

JAPAN & Council of Europe



25 YEARS



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# WEBINAR ON INTERCULTURAL CITIES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC

## Local Experiences, Regional Cooperation

### KEYWORDS:

- Interculturalism
- Education for Migrant Children
- Multilingual Communication
- Diverse Residents
- Local Authorities

## 25 MARCH THURSDAY

09H00 - 11H30  
(Strasbourg)

17H00 - 19H30  
(Tokyo/Seoul)

19H00 - 21H30  
(Melbourne)

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在ストラスブール日本国総領事館  
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à STRASBOURG

## Webinar on Intercultural Cities in the Asia-Pacific

### Local experiences, regional cooperation

#### Concept Note

### **BACKGROUND**

The Council of Europe's Intercultural Cities Programme (ICC)<sup>1</sup>, which started in 2008 as a pilot project with 11 cities in Europe, grew into a global network of more than 140 cities, including those in North Africa, the Americas and the Asia-Pacific after more than a decade. The question of migration and integration is now one of the most important issues in the international community, including local governments.

The ICC supports cities in reviewing their policies through an intercultural lens and developing comprehensive intercultural strategies to build a diverse and inclusive community. There are three guiding principles in the ICC, that is, diversity, equality and interaction.

This webinar is one of the special events commemorating the 25th anniversary of Japan's participation in the Council of Europe as an observer state. In this webinar, the two co-authors of a newly published booklet, entitled "An Introduction to the Intercultural City for Local Governments in Japan" will share their views on how to create an intercultural city by referring to good practices of Hamamatsu and Kobe, two Japanese leading cities in migrant integration.

This webinar has a focus on intercultural cities in the Asia-Pacific Region, including Australia and Korea as well as Japan. It is hoped that the experience of the participating cities in the webinar will bring cities in the region and beyond some insights into the question of migration and integration, including issues such as education for children with diverse backgrounds and multilingual support for newcomers.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.coe.int/en/web/interculturalcities>

<b>ORGANIZERS</b>	Council of Europe Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
<b>SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS</b>	Japan Foundation Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR), Tokyo
<b>DATE</b>	25 March 2021 (Thursday)
<b>TIME</b>	09h00 – 11h30 (Strasbourg) 17h00 – 19h30 (Tokyo/Seoul) 19h00 – 21h30 (Melbourne)
<b>FORMAT</b>	BlueJeans online platform (the link to be sent later) → REGISTRATION: <a href="https://forms.gle/WrNHK2ufeilL2i5Nx8">https://forms.gle/WrNHK2ufeilL2i5Nx8</a>
<b>WORKING DOCUMENT</b>	“An Introduction to the Intercultural City for Local Governments in Japan” → DOWNLOAD: <a href="https://bit.ly/3cKenDW">https://bit.ly/3cKenDW</a>

## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Overall Moderator: KOJIMA Hideaki (Consulate General of Japan in Strasbourg)

<b>09h00 – 09h10</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI, Former Deputy Secretary-General of the Council of Europe (Video message)</li> <li>- Ivana D'ALESSANDRO, Head of Intercultural Cities Unit, Council of Europe</li> <li>- AKAMATSU Takeshi, the Permanent Observer of Japan to the Council of Europe</li> </ul>
<b>09h10 – 09h20</b>	<b>Introduction of the Booklet</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- YAMAWAKI Keizo, Professor, Meiji University (Tokyo, Japan)</li> <li>- UENO Taka, Lecturer, Toyo University and Kanagawa University (Tokyo, Japan)</li> </ul>
<b>09h20 – 10h15</b>	<b>Session 1: Education of Children with Diverse Backgrounds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation by SUZUKI Mitsuo, Hamamatsu City, Japan</li> <li>- Presentation by Alisha ABATE and Christopher LYNCH, Maribyrnong City, Australia</li> <li>- Comments by YANG Kee-Ho, Sungkonghoe University (Seoul, South Korea)</li> <li>- Comments by Frances SALENGA, City of Ballarat, Australia</li> <li>- Moderation by YAMAWAKI Keizo</li> </ul>
<b>10h15 – 10h25</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>10h25 – 11h20</b>	<b>Session 2: Coping Together with Crises: Engaging Newcomers through Multilingualism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation by TANZAWA Yasushi, Kobe City, Japan</li> <li>- Presentation by Essan DILERI, Melton City, Australia</li> <li>- Presentation by KIM Hyon Sook, Guro City, South Korea</li> <li>- Comments by Dani DE TORRES, ICC expert</li> <li>- Moderation by UENO Taka</li> </ul>
<b>11h20 – 11h25</b>	<b>Closing Comments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HARA Hideki, Japan Foundation</li> <li>- FUJINAMI Kaori, Council of Local Authorities for International Relations</li> </ul>
<b>11h25</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Irena GUIDIKOVA, Head of Division, Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Programmes, Council of Europe</li> </ul>

## AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY

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### **YAMAWAKI Keizo**

**Professor, Meiji University (Tokyo, Japan)**

YAMAWAKI specializes in migration and integration. He has advised numerous local governments as well as ministries of the national government in Japan. Since 2010, he has promoted exchange of ideas and good practices in migrant integration between cities in Japan and those in Europe, Korea and Australia.



### **UENO Taka (Takahiko)**

**Lecturer, Toyo University and Kanagawa University (Tokyo, Japan)**

Taka is currently a Ph.D. Student in the Graduate School of Social Sciences at Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo. A key area of his expertise is in the sociological analysis of local governance and everyday intercultural contacts, based on the fieldwork in Barcelona and Bilbao. He held various seminars for grassroots associations in Japan.

## SPEAKER'S BIOGRAPHY (in the order of appearance)



### **Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI**

#### **Former Deputy Secretary-General of the Council of Europe**

Ms Battaini-Dragoni served as the Council of Europe's Deputy Secretary General since 2012 until February 2021. Before her current post, she was Director General of Social Cohesion, then Education, Culture and Heritage, and Programmes, respectively. She has published widely on a range of issues including social rights and the role of intercultural dialogue in modern democracies.



### **Ivana D'ALESSANDRO**

#### **Head of the Intercultural Cities Unit, Council of Europe**

Ms Ivana d'Alessandro is a human rights lawyer specialised on migrants and refugees' rights. She joined the Council of Europe in 2004, and served in the Migration Division, the Roma and Travellers Division, the Bern Convention, and the Anti-Discrimination Department. She is currently the Head of the Intercultural Cities Unit and the Secretary of the Working Group on Intercultural Integration, the first CoE multilevel specialist body in the field of migrant integration.



### **AKAMATSU Takeshi**

#### **Ambassador, Permanent Observer of Japan to the Council of Europe**

His 33 years of diplomatic service encompasses, inter alia, public administration, international development, and Africa. He chaired the Development Working Group under the Japanese G20 Presidency after serving on the UN Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), following his tour in the Republic of South Sudan as the first Ambassador of Japan.



### **SUZUKI Mitsuo**

#### **Director, International Affairs Division, Hamamatsu City**

Suzuki conducted research in Bologna, Italy, a member city of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), in preparation for Hamamatsu to join the UCCN in 2009. Then he joined the Creative Cities Policy Division and engaged in activities regarding Hamamatsu City's membership to the UCCN. In 2020, he assumed the current position.



### **Alisha ABATE**

#### **Inclusion Officer, Maribyrnong City Council**

Alisha has a diverse range of experiences working locally and internationally in private and public sectors addressing Intercultural Practice, the arts, placemaking, diversity and inclusion through the lens of community development, stakeholder engagement, event and project management, public policy and working with multi-disciplinary teams.



## **Christopher LYNCH**

**Stream Leader, Wellbeing and Equity, Youth Services, Maribyrnong City Council**

Christopher is a qualified Youth Worker, Counsellor and Gestalt Therapist and has worked in the youth sector for over 25 years in both Local Government and not for profit organisations. He specialises in Sexual and Reproductive Health for young people, gender equity and the elimination of violence against women and children.



## **YANG Kee-Ho**

**Professor, Sungkonghoe University (Seoul, South Korea)**

Yang achieved Ph.D. of Political Science in Keio University, Tokyo. He served as the President of Korean Association of Multicultural Studies, a Member of Advisory Committee for Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was a research fellow in Meiji University, Rikkyo University, University of the Philippines, and Duke University.



## **Frances SALENGA**

**Coordinator of Intercultural Services, Ballarat City Council**

Frances oversees the roll out of Council's Intercultural City Strategic Plan 2018-21. She has extensive experience in education, project management and policy development. Prior to coming to Australia from the Philippines, she was the Director of the Centre for Social Concern at the Assumption College in Manila.



## **TANZAWA Yasushi**

**Director, International Division, Kobe City**

Starting with the establishment of sister city relations with Incheon and Daegu, Korea, in 2010, Tanzawa oversaw international relations. In 2014–2017, he served as head of the Kobe Trade Information Office in Tianjin, China. In 2017, he implemented the "Urban Creative Industries" project. He assumed his current post in 2018.



## **Essan DILERI**

**Team Leader, Diversity and Intercultural Development, Melton City Council**

Essan completed his MA in International Development in Ireland and has worked in international development and the community sectors for 20 years. Essan is a former asylum. He is the winner of the Refugee Recognition Record Award and has published a book "Raised in Conflict" sharing first hand tales of conflict from his country Afghanistan.



### **KIM Hyon Sook**

#### **Director of Life & Welfare Bureau, Guro City**

Doctor Kim received her Ph.D. in Social Welfare Policy in 2020 from Seoul Christian University. She has been dedicated to improving the social well-being of citizens in the city since she started her career in the public sector. Currently, she is the Director of the Life & Welfare Bureau, Guro City and has overseen 6 divisions (Multicultural Policy Division, Welfare Policy Division, Education Support Division and so on).



### **Dani DE TORRES**

#### **ICC Expert, Director of Diversit**

Dani de Torres is an expert of the Intercultural Cities programme of the Council of Europe and Director of Diversit, an organisation that leads RECI (Spanish Network of Intercultural Cities) and the Antirumours Global programme. Dani has been Commissioner for Immigration of Barcelona and is currently a lecturer of the master's programme in Migration Studies at the Pompeu Fabra University.



### **HARA Hideki**

#### **Director of the Americas Section at the Department of Japanese Studies, Japan Foundation, Tokyo**

Since joining the Foundation in 1991 Hara has held a number of positions at its offices in Tokyo and Osaka, as well as serving as Deputy Director of the Foundation's Center for Global Partnership in New York and most recently as Director of its Los Angeles office. Hara holds an MA in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Waterloo, in Ontario, Canada.



### **FUJINAMI Kaori**

#### **Manager, Multiculturalism Promotion Division, Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR)**

After joining the Saitama Prefectural Government, Fujinami worked in areas such as multicultural policy and supporting coordination between the public and private sector before she was dispatched to the CLAIR in 2018. At CLAIR, she supports policy and human resource development of local governments and international exchange associations.



### **Irena GUIDIKOVA**

#### **Head of Division, Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Programmes, Council of Europe**

Irena has been working at the Council of Europe since 1994. Her career includes youth policy and research and urban policies for intercultural integration and media and diversity, and between 2013 and 2017 she was the coordinator of the World Forum for Democracy ([www.world-forum-democracy.org](http://www.world-forum-democracy.org)). She is one of the main contributors in launching the Intercultural Cities Programme in 2008.