

EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation

Fourth Exchange Meeting of EU Regions and Japanese Prefectures

- Date:** 30 October 2023
Time: Session 1 14:00-15:40 JST
Session 2 16:00-18:20 JST / 8:00-10:20 CET (online)
Venu: Delegation of the EU to Japan (Europa House)
4-6-28 Minami-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo

This is the final exchange meeting between the EU regions and the Japanese prefectures participating in the EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation programme which will be concluded in November 2023. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format, with participation in person from Japan and online participation from Europe. The European and Japanese cities working on innovation-related topics in the IURC (international Urban and Regional Cooperation) Asia Australasia city-to-city cooperation programme will be also invited. The meeting will be divided into two sessions. The meeting with full participation from both the EU and Japan is organized as session 2, where each participant is requested to present comments and suggestions on the future of the EU-Japan region-to-region and city-to-city cooperation for innovation and industrial transformation. Before this session, Japanese regions and cities who are cooperating with EU regions and cities meet in Session 1 and they exchange information and ideas on their activities. .

これは、2023年11月に終了する「日欧地域間イノベーション協力」プログラムに参加しているEU地域と日本府県との最後の交流会です。会議は、日本からの直接参加と欧州からのオンライン参加というハイブリッド形式で行われます。また、IURC（国際都市・地域間協力）アジア・オーストラレーシアの都市間協力プログラムにおいてイノベーション関連のテーマに取り組んでいる日欧の都市も招待されます。会議は2つのセッションで構成されます。日欧双方からの完全参加による会議はセッション2として開催され、各参加者は、イノベーションと産業転換のための日欧の地域間・都市間協力の将来について、



コメントや提案を述べます。このセッションに先立って、EU の地域・都市との協力に参加している日本の地域・都市はセッション1に集合し、情報・意見の交換を行います。

Session 1

This is the session for the participants from Japan. Most people will participate physically, but online participation will be also possible.

13-30-14:00 JST **Registration** **05:30-06:00 CET**

14:00-14:20-JST **Opening remarks and Introduction of the participants** **06:00-06:20 CET**

Moderated by: Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader, EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation

Meeting will start with opening remarks by Hidefumi Imura and introduction of participants. Hidefumi Imura will present the history and the current situation of the EU's IURC program covering the EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation and the EU-Japan city-to-city cooperation under the IURC Asia-Austrasia.

14:20– 15:00 JST **Reports from the Prefectures** **06:20-07:00 CET**

Moderated by: Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader, EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Project

Each of the five Japanese prefectures participating the EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation will present its ideas about exchanges with EU regions, including its innovation strategies, thematic priorities, possible partnerships with EU regions and comments on the study visits and webinars they participated.

- Aichi Prefecture
- Kyoto Prefecture
- Osaka Prefecture
- Hiroshima Prefecture and Hiroshima University
- Oita Prefecture

15:00– 15:20 JST **Comments from the Cities** **07:00-07:20 CET**

Moderated by: Ryoko Nakano, Pairing Coordinator for the city pairings of the IURC Asia and Australasia

Each of the invited cities participating in the city-to-city cooperation under the IURC AA will present its cooperation activities with its partner EU city focusing on its topics of cooperation and activities conducted.

- Toyota City cooperating with Grenoble-Alpes Metropole (GAM), France, for open innovation and hydrogen



- Koriyama City cooperating with Essen City, Germany, for innovation
- Nagoya City cooperating with Turin City, Italy, for startup ecosystem and open innovation
- Kawasaki City cooperating with Zagreb and Rijeka, Croatia, for innovation related activities

15:20– 15:30 JST

Comments from the Japanese Regions and Cities

07:20-07:30 CET

There will be free exchange of ideas among participants for promoting decentralized cooperation between the EU and Japan for innovation such as the promotion of startup ecosystems, open innovation initiatives and industrial transition for decarbonization, digitalization, and so forth.

15:30– 15:40 JST

Wrap-up and Closing

07:30-07:40 CET

Wrap-up and Closing Remark by: Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader, EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Project

Coffee Break

15:40-16:00: Coffee will be provided to participants

Session 2

*This is the session for the online participants from the EU and the physical participants from Japan.
Online participation will be also possible from Japan.*

15-40-16:00 JST

Registration

07:40-08:00 CET

16:00-16:15 JST

Opening of the Session

8:00-8:15 CET

Moderated by: Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader, EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation

The session will start with opening speech by **Normunds Popens**, the Directorate-General Regional and Urban Policy (REGIO) for the European Commission followed by greetings by the representatives from Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan

- Opening remarks by **Normunds Popens**, Deputy Director-General for Implementation, Directorate-General Regional and Urban Policy (REGIO), European Commission
- Greeting by **Sachio Muto**, Director of Urban Policy Division, City Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan



16:15– 16:40 JST

Review of the Project Activities

08:15-08:40 CET

Moderated by: Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader, EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation

Two videos are projected to recapture the project activities and present the interviews with experts from EU regions and Japanese prefectures. Hidefumi Imura will also present the summary of the questionnaire survey conducted for regions and prefectures and discussion from the session 1.

16:40– 18:00 JST

Comments from Regions and Cities and Discussion

08:40-10:00 CET

Moderated jointly by: Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader of the EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation; and **Ryoko Nakano**, Pairing Coordinator for the city pairings of the IURC Asia and Australasia

The EU and Japanese regions / prefectures and cities participating in the EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation and IURC Asia and Australasia are invited to express their ideas and comments on the future of the EU-Japan decentralized cooperation for innovation. **Each speaker has maximum five minutes.** No slides / presentation materials are requested. It is suggested that speakers should focus on their priority concerns for fostering the innovation cooperation, which may cover but not be limited to the following issues:

- *Follow-up of the ongoing cooperation / partnerships, how to maintain networks and keep momentum*
- *Effective form and content of collaboration activities: workshops, regular meetings, visits of experts, etc.*
- *Bilateral partnerships vs. thematic cluster cooperation*
- *Priority topics / themes of cooperation and cooperation partners*
- *Engagement of stakeholders, Public-Private Partnerships, Key actors for cooperation, B2B cooperation*
- *Triple / Quadruple Helix Approach, engagement of academia / universities*
- *Successful models / good practices of cooperation*
- *EU projects and other initiatives, barriers, financial mechanisms, relationship between regions and cities*
- *Important events scheduled, mutual participation in meetings hosted by other regions / prefectures*
- *Other*

Free discussion will be followed as time allows.

18:00– 18:20 JST

Wrap-up and Closing

10:00-10:20 CET

Moderated by: Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader, EU-Japan Region-to-Region Innovation Cooperation

The representatives of the DG REGIO and EUD to Japan will present their observation on the project

- Statement by **Ramon Lopez-Sanchez**, Directorate-General Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- Statement by **Cesar Moreno**, Project Manager, the Delegation of the EU to Japan



Networking Reception

18:30-19:30 JST: A small reception will be held for networking of participants.

Note: Simultaneous interpretation service for English and Japanese is available. Meeting will take place in a hybrid format. There will be a small cocktail after the meeting.

