, EJOT and Iwis Motorsysteme will share their experience and give practical advice on market entry and doing business in Japan and Germany, respectively. During the subsequent networking session, some Japanese prefectures and regions will present themselves.

Interested people are cordially invited to join this event. The seminar will be held in German with Japanese simultaneous translation.

Participation is free of charge, but prior registration is requested.

Date and Time: 17.01.2018 from 13:30 to 18:30

Place: Holiday Inn Munich City Centre

Hochstr. 3, 81669 Munich

Registration: Petra Rehling, JETRO Düsseldorf

petra_rehling@jetro.go.jp

The agenda in German and Japanese is available at below link.

➡ https://www.jetro.go.jp/germany/topics/_415477.html

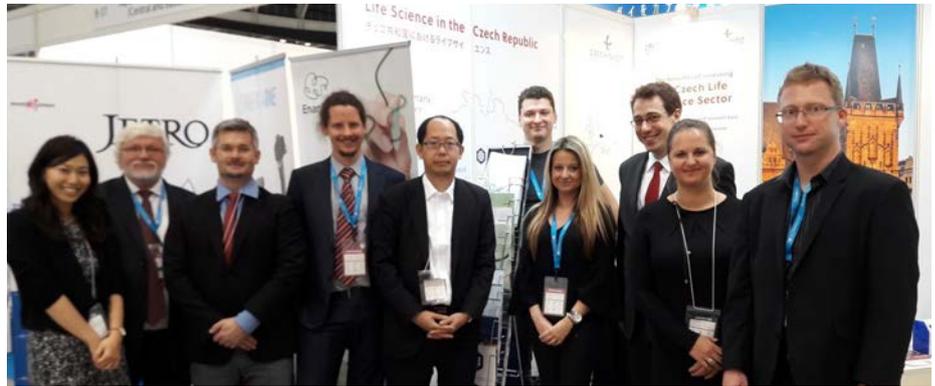
SUCCESSFUL BIOTECHNOLOGY AND HEALTHCARE BUSINESS MISSION FROM CEE COUNTRIES TO JAPAN

JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization) in close cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Tokyo and Investment and Business Development Agency of the Czech Republic – CzechInvest organised sector mission to Japan focused on biotechnology and healthcare.

The delegation was formed thanks to cooperation between JETRO European offices (Prague, Warsaw and Budapest) and consisted of 9 companies and research centres (6 Czech Republic, 2 Poland, 1 Hungary).

With cooperation of JBA and JTB, organisers of internationally well known fair BioJapan2017 that took place in Yokohama between 11-13 October, JETRO arranged a booth dedicated to CEE countries. During the 90 minutes at the Pacifico Yokohama seminar all delegation members presented their companies and technologies while JETRO summarised and introduced the CEE biotechnology and healthcare market. The delegates also appreciated the partnering programme provided during the fair that enabled them to find and meet new potential partners and business contacts.

The mission participants have also gained interesting insight into the Japanese biotechnology and healthcare sector during the Study Tour organised by local JETRO Yokohama office.



The tour started with introduction of Advanced Medical Research Center at Yokohama City University, then the delegation moved to RIKEN Yokohama Campus / Tsurumi Campus, where the latest technologies and equipment related to MRI and NMR were presented to the delegates.

The study tour ended at JITSUBO – the leading company in development of peptide pharmaceuticals. An official meeting with Kanagawa prefecture government and City of Yokohama introducing Yokohama World Business Support Center (WBC) also took place.

During the seminar in Tokyo the JETRO contracted specialist provided the delegates with insight into the Life Science sector in Japan. In addition JETRO provided comprehensive introduction of its services related to support for setting up business in Japan and showed its facilities in Tokyo and Yokohama that serve as business incubators and temporary office (IBSC – Invest Japan Business Support Center) for the new companies entering the Japanese market. Last but not least, the mission programme included the official reception at the Polish Embassy, where delegates met representatives of Japanese business and institutions. Source: JETRO Prague

BUSINESS SEMINAR

INVESTMENT IN CENTRAL EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

On 22 September the business seminar on CEE countries was organised by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) in London.

There were around 40 attendees from Japanese companies those are interested in CEE countries. The seminar aimed at giving the overview of investment environment in this region. After the presentation by JETRO regarding the investment trends in this region, there were some sessions held by CBRE and LLC Dentons Europe.

Not only about the market but also difficulties doing business in this region were introduced. Automobile, logistics and service are popular industries in CEE countries. In service industries, BPO (business process outsourcing) and SSC (shared service centre) get more attention based on its advantage in the quality of human resources compared to labour cost.

The event offered good opportunity to examine the investment locations as well as making networks with organisations and consultants helping companies to expand business to CEE region.

Source: JETRO Warsaw

FOLLOW-UP REPORT **JETRO PARTICIPATION AT THE BIO-EUROPE IN BERLIN**

JETRO had a booth at this year's BIO-Europe partnering event in Berlin from 6 to 8 November 2017 in cooperation with JBA (Japan Bio Association).



JETRO offered 18 Japanese SMEs the opportunity to present their companies and services at the booth and explained the services of JETRO to the very interested international participants. In parallel, JETRO also promoted the BIO JAPAN 2018, Asia's number one bio-tech partnering event (<http://www.ics-expo.jp/biojapan/en>).

According to the press release of the organiser (EBD), the 2017 Bio-Europe attracted a record of more than 2,100 companies from 61 countries – among them about 220 representatives from 95 Japanese companies and organisations.

The entrepreneurs as well as the representatives of the industrial associations and organisations were busy presenting themselves and their services in business talks from early morning until late in the evening. All in all, the organisers had arranged almost 24,200 one-on-one partnering meetings. The Japanese SMEs, supported by JETRO had been extremely active in the partnering.

There were very much interested in meeting potential partners and customers from many different countries.



According to JETRO's survey, all participants, including the representatives of JBA and JETRO had numerous one-on-one meetings and felt very much satisfied with the overall organisation of the event and the outcome of their business talks.

BIO-Europe has become THE event for the life science industry in Europe. In 2018, the partnering will be held in Copenhagen, but before that, in October 2018, JETRO invites everybody to participate in the BIO JAPAN Exhibition and Partnering Event in Yokohama to follow-up the promising contacts of this year's Bio Europe in Berlin!

Source: JETRO Berlin



TRAKO 2017 **POLISH RAILWAY MARKET SEMINAR**

TRAKO is the most prestigious rail industry fair in Poland and one of the largest in CEE. This year around 700 exhibitors from 25 countries presented innovative solutions in transport management system, railway infrastructure and rolling stock equipment technology. As one of the side events JETRO Warsaw office with the cooperation of Elżanowski Cherka & Wąsowski Law Firm LP organised a seminar on the Polish railway market.

The seminar took place at Energa Gdańsk Stadium on 26 September 2017 and gathered around 40 key representatives of Japanese and Polish railway business. Among the attendees were Polish operators, manufacturers, technology providers and state-owned railway companies, including the Polish State Railway PKP board member and the President of the Railway Transport Office UTK. The first half of the seminar concluded several presentations on Polish railway market and related business opportunities. During the second half, the guest could exchange their views and business experience during networking.

Both parts of the event were highly valued by the participants, who praised in depth information on the industry's most current priority subjects provided during the presentation and the exceptional chance to meet in person the highest-level representatives of the Polish railway market.

Source: JETRO Warsaw



LYON SMART COMMUNITY, A SUCCESSFUL JAPANESE-FRENCH DEMONSTRATION PROJECT SCALED UP TO EUROPEAN LEVEL



On the 19 October took place the closing workshop of the Lyon Smart Community (LSC) demonstration project implemented since 2012 by NEDO, Japan's innovation agency in energies and the Metropole of Lyon, combining the technologies and engineering of Toshiba group together with a large ecosystem of public/private partners.

The workshop aimed to showcase LSC successful outcomes of 5-year demonstration, and to discuss future prospects with the Metropole of Lyon and partners of the European projects "Next Buildings" (energy efficient buildings) and "Smarter Together" (smart-city solutions), both in close relation with, and building upon, several of LSC achievements.

LSC, NEDO's largest demonstration project outside of Japan and worth a 50-million Euros budget over 5 years, was deployed in the district of "Confluence", a former brownfield land undergoing an ambitious long-term urban redevelopment aimed at designing the possible future smart-city.

There, in full accordance of views with local partners, LSC enabled the demonstration of France's first positive-energy, mixed-usage group of buildings ("Hikari"), the deployment of an EV car sharing system recharged with clean energy, an household energy visualisation system backing eco-renovation, and the development of an advanced data collection and management system overviewing the whole demonstrator and beyond (CMS).

Some of these achievements are now taken to a new level of expansion at European scale within the € 24 million Smarter Together project, bringing together Lyon, Munich and Vienna mainly, under the Horizon 2020 European framework programme.



Monitoring screen of the district data collection and visualization platform (CMS) ©Toshiba



Hikari, France first positive-energy group of buildings with mixed usage ©Bouygues Immobilier

New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) is Japan's governmental organisation responsible for supporting R&D and demonstration activities in new energies, energy efficiency, and environmental and industrial technologies.

In recent years, it has also been implementing demonstration projects outside of Japan in partnership with local authorities and public/private ecosystems in Malaga (Spain), Manchester (UK), Speyer (Germany), and has several other projects under elaboration with European partner countries under the coordination of its representative office in Europe.

Event coverage <http://www.lyon-confluence.fr/en/news/smart-community-an-overview-and-future-prospects.html>

More on LSC project (film) at <https://vimeo.com/238765827>

More on Smarter Together at <http://smarter-together.eu/>

Contact at NEDO Europe office (Paris, France): Christophe Debout, c-debout@nedo.go.jp

➡ <http://www.nedo.go.jp/english>

KYUSHU UNIVERSITY EU CENTRE (JMCOE-Q) EXTENSION LECTURE SERIES, "EUROPE IN PROSPECT"

The Kyushu University EU Centre (Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence-Kyushu, JMCoE-Q) Extension Lecture Series titled "Europe in Prospect" took place at the JR Hakata City Conference Room. It was composed of four lectures on four consecutive Tuesdays from 3 to 24 October 2017. This extension lecture series is provided for the general public in order to reach out to wider groups of citizens to promote a public understanding about the EU in general.

The EU (European Union) has faced challenges that occurred one after another in the last few years and has experienced a difficult time in coping with the rise of anti-EU voices. 2017 is also the year of important domestic elections for several member states that are thought to affect the future of the EU.

The past 66 years development of the EU in practicing regional integration, which is said to be "an unprecedented historical experiment," has had numerous turning points.

In the JMCoE-Q extension lecture series this year, professional lecturers were invited for each subject for each session: the euro, German politics, France election, and Brexit. The event organisers focused on topical events, such as crises of the EU and elections in member countries.

Attendee learned about the challenges and background in the respective countries and considered the current situation as well as the future of the EU.

Totally, around 280 people participated. In the Q&A sessions conducted after the lectures, numerous questions were raised from the participants. It seemed to imply participants' high interest in the EU and the current challenges and future prospects of the EU.



THE MAIN THEME WAS "EUROPE IN PROSPECT", AND THE TITLES AND THE LECTURERS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

- 3 October / Professor Kenji Iwata, Faculty of Economics, Kyushu University / "EU integration and the future of the euro"
- 10 October / Professor Yuichi Morii, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, University of Tokyo / "German politics and the future of the EU"
- 17 October / Ms Machiko Hachiya, Advisor to Kyushu University EU Centre / "France and the EU under Macron's regime"
- 24 October / Professor Stephen Day, Faculty of Economics, Oita University / "Brexit means Brexit - Or does it?"
- (Extra) On 4 December 2017, an extra lecture titled "The contemporary challenges posed globally and in the European Union by migratory movements" by Professor Christopher Hein (from LUISS University, Italy), co-organised by Instituto Italiano di Cultura Osaka, was also held.



JAPAN-EU JOINT CALL IN HORIZON 2020

FOR THE TOPIC: DISASTER RESILIENT SOCIETY: TECHNOLOGIES FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

The Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), through its Strategic International Collaborative Research Program (SICORP), will support Japanese applicants who participate in the following HORIZON 2020 call to open in 2018.

RESEARCH FIELD

Disaster Resilient Society: Technologies for first responders. Corresponding call in the HORIZON 2020: SU-DRS02 Technologies for first responders.

- Sub-topic 1: Victim-detection technologies
- Sub-topic : Open

SUPPORT BY JST

JST will support Japanese applicants who participate in the above-mentioned 2 sub-topics. Projects selected for funding in this call will receive support for a period of 3 years totalling no more than approximately 60 million JPY including indirect costs of 30% of direct costs.

➔ <https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/index.html>

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Researchers working in Japanese universities, research institutions, companies, first responders' organisations etc., are eligible to apply for this call. In addition to researchers, end users and practitioners of the corresponding technologies are also eligible to apply.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All Japanese applicants must submit an application directly to JST through details to be posted on the SICORP homepage soon. In addition, the coordinator of the project consortium must also submit an application via the HORIZON 2020 portal.

SPOTTED PUBLICATION

The monthly magazine "Highlighting Japan" is published by the Japanese Government to help readers better understand Japan today. Latest issues topics: in October "Invest in Japan" in November: "Architects of Japan: Building the Future".

➔ <http://www.gov-online.go.jp/eng/publicity/book/hlj/index.html>

CALL FOR SPEAKERS FOR THE 7TH PARTNERING EVENT "REGENERATIVE MEDICINE CROSSROAD IN TOKYO"

The Forum for Innovative Regenerative Medicine (FIRM) has just launched the process of speaker recruitment for its seventh partnering event "Regenerative Medicine Crossroad in Tokyo #7 (RMCR#7)" which is going to be held on Tuesday, 6 March, 2018.

The event is meant to provide a "speaker's corner" for those who seeks partnerships with Japanese companies for the purpose of developing product candidates in their pipelines or their promising technology seeds in Japan.

FIRM considers, however, attempts of any parties to merely promote their own products, commodities or services are simply out of the event's scope.

- Venue: Nihonbashi Life Science Building <https://www.nihonbashi-lifescience.jp/en/#>, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, Japan
- Event Structure: A half-day session consisting of concurrent oral presentations and multiple one-on-one partnering meetings, along with a networking mixer at the end of the day
- Deadline for the preliminary registration: January 19, 2018, Friday (JST)
- Projected number of speakers for the event: 3~6 entities
- Expected number of audiences: 50~100 business professionals and experts from regenerative medicine and gene/cell therapy sector of Japan

FIRM herewith encourages those who are seeking partners in Japan to come visit Tokyo and talk directly to the hearts and souls of your potential partner candidates.

More information, feel free to contact Fuyuu Mori, RMCR Organiser (info-tf@firm.or.jp).

➔ <https://firm.or.jp/rmit/archives/362>

LITHUANIA AND JAPAN STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND TIES IN MEDICAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

On 10-13 October, a Lithuanian delegation of medical professionals, headed by Healthcare Minister Prof. Aurelijus Veryga, visited Japan. Very intensive four-day visit once again demonstrated that geographical distance and country size are of minimum importance when it comes to medical cooperation. For Lithuania, Japan is the most important scientific partner in overall Asia and Oceania.

On 10 October, already the fourth joint Lithuanian-Japanese scientific symposium on natural and life sciences, co-organised by Lithuanian Embassy in Tokyo, Japan Society for Promotion of Science (JSPS) and Research Council of Lithuania (RCL), was held at Tokyo University of Science. Previous symposiums have so far granted an excellent opportunity for more than 50 Lithuanian scientists to present their research achievements and expand cooperation possibilities with Japanese counterparts. Since 2014, Lithuanian and Japanese scientists together implement ten research projects in life, social, physical and other sciences, jointly funded by JSPS and RCL.



 Lithuanian Minister Veryga and Vice-Minister Onuma

 Lithuanian delegation at Keio Center of Medical Genetics

 Lithuanian delegation at Keio University & Hospital



On 11 October, Minister Veryga had an honour to present Lithuanian medical innovation policy, current scientific research tendencies, and strengths of Lithuanian life sciences sector in “Life-Innovation Forum: Current Status and Issues on Policies for Medical Innovation” during BioJapan 2017.

On 12 October, Minister Veryga met with Ms. Mizuho Onuma, Japanese Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, and discussed current challenges to Lithuanian and Japanese healthcare systems, public

health issues, collaboration in rare and undiagnosed diseases. In the field of rare and undiagnosed diseases, especially important is cooperation between Keio University Hospital and Hospital of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences “Kauno klinikos”, which started last year. Thanks to mutual engagement and professionalism, Keio scientists have already diagnosed four out of shared ten undiagnosed rare diseases of Lithuanian patients, whereas two patients were assigned to special treatment. Earlier this year Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development

(AMED) invited Lithuania to join the international project “Construction of a comprehensive genetic diagnosis system for diseases associated with chromosomal or genetic changes”, led by Japan. Collaboration expansion into new areas, such as genome editing and oncology are foreseen for the next year.

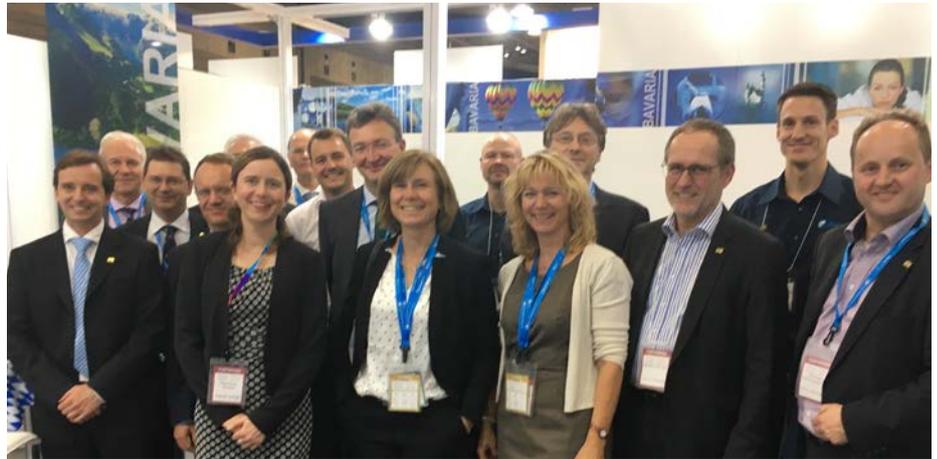
The Lithuanian delegation also visited various medical schools, research institutes and hospitals in Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe, where possibilities for joint medical research projects, academic and scientific exchange were discussed.

BAVARIA MEETS JAPAN

BioM accompanied 15 Bavarian companies to Japan. The Osaka Partnering Conference on 10 October was on the agenda, followed by the BioJapan 2017 on 11-13 October in Yokohama. At this year's Osaka Partnering Conference, nearly 90 representatives of Japanese companies came together with around 60 companies from Europe, mainly SMEs from biotechnology, medtech and pharmaceuticals to initiate or deepen business contacts.



The Osaka Partnering Conference was developed two years ago by BioM with the partner cluster Osaka BioHeadquarters and opened to other European companies last year. BioM is pleased with the positive response to the concept of the regional conference. At the opening of the Osaka Conference greetings came from Mr Jun Arai, Vice Governor of the Osaka Prefectural Government: *"More than 100 companies are attending this event today and I firmly believe that this meeting will provide wonderful opportunities for future cooperations between European countries and the Osaka/Kansai region"*.



Following the conference in Osaka, Bayern International and BioM organised a joint exhibition at the BioJapan 2017 in Yokohama for the 15 companies from Bavarian biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry.

Asia's largest trade show and partnering event for biotechnology provided further opportunities for networking and partnering at the Bavarian pavilion.

Daniel Vitt, CEO of Immunic AG, said: *"We are very pleased that the InnoMuNiCH (<https://www.bio-m.org/en/about-biom/projects/innomunich.html>) project is bearing fruit. BioM gave us a very important pharmaceutical contact for a partnering talk"*. BioM's InnoMuNiCH project aims to accelerate global biopharmaceutical innovations by pooling German-Japanese expertise in research and development. It is funded by the BMBF (<https://www.bmbf.de/en/index.html>) and managed by BioM.

For more information contact: Dr. Megumi Hashiguchi at: hashiguchi@bio-m.org

In addition to the numerous and fruitful talks at the Bavarian Pavilion, Dr. Stephanie Wehnelt presented BioM's cluster activities at the Luceon-Seminar of the Exportinitiative Gesundheitswirtschaft.

In 2018, the German industry will be present there for the first time with a federal community booth.

➔ <https://www.bio-m.org/news/Bavaria-meets-Japan>

LEADING LIFE SCIENCE CLUSTERS OF **KAWASAKI AND MUNICH JOIN FORCES**

The representatives of the Biotech Cluster Organizations of Munich (Bavaria), Germany, and Kawasaki City (Japan), signed on the 24 November a Memorandum of Understanding on the Promotion of Business Exchanges in Kawasaki, Japan, declaring a close cooperation in the future.

The cooperation scheme includes an exchange of information about each region's new technologies, industry developments and academic potential, and an exchange of best practices in technology transfer and biotech SME support. This will pave the way to the initiation of industry-industry and industry-academy partnerships between the two regions.



➔ <https://www.bio-m.org/en/news/news-detail/fuehrende-life-science-cluster-von-kawasaki-und-muenchen-buendeln-ihre-kraefte.html>

IRISH AGRIFOOD MISSION TO JAPAN 2017 BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

The visit of Ireland's Minister for Agriculture, Michael Creed T.D., to Japan from 13-15 November on an agri-business trade mission, was billed as an opportunity to cement the existing trade relationship, open further commercial opportunities for Irish companies and continue market access negotiations.



Minister Creed, the 7th Irish minister to visit Japan in the last 18 months, led a 40 company strong delegation, stating: *"We want to raise the profile of the Irish industry for those sectors that already have access to these markets, and make progress in negotiating access for others"*.

The companies, drawn primarily from the beef and dairy sectors, were a mix of established exporters and companies looking for new opportunities in the context of the upcoming EU-Japan EPA. Ireland currently exports over €50m of agri-food products to Japan annually, mainly comprised of dairy, pigmeat, fish and beef products. Beverages also make up a significant portion of the Irish export market to Japan, with established brands such as Jameson whiskey and Guinness being joined by newer entrants such as Teeling whiskey, from Dublin. Ireland, which characterises itself as a "Food Island", exports some 90% of the food it produces to 180 different countries.

The Irish food sector has targeted Japan as a growth market given the high-demand, exacting standards and reputational boost that a satisfied Japanese customer provides to a company looking to do business in Asia.

Minister Creed, who met with both MHLW Minister Mr. Katsunobu Kato and MAFF State Minister Mr. Yosuke Isozaki, said: *"Japan has one of the most highly-respected food safety systems in the world, and it was important to get the opportunity to let potential Japanese customers know that our own systems are of a similarly high standard... I was able to discuss the possibility of both expanding beef access and of gaining sheepmeat market access with Ministers Kato and Isozaki, and further dialogue was held on these matters at a technical level with my department's officials"*.

Source: Embassy of Ireland in Japan

SUNTORY SUPPORTS FRENCH FOODTECH STARTUPS THROUGH VITAGORA'S PROGRAMME

Vitagora is proud to count on the support of Suntory, the Japanese world leading consumer product company, in its startups support activities.

Last year, Vitagora, the French food and well-being innovation cluster, launched its foodtech acceleration program: ToasterLAB, in order to help promising start-ups and SMEs to scale up and industrialise their products and services. Already 13 startups have been chosen to benefit from the programme constituted of workshops, mentorship, networking events, etc. As a member of Vitagora since 2015, the Japanese Suntory group joined as a mentor for ToasterLAB's startups this summer.

On the occasion of this commitment, Alexandre Nicolau, responsible for scouting technologies worldwide and promoting international partnerships between Suntory and third parties, and Masa Tsujikawa, Senior Manager Open Innovation, visited Vitagora on 20-21 September. Welcomed by Christophe Breuillet, director of Vitagora and ToasterLAB, they had the chance to meet three promising French FoodTech startups, designing high-tech retail services or innovative well-being drinks. Alexandre Nicolau will renew his visiting to France at the end of November 2017 for a workshop dedicated to international development, letting the French startups benefit from his experience and acquaintance of the Japanese market and business culture.



CEFAMOL ORGANISED PORTUGUESE BUSINESS DELEGATION TO JAPAN

CEFAMOL – The Portuguese Mouldmakers Association organised a business delegation visit to Japan on the latest week of October. The programme comprised a visit to several local companies in the area of plastic injection mouldmaking and machine tool suppliers in Tokyo and Nagoya areas.

The Portuguese delegation included eleven companies plus Association and University of Minho representatives. During the several reunions, representatives from both countries had the opportunity to share information and analyse the present situation of the Tool and Die Sector, at national and worldwide level, concerning relationship with customers and new technological developments.

Under the programme, also a visit to International Plastics Fair (IPF), held in Tokyo, was organised. Besides visits and meetings with several companies attending the show, also a reunion with Nagano Techno Foundation was organised. The Memorandum of Understanding signed between in 2015 by the Portuguese Engineering & Tooling Cluster, the University of Minho (Portugal) and Nagano Techno Foundation (Japan), was the common ground to this initiative.

This reunion allowed members to have wider information about activities developed by the industry in Portugal and Japan, identifying initiatives to be developed in the near future, opening opportunities for a closer cooperation within companies, research centres and institutions from both countries.

For additional information, please contact: Mr. Manuel Oliveira cefamol@cefamol.pt

➔ <http://www.cefamol.pt>



YAMAUCHI (JAPAN) EXPANDS FACTORY IN HASSELT

Yamauchi is channelling EUR 2.5 million into its subsidiary in Hasselt, Flanders. In doing so, the Japanese family-owned business plans to expand production and explore new markets.

HISTORICALLY ANCHORED IN FLANDERS

The Yamauchi group first set foot in Belgium in 1981, when they opened an office in Brussels. Seven years later, production in Limburg – one of Flanders' 5 provinces – took off. The recent investment of EUR 2.5 million reinforces the bond between the two countries. *"We believe in the power of the manufacturing industry here to strengthen our position in Europe,"* says Takao Yamauchi, fourth-generation descendant of the family business and managing director.

Yamauchi is not the only company attracted by the favourable business climate in Flanders. In the 80s-90s, Japanese manufacturers sprouted up like daisies. Most of them still remain there today, including Panasonic (batteries), Nitto (industrial tapes) and Sumitomo (plastics).

EXPANSION AND EXPLORATION

The large investment will lead to the construction of 700m² of additional manufacturing space, occupied by 15 new machines. Overall production will consequently rise from 900 million to 1.2 billion end products per year.

But it doesn't stop there. *"We have a very strong position in the battery and automotive sector, but we also want to explore other markets and start manufacturing medical parts, household appliances and connectors for the fiberglass industry,"* Takao Yamauchi explains. *"Why not? We are prepared to expand at any moment now".*

➔ <https://www.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com/invest/en/news/yamauchi-japan-expands-factory-in-hasselt-flanders>

A STRONG BELGIUM PRESENCE AT BIOJAPAN 2017

Last 9 to 13 October, the Walloon Health Cluster, BioWin, attended BioJapan 2017 along with several Walloon companies.



The main objective of the cluster is to strengthen Belgium's position and to give visibility to Wallonia and its members. This outcome was achieved thanks to the shared Flanders/Wallonia stand which ensured quite exceptional visibility for the Belgian biopharmaceutical sector. Mr Gunther Sleeuwagen, the Belgian Ambassador to Japan, honoured the participants with his presence.

Belgium and Wallonia are recognised in Japan for their excellence, particularly in the cell therapy and medical technologies sector. The links between companies in both countries are many and go back a long way. It should be mentioned, among others, the collaborations between Eurogentec and Kaneka, Celyad and ONO pharmaceutical, Promethera and Shibusya, IT4IP and AR Brown and also Ogeda and Astellas Pharma.

➔ <http://www.biowin.org>

BELGIAN DELEGATES AT BIOJAPAN 2017

ImmunXperts joined the other 15 companies to be represented at the Belgian Pavilion during BioJapan 2017 held at Pacifico Yokohama in October.



This yearly conference, which is continuously growing each year, offers a great opportunity for participating companies to connect with Japanese pharmaceutical and biotech companies both big and small. Meetings were setup through the partnering system, with many of them leading to great potential for a future collaboration.

Japan, while being the second largest pharmaceutical market in the world, is also a market which appreciates scientific innovation and quality.

➔ <http://www.immunxperts.com/biojapan-2017>

This seemed to be a good match for many of the services and technologies represented by the participating Belgian companies. ImmunXperts was able to meet with many new companies and was able to finalise a collaboration with a large pharmaceutical company from this and past meetings in Japan.

The Belgian Ambassador also visited the conference and the Belgian Pavilion to show support for increasing business between companies in Belgium and Japan.

YOUNG EXECUTIVE STAY PROGRAM XI COMMERCIAL EXPORT MISSION TO JAPAN

For twenty-two years, the YES Program has been offering a unique opportunity for young executives from Belgium to gain an in-depth understanding of doing business in Japan, providing hands-on support for meeting real business prospects in the country.



The YES Program, under the auspices of His Majesty King Philippe of Belgium, is co-organised by the Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan in Japan and the Belgium-Japan Association & Chamber of Commerce in Belgium and comprises briefing sessions in Belgium and a one-week practical training program in Japan 7-14 October 2018 at a moderate cost.

Are you interested in doing business in Japan, then apply for the YES Program. Deadline for applications is 30 March 2018.

For more details, visit below link.

➔ http://www.bja.be/services_yes.php

EURASIA TRADING WINS THIS YEAR'S **NIPPON EXPORT AWARD**

The Nippon Export Award is a biennial award, given to the most successful company exporting to Japan, importing into Japan or distributing within Japan, Belgian-Luxembourg products or services. This year the Award goes to Eurasia Trading Co., Ltd., one of the leading Belgian beer importers in Japan.



The jury praised the entrepreneurial spirit of the company. It took a great effort to start a business from one person to becoming one of the leading Belgian beer importers in Japan that Eurasia Trading is today. The company had a phenomenal growth in the past 2 years, and by diversifying and constantly looking for new pillars, more growth is to be expected the coming years. The winner was made public during the annual gala ball of the Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce on 2 November at Conrad Hotel. The Award Ceremony will be held at the Belgian Embassy in Tokyo on Monday 18 December 2017.

ABOUT THE NIPPON EXPORT AWARD

The Nippon Export Award, organised for the first time in 2004, is an initiative of the Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan (BLCCJ). Its aim is to support and promote the business links between Japan and Belgium-Luxembourg. The Award is open to any company exporting to Japan, importing into Japan or distributing within Japan, Belgian/Luxembourg products or services.

The official selection criteria of the Nippon Export Award are:

- The presence in the Japanese market and the company's significant achievement (either growth or size) in trade with Japan
- Showing vision in new niche markets, daring innovation to embark on new opportunities
- Perseverance in the conquest of the market, adaptation of the products and services to the Japanese taste and standards
- Originality of approach (marketing, distribution, environment protection, design, research, etc.)
- The company's spirit (marketing, merchandising, etc.)

The Nippon Export Award is under the High Patronage of the Prime Minister of Belgium and the Prime Minister of Luxembourg; and receives the support of the Embassy of Belgium in Japan, the Embassy of Luxembourg in Japan, the Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, Flanders Investment & Trade (FIT), Walloon Export and Foreign Investment Agency (AWEX), Brussels Invest & Export (BI&E), and METI - Belgo-Luxembourg Market Council (BLMC).

ABOUT THE BLCCJ

Since 1978, the Belgian-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan (BLCCJ) is promoting, supporting and strengthening Belgian & Luxembourg business in and with Japan. The BLCCJ assists both the Belgian & Luxembourg companies interested in doing business with Japan and the Japanese interested in doing business with Belgium/Luxembourg. The BLCCJ represents currently the interest of 130 members and is a founding and active member of the European Business Council in Japan (EBC). The BLCCJ is also the co-founder of the YES (Young Executive Stay) Program, a biennial 1-week programme which is aimed to support young Belgian/Luxembourg exporters.



For more information on the Nippon Export Award 2017-2018 please contact the BLCCJ: info@blccj.or.jp

➔ <http://www.blccj.or.jp>

MS AMLIN (JAPAN) PICKS BRUSSELS FOR ITS NEW OFFICE

Japanese insurance company MS Amlin is opening an office in Brussels.

FLANDERS ATTRACTS FINANCIAL BUSINESS

The Japanese company specialises in non-life, nautical and aviation insurance and employs 2,400 people in 26 offices. MS Amlin is part of Mitui Sumitomo & AD, one of the top 10 insurance companies worldwide. Johan van Overtveldt, Minister of Finance in Flanders: *"We are very excited about the announcement. It confirms that our efforts in promoting Brussels as a financial hub are paying off."*

CENTRAL INSURANCE HUB

MS Amlin is not the first company to come to Flanders this year. Partly due to the upcoming Brexit, several companies are migrating from London, such as Lloyd's of London and QBE. Brussels' central location in Europe and business-friendly climate make it a strategic safe haven.

➔ <https://www.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com/invest/en/news/ms-amlin-japan-picks-brussels-its-new-office>

JAPANESE CEO RECEIVES ROYAL EXPORT AWARD FOR COOPERATION WITH DANISH CROWN

On 11 October, H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark and Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs Anders Samuelsen presented The Diploma of the Danish Export Association and H.R.H. Prince Henrik's Medal of Honour to Toshio Kawarabuki, chairman and CEO in the Japanese restaurant chain Matsuya Foods Co., Ltd. He received the honorary medal for his initiative behind the restaurant chains large import of Danish port meat.

Every year, Danish Crown sends approximately 1,000 tons of processed pork meat from Denmark to the restaurant chain Matsuya Foods Co., Ltd. in Japan. The country's food market is characterised by a large number of distributors. Chairman and CEO Toshio Kawarabuki is one of the first in the food sector to initiate direct trade with Danish Crown, a Danish producer of port meat. *"Toshio Kawarabuki and his restaurant chain is a close customer and business partner for Danish Crown. He always values the steady cooperation with us, even when other suppliers can offer lower prices,"* says Soeren Tinggaard, Vice Director in Danish Crown.



▲ On October 11, H.R.H. Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark presented The Diploma of the Danish Export Association and H.R.H. Prince Henrik's Medal of Honour to Toshio Kawarabuki, chairman and CEO in the Japanese restaurant chain Matsuya Foods Co., Ltd. The honorary medal was awarded during a business lunch with more than 400 guests.

ENGAGES 100 EMPLOYEES IN DENMARK

Toshio Kawarabuki has been a customer at Danish Crown for ten years. In this period, he and Danish Crown has developed their cooperation to be centred around processed items that are ready to be cooked in the restaurants. *"We have opened a special department in one of our Danish factories where we employ 100 people. Here, we have spent resources buying equipment and educating staff to be able to deliver special products to Matsuya Foods Co., Ltd. This is e.g. curtain cuts and ingredients packed in portion sizes,"* Soeren Tinggaard explains.

CONCEPT FOR NEW CUSTOMERS

Danish Crowns expects to continue the cooperation with Toshio Kawarabuki and in addition, look at new distribution channels on the Japanese market. *"We know that there is a market for this type of products in Japan. Therefore, we will use the concept that we have developed in cooperation with Toshio Kawarabuki to establish new business opportunities in the Japanese market,"* Soeren Tinggaard says.

Facts: The Diploma of the Danish Export Association and H.R.H. Prince Henrik's Medal of Honour Awarded to individuals, distributors or Danish companies established outside Denmark. The award is presented in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the promotion of Danish products and services abroad over a period of years.

Facts: Danish Export Association

The Danish Export Association represents 600 small, medium-sized and large Danish export companies. Danish Export Association's members are grouped in 14 networks focusing on specific sectors and customers abroad. The Danish Export Association's core competencies is networks, export promotions and education within export.



For more information on the Danish Export Association's Diploma & HRH Prince Henrik's Medal of Honour,

contact Sebastian Scharz: sebastian.scharz@dk-export.dk

➡ <http://www.dk-export.dk>

FIRST COSMETICS & TOILETRIES **SYMPOSIUM WITH GERMAN SMES HELD IN TOKYO**

With €13 billion (2016), Germany has the largest national market for cosmetics and personal care products within Europe. Furthermore, German cosmetics and toiletries, in high demand due to their quality, and safe and environmentally conscious products, are gaining increasing popularity in Japan, too, especially in the natural and organic cosmetics sector.

Japan offers an array of opportunities for German SMEs in these sectors, which is why the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Japan (AHK Japan) is pleased to announce the successful implementation of the first cosmetics and toiletries symposium in Japan with a focus on German manufacturers.



On 7 November, 2017, the AHK Japan, in cooperation with the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) and

the German Cosmetic, Toiletry, Perfumery and Detergent Association (IKW) held a symposium with the title “Cosmetics and Toiletries in Japan: Latest Trends and New Products” at Toranomon Hills Forum in Tokyo.

Ten cosmetics companies and one cleaning products manufacturer from Germany and Switzerland, all SMEs that plan to expand their business into the Japanese market, presented about their companies and products and displayed some of their bestselling products at the venue.

Furthermore, the Cosmetic Importers Association of Japan (CIAJ) and the Japanese Organic Association of Japan (JOCA), which supported the symposium, shared some valuable information about the Japanese cosmetics market. The daylong event was well received by the almost 60 guests from Japanese associations, cosmetics distributors, hotels, etc. In addition to the presentations, there was plenty of time for networking and the attendees were able to establish further useful connections.

The symposium was held within the context of a delegation visit to Japan on 6-10 November 2017, as part of an export initiative by the BMWi to help SMEs develop new markets abroad.

➔ <http://japan.ahk.de/en>

AEVC MEETS WITH HEADS OF JETRO-JAPAN EXTERNAL TRADE ORGANIZATION

On 29 September, the Associação Empresarial de Viana do Castelo (AEVC), through its President Luís Ceia, received the heads of the JETRO-Japan External Trade Organization in Lisbon and Paris.

The meeting was attended by Luís Ceia, President of AEVC and CEVAL and the First Secretary of the Intermunicipal Executive Secretariat of CIM Alto Minho, Júlio Pereira, as well as other companies in the region.

This meeting aimed to make known the region of Alto Minho, as well as its products and companies. The Japanese officials also defined the characteristics of the Japanese market and the factors for exporting successfully to that country.

JETRO-Japan External Trade Organization is a government organisation that works to promote mutual trade and investment between Japan and the rest of the world. Created in 1958 to promote Japanese exports, JETRO's main focus in the 21st century was changed and now seeks to promote foreign direct investment in Japan and help Japanese companies of small to medium size to maximise their global export potential.

➔ <http://mailchi.mp/362712c0f916/newsletter-1187617>

➔ <http://ceval.pt/aevc-reune-se-com-responsaveis-da-jetro-japan-external-trade-organization>

➔ <http://www.aevc.pt/index.php/aevc-reune-se-com-responsaveis-da-jetro-japan-external-trade-organization>

SUNRISE VALLEY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK (LITHUANIA) IS INCREASING ITS ROLE IN FOSTERING INDUSTRY 4.0 IN LITHUANIAN SMES

With the mission in mind, the representatives have joined a matchmaking event as a part of ICT Cluster and SME Mission 2017* in Tokyo followed by 8th Japan IT week in search for advanced technologies and global partners.

It was the first attempt of the Sunrise Valley Science and Technology Park (SVSTP) to approach the Japanese market. The matchmaking event proved to be successful for making contacts with Japanese IT producers and distributors, including FFRI Inc. and OceanBridge Inc. among others. The IT exhibition hosted at Makuhari Messe (Japan) offered a great variety of information technologies – almost 50 thousand visitors proved the exhibition being an important arena for IT solutions.

SVSTP used the IT week as opportunity for benchmarking Japanese IT products with Lithuanian counterparts, finding partners for collaborating on development or distribution of IT solutions.

Sunrise Valley Science and Technology Park expects to bring more Japanese and Lithuanian companies together in both IT sector and manufacturing industries. International collaboration will facilitate innovation and faster adoption of Industry 4.0 trend in both countries.



*About the mission please see page 6
➔ <http://sunrisevalley.lt/en>

JAPAN AND SWEDEN IN 2018 CELEBRATES 150 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

On 11 November 1868, "Friendship and Commercial Treaty" was signed between Japan and Sweden which declared that diplomatic relations should be established.

Initially, Sweden was represented in Japan by the Netherlands and Japan's Minister in Russia handled the relations to Sweden. In 1905 the first Japanese Minister arrived in Sweden and in 1907 the first Swedish Minister officially took office in Japan.

Source: Sweden-Japan Foundation

In Sweden as well as in Japan a large number of cultural, scientific, political and business events will be organised to celebrate the cooperation. Concerning events which will be held in Sweden more information available at below link.

➔ <http://swedenjapan2018.se>

INCREASING INTEREST IN ASIA FOR SCANDINAVIAN INNOVATIONS

For the 5th year in a row, a Scandinavian Life Science delegation organized by Business Sweden, Copenhagen Capacity, Invest in Skåne and Business Region Göteborg exhibited at BioJapan. The aim was to facilitate network and partnerships between Scandinavian's innovative SMEs and large companies from the world's second-largest life science market. Companies such as Verigrift, Alzinova, Aptahem, LongBoat Explorer, PILA Pharma, and SmiLe Incubator participated in the business mission.

The interest from Japanese companies in Nordic technologies has been growing steadily during the last years. This is evidenced by the high number of meetings held at BioJapan both through the partnering system and at the Scandinavian booth. Nordics SMEs and key business development executives from companies such as Takeda, Alfresa Pharma, Astellas Pharma, DNP, Shionogi and Sumitomo Dainippon, met last 11-13 October at Asia's premier partnering event for the global biotechnology industry.

Investment promotion organisations such as Business Sweden, Copenhagen Capacity, Invest in Skåne and Business Region Göteborg offer free-of charge confidential advisory services for those who plans to invest in, or establish operations in the Nordics. The organisations prepare high-quality value investment propositions, find matching opportunities and put investors in touch with entrepreneurs and innovators. BioJapan offers an excellent platform for promoting Scandinavian's Life Science innovations as well as for communicating the advantages of having a presence and collaborating with one of the world's most innovative regions.

➔ <https://www.investingothenburg.com>

ETP1 - THE PIONEERS' RETURN - 38 YEARS ON FEEDBACK FROM FORMER PARTICIPANTS OF THE ETP1 PROGRAMME

In September 1979 twenty one young professionals from six European Community nations arrived in Tokyo to participate in the very first 18-month EC Executive Training Programme in Japan (ETP), to study language, culture and business practices across a wide range of manufacturing and service industries, including six-month stints as interns in Japanese host companies.

This was a difficult time in European-Japanese economic relations with senior European politicians describing the Japanese as “workaholics living in rabbit hutches”, and from the Japanese side, at the height of the “Japan as No. 1” bubble, a Japanese executive saying to one of us “for us Japanese, Europe is just a decadent cultural museum....”

The declared objective of the programme was to enhance European knowledge of doing business in Japan, and for the participants to act as catalysts and multipliers to increase European economic activities in Japan. Quick results to balance the trade deficit were not expected, but the programme was considered a long-term project to widen the European footprint in one of the largest economies in the world.

Upon successful completion of the programme, it was not smooth sailing for every participant. A lucky few were able to use their Japan experience immediately for their previous employers, whereas others had to look for jobs in the market, some needing years to get back into Japan business.

In the early 1980s, the program was new and untested, largely unknown among European companies, especially SMEs, and the large European companies with activities in Japan often preferred to appoint staff to Japan from internal sources. Nevertheless, over the years, the ETP programme turned out to be a remarkable success story, both for us participants, and for the EC, paying back the investment in our scholarships many times over.

On a personal level, the Japan experience opened new horizons. We came to Japan as French, English, Irish,



German, Belgian and Italian men and women, and we left Japan as devoted Europeans, having coped with numerous challenges to our unconsciously Eurocentric view of the world.

For all of us, the ETP shaped our subsequent professional careers. Rather young and short of experience, rather early in our careers, we had the chance to establish business operations in Japan from scratch, climbing in the hierarchies of our employers, expanding our Japanese experience into all of Asia, and heading the Asian operations (plus other responsibilities) out of the European head offices of their employers. Looking back, we are grateful to the European Community for providing this wonderful opportunity, as well as to Keidanren, the Federation of Japanese Industry, for their support, to our host companies for providing internships, and, last but not least, to our mentors in those host companies, who went out of their way to give us first-hand insights into the processes of decision-making in Japanese business and the intricacies of the distribution system, two of the

biggest problems facing foreign companies in Japan, and of course the daily life culture, including extensive drinking sessions after work.

On the 30th anniversary of ETP 1 in 2009, most of us assembled again for the first time as a group, where else but in Brussels. Ever since, we have met once a year wherever one of us is currently residing or has roots. Brussels was followed by Paris in 2010, Bologna in 2011, Munich in 2012, Le Pyla / Arcachon, France in 2013, Cambridge, UK in 2014, Seattle, USA in 2015, Cork, Ireland in 2016, Kyoto this year, and next year in Antwerp. Not everybody is attending every year, held back by grandparental duties or other obligations. Already three of the original 21 have left this world

As ancient “fossils” with a bit of experience in international relations, in the last few years we have become increasingly concerned about the regression into nationalist, populist, even racist thinking, in Europe and elsewhere.

Continued from previous page

Though hard-nosed business people, we, the baby boomers of the immediate post-war period, still remember why the European Union was founded.

The driving inspiration for politicians of the time was to create lasting peace in Western Europe. They had personal experience of the catastrophes of the First and Second World Wars, and the civil wars, hyperinflation, and the 1929 financial market crash in between.

The primary vision of a Europe without conflict was political. The economic integration of the old continent was used in the pursuit of peace. Nowadays it seems parts of the younger generations have forgotten or want to forget the lessons of history. They take freedom and prosperity for granted.

The imperfections of the European project are well known; severe mistakes were made, including creating a common currency without common economic and fiscal policies. These challenges are not insurmountable; nor do they justify a Brexit or a disintegration of the European institutions in total, as extremists on all sides of the political spectrum want us to believe. The cost of the current shape of Europe, and the cost of the urgently required reforms of the European project, will be a well-spent price to pay for peace.

Our generation has benefitted greatly from the unprecedentedly long period of peace and economic prosperity in most of Europe since 1945. Based on our good fortune as alumni of the ETP and our lifelong professional experience of living and working outside Europe, including in Japan and other Asian nations, perhaps we see a bit more what really is at stake in the big picture.

Source: ETP1 members and Richard Schneider

HISTORIC STATE VISIT FROM LUXEMBOURG TO JAPAN

From 27-29 of November, an historic State Visit from Luxembourg to Japan took place, in the year of the ninetieth anniversary of bilateral relations between the two countries.



Along with Luxembourg's HRH Grand Duke Henri and his daughter Princess Alexandra, who had been invited on a state visit by the Japanese Emperor Ahikito, the Luxembourg delegation, headed by the Deputy Prime Minister, Etienne Schneider and the Minister of Finance, Pierre Gramegna included 84 businessmen, out of 53 companies and institutions.

The mission included a Luxembourg-Japan Business Forum that gathered roughly 250 guests, as well as sectorial seminars about Logistics, Tourism, Digital Economy, Sustainable Finance, Space and Film Production made in Luxembourg. Additionally, a networking event has been organised with the collaboration with the Belgium-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan and the Belgium-Luxembourg Market Council.

Also, the Luxembourg delegation had the chance to visit the premises of FANUC, near the Mont Fuji. In the meantime, interested companies could visit a VICS centre (Vehicle Information and Communication System Center) as well as the Iwatani Hydrogen Refueling Station with Toyota MIRAI Showroom.



On top of that, 48 business meetings have been organised and various Memorandum of Understandings have been signed. All in all, this State Visit provided fresh opportunities to strengthen bilateral business contacts and promote economic cooperation with the most technologically powerful country in the world.

ACCELERATING ADVANCED THERAPIES WITH PATIENT-FOCUSED SCIENCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Patients, partnerships and pioneering science are at the heart of developing advanced therapies in the next wave of innovation to provide transformative treatments and cures, according to latest developments reported at the Better Science, Better Health: Advanced Therapies – Opportunities and Challenges conference (14 November, London, UK). Academics, policy makers and medicine developers from around the world discussed the changing global landscape for the biopharmaceutical sector and shared insights on how EU biotech can adapt and succeed.

Underlining the potential for advanced therapies to transform patient care in the near future, Peter Goodfellow, Scientific Advisor, Abingworth, UK, *"I believe we will be able to replace all the parts of the human body over the next 20 years."* He added, *"We are so lucky to be the generation able to take biology to pieces and understand how biology works. By understanding the biology we can create next generation therapies."* He noted that it was essential to demonstrate efficacy and to deliver value with these new therapies, and to explain new scientific advances to the general public: *"We need to remember as scientists to engage with the public."*

Partnerships are a key strategy in Takeda's commitment to achieving the mission of the company's Regenerative Medicine Unit to become an industry leader in the field by bringing definitive therapies to patients with life-threatening disease, explained Seigo Izumo, Senior Vice President for Regenerative Medicine with Takeda Pharmaceuticals. These include a unique academic-industry collaboration, the Takeda-CiRA Joint Programme, based in the Shonan Research Center, Fujisawa, Japan, where more than 100 scientists from academia and Takeda are working together on projects using induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) technologies.

Projects underway include a drug discovery programme with iPSC-derived neuronal cells aiming to help patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) to recover motor function and suppress neuronal degeneration and a programme with T-cells with the objective of achieving tumour regression or cure. *"We want to change the future of medicine using iPSC cells. T-CiRA aims to enter clinical trials within three to four years, and submit approval applications within nine years,"* Dr Izumo told the meeting. An Open Innovation Hub at the Research Center is supporting further research partnerships.

Lord James O'Shaughnessy, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health (Lords) with the UK Government, emphasised the government's continued support for the life sciences, in particular for advanced therapies, and for international scientific collaboration.

He said, *"The potential to deliver huge leaps forward for huge patient benefit, in some cases cure, makes advanced therapies one of the most exciting areas of medicine. These opportunities and challenge can best be tackled through continued and deepened collaboration."*



 Lord James O'Shaughnessy, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health

Speakers from research and industry organisations, regulators and biotech companies shared challenges and solutions relating to the complexity and global nature of developing advanced therapies. Delegates agreed that a proactive approach, such as the Sakigake strategy in Japan promoting research and early practical application of innovative products such as regenerative medicines, is essential to support development and commercialisation in the field.

Magda Papadaki, from the Association for the British Pharmaceutical Industry, UK, considered that comprehensive strategies are needed to provide a swift and viable route to market for these innovative products, together with a long-term regulatory mechanism that takes account of their major differences compared to traditional small molecule medicines. Progress has been rapid, with at least 53 developers of advanced therapies now working in the UK and more than 50% growth in UK clinical trials since 2013. *"But we need to all work together to ensure that we can progress the commercialisation of advanced therapies and turn a cottage industry into a robust and growing market. We need integrated development, regulation and commercialisation for advanced medicines,"* she concluded.

ENTERPRISE EXCELLENCE IRELAND 2018

23 MAY 2018, DUBLIN, IRELAND.



Enterprise Excellence Ireland 2018 will bring together over 700 Lean Managers from the European, Japanese and Irish business community to openly discuss the implementation of Lean management systems within their facilities & organisations.

Over 32 International & National keynote speakers will provide delegates with an insight into the management philosophy that pursues the continuous elimination of waste in all business processes through the journey of Lean Management and incremental improvement.

➔ <http://www.eeireland.com>

RITSUO SHINGO SHARES HIS LEADERSHIP LESSONS AT THE CUOA BUSINESS SCHOOL IN ITALY

"Back to the Origins" was entitled this year's Lean Day, the annual event of Italy's primary business school with regards to Lean Management, with an important key note of Ritsuo Shingo, the famous son of Shigeo Shingo, contributor to the Toyota Production System with methodology SMED.



In the era where Europe seeks to transition to the 4th industrial revolution, Shingo has shared his Leadership secrets. While leveraging on technological evolutions to put the human in the driver seat with regards to organization and innovation, Shingo underlined what leadership is required for a culture of respect for people and continuous improvement.

Shingo's answer on the question: "Will robots ever take over the work that is known to us today?" sets immediately the right paradigm. "For what use? A life without purpose has no sense? If robots were to take over, what purpose would remain for us humans? Robots are to make our lives and work easier, not to take over!"

According to Bastiaan Brouwer, managing director of SPARK Innovation Catalysts, partner of CUOA's Lean Day: "Maybe the most important lesson of Shingo's key note is the need of management to "Go and Watch", which means be present at the Gemba, the actual place where value is being added or in this case where difficulties occur, and watch what is really going on. Seek to understand and assist the workers in resolving what really bugs them."

Managers also need to "show their back" according to Shingo. "Management is not telling people what to do, but leading by example. When you do something different than what you tell your people, the people won't follow you.

And last but not least, driven by Shingo's personal experience in China: "never give up". In a culture where we are managed by objectives, don't just promise what you can deliver. But, "accept your assignment and gradually work towards your goal in a structured manner. Use problem solving to identify causes, implement solutions and learn from the results you're getting."

It was the first time Ritsuo Shingo was in Italy and he has left a lasting impression. His experience and his humility have been a deep inspiration for all participants.

➔ <https://www.cuoa.it/ita/press/comunicati-stampa/al-cuoa-lezione-con-ritsuo-shingo-maestro-del-lean>

JAPAN DELEGATION VISITING GALICIA FOOD CLUSTER

Galicja Food Cluster, with the collaboration of IGAPE, organised a reverse trade mission with Japan from 21 to 23 November. Four importers and distributors of food and beverages in Japan participated in this mission, visiting several Galician food companies and wineries, as well as attending business meetings in Santiago de Compostela.

The purpose of the event was the promotion of Galician food and drinks products in the Japanese market, as well as strengthen the establishment of commercial relations between the Galician companies and the invited importers. For the second consecutive year, Galicia Food Cluster received a

delegation from Japan, priority market for Galician food industry.

Japan, with a population of 127,08 million people, is the third largest economy in the world and the fourth largest exporter and importer of goods. In 2016, Spain was to Japan the sixth supplier among the EU countries. Regarding the ranking

of most imported Spanish products by Japan, food products are in second place according to the value of exports. The most exported products in this sector last year were meat products (mainly pork and particularly ham), wine, olive oil fish and seafood.

➔ <http://www.clusteralimentariodegalicia.org/evento/mision-comercial-inversa-japon,25698489>

INAUGURATION OF THE LIAISON OFFICE OF WASEDA UNIVERSITY AT ULB

On 25 April 2016 the new Liaison Office of the Waseda University at the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), the Waseda Brussels Office, was inaugurated in the presence of Princess Astrid and HE Mr. Masafumi ISHII, Ambassador of Japan to Belgium. Professors Kaoru Kamata, President of Waseda University, and Didier Viviers, Rector of ULB, as well as Mrs C. Russo, Director for International Cooperation of the Research and Innovation Directorate-General of the European Commission, attended also at the academic session.



This ceremony was an opportunity to highlight the role of this European office in the issues of international academic collaboration, both as part of Waseda University's international development strategy, than in the internationalisation policy of the ULB. On her side, Mrs Russo insisted on the importance and adequacy of this new tool for research and innovation cooperation between the European Union and Japan. The mission of the Waseda Brussels Office, WBO in short, therefore has three main aspects: promoting bilateral relations between Waseda and ULB; develop networks and scientific collaborations between Waseda and European universities; promote, in Europe, the recognition of Waseda University as a leading university in Japan.



In order to achieve these goals, the WBO is operating in several directions:

- Organisation of academic events;
- Participation in institutional and scientific networks;
- Dissemination of Waseda University main academic and research activities.

After a first year of installation and the organisation of an EU-Japan Forum in October 2016, the WBO changed its executive director and, with the support

of a new Academic Pool of ULB's professors, started four academic events for the year 2017-2018.

The first of these four workshops, intituled "Youth Culture in China: space of creation, consumption and circulation", was successfully held on 18-19 September.

The next one, about "Contemporary Architecture and Urbanism in the Metropolis", took place on 27-28 November.

For any information please contact: Jean-Louis.Moortgat@ulb.ac.be or Vanessa.Frangville@ulb.ac.be

Source: Waseda Brussels Office, Jean-Louis Moortgat, Regional Director for Europe

➔ <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/brussels-office/en>

COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE **CANON FOUNDATION IN EUROPE** AND **KYOTO UNIVERSITY**

Early in 2016, the groundwork was done, paving the way for a joint initiative between the Canon Foundation in Europe (CFE) and Kyoto University (KU). The CFE was interested in expanding its exchange programme and scope of interest towards Africa so they approached Kyoto University which is the foremost academic institution in Japan for conducting research with Africa. Hence the Canon Foundation in Europe-Kyoto University Japan-Africa Exchange Program was borne.



Representatives from both organisations met in London in September to sign a Memorandum of Understanding to further define the conditions and terms of the agreement. The CFE will (co)sponsor annual fellowship awards to post-graduate researchers at KU, individually or collectively (as a research team) to host institutes in Africa or vice-versa to KU. In view of Canon's corporate philosophy (kyosei), the emphasis is placed on "people to people" exchange projects contributing to development in Africa by means of scientific research and bilateral knowledge transfer.

It is hoped that the MoU will be formalised before Japan's next fiscal year so that the programme can start in 2018-2019.

➔ <http://www.canonfoundation.org>

A WASEDA BRUSSELS OFFICE WORKSHOP: CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM IN THE METROPOLIS

The second Workshop organised by the Waseda Brussels Office about "Contemporary architecture and urbanism in the Metropolis" took place at ULB on the 27-28 November. Like the other WBO academic events, it aimed to expand and strengthen the academic network of Waseda University in Europe through partnerships mainly focused on the international articulation of research. The topic focused on architectural issues was declined in four sessions.

On Monday 27 November, the first session consisted in an interactive guided tour of Brussels historical and contemporary architecture: the Place Royale, Grand Place, Marché au Poisson, Brussels Fashion and design Platform, etc. The same day, during the Session 2, a seminar was held on research by design in architecture and urbanism in Belgian and Japanese universities. Research by design in architecture school and department is an opportunity to bridge the agendas of teaching, research and engagement with the urban context. This seminar raised the question of research by design as a synthetic and projective form of knowledge by comparing the approach and methodology developed in architecture and urban design laboratories in four different schools of architecture.

The next day, the third session proposed a comparative discussion between two interdisciplinary research projects: the Institute of City and Art at Waseda University and the MiCM-ARC at ULB, with a presentation of the approach, the methodology, the activities and the results of each research projects followed by a discussion on the potential collaborations. The session 4 concluded the workshop with a public conference intitled: "Contemporary architectural practice in Tokyo and Brussels". Through the presentation of exemplary build projects by four architects, the presentation has highlighted the specificities of architectural practice in its urban, social cultural and institutional context. In this way, the conference putted forward the changing context of architectural practice in the capital of Europe and the capital of Japan.

➔ <https://www.waseda.jp/inst/brussels-office/en>

REUNION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM CZECH SUBSIDIARIES OF JAPANESE ENTERPRISES – PRESENTATION OF THE NEW GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

On the last day of this October, more than 40 managers and specialists from 20 subsidiaries of Japanese groups arrived to Louny, a town with hardly 20,000 inhabitants, situated about 50 kilometres in the north-western direction from Czech capital.

They followed an invitation coming from company Fujikoki Czech which has been active in the local industrial area since 2002. This reunion has acknowledged the continuation of the traditional yearly meetings organised on the initiative of an informal association of personnel officers coming from the mentioned “Japanese” group.

Those yearly meetings are focused in the interchange of mutual experience and achievements in the field of human resources management, accompanied with visit at one of plants. This time, the reunion’s focus became wider: the main topic, the GDPR, expected to be



launched in May 2018, has attracted not only the usual visitors, the HR people, but also ITs and lawyers. It is assumed that the implementation of the regulation mentioned will be a not easy process which requires proper preparation works including studying relevant documents and comments.

The GDPR is expected to substitute the existing Czech Data Protection Act valid since 2000. The directive will help to decrease the risk of a huge abuse of personal data present especially at shared electronic connections and networks.

Source: Pavel Škorpil from Fujikoki Czech s.r.o., former participant to the EU-Japan Centre’s HRTPJ 2007 training programme

SHOULD JAPANESE COMPANIES PREPARE FOR DATA PROTECTION COMPLIANCE UNDER THE GDPR?

Coming into force on 25 May 2018, the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) overhauls the entire way personal data are collected and processed in the European Union. While firms operating in the region are scrambling to achieve compliance with the new requirements, companies based outside the Union have typically not assessed whether they may be impacted.

This can be an issue since Recitals 23 and 24 of the regulation clearly state that the processing of personal data by an entity not established in the EU “should be subject to” the GDPR, as long as the processing relates to the offering of goods or services or to the monitoring of the behaviour of individuals located in the Union.

Consequently, many Japanese firms conducting or willing to conduct business connected to the EU will need to carefully review their exposure to the regulation even if they are not located in the Union. Since the deadline is fast approaching, it has become critical for organisations to determine (i) whether they are exempted from complying with the GDPR, (ii) whether they collect or process the personal data of EU residents,

(iii) what these data are, (iii) the reason why they are collected and (iv) the compatibility of their data protection framework to the GDPR. And non-compliance is not an option, since fines of up to the greater of €20 million or 4% of annual turnover can be imposed by local data protection authorities.

For further info on the GDPR: Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32016R0679>)

Written by Thomas Hirtzig, Senior Consultant, Alpha FMC

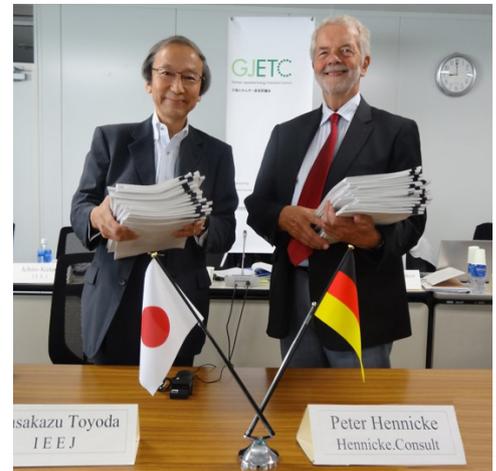
GERMAN-JAPANESE ENERGY TRANSITION COUNCIL PRESENTS FIRST RESULTS

The German-Japanese Energy Transition Council presented first study results at the side-lines of its 3rd meeting in Tokyo early September.

The bilateral Council was established in May 2016 to answer the question of how to achieve a sustainable and economically reasonable energy supply system in both countries. The Council set four research topics for a sound comparative analysis of key energy policy and economic issues such as mid- and long-term scenarios, analysis of the socio-cultural background of the energy policies, the role of old and new players in the electricity market, and energy conservation technologies. At the meeting in Tokyo, the entrusted research consortia presented their (draft) final reports on the commissioned research topics. The reports highlighted some differences in approach to energy policy between Japan and Germany.

For instance, in Japan, energy policies are drawn up while carefully evaluating the feasibility of targets and social burden, while Germany takes a back-cast approach to energy policy by first setting a target and then considering ways to achieve it. Further, in building a new electric power system, Japan places priority on securing baseload power sources including nuclear power and ensuring a stable supply, while Germany gives priority to variable renewable energies as the basis for the overall system. Going forward, the Council will develop a policy proposal based on these reports ahead of the next meeting in Berlin next February.

➔ <http://www.gjetc.org>



 The GJETC Co-Chairs Prof. Masakazu Toyoda (l.) and Prof. Dr. Peter Henicke (r.) with the first results of the GJETC study programme

INDRA PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT IN JAPAN OF ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST ADVANCED PARTICLE ACCELERATORS

The project seeks to build a reactor capable of generating vast amounts of clean energy in a consistent and commercially viable manner.

The particle accelerator forms part of the International Fusion Materials Irradiation Facility (IFMIF - <http://www.ifmif.org>) and is designed to test potential materials for use in future commercial fusion reactors. Indra's technology and reliable solutions have helped to underpin the IFMIF-EVEDA since 2008. The project is spearheaded by the European Union and Japan, with the aim of driving our understanding of fusion physics (ITER), while also expanding knowledge in such fields as biochemistry, medicine (radioisotopes), the aerospace industry and satellite technology.

Indra is the leading Spanish company in an international consortium working on the project. The initiative will mark a major scientific milestone on the roadmap toward construction of a large reactor capable of generating vast amounts of clean energy in a consistent and commercially viable manner, and one that can be replicated at different sites around the globe.

The scientific community has great hopes for fusion as an inexhaustible source of energy with barely any environmental impact. It represents one of the major energy challenges for the coming decades. Thus, together with ITER, the IFMIF programme could be key to proving that massive energy generation via nuclear fusion is not only possible, but commercially viable. Indra's role in the project is further evidence of the company's genuine ability to develop reliable solutions that help drive progress toward major milestones.

Other examples include Indra's contributions to the Galileo global positioning system, the Copernicus Earth observation program, and the SST (Space Surveillance and Tracking) program from the European Commission, which provides a system for monitoring space objects, chiefly to calculate the position and trajectory of objects orbiting the Earth.

➔ <http://www.indracompany.com/en/noticia/indra-plays-key-role-development-japan-one-worlds-advanced-particle-accelerator>

EIG CONCERT-JAPAN 5TH CALL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETING

EIG CONCERT-Japan, a platform for research cooperation between European countries and Japan, successfully held its joint Scientific Committee meeting in Paris on the 23 October, for the evaluation of projects submitted in the 5th Call on Efficient Energy and Distribution.

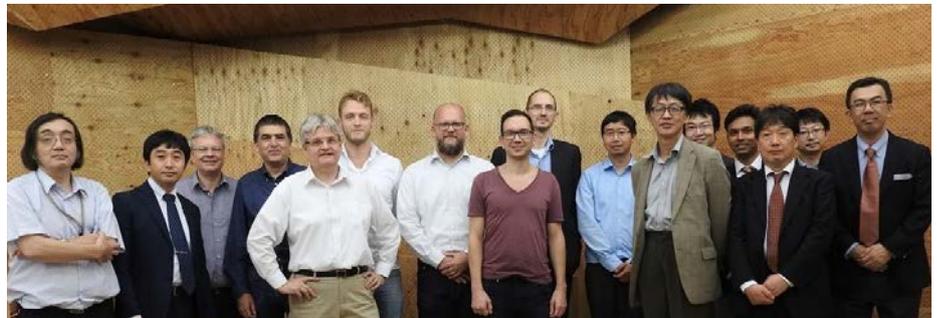
Based on results from this meeting, the selection of project proposals will be decided by participating funding organisations. An announcement of five projects for funding is expected to be made by the end of the year. Information will be updated on the EIG CONCERT-Japan homepage:

➔ <http://concert-japan.eu>

JOINT EU-JAPAN RESEARCH PROJECT ON SMART CITIES PASSED ITS FIRST YEAR REVIEW

In October, the CPaaS.io project successfully passed its first year review. The reviewers from Europe and Japan acknowledged the very good progress the project has made so far.

The main goal of the CPaaS.io project is to enable Smart City innovation by creating a cloud-based data platform giving access to city data from various sources (IoT, Open Government Data, other Open Data) to any interested party that can build and run value-added services on top of the platform. After year 1 of the project, the overall functional architecture of the platform has been defined as well as a mapping towards two implementation architectures – one based on FIWARE Generic Enablers, one based on the u2 architecture. These implementation architectures have also been instantiated in Europe and Japan respectively.



Regarding application cases, first prototypes have been implemented for event management (concretely, Color Run and Sapporo Snow Festival), water management (Amsterdam) and health emergency services (Yokosuka). From an impact perspective, the project is using first experiences with the platform and the prototypes when talking to various cities in Europe and Japan, and it is coordinating with other Smart City and Open Data projects and initiatives in order to identify common interests and to establish areas of collaborative work, like VLED, ODPT, OASC, ETSI ISG CIM, SynchroniCity, OrganiCity and SELECT for Cities.

CITY STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP: APPLICATIONS FOR A SMART CITY

13-15 DECEMBER 2017, TOKYO, JAPAN



At this year's TRON Symposium taking place in Tokyo December 13-15 (<http://www.tronshow.org>), the Horizon 2020 EU-Japan collaborative research project CPaaS.io ("City Platform as a Service - integrated and open") is organising an open workshop and panel discussion on the topic of applications for smart cities and the role of open data infrastructures and smart city platforms, the development of which is the main objective of this 30-month research project.

In the panel discussion, representatives from several Japanese and European cities (Sapporo, Tokyo, Yokozuka, Amsterdam, Murcia, Zurich) will present and discuss their efforts towards becoming a smart city, what the challenges are, and the value of open data platforms. The discussion on application cases will be focused around – but not limited to – the ones that are being implemented within the project, e.g., smart event management, smart water management, smart emergency care, and smart public transport, and how successful experiences and implementations in one city can best be transferred to another city.

➔ <http://www.cpaas.io>

AN INTERNATIONAL HUB OF CYBORG MEDICAL WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR HUMAN MOVEMENT RECONSTRUCTION

Project meeting with CSIC, RIKEN and Nagoya University at Cajal Institute in Madrid on 15 December 2017 at Cajal Institute.

In December 2017 CSIC, RIKEN and Nagoya University will kick-off a new collaboration under the support of Japanese Government funding named "Program for Advancing Strategic International Networks to Accelerate the circulation of Talented Researchers (Principal Investigator: Prof. Hitoshi Hirata, Nagoya University)". The target of this programme is to develop a novel medical treatment method for upper limb injury and motion paralysis with the collaboration of medical and engineering techniques. In the collaboration with CSIC (Prof. Pons and Dr. Moreno from Neural Rehabilitation Group from Cajal Institute), RIKEN (Dr. Shimoda) and Nagoya University, it will be discussed about innovative control strategies of upper limb prostheses, avatar control for the communication with autism children and related techniques.

➔ <http://www.neuralrehabilitation.org>

JAPANESE ROBOT TESTS AT THE CITY HOSPITAL IN OULU, FINLAND

The rehabilitation department of Oulu city hospital in Finland has started tests using the Japanese robot POPO, a product of Daiwa House. POPO is already in use in many hospitals and rehabilitation clinics in Japan, and the company is now seeking experience about its use in a European culture.



The process started in 2016, when the city of Oulu and its testing environment Oulu WelfareLab were a candidate pilot site in an EU – Japan collaboration proposal, where DAIWA house was also a partner. Getting all the right permissions for a non CE certified product to be tested in a European test bed was a learning process for both sides that lasted for few months, and was supported by the two proposal coordinators in Finland and in Japan. Finally, in August this year everything was set to go, nine Finnish physiotherapists were trained in using POPO, and the tests were conducted all through the month of October. The rollator - robot has been tested on site at the rehabilitation ward and the open rehabilitation clinic.

Opportunities for home rehabilitation were also considered with tests conducted at a home care facility.

The Oulu WelfareLab in Finland is one of the three test environments of OuluHealth Labs, the health innovation testbed of the city. So far the Oulu WelfareLab has tested two more robotic solutions in real life environments, as well as many other technological solutions. The city of Oulu has a Memorandum of Understanding with the prefecture of Kanagawa in Japan, while the Oulu academic community partners collaborate with various organisations in Japan, such as the Sendai Finland Wellbeing Center and Tokyo University.

More information about the Oulu WelfareLab, OuluHealth Labs and Oulu at below link.

➔ <http://ouluhealth.fi/labs>

FRENCH ROBOTICS FEDERATION VISITED IREX

Philippe Roussel, FFC Robotique executive manager participated to the IREX trade show in Tokyo (<http://biz.nikkan.co.jp/eve/irex/english>) where he met the Japan Robot Association (JARA) president with the goal to put in place partnership between the two national organisations.



FFC Robotique is the French national organisation created mid 2017 gathering the regional robotics clusters representing about 550 robotic companies. The goal of FFC Robotique is to boost the French robotic market both locally and internationally and to put in place international agreements. This meeting with JARA's president was the first international meeting for FFC Robotique.

Japan is a leading country for robotic and France is one of the leading European country, mainly about service robotics (a recent study has identified France as the second country in the world behind the US for the number of service robotics companies), this is the reason why FFC Robotique chose Japan as its first international partnership target.

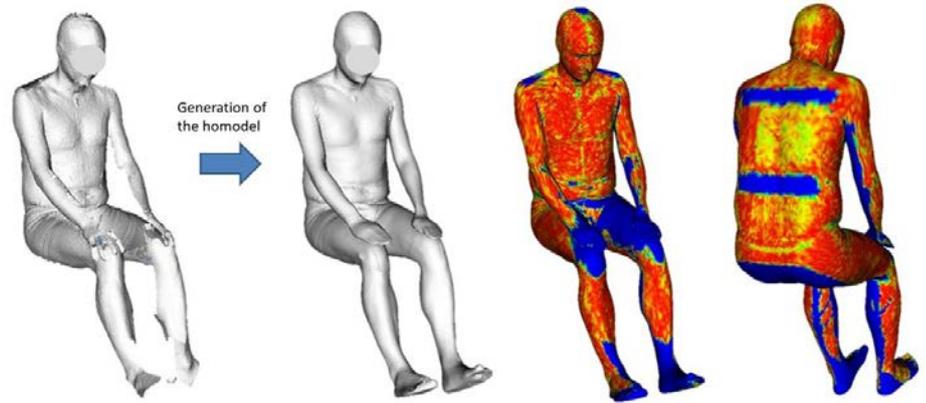
Visiting the IREX trade show was also the opportunity for FFC Robotique to meet Japanese companies interested in opening business with France and looking for partners or seeking a location in Europe. "France and Japan already put in place partnerships at academic research level (AIST laboratory at Tsukuba) and it is now time to put in place business partnerships" said Philippe Roussel.

➔ <http://www.ffcrobotique.fr>

DIGITAL HUMAN MODELS TO STUDY THE **ERGONOMICS OF THE SEATED POSTURE IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR**

Using Digital Human Models in automotive sector is very popular, especially for impact simulation or to determine reaches and spaces for the driver and the passengers.

Instituto de Biomecánica (IBV) has come up with the initial approach to develop three-dimensional digital human models in an automotive-seated posture in the framework of a larger project sponsored by Japan Automobile Research Institute (JARI) in Japan. The objective of this project was to carry out research into injury biomechanics of whiplash associated disorders in women, by developing, validating, and using finite element (FE) human body models (HBM).



Left: Generation of the homodel in the seated posture.

Right: Map of Hausdorff distances between the original scan and the homodel

The main contribution of the project was the development of a methodology to obtain complete and simplified meshes of three-dimensional outer surface of the human body in the automotive-seated posture. A procedure was also developed to scan the whole body in the seated posture, using a scanner that is specifically configured for standing postures.

The methodology developed in this project opens up a way to produce life-like virtual mannequins that represent the population groups with common morphological characteristics.

Making more progress in the work with digital human models would involve geometry data of the internal organs and skeleton, and provide geometric information to build up FE HBMs for occupants to investigate organ and skeletal injury in traffic accidents.

Involved researchers: Fusako Sato(1); Beatriz Nácher Fernández(2); Sandra Alemany Mut(2); Jordi Uriel Molto(2); José S. Solaz Sanahuja(2); Elisa Signes i Pérez(2)
1) Japan Automobile Research Institute (JARI) ➔ <http://www.jari.or.jp> 2) Instituto de Biomecánica (IBV) ➔ <http://www.ibv.org>

➔ <http://www.biomecamicamente.org/item/894-rb64-amt-jari>

POTENTIALS OF HSS ARE RE-ACKNOWLEDGED IN THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM **“THE IMPACT OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. DISCUSSING GERMANY AND JAPAN”**

The German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) organised an international symposium on “The Impact of the Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS). Discussing Germany and Japan” on 14-15 November. The symposium was supported by the Science Council Japan (SCJ), Goethe-Institute Tokyo and the German Science and Innovation Forum Tokyo. On the 15 November there was a satellite symposium to the event co-organised by Hiroshima University.

Experts from the academia and science policy from Japan and Germany discussed the meaning of “impact” for the humanities and social sciences and came up with problems and possible solutions this term implies. A keynote speech by DFG-President Prof. Dr. Peter Strohschneider on “Truth – Impact – Power” was presented both in Tokyo and in Hiroshima and lay base for the in depth discussions. This symposium brought new insights into the meaning and effects of the discourse of “societal impact” and related administrative practices. Participants shared their ideas on the potential of research in the humanities and social sciences for challenging current and future (global) issues. The question was raised whether we need new approaches in cross/interdisciplinary and integrated research.

➔ http://www.dfg.de/en/dfg_profile/head_office/dfg_abroad/japan/reports/2017/170912_symposium_impact

EUGEN UND ILSE SEIBOLD PRIZE 2017

Immunologist Prof. Dr. Takeshi Tsubata and architect Prof. Dr.-Ing. Thomas Bock have been awarded with the Eugen and Ilse Seibold Prize by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation). They were honoured for their many years of successful and dedicated commitment to academic and cultural exchange between Germany and Japan.

"Takeshi Tsubata and Thomas Bock aren't just renowned as outstanding researchers in their respective countries and subject areas. They are also highly regarded in the other country and have made a significant contribution to German-Japanese understanding – be it at specialist level, in the training of early career researchers, in committee work or in policy advice," says DFG Vice President Prof. Dr. Katja Becker, who chaired the jury. The prize, worth €10,000 was presented on 10 October 2017 in Bonn.

The Eugen and Ilse Seibold Prize, presented by the DFG, has been awarded roughly every two years since 1997 to Japanese and German researchers. The prizes honour special achievements in all areas of science and the humanities on a rotating basis, this year in the natural sciences and engineering sciences.

The prize money comes from a fund set up by Eugen and Ilse Seibold. Marine geologist Eugen Seibold was President of the DFG between 1980 and 1985.

In 1994, he and American environmentalist Lester Brown were awarded the Blue Planet Prize, the world's largest monetary environmental award, by the Asahi Glass Foundation in Japan.

Eugen Seibold and his wife, Dr. Ilse Seibold, established the prize fund with €150,000 of the €400,000 prize money. The proceeds from this fund are used to promote research and understanding between Germany and Japan.

➔ http://www.dfg.de/en/funded_projects/prizewinners/seibold_prize/2017/index.html



SUGIHARA WEEK

The Sugihara Week, organised on 2-8 September in Kaunas, Lithuania, was a large scale event which involved a big number of institutions, consisted of dozens of smaller events and attracted wide audience of total 4-5 thousand people.

Kaunas, Lithuania, is one of the cities of Europe which has very direct historical links with Japan, as a Japanese diplomat, Chiune Sugihara lived here during 1939-40 and issued the famous "Visas for Life" saving thousands of lives of Jewish refugees. Sugihara Week, organised for the first time, aimed to perpetuate his achievements.

The festival was visited by honourable representatives of Japanese and Lithuanian Government and Parliament,

as well as by the son of Chiune Sugihara, Mr. Nobuki Sugihara, and daughter-in-law, Ms. Michi Sugihara.

The Festival attracted numerous researchers, volunteers and artists from Lithuania and Japan. Approximately 200 participants from Japan joined the activities, such as symposium, public lectures, various performances, exhibitions, workshops, etc. Notable was the group of c. 70 members of painting company Tokon International,

who came as volunteers to repaint the Sugihara House building. During the Sugihara Week, several donation ceremonies for Sugihara Museum (former Japanese Consulate building) took place, including donations of and Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Gifu Prefecture, Honolulu Festival Foundation, Tokon International, etc. Tokyo University of Foreign Studies conducted a big amount of translation for future exhibition of Sugihara Museum.

➔ <http://asc.vdu.lt/lt/2017/05/sugihara-week>

JOINT TOURIST PROMOTION IN TOKYO

On 18 October 2017, the “European Tourism Workshop & Seminar” welcomed almost 200 Japanese travel agents and tour operators and journalists at the premises of the Delegation of the European Union to Japan. Twenty European countries participated as exhibitors in this event. It was the second time after 2016 for European countries to jointly promote Europe as a highly interesting and richly varied travel destination for Japanese travellers.



In his opening address Viorel Isticioaia Budura, Ambassador of the European Union to Japan, underlined that tourism to Europe promoted European cultures and traditions and was “enhancing the understanding of European values and our kind of living.” The morning session was run by Mr. Akihiko Hosaka, Director for Europe of the Japan Association of Travel Agents, and focused on the beautiful roads of Europe, a selection of attractive tourism roads and courses developed by JATA and the participating countries.

The afternoon session was dedicated to the Japanese media, both traditional and online. The presentation was done by Ms. Yumiko Matsuo, a well-known announcer from Asahi TV. All participants agreed that this joint European activity was conducive to boosting the image of European countries as outstanding tourist destinations and to creating a positive trend in tourism towards Europe.

Source: French Tourism Development Agency and German Embassy Tokyo

SPOTTED PUBLICATIONS FROM THE EHESSE FRANCE-JAPAN FOUNDATION

FEMALE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ORGANISATIONAL DIVERSITY IN JAPAN

Discussion Paper Series is a collection of informal documents that present unpolished results of re-search or analysis. They are circulated to encourage discussion and comment as tangible outputs.

➔ <http://ffj.ehess.fr/dpseries.html>

JAPAN FORUM (VOL. 29 , ISS. 4, 2017) - ABENOMICS: HAS IT WORKED? WILL IT ULTIMATELY FAIL?

The journal Japan Forum has published a Perspectives Essay on ‘Abenomics’ by social scientists Sebas-tien Lechevalier (EHESSE, Paris) and Briec Monfort (Sophia University, Tokyo). They offer key insights useful to those interested in understanding the economic policies, successes and failures that lay behind Abe’s Premiership up to this election victory. The essay argues that both over-optimistic and over-pessimistic predictions have been wrong.

➔ <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09555803.2017.1394352>

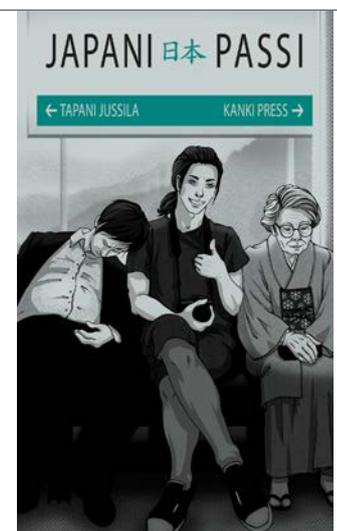
QUALITY GUIDEBOOK ON JAPAN

Kanki Press, the publishing company of Kanki International Oy, Helsinki, releases in January 2018 the 3rd edition of JAPANI-PASSI, a Finnish-language guidebook on Japan.

It is a “passport” for travelling to all of Japan, big cities, mountain areas, seaside, smaller islands, and also an introduction to Japanese culture, history, politics, food, night life, shopping and the wide range of accommodation types. The book is authored by Dr. Tapani Jussila who has lived in Japan for about 5 years, as foreign student, academic researcher and recently a coordinator of diligent European test groups roaming around the country and exploring its phenomena.

This book has a personal touch of direct uncensored way of telling about Japan, avoiding normal Western clichés and political correctness. Its previous versions have been praised also for a unique sense of humour by the Finnish media. The inside cover of JAPANI-PASSI declares “*The holder of this passport must not give it to the police or other authorities even if they ask for it.*”

Source: Dr. Tapani Jussila, former participant to the EU-Japan Centre’s H RTP 2002 training programme



THE EUROPEAN JAPAN EXPERTS ASSOCIATION

In 1995 Japan experts from 11 European countries and from the European Commission assembled at the Japanese-German Center Berlin for the foundation of the European Japan Experts Association (EJEA). After more than 20 years of existence, the Association is looking for new opportunities

Conceived as an interdisciplinary association with a European profile and open to experts from science, administration and business EJEA aims to a sustainable interdisciplinary network and to develop initiatives on a European level for promoting cooperation, exchange and transfer of knowledge between Europe and Japan.

EJEA's vision is:

- to develop into an "umbrella" for existing associations
- to bundle European "voices" from a broad range of disciplines
- to become a key contact for discussions about Japan-Europe related topics

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Sweden and Japan EJEA is initiating a conference in the vicinity of Stockholm:

INTEGRATION AND DISINTEGRATION IN THE JAPANESE VISION OF SOCIETY 5.0:

A MODEL FOR AN OPEN SOCIETY IN EUROPE?

13-14 APRIL 2018, SALTSJÖ-BOO, SWEDEN

Japan's "5th Science and Technology Basic Plan" mentioned the important concept of "Society 5.0". This Japanese vision of a "super smart society" aims to tackle several challenges. It is related to the digitisation of industry, however it is going beyond towards the digitisation across all levels of the society and the (digital) transformation of the society itself. Society 5.0 is about all stakeholders: citizens, economy, governments, academia and so forth.

Instead of fostering this process on the level of individual organisations and parts of society, Japan has developed a comprehensive transformational strategy, policy, philosophy and even ethics. It seems to be the furthest reaching plan in this regard and even to be a model for other countries and regions – maybe also for Europe? Just for these reasons it is attracting our attention!

The conference aims to identify similarities and differences between these far reaching visions of a „super smart society“ in Japan and a "digital ecosystem" in Northern Europe and the rather pragmatic and fragmented approaches towards a "digital agenda" in other European countries.

How could best practice examples be transferred to the other cultural surrounding with its own specific values and perspectives? What can we learn from each other's experiences and visions? Given different cultures, values and philosophies in the East and in the West the comparison between the Japanese vision of "Society 5.0" and European models for digital societies during the conference promise inspiring and exiting insights into our future way of working and living!

➔ <http://www.ejea.eu>

GERMAN JAPANESE – PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK

The German Japanese Professional Women's Network was established as a working group of DJW (Deutsch-Japanischer Wirtschaftskreis) in 2014. The group is based in Duesseldorf, Germany.



Aim of the group is to support German Japanese working women, and especially women who have been out of work for a long period of time or women looking to start work. The group members meet regularly to exchange information, ideas and experiences. This helps members to learn from and assist one another. The group offer women in a German - Japanese working environment the opportunity to connect.

The group has organised 14 events since 2014, including meetings of female managers, local employees and freelancers. As of October 2017, there are approx. 50 members living in Europe and Japan. There is no restriction in nationality to become a member.

For any inquiries, please contact womensnetwork@djw.de or gjwpm12@gmail.com

➔ <https://www.djw.de/de/djw/arbeitsgruppen/ag-german-japanese-professional-womens-network>

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND PPP IN JAPAN: THE ROLE OF LAND READJUSTMENT

Whilst Public Private Partnerships (PPP) for public infrastructure are gaining interests worldwide, Japan recent transition towards a wider application is no surprise being PPP largely rooted in tradition and past negotiation experiments in urban development.

Land Readjustment (LR) is indeed the best application, used extensively across the country for renewal/transformation of urban areas and various types of projects. Compared to urban development in some countries in Europe where power of initiative was long a public prerogative and role of landowners quite weak in the process, LR only superficially appears a private-led initiative as it moves across the distinct complexity of land ownerships of Japanese environment. The implementing bodies can be either private or public, but even with fully private initiatives public authorities ensure supervision of safety and quality standards: indeed LR over time has been a bulwark to urban sprawl and land speculation but more important an economic growth tool enhancing initiative, expertise and skills of private actors. According to a recent paper (Sato, Okatani IFLR1000/Energy&Infrastructure2016) new legislation and the 2015 Japan Revitalization Strategy by PM Shinzo Abe are among the reasons behind a renewed environment for PPP/PFI (Private Financing Initiative) models application.

Sources:

- Recent development in PPP in Japan, M. Sato, S. Okatani, IFLR1000/Energy&Infrastructure 2016
- Various booklets on "City Planning in Japan" published by the City Planning Bureau, Ministry of Construction, Institute for Future Urban development(1996). Available only in paper
- Own research material used as EU S&T researcher at building Research Institute, Ministry of Construction (1996-1997)
- http://www.mhmjapan.com/content/files/00022762/Recent_develop_ments_in_public-private_partnerships_in_Japan.pdf

This acceleration is not only intended to enhance business opportunities but to re-functionalise/renew public infrastructures in a time of increased aging population, budget and fiscal constraints, problems shared by many developed countries including Europe. To date concession agreements using PPP schemes for privatising major airports such as Sendai and Osaka International are progressing. However a larger effect will come with the 2013-2022 Action Plan for the Promotion of PFI and the related guidelines for preferential consideration of PPP/PFI for national agencies and local governments of cities above 200.000 inhabit to follow when promoting/renovating/maintaining public infrastructures.

Written by Paola Amato, EU policy and funding expert, former EU STA and S&T fellow researcher at the Building Research Institute, Former Ministry of Construction, Japan

PARTICIPATION OF A FINISH COMPANY AT THE EUROPEAN SPACE WEEK 2017

Held in Tallinn, Estonia on 3-9 November, the European Space Week 2017 was organised by the European Commission, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications of the Republic of Estonia and co-organised by Copernicus, Galileo and the European Space Agency.

ICEYE, a Finish company developing synthetic-aperture radar (SAR) technology for microsatellites, attended the European Space Week 2017, where companies, partners and visionaries push the topic of space in Europe and far beyond. ICEYE provides expanded worldwide access to reliable and timely earth observation data. Like METI's ASNARO-2, ICEYE features X-band SAR payload.

The company was a keynote speaker during the EU-ESA informal ministerial meeting (<https://www.eu2017.ee/political-meetings/eu-esa-informal-ministerial-meeting-space>) and also met with Japan Space Systems to discuss possible co-operation opportunities in Japan.

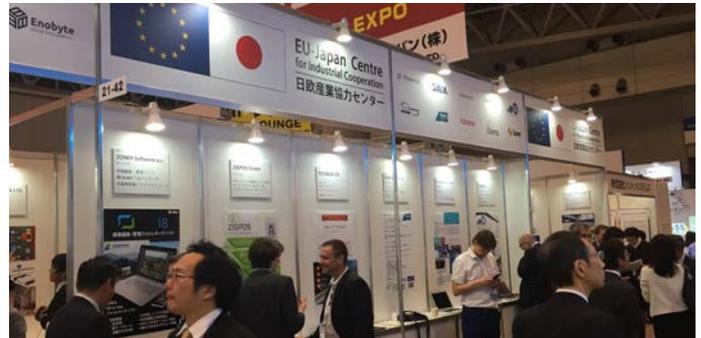
At the European Space Week 2017, ICEYE demonstrated example SAR data taken with aerial SAR imaging, and discussed with European and worldwide attendees the possibilities of their upcoming SAR microsatellite constellation. ICEYE is headed for their first satellite launch during December 2017, and will launch 2 additional satellites during 2018. ICEYE is planning to launch a constellation of 18 microsatellites starting in 2019.

ICEYE is actively seeking partners, and mutual development opportunities with the Japanese Aerospace community. Together with backing of the EU Horizon 2020 funding and the participation of the Finnish Government, ICEYE is making visitations in Japan throughout late 2017 and early 2018.

TOSIBOX IS DEDICATED AT SOLVING THE GLOBAL CHALLENGES RELATED TO THE SECURITY OF THE REMOTE CONNECTIONS ALSO IN JAPAN



A Finnish growth company Tosibox, the developer of a secure remote access solution for Industrial IoT, was selected among 20 European companies to join an exclusive ICT cluster SME mission (<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/ict-cluster-sme-mission>) in Tokyo, Japan in November. The objective of this mission was to explore the Japanese market and business opportunities, meet potential business partners and develop cooperation in global markets.



The programme included the EU-Japan ICT Business Matching Event 2017 (<http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/eu-japan-ict-business-matching-event-2017>) organised by the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation and Enterprise Europe Network, with the support of the Japan External Trade Organization and the Smart IoT Acceleration consortium, taking place on November 7, 2017. Following to that, the company was also exhibiting at the EU Delegation booth at the world's leading IT trade show, Japan IT Week.

The CEO of Tosibox, Mr. Tero Lepistö, who was representing the company in this mission, was very satisfied with the quality of the meetings and contacts they were able to get during the mission. He states that their technology is solving a global challenge related to the security of the remote connections and they are in a good position to respond to the global demand. *"We are looking into further entering the Asian market, and being chosen for this event is both an honor and an invaluable opportunity for Tosibox. We are very excited and motivated to deepen our understanding of the Japanese market"*, says Mr. Lepistö.



The mission was supported by world's largest support network for SMEs with international ambitions, Enterprise Europe Network. The Finnish network partner Finpro backed-up the company during the application process and provided support both before and after the mission. The next ICT Cluster SME mission will be organised in May, 2018. Companies interested in exploring the Japanese market can find more information at below link, application deadline is 22 February 2018.

Source: By Teija Pakanen, EEN partner at FINPRO Oulu

ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK EVENTS

B2B OPPORTUNITIES FOR EU AND JAPANESE SMES

➔ <http://een.ec.europa.eu/tools/services/EVE/Event/ListEvents>

LIFE SCIENCES JAPANESE B2B MISSION IN PROVENCE ALPES CÔTES D'AZUR

Date: 15-16 March 2018, Nice & Marseille, France

Sector: Life sciences

Registration deadline: 9 March 2018

Coordinated by ARII PACA and with the cooperation of the Japanese clusters LINK-J, the mission organised in the framework of Enterprise Europe Network, is a two days event combining a B2B session, companies visits, conferences and workshops. The international major life science Eurobiomed (France), clusters LINK-J (Japan) and BIOCOM (USA) have signed a three-party agreement in order to create business for their members.

➔ <https://life-sciences-b2b-in-paca.b2match.io>

BIOPESTICIDE 2018

12 April 2018, London, UK

Sector: agriculture

Registration deadline: 9 April 2018

EEN partner University of Greenwich is organising the 6th Biopesticide brokerage event aimed at integrated pest management and biopesticide technology stakeholders: researchers and suppliers of current and new technologies, manufacturers, regulatory and government organisations/groups and of course the farmer and grower communities.

➔ <https://biopesticide2018.b2match.io>

PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

JAPANESE COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN THE EU



➔ <http://een-japan.eu/opportunities>



REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTORS

Sector: Animal food

A Japanese company is seeking animal feed distributors in the EU for its water-soluble liquid feed

Profile ID: [BOJP20170914001](#)



REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: Beverages

A Japanese alcohol exporter is looking for distributors to introduce Japanese alcohols and their cultural aspects in the EU

Profile ID: [BOJP20171025002](#)

REQUEST FOR SALES AGENTS

Sector: Industrial equipment

A Japanese company specialised in stainless steel belt is seeking sales representatives in the EU

Profile ID: [BOJP20171012001](#)



REQUEST FOR SALES AGENTS

Sector: Metalworking, manufacturing

A Japanese metal injection moulding company is looking for sales representatives for their services

Profile ID: [BOJP20171031001](#)



REQUEST FOR AGENT OR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: Household goods

Japanese manufacturer of shopping trolleys with integrated solar panels seeks agents and distributors in the EU

Profile ID: [BOJP20171025001](#)

REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: Healthcare

A Japanese manufacturer of foot care soaps is seeking distributors in the EU

Profile ID: [BOJP20161129001](#)



REQUEST FOR INVESTOR & LICENSEE

Sector: Pharmaceutical

Japanese start-up looking for partners for their naturally-derived anti-fungal drug for foot disease

Profile ID: [TOJP20171128001](#)

SERVICES OFFERED

Sector: Pharmaceutical, biotech

A Japanese compound screening company for drug discovery offers its services to EU pharmaceutical and biotech companies

Profile ID: [BOJP20171110001](#)

REQUEST FOR SUPPLIERS

Sector: Machinery

A Japanese wholesaler is looking for EU manufacturers of printability tester machines

Profile ID: [BRJP20160923001](#)

REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: Chemicals

A Japanese company from the chemical industry is looking for a distribution partner or an agent in Europe for its sealing compounds

Profile ID: [BOJP20160414001](#)



REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: Medical devices

Japanese manufacturer of orthopaedic medical devices is looking for distributors and agents

Profile ID: [BOJP20161004001](#)

REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: Healthcare

A Japanese manufacturer of diet supplements is looking for an EU distributor

Profile ID: [BOJP20160915001](#)





REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTORS

Sector: Fashion

A Japanese stole manufacturer specialised in high-end hand embroidery is seeking a distributor partner in the EU
Profile ID: **BOJP20171122001**

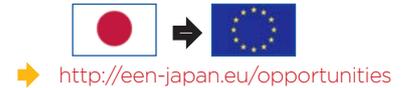


REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: Safety devices

A Japanese SME offering innovative earthquake early warning system is looking for distributors
Profile ID: **BOJP20171204001**

JAPANESE COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN THE EU



<http://een-japan.eu/opportunities>



<http://een-japan.eu/opportunities>

PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

EU COMPANIES LOOKING FOR PARTNERS IN JAPAN

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER REQUEST

Sector: バイオテック&ライフサイエンス

スペインのバイオテクノロジー企業は動物組織から抽出される生体分子を探しています

Profile ID: **TRES20170615001**

Sector: バイオテック&ライフサイエンス

スペインのバイオテクノロジー企業は動物組織から抽出される生体分子を探しています

Profile ID: **TRES20170329001**

Sector: バイオテック&ライフサイエンス

スペイン企業が免疫検定(イムノアッセイ)診断に関連する新しいテクノロジーを探しています

Profile ID: **TRES20170329002**

Sector: バイオテック&ライフサイエンス

ベルギー企業はウイルスベクターを持たずに、インビボで細胞にDNAを導入する技術を探しています

ID code: **TRBE20170814001**

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFERED

Sector: メディカル&ヘルスケア

ドイツの中小企業は、ストレスによる人体のインバランスを評価するための精神生物学的の方法を提供しています

Profile ID: **TODE20170904001**

Sector: 医薬品, バイオテック&ライフサイエンス

注入に適した的確なドラックデリバリーシステムを開発したベルギー中小企業です

Profile ID: **TOBE20170825001**

REQUEST FOR SALES AGENT

Sector: ソフトウェア

教育分野に対しサービスを提供する在フィンランドソフトウェア会社がエージェントをさがしています

Profile ID: **BOFI20171006001**

MANUFACTURING SERVICES OFFERED

Sector: 医薬品, 高級品

イタリアの自然派コスメを開発・生産している中小企業はパートナーをさがしています

Profile ID: **BOIT20161222004**

REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTOR

Sector: メディカル&ヘルスケア

樹木から採取する天然成分でつくられる多目的クリーム(バーム)を製造する在フィンランド企業がディストリビューターを探しています

Profile ID: **BOFI20170821001**

Sector: ソフトウェア

オール・イン・ワン デジタルフォトソフトウェアに特化した在チェコ共和国企業がディストリビューターを探しています

Profile ID: **BOCZ20171004001**

Sector: クリーンテック&環境, エネルギー

在ドイツ太陽光エネルギーシステム製造メーカーがディストリビューターをさがしています

Profile ID: **BODE20171004001**

Sector: クラフト&デザイン

ペーパークラフトを取り扱う在オランダ企業がエージェント/ディストリビューターをさがしています

ID code: **NoID-0018**

Sector: パッケージング

革新的な食品パッケージデザインに特化した在イギリス中小企業がパートナーを探しています

ID code: **BOUK20171026001**

Sector: その他

オルタナティブセクターに対する革新的な寝具用品の製造をおこなう在クロアチアの企業です

ID code: **BOHR20160201001**

SERVICES OFFERED

Sector: ICT

在ルーマニア中小企業が業務合理化を望む企業に対し市販ソフトウェア/カスタムメイドソフトウェアを提供します

Profile ID: **BORO20170906001**

Sector: ICT

ウェブ開発・モバイル開発・デスクトップアプリケーション・クラウドソリューションを提供する在ルーマニアIT企業です

Profile ID: **BORO20171017002**

Sector: ナノテクノロジー

ドイツの中小企業はオプトエレクトロニクス部品、およびマイクロエレクトロニクス部品用の特殊コーティングサービスを提供しています

Profile ID: **BODE20161208001**



DATE/LOCATION	DETAILS	CONTACTS
16 January 2018 London, UK	SEMINAR Corporate governance reforms in Japan, seen through the eyes of a foreign Board Director	Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation http://dajf.org.uk/event/corporate-governance-reforms-in-japan-seen-through-the-eyes-of-a-foreign-board-director
14-16 February 2018 Tokyo, Japan	EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME Sectoral Mission: Nanotech Cluster & SMEs Mission	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/nanotech-cluster-sme-mission
19 February 2018 Frankfurt am Main, Germany	MEETING EPA, Brexit and the Shift in Worldwide Policies – How Recent Developments Impact the Japanese-German Bilateral Cooperation	DJW https://www.djw.de/de/veranstaltungen/djw-veranstaltungen/ank-frankfurt-022018
5-9 March 2018 Tokyo, Japan	EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME Sectoral Mission: Organic Food & Drinks Mission for SMEs	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/food-drink-mission-eu-smes
16-20 April 2018 - Tokyo, Japan	MISSION EU-funded market scoping mission in Healthcare & Medical Technologies Application deadline: 15 December 2017	coaching.network@eu-gateway.eu https://goo.gl/vgU2Ve
8 May 2018 Tokyo, Japan	EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME EU-Japan ICT Business Matching Event 2018	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation
8-11 May 2018 Tokyo, Japan	EUROPEAN COMMISSION FUNDED PROGRAMME Sectoral Mission: ICT Cluster & SMEs Mission Application deadline: 22 February 2018	EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation http://www.eu-japan.eu/events/ict-cluster-sme-mission
21-25 May 2018 Yokohama, Japan	MISSION EU-funded market scoping mission in Environment & Water Technologies Application deadline: 2 February 2018	coaching.network@eu-gateway.eu https://goo.gl/bH3eMS
18-22 June 2018 Tokyo, Japan	MISSION EU-funded market scoping mission in Green Energy Technologies Application deadline: 2 March 2018	coaching.network@eu-gateway.eu https://goo.gl/2o3iPg
19-23 November 2018 Tokyo, Japan	MISSION EU-funded market scoping mission in Construction & Building Technologies Application deadline: 27 July 2018	coaching.network@eu-gateway.eu https://goo.gl/yUoWp7

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018

The EU-Japan Centre wishes you a cheerful and happy New Year!



EU-Japan Centre
for Industrial Cooperation
日欧産業協カセンター

is a joint venture co-financed by the European Commission and the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Its aim is to foster the development of industrial cooperation between companies from both regions through training programmes for businesspeople, for EU and Japanese students and researchers, and through information services and an industrial dialogue. This quarterly newsletter is produced by the EU-based office of the EU-Japan Centre, and is primarily intended to provide EU/Japan-related news.

ANY EU-JAPAN-RELATED NEWS?

Feel free to contact us if you would like your EU-Japan-related news/event to be announced in our forthcoming newsletter : michelson@eu-japan.eu

HEAD OFFICE IN JAPAN

Shirokane-Takanawa Station bldg 4F
1-27-6 Shirokane, Minato-ku
Tokyo 108-0072, Japan
T +81 3 6408 0281
F +81 3 6408 0283

OFFICE IN THE EU

Rue Marie de Bourgogne 52
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
T +32 2 282 00 40
F +32 2 282 00 45
office@eu-japan.eu

www.eu-japan.eu

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