

“Utsunomiya Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan (Fourth Utsunomiya City Internationalization Promotion Plan)” Overview Version

1. Purpose of Formulating the Plan

In order to respond to the diversification of cultures and lifestyles caused by multi-nationalization due to the proactive acceptance of foreign human resources in conjunction with the decreasing population, the government is working on further promoting “multicultural coexistence,” by revising the “Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan in the Community” and the “Comprehensive Countermeasures for the Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Human Resources,” etc.

In addition, the population is decreasing in this city and the number of foreign citizens was temporarily stagnant due to the impact of COVID-19, but in 2023, it reached a record high. The percentage of foreigners to Japanese is also increasing, making it increasingly necessary to create a community in which Japanese and foreign citizens can live together by providing support for communication and other living-related aspects in the future.

As a result, the “Utsunomiya Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan (Fourth Utsunomiya City Internationalization Promotion Plan)” has been formulated. This plan centers on the concepts and initiatives outlined in the plan, aiming to further advance the creation of a “multicultural coexistence community” where foreign citizens can thrive as members of the local community and live with peace of mind, building upon the work undertaken in the “Third Internationalization Promotion Plan.”

【Plan period】

A period of 5 years, from fiscal year 2024 to fiscal year 2028

2. Basic Principle & Basic Goals

(1) Basic Principle

Realization of “Multicultural Coexistence City Utsunomiya,” a vibrant town where people respect each other and continue to live with peace of mind

(2) Basic Goals

Basic goal No.1: A town where anyone can continue to live with peace of mind

Basic goal No. 2: A vibrant town where people respect and support each other

3. Plan Characteristics

(1) Policy for foreign citizens to also coexist as members of the same community

(2) Strengthening of measures concerning the “living infrastructure” and “town vitality” to promote multicultural coexistence

(3) Promotion of initiatives utilizing digital technology to remove “language barriers” and “cultural barriers”

4. System of Policy Initiatives

◎ are priority projects

Basic goal	Basic measure	Composition measure	Basic content
1. A town where anyone can continue to live with peace of mind	Communication support	Multilingual information provision enhancement	◎ Administrative information multilingualization • Multilingual help desk assistance and consultation service enhancement • Multilingual volunteers popularization and utilization ◎ “Easy Japanese” popularization and utilization
		Japanese language education promotion	• Japanese language learning supporter development and utilization ◎ Japanese language learning opportunities for foreign citizens
	Living-related support	Safe and secure life ensured	◎ Living-related information provision • Employment-related information provision ◎ Disaster prevention and disaster measures • Medical care, welfare, and child care support • Housing security support
		Educational support for foreign students	• Education-related information provision ◎ Japanese language learning support
	Awareness and social participation promotion	Multicultural coexistence awareness creation	◎ Multicultural coexistence awareness • International understanding promotion
		Multicultural coexistence community building	◎ Community participation promotion
2. A vibrant town where people respect and support each other	Measures for globalization	Exchange with overseas cities	◎ Global society leader development • Sports, culture, and economic exchange • International cooperation promotion
		Foreign visitor support	◎ Acceptance environment improvement promotion • MICE※ promotion

※MICE: A coined word using initials and general terms for the following business events.

Company, etc. meetings (Meeting), incentive and training trips conducted by companies, etc. (Incentive Travel), international organizations, organizations, and academic conferences (Convention), exhibitions, trade fairs, and events (Exhibition/Event).

5. Indicators for Basic Goals

Basic goal No.1: A town where anyone can continue to live with peace of mind

Target indicator	Reference value (2022)	Target value (2028)
Percentage of foreign citizens who think “Utsunomiya City is an easy place to live”	82.1%	87%
Number of types of administrative information displays ※ • Multilingual use • “Easy Japanese” use	67 types 14 types	80 types 18 types
Recognition of foreign citizen consultation help desks	51.9%	67%

※Number of booklets, leaflets, flyers, websites, display boards, information boards, public designs
(by building, by type)

Basic goal No. 2: A vibrant town where people respect and support each other

Target indicator	Reference value (2022)	Target value (2028)
Percentage of citizens who think that “promoting multicultural coexistence is important”	73.4%	77%
Number of participants in awareness and social participation support programs※	260 people in total	520 people in total
Number of organizations in the city that are involved in regional internationalization (multicultural coexistence, international exchange, and international cooperation)	78 organizations	82 organizations

※Total of the number of participants in workshops on multicultural coexistence, number of instructors dispatched for international understanding workshops, number of registrants in the “Foreign Citizen Supporter Network, etc.”