Basic Concept

The government aims to <u>realize a society of harmonious</u> coexistence where Japanese and foreign nationals mutually <u>respect and can live safely and comfortably.</u> The government will improve an environment that will make Japan an attractive country to work by, for example, enabling foreign nationals to work actively in Japan while advancing their careers.



In order to improve this, it is important that not only should the Japanese nationals on the receiving side strive to understand and cooperate for the realization of a society of harmonious coexistence, but also the foreign nationals on the received side should also endeavor to understand the principle of harmonious coexistence, strive to understand Japanese culture, customs and language, and take responsible actions based on an understanding of Japanese rules and systems.

Main Measures

1. Initiatives such as Japanese language education for smooth communication and participation in society

Provision of an environment that allows foreign nationals to develop Japanese language and other skills necessary for living in Japan

- The government promotes initiatives for the creation of a comprehensive system for enhancing the Japanese language education provided by prefectural governments, etc. The government provides joint support for Japanese language education with local governments, and improves the level of Japanese language education in local communities utilizing the "Framework of Reference for Japanese Language Education."<1>
- The government develops and promotes educational models by discipline based on the curriculum in the "Framework of Reference for the Japanese Language Education." <3>
- The government supports the establishment and stabilization of Japanese language classes through project to encourage the reduction of areas where Japanese language classes are missing. The government develops and provides ICT lesson materials for Japanese language for different daily occasions, etc. <4>
- The government promotes the utilization of videos for the daily life orientation, which are designed to ensure smooth integration into society and Japanese language education.
 <7>

Improving of the quality of Japanese language education, etc.

- The government starts accreditation of Japanese language educational institutions. The government operates a certification system for registered Japanese language teachers smoothly. <5>
- The government establishes a model in which nationally accredited Japanese language educational institutions provide high-quality education that aligns with the needs through educational investment by companies and other businesses. <18>

Improving the Japanese language proficiency of foreign nationals accepted under Employment-for-Skill-Development Program

 The government considers standards, etc. for Japanese language ability development targets, etc., to be included in the Employment-for-Skill-Development Plan in order to improve the quality of Japanese language education. <131>

2. Disseminating information to foreign nationals/Strengthening consultation systems for foreign nationals

Enhancement of information dissemination from the perspective of foreign nationals

- The government seeks opinions to contribute to the planning, drafting and implementing of harmonious coexistence measures through "Hearings with the relevant parties" and "Opinion box," etc. <21>
- The government considers the publication policy of the "Guidebook on Living and Working" and "A Daily Life Support Portal for Foreign Nationals."
- The government establishes an environment, etc. for the dissemination of disaster prevention and weather information in multiple languages, etc. <33>

Strengthening the consultation system to help foreign nationals with their problems

- The government considers measures that facilitate the establishment of one-stop consulting counters by local governments, for example enhancing the subsidies to improve the environment for acceptance of foreign nationals. The government develops the system for Employment-for-Skill-Development Organization to ensure that support is provided appropriately to Skill Development Employees. <36>
- The government takes effective and efficient supporting measures for creating an environment accepting foreign nationals to Japanese society by FRESC. The government implements joint consultation sessions by relevant organizations providing support to foreign nationals in local communities, and so on. <37>
- The government makes efforts towards realizing practical-level simultaneous interpretation utilizing multilingual translation technology. The government expands the priority languages to 21 languages. <38>
- The government considers the development of professionals who can support foreign nationals with life problems. <6>

Further promoting the use of plain Japanese in providing information and counseling services

• The government implements training and other measures to spread plain Japanese. <49>

3. Support for each life stage and life cycle

Support for foreign nationals in infancy and school age, etc.

- The government promotes to implement community-based programs that provide opportunities for parents and their children to meet up and consult about their concerns and problems encountered when parenting. <53>
- The government creates models of educational environment for children that is attractive for foreign nationals and roll out to local governments and schools across the country.
 <59>

Support for foreign nationals in the early stage of adolescence and adulthood, etc.

 The government collects, publicizes and disseminates examples of special education curricula designed and implemented for Japanese language guidance. <62>

Support for foreign nationals in adolescence and adulthood, etc.

(1) Support for employment, etc. of international students

• The government promotes employment and the successful work life of international students through the formation of Consortiums for promoting employment of highly-skilled foreign professionals in regional areas. <89>

(2) Support at work

- The government disseminates and promotes utilization of bi-directional educational video training materials and guidebooks in workplaces for Japanese employees and foreign national employees. <90>
- The government provides career counseling through expert consultants and interpreters at employment service counters for foreign nationals at Hello Work. <92>
- The government provides vocational training for settled foreign residents with special consideration for their Japanese proficiency levels. <95>

(3) Ensuring appropriate work conditions, etc.

- The government implements, on a trial basis, lessons related to the employment and labor officer to be appointed on the basis of the guidelines for foreign employee management. <98>
- The government provides promotion and education activities on systems that can be used by technical intern trainees who are pregnant or have given birth to a child. <108>

Support for senior foreign nationals, etc.

 The government continues publicity and public relations concerning the pension system and considers to enhance it. <109>

Initiatives common to all life stages

- The government grasps actual conditions by using the "Basic Survey on Foreign Residents," etc. <22>
- The governments makes efforts to prevent foreign nationals from becoming victims of crime. The government makes efforts to prevent the penetration of criminal organizations into the foreign national communities. <116>
- The government makes efforts to improve the convenience of financial services for foreign nationals at financial institutions such as opening accounts (including remittances, credit transfers, and use of debit cards). <119>

4. Smooth and appropriate acceptance of foreign nationals

Employment support for specified skilled workers and other measures, etc.

 The government provides information through field-specific councils, etc. and improves the working environment for foreign human resources. <127>

Initiatives to ensure the smooth operation of the Employment-for-Skill-Development Program and the Specified Skilled Worker System

- The government develops an environment for accepting foreign human resources including a mechanism to improve the Japanese language proficiency in line with establishment of the Employment-for-Skill-Development Program and other measures. <131>
- The government disseminates changes, etc., in the system operation in an easy-to-understand and detailed manner to provide more convenience to accepting organizations and specified skilled workers. <138>
- The government establishes and manages a joint development network between sending countries and Japan through ODA. <140>

Elimination of malicious intermediary organizations, etc.

 The government reinforces partnerships with relevant organizations in developing countries through ODA programs, and supports foreign workers, etc. <152>

Expansion of the Japanese language education base abroad, etc.

- The government reinforces the foundation for Japanese language education through the Japan Foundation. The government promotes to disseminate the attractiveness of Japanese culture and society. <13>
- The government promotes the utilization of the "Fourth-Generation Foreign Nationals of Japanese Descent Acceptance System" through support of teacher dispatch provided by JICA, etc. <153>

5. Initiatives to establish the foundation of a society of harmonious coexistence (1)

Raising awareness to realize a society of harmonious coexistence

- The government promotes a month for raising public awareness of the harmonious coexistence with foreign nationals. The government implements various events to raise public awareness, etc. <154>
- The government implements surveys and research for the establishment of a network to identify the actual conditions of schoolchildren in scattered local communities. <57>

Improvement of government statistics to investigate the actual living conditions of foreign nationals, etc.

- The government creates and publishes new statistics to analyze the living conditions of foreign residents utilizing the statistics on foreign residents in Japan, etc. <160>
- The government implements statistical surveys to identify the actual conditions of the employment management including working conditions, etc. of foreign workers and labor transitions, etc. <161>

Enhancement of information collection and strengthening of cooperation among relevant organizations for the development of infrastructure to realize the society of harmonious coexistence, etc.

- The government promotes support for foreign nationals and improvement of the environment for acceptance of them through development of highly professional Accepting Environmental Coordinators. <163>
- The government enhances and strengthens information dissemination, etc. by implementing projects to support the efforts of private support groups to provide outreach support to foreign nationals. <164>
- The government enhances cooperation between related organizations in the consultation offices and the counseling function of the Immigration Information Centers. <165>
- The government takes initiatives for information sharing between relevant organizations with the aim of improving convenience in the procedures for
 residence status. The government takes initiatives for information sharing between relevant organizations with the aim of ensuring appropriate
 residence management through the implementation of smooth examinations based on accurate information. <166>
- The government studies and modifies the system to improve the convenience of online applications and increase their utilization rate. <167>
- The government considers to improve the environment for acquisition of Individual Number Cards ("My Number Card"). The government makes efforts towards the integration of Individual Number Cards and residence cards. <168>
- The government provides data contributing to the plans and drafts of coexistence measures related to foreign nationals, etc. <169>
- The government strictly examines foreign nationals with unpaid medical charges at immigration control, etc. <43>
- The government considers a system that checks the performance status of foreign nationals' social insurance payment obligations and appropriately takes it into account in the residence examinations. <125>
- The government provides adequate qualification management for insured persons who have changed to a residence qualification under which they are not covered by National Health Insurance. <174>
- The government reliably tracks the performance status of the tax obligations of the accepting organizations and specified skilled workers, implements strict examinations related to other foreign nationals with other statuses of residence, etc. <175>
- The government prepares a suitable personnel and physical resources, including training of staff, upgrades to the immigration control system, and review of residence examination fees and considers the early introduction of the Japan Electronic System for Travel Authorization (JESTA) as part of the digital transformation of immigration control and residency management, etc. <180>
- The government optimizes and enhances visa operations, including the review of visa fees and the utilization of digital technologies. <181>

5. Initiatives to establish the foundation of a society of harmonious coexistence (2)

Creating a system that enables foreign nationals to also play an active role in a society of harmonious coexistence

- The government supports leading local government initiatives through the New Regional Economic and Living environment Creation grants. <184>
- The government reviews the "Fourth-Generation Foreign Nationals of Japanese Descent Acceptance System." <185>
- The government promotes volunteer community revitalization activities for the settlement of foreign nationals in the local community in collaboration with the local government, etc. <188>

Building the residency management system as an infrastructure of a society of harmonious coexistence

(1) Strengthening residency management network

- The government makes efforts to clarify the independent livelihood requirement for permanent residents. The government formulates guidelines for revocation of permanent residence status. <189>
- The government protects and supports refugees promptly and securely. <191>
- The government supports foreign nationals applying for Individual Number Cards to promote the possession of Individual Number Cards among foreign nationals. <192>
- The government implements more appropriate residency management by reviewing the entry permission criteria and examination methods of the statuses of residence permitting work. <196>
- The government responds to cases of violations of engaging in activities other than those permitted under the status of residence granted to achieve an appropriate residency management. <197>

(2) Accurate management of international student enrollment

• The government improves Japanese language institutes through on-site inspections and confirms compliance with various standards, etc. <199>

(3) Further optimization of the Technical Intern Training Program

- The government establishes a system that integrates the counseling and instruction functions in the Technical Intern Training Program.

 The government considers the online system for applications and other procedures. <100>
- The government promotes initiatives that spread information and raise awareness of transfers for "unavoidable circumstances" and reduce the number of disappearing technical intern trainees. <207>

(4) Strengthening of measures against illegal foreign residents

- The government takes initiatives to implement crackdowns and preventive measures for violations appropriate for the digital society through the strengthening of cooperation among relevant organizations, information collection and analysis, etc. <211>
- The government enhances measures against forged or altered residence cards to achieve strict residency management. <212>
- The government promotes deportation and voluntary departure by further enhancing the forms of deportation in a case-by-case manner.
 <215>