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## Actions of Business Associations

### KANSAI KEIZAI DOYUKAI (Kansai Association of Corporate Executives)

#### ★Committee on Venture Ecosystem in Kansai-region

Chairperson : Keiji KAKUMOTO

#### ★Kansai Bridge Forum Promotion committee

Chairperson : Ryuichi MOROTOMI

- Fostering momentum
- Interacting with domestic and international startup ecosystem
- Bridging gaps between large companies and startups
- Providing mentoring services for startups



Keiji KAKUMOTO



Ryuichi Morotomi



Mentoring



Chairman



Chairman



Secretary General

Hiroyuki FUKANO Takeshi FURUICHI Shigeo HIROSE



<https://www.kansaidoyukai.or.jp/english/>

### THE OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (OCCI)

#### ★Xport (Urban Open Innovation Lab)

- Cultivating ideas for new businesses through open innovation
- Attract innovative talents through industry-academia collaborations
- ★Business Support for SMEs and Startups
- Providing supports for marketing such as business matchings



<https://xport.osaka.jp/>

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## Actions of Large Companies in Kansai

### DAIKIN INDUSTRIES, Ltd.



#### ★TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION CENTER

- The Technology and Innovation Center aims to create new value based on the world's best technologies and highly differentiated products.

<http://www.daikin.com/about/corporate/tic/>

### Nippon Telegraph and Telephone West Corporation



#### ★Startup Factory <http://www.ntt-west.co.jp/rebels/>

- Collaboration support program with start-ups and companies that have new technologies and products aims to solve social challenges.

### Osaka Gas Co., Ltd. <http://www.osakagas.co.jp/en/index.html>



- Launched a new group brand "DAIGAS Group." which symbolizes pursuing innovation and promoting our motto "Service First". At the Innovation Headquarters, we are deepening promotion of open innovation and digitization aiming at developing new business models and reforming business.

### Hankyu Corporation (Hankyu Railways) <http://www.hankyu.co.jp/global/en/>

#### SunBridge Inc. <https://www.sunbridge.com/> 阪急電鉄

#### ★GVH Osaka (Interacting space) GVH#5 (Sharing Office) <http://gvh-osaka.com/en/>

- Hankyu Corporation collaborates with SunBridge Inc. with abundant expertise in entrepreneurs support and is promoting various opportunities to encourage growth of entrepreneurs and creating environment for free community formation.



### DAIWA HOUSE INDUSTRY CO., LTD.









#### ★Open Innovation Program [https://www.daiwahouse.com/open\\_innovation/index.html](https://www.daiwahouse.com/open_innovation/index.html)

- Always collecting collaboration proposals from startups under four themes of housing, construction, real estate and infrastructure .



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## Venture Capitals and Funds in Kansai

<b>JR-WEST INNOVATIONS</b> <a href="http://www.jrw-inv.co.jp/">http://www.jrw-inv.co.jp/</a> ➤ Corporate venture capital of JR-West Group Railway established in December 2016 (Capital USD28M)	
<b>Kintetsu Venture Partners</b> <a href="http://www.kintetsu-g-hd.co.jp/venture/">http://www.kintetsu-g-hd.co.jp/venture/</a> ➤ Corporate venture capital of KINTETSU RAILWAY established in August 2018 (Capital USD19M)	
<b>Hankyu Corporation (Hankyu Railways)</b> <a href="http://www.hankyu.co.jp/global/en/">http://www.hankyu.co.jp/global/en/</a> ➤ UMEDA Startup Fund (USD2M)、SI SOGYO OEN Fund (USD3M)	
<b>SENSHU IKEDA CAPITAL CO., LTD.</b> <a href="http://www.ikegin-c.jp/index.htmhttp">http://www.ikegin-c.jp/index.htmhttp</a> ➤ Local bank venture capital of The SENSYU IKEDA Bank, Ltd	
<b>SunBridge Global Ventures Inc.</b> <a href="http://www.sunbridge-gv.jp/">http://www.sunbridge-gv.jp/</a> ➤ Corporate venture capital of SunBridge Inc. established in January 2012	
<b>K4 Ventures</b> <a href="http://www.k4v.co.jp/en/">http://www.k4v.co.jp/en/</a> ➤ Corporate venture capital of Kansai Electric Power Group	
<b>ABC DREAM VENTURES, Inc.</b> <a href="http://adventures.co.jp/">http://adventures.co.jp/</a> ➤ Corporate venture capital of Asahi Broadcasting Group Holdings Corporation established in July 2015 (Capital USD11M)	
<b>HACK VENTURES, Inc.</b> <a href="https://www.hack-ventures.com/">https://www.hack-ventures.com/</a> ➤ Independent venture capital, consists of government, banks and large companies in Kansai (Capital USD42M)	

※ 1USD = ¥106

## Networking and Supporting Organizations for Startups

### Entrepreneurs' Organization Osaka

- Worldwide network of young entrepreneurs of companies exceeding USD1M annual sales
- Holding Monthly meeting, Forum, Mentorship, Global activty etc



<https://www.eosaka.org/>

### Nishinaka Valley

- A networking organization of start-ups based on the Nishi Nakajima area and its vicinity near Shin-Osaka station



<http://nishinaka-valley.com/>

### KNOWLEDGE SALON

- Members-only salon aimed at creating new value through business people, researchers, university officials, creators, startups etc. through encounters and exchanges across fields



<https://kc-i.jp/en/>

### HIDEYOSHI-Kai

- A community of 30 entrepreneurs having visions and strict discipline as Samurai (worrier)
- Meeting twice a month, members battle with harsh questions to get solutions



<https://hideyoshikai.com/>

### Ogyaa's



- Incubation office, co-working space for start-ups
- Available 24 hours a day, 365 days
- Possible to be registered as head offices



<https://ogyaa.jp/>

### Japan Startup Support Association

- Established by a serial entrepreneur in Osaka
- Provides supports for entrepreneurs of startups aiming at IPO or M&A



<https://www.yumeplanning.jp/%E5%8D%94%E4%BC%9A%E6%A1%88%E5%86%85/>

Concierge

Please feel free to contact us

Human Hub Japan 

Open Flat Friendly Kansai !!



Masaaki YOSHIKAWA  
E-mail: [masaaki.yoshikawa@human-hub.jp](mailto:masaaki.yoshikawa@human-hub.jp)  
<https://www.facebook.com/OpenFlatFriendly/>

 OSAKA INNOVATION HUB

Go Global!!



Masao NAGAKAWA  
E-mail: [ohclub@innovation-osaka.jp](mailto:ohclub@innovation-osaka.jp)  
<https://www.facebook.com/OsakaInnovationHub/>

Action of Local Governments

Osaka Prefecture

Startup Initial program Osaka



- Supports for entrepreneurs and startups in seed and early stage
- Acceleration program by professional startup supporters and large companies in Kansai

<Acceleration Program>

Lecture about open innovation

Pitch by startups

Pitch by large companies

matching

[http://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/shogyoshien/shokishien/sio\\_renzoku.html](http://www.pref.osaka.lg.jp/shogyoshien/shokishien/sio_renzoku.html)

Osaka City

Osaka Innovation Hub (OIH)

- A base for entrepreneurs and engineers who want to change the world through new businesses and technologies

 OSAKA INNOVATION HUB



<https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/>

Kobe City

500 Startups Kobe Accelerator

- A program of US seed investment fund, 500 Startups, hosted by the Kobe City Government

MEET THE MENTORS



<http://500kobe.com/>

Kyoto (Keihanna Science City)

- The core organizations of Keihanna Science City signed a MoU with Israel Innovation Authority on January 2019.
- Japanese and overseas startups participate in KGAP+ (Keihanna Global Acceleration Program +).



Ceremony of signing a MoU (15.1.2019)

<https://www.kri.or.jp/en/>

## Kansai Venture Supporters Meeting



関西ベンチャーサポーターズ会議  
Kansai Venture Supporters Meeting

- **Kansai Venture Supporters Meeting was formed with experts, startup supporters and venture capitalists in June 2018.** <https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-3shinki/supporters/index.html>  
※Also, local governments and economic organizations in Kansai participate in it as observers.
- **This meeting is aiming to attract entrepreneurs and investors to Kansai by promoting Kansai venture ecosystem.**
- **Main activities**
  1. Promotion of Kansai venture ecosystem via website (portal site) and facebook.
  2. Making lists of startups and support programs in Kansai.
  3. Running online calendar of startup events held in Kansai.
  4. Research and analysis about startups in Kansai.

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
DAIFUKU presents Discovery Hackathon 2019	創業支援セミナーin大阪 【生財会】第2回「スタートアップ推進1」&人材マッチング	★GVH Osaka Speedup ランディング フェスティバル2019/09/10 feat.ポランディア AIビジネス創出アイデア コンテスト2020 キックオフセミナー 成長企業はやっている IT活用人材の採用・ 定業の方法とは？ 中川・ベンチャーで勉 めるリアル採用～ 【無料】WEB集客に 強くなる～WEB集客 マンツーマン相談会～ @オキヤーズ発信	【大阪】トップランナー 育成講座！ 起業家の強 化！ 2019 Autumn☆ ～新 たな成績を生み出す新 規事業の創出～ ★GVH Osaka Office Hour★ スタートアップ ビジネスアイデアア ンチリアル・オンラ イン相談会	4輪ロボットアームを 駆りて学ぶ～ROSハ ンズオン講座 【対象者限定】戦略的 企業家のための「アン ドレプレナードシップ・ カリキュラム	【第12回】 Morning Meet Up (モーニング ミーティング) 実践から学ぶ新規事業 モデル/バージョン創出 ★GVH Osaka Office Hour★ IT/アプリ/サ ービス新規事業相談 会 2019/09/13 ドローン×新たなキャ リアー ミートアップ@ 大阪 [Osaka Umeda] Osaka キャリアア フェス (Osaka Career Fest)	【LED照明 女性限定 企画】LED照明スレー ムワークを活用したエ ントリーシート作成 ワークショップ 【無料】 盛打ちアワー ～起業アイデア相談会 ～@オキヤーズ発信
★GVH Osaka Office Hour★ U-29 起業志 望者・起業家相談会 2019/09/08	【スタートアップの真 実 投資家はこの会社/経 営者に投資するのかわ り？					
【大阪・梅田 (GVH Osaka)】U-29 起業 志望者・起業家相談会 2019/09/15		JAWS-UG 京都「はじ めるためのR/ハンズオン ～Amazon Sumerian ～」 読書会 組織にいなが ら、自由に働く	Raspberry Piで学ぶ IoTの基礎 - ハード ウェア編・クラウド編 ～ LED関西 女性起業家 応援セミナー 経験も 知識もなかった私はど のように起業したのか -自分の思いと地域の 特性を活かした起業の 方法-	Pythonの定番ライブ rary NumPy・pandas によるデータ処理 「バイトテロ」が起き ない強い組織づくりセ ミナー 【大阪】JSerもくもく 会#19【フロントエン ド/mondayライブ リット開発！	いざ次のステージへ！ ITエンジニア採用成功 の秘訣 - 小さな会社 の採用で勝つためには 【AI時代に活躍する人 材の能力】読書会 Mobile Act OSAKA #11	【L134限定】野心系ア ップのための新規事 業開発講座DAY1 (9/13編成)

Online calendar of startup events held in Kansai (May 2020)

Reference : website of Human Hub Japan  
<https://human-hub.jp/>

## ***“There’s probably no economic center in the world that is as under-utilized as a platform for entrepreneurship as Osaka”***

A View on Kansai’s Startup Ecosystem

**Allen Miner** Sun Bridge Corporation  
Group Chairman and CEO

**Forbes** Aug 2, 2018, 04:52pm



Allen Miner, CEO of Sunbridge Group, says Osaka represents an enormous untapped market for startup companies

Located at the heart of Japan’s second-largest metropolitan area, Osaka is emerging as a startup hotspot based on dynamic government support programs. The city and prefecture has given birth to long-established Japanese brands such as Panasonic, Sharp, Suntory and Nissin Food Products, as well as more recently founded high-tech firms including Sakura Internet and Capcom. There are also an estimated 1,000 early-stage seed startups in Osaka.

“There’s probably no economic center in the world that is as under-utilized as a platform for entrepreneurship as Osaka—there’s a huge local market and talent pool and a huge potential for consumers,” says Allen Miner, former head of Oracle Japan and CEO of Sunbridge Group, a venture capital organization based in Tokyo and Silicon Valley with about \$2 million invested in the Osaka region. “As of a year ago, all our seed investments were in Osaka because there’s not enough funding there to meet the underlying potential.”

***“There’s probably no economic center in the world that is as under-utilized as a platform for entrepreneurship as Osaka—there’s a huge local market and talent pool and a huge potential for consumers,”*** says Allen Miner, former head of Oracle Japan and CEO of Sunbridge Group, a venture capital organization based in Tokyo and Silicon Valley with about \$2 million invested in the Osaka region. “As of a year ago, all our seed investments were in Osaka because there’s not enough funding there to meet the underlying potential.”  
***Osaka is an important case study of how the public and private sectors are working together to bring Japanese innovation to greater heights on the global stage.***

## Overseas Organization for Startup

### Rainmaking Innovation

- Rainmaking Innovation is an accelerator based in UK, and runs acceleration program “Startupbootcamp Scale Osaka”.
- This program promotes collaborations between overseas startups and large companies in Kansai.



<https://www.startupbootcamp.org/accelerator/scale-osaka/>

### Plug and Play

- Plug and Play is a venture capital based in US, and runs acceleration program “PLUG AND PLAY KYOTO”.
- This program supports startups with a focus on Hard Tech and Healthcare.



京都を世界有数のスタートアップ・エコシステムに

<https://www.plugandplaytechcenter.com/japan/>

### 500 startups

- 500 Startups is a seed investment fund based in US, and runs acceleration program “500 Startups Kobe Accelerator” with Kobe City government. (⇒p.6)

**500 KOBE ACCELERATOR**

<http://500kobe.com/>

### WeWork

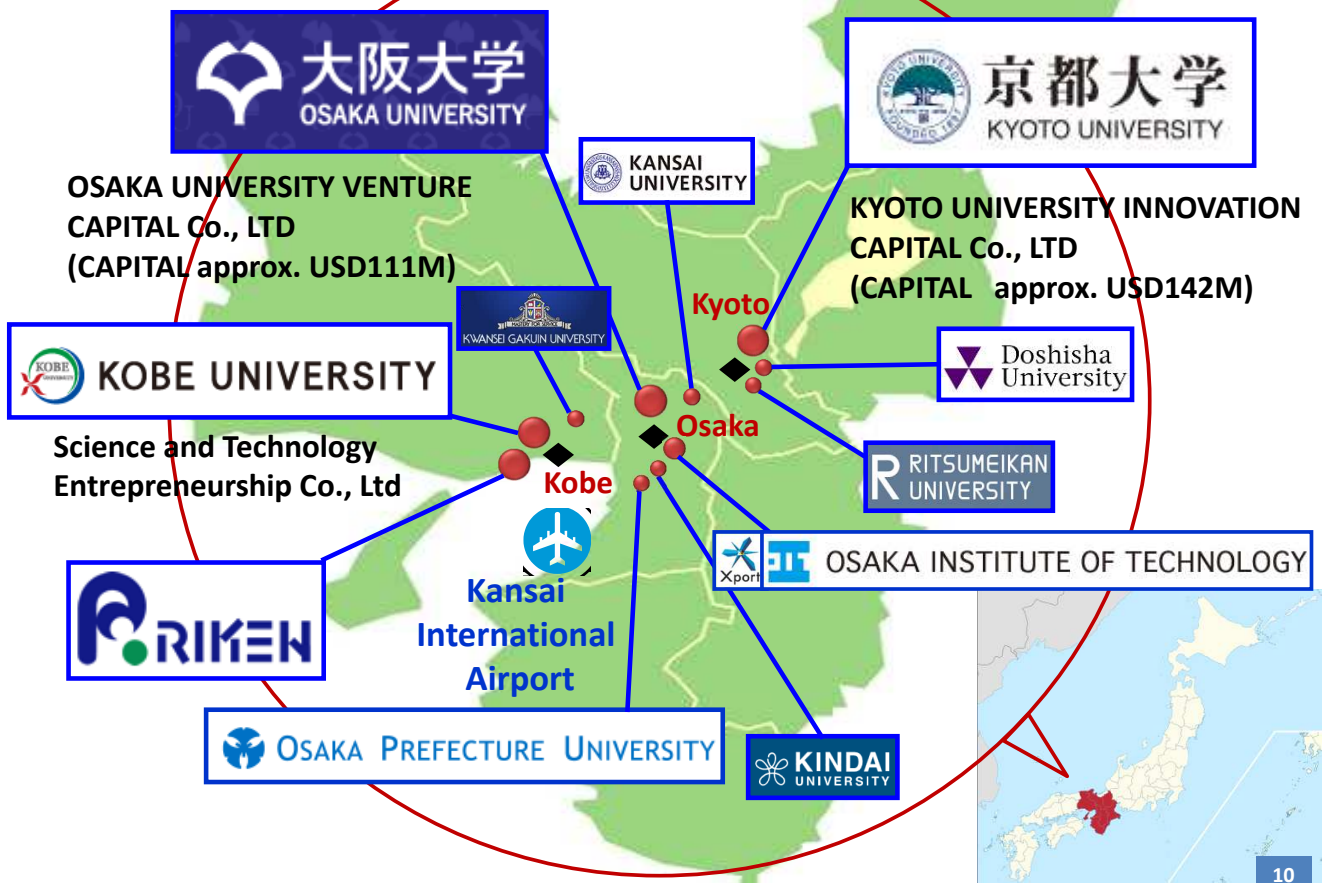
- WeWork is a working space provider based in US, and runs 4 working spaces in Kansai.



Co-working space in NAMBA SkyO

<https://www.wework.com/ja-JP/buildings/midosuji-frontier-osaka>

## Academia in Kansai



## Organizations in University for Open Innovation

### Kyoto University

- New organization ( Kyoto University Open Innovation Institute) was formed in July 2019, aiming to manage of joint studies in competitive domains intensively.
- Three group companies support commercialization of research results practically.



cooperation



support



### Osaka University

- Office for Industry-University Co-Creation supports commercialization of research results in cooperation with graduate schools, research institutes centers and university hospitals.
- Osaka University Venture Capital (OUVC) supports startup development by investment and consulting.

**Office for Industry-University Co-Creation, Co-Creation Bureau, Osaka University**

<support>

- research collaboration
- venture incubation
- intellectual property strategy
- innovation education etc.

<https://www.uic.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/target/aboutus/system/>



Incubation facility



The Institute of Scientific and Industrial Research  
<https://www.sanken.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/>











Osaka University Venture Capital  
<https://www.ouvc.co.jp/>

## Startups from Osaka to the world

※Reference : website of OIH <https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/companies/>

NAME	SECTOR	DESCRIPTION	URL
<b>ACALL</b>	Software	ACALL automates the process of welcoming guests in corporations with a strong sense of hospitality.	<a href="https://www.acall.jp/">https://www.acall.jp/</a>
<b>Akippa</b>	Sharing	Akippa provides a sharing service app that allows drivers to easily find and reserve a parking space.	<a href="https://akippa.co.jp/">https://akippa.co.jp/</a>
<b>ArchiTek</b>	AI edge processor	Architek's AI edge processor technology enables the safety of human life with image processing and AI.	<a href="https://architek.ai/en/business-home-en/">https://architek.ai/en/business-home-en/</a>
<b>Aromajoin</b>	Communication	Aromajoin digitalizes and controls scents based upon space and time via PCs, smartphones or IoT devices.	<a href="https://aromajoin.com/en">https://aromajoin.com/en</a>
<b>At</b>	Healthcare	At developed the world's first capillary condition analysis system and device that gives a diagnosis in 3 seconds based on an image without blood sampling.	<a href="https://kekkan-bijin.jp/en/">https://kekkan-bijin.jp/en/</a>
<b>Dank1</b>	Sports Ed Tech	Dank1 offers an online platform to connect amateur dancers and athletes with professional coaches.	<a href="http://dank-1.com/">http://dank-1.com/</a>
<b>FREEPLUS</b>	Tourism	FREEPLUS is a pioneer in the tourism industry in Japan, focusing on the needs of international travelers.	<a href="https://www.freeplus.co.jp/en">https://www.freeplus.co.jp/en</a>
<b>i-plug</b>	HR tech	i-plug empowers college students in their career building through its interactive and direct job sourcing platform.	<a href="http://i-plug.co.jp/">http://i-plug.co.jp/</a>
<b>TouchJapan</b>	Tourism	TouchJapan develops multilingual e-ticketing service to make eating out stress-free for foreign visitors.	<a href="http://metatism.co.jp/">http://metatism.co.jp/</a>
<b>mui Lab</b>	Smart home	mui Lab develops award-winning smart home devices with a natural wooden interface.	<a href="https://mui.jp/#en">https://mui.jp/#en</a>
<b>Next Innovation</b>	Healthcare	Next Innovation offers a variety of telemedical apps to efficiently connect people in need with domain experts.	<a href="https://nextinnovation-inc.co.jp/">https://nextinnovation-inc.co.jp/</a>
<b>PLEN Robotics</b>	Robotics	PLEN Robotics develops unique service robots that can help businesses and enrich our everyday lives.	<a href="http://www.plenrobotics.com/en/">http://www.plenrobotics.com/en/</a>
<b>PIJIN</b>	Tourism	PIJIN provides a QR code-based translation service and app for tourist sites, restaurants and companies.	<a href="https://www.qrtranslator.com/en">https://www.qrtranslator.com/en</a>
<b>SAKURA internet</b>	Server, IoT	SAKURA internet is now a listed IT server company that was founded by a then high school student.	<a href="https://www.sakura.ad.jp/">https://www.sakura.ad.jp/</a>
<b>Triple W</b>	Healthcare	Triple W developed an award-winning healthcare device that notifies when to go to the bathroom.	<a href="https://dfree.biz/en/">https://dfree.biz/en/</a>
<b>Warrantee</b>	Personal data management	Warrantee digitalizes warranty documents and allows consumers to manage the data easily with an app.	<a href="https://warrantee.jp/index.html">https://warrantee.jp/index.html</a>
<b>WEFABRIK</b>	Apparel marketplace	WEFABRIK developed SMASELL, an online BtoB marketplace allowing companies to sell their dead stock easily and cost-efficiently.	<a href="https://www.smasell.jp/">https://www.smasell.jp/</a>

Events

 <p>Every other Fridays</p> <p>Morning Meetup</p> <p>morning meetup</p> <p><a href="https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/morning-meet-up/">https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/morning-meet-up/</a></p>	 <p>2019/12/14 13:00 - 19:00</p> <p>Pitch in Future 2019</p> <p>pitch</p> <p><a href="https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/events/miraino2019/">https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/events/miraino2019/</a></p>	 <p>2019/11/17 14:00 - 19:30</p> <p>EO Global Student Entrepreneur Awards (Kansai Region Preliminary)</p> <p>pitch</p> <p><a href="https://gsea.org/">https://gsea.org/</a></p>	 <p>2020/2/27</p> <p>Global Pitch Contest</p> <p>pitch</p> <p><a href="https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/hackosaka/en/">https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/hackosaka/en/</a></p>
 <p>2019/11/24 10:00-19:00</p> <p>Kansai Future Summit 2019</p> <p>meetup</p> <p><a href="https://eventregist.com/2019/2019kansai_jp">https://eventregist.com/2019/2019kansai_jp</a></p>	 <p>2020/2/28</p> <p>Startupbootcamp SCALE Osaka Demo Day</p> <p>global</p> <p>meetup</p> <p><a href="https://www.startupbootcamp.org/accelerator/SCALE-osaka/">https://www.startupbootcamp.org/accelerator/SCALE-osaka/</a></p>	 <p>2020/2/28</p> <p>GET IN THE RING OSAKA 2020</p> <p>global</p> <p>pitch</p> <p><a href="https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/events/getinthering/">https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/events/getinthering/</a></p>	 <p>2019/11/26 17:00-21:00</p> <p>Israel Innovation Seminar</p> <p>global</p> <p>seminar</p> <p><a href="https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/events/event-6208/">https://www.innovation-osaka.jp/ja/events/event-6208/</a></p>

Appendix I

### 1. What is Kansai?

#### 1-1. Large Kansai Economy

**INVEST KANSAI**  
THE FLOWER OF JAPAN  
**KANSAI**


- Kansai is an area that is located in the center of Japan and has a huge market with a population of approximately 21.62 million and a GRP of approximately \$763.2 billion. The size of the Kansai economy alone is equivalent to that of Turkey (ranked 19th in the world).
- Kansai has international cities, such as Osaka, Kyoto, and Kobe. Kansai's compactness is an attractive point, as Kyoto and Kobe are about a 30-minute train ride from Osaka's city center.

**Comparable to #19 in the world**

Comparison of GDP: Kansai and other countries

Netherlands	879
Turkey	798
<b>Kansai</b>	<b>763</b>
Switzerland	701
Sweden	571

(US\$ billion)



**World's 8th most populated area**

Shanghai	24,115
Mumbai	23,265
<b>Kansai</b>	<b>21,617</b>
New York	21,575
Beijing	21,250

(1,000)

	Kansai	Domestic share
Area (kmi) (2017)	31,542	8.3%
Population (1,000) (2017)	21,617	16.9%
GRP,GDP (US\$ billion) (2014)	763	16.3%

Sources: 2017 Statistical reports on land area of prefectures and municipalities in Japan (Geospatial Information Authority of Japan), Population based on Residential Basic Book (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, as of January 1, 2017), 2014 National Accounts (Cabinet Office), 2014 Annual Report on Prefecture Accounts (Cabinet Office)  
Note: GRP of Kansai = Derived from Fiscal Year 2014 nominal GRP of the region  
Foreign exchange rate: ¥109.92/USD

※Reference : website of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Kansai Bureau  
[https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest\\_in\\_kansai/e\\_welcome\\_to\\_kansai.html](https://www.kansai.meti.go.jp/3-1toukou/invest_in_kansai/e_welcome_to_kansai.html)

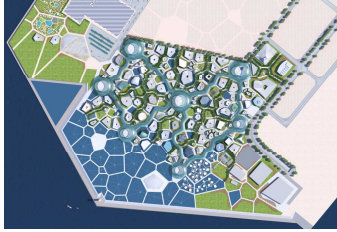


# Information on World Expo 2025

- **Name**  
Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition
- **Theme**  
Designing Future Society for Our Lives
- **Sub-Theme**
  - How to Lead a Healthy Life in a Diverse Manner
  - Sustainable Socioeconomic Systems
- **Concept**  
People's Living Lab

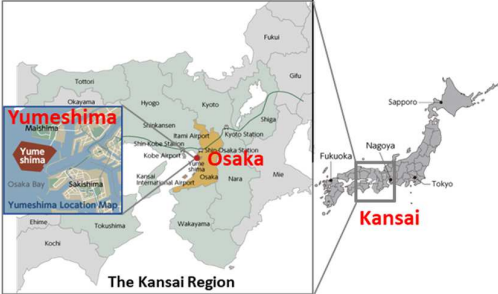


(Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry)



(Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry)

- **Schedule** ••• May 3 – November 3, 2025
- **Venue** ••• Yumeshima, Osaka
- **Projected Visitors** ••• 28 million



For further information, please contact: International Relations Bureau, Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition  
 e-mail: intl@expo2025.or.jp tel: +81-6-6625-8723 URL: <https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/>