

WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

「KIZUNA –絆–News letter」

KIZUNA means bonds in English

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We hope to show to the world our current life in São Tomé and Príncipe, as well as the culture in the plantation, which is the main theme of our country. The Osaka-Kansai Expo will be a very good opportunity for us. Our country is located in Equatorial Africa, and the Island of Príncipe is registered as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. So, this is a nice opportunity to show the Biosphere work we are doing in our country.



Mr. Hamilton Cruz, Government representative in Sao Tome and Principe

Regeneration

Canada expects from Expo 2025 Osaka, for it to be a terrific success. We're all excited about counting down to April 13 2025, where Osaka will welcome the world. It's about sustainability. But it's also about showcasing the best of all of the countries and the organizations who will present at this global event.



Ms. Laurie Peters, Representative of the Government of Canada

COME BUILD THE FUTURE

The Osaka-Kansai Expo will be a huge moment for Japan, and it's really important for the UK that we are part of that. The theme of our pavilion is "Come Build the Future", and the Expo is a huge opportunity for us all to come together and celebrate what we can do as an international community. So, I'm really looking forward to that.



Ms. Carolyn Jayne Davidson, Representative of the Government of the United Kingdom

'Life', 'Planet', 'Augmented Human'

Well, for this Expo to open on April 13, for the Japanese public to be excited to come and visit all the pavilions, and for the participating countries and the Japanese society to work on projects during Expo during the Theme Weeks to actually make this world a better place. That's my very high expectations of this Expo.



Mr. Manuel Salchli, Representative of the Swiss Government

【The week's report】

- Overseas Pavilions Construction Status
June 25, 26: IPM2024 Summer held
June 24: Groundbreaking ceremony of the UAE Pavilion
June 24: Groundbreaking ceremony of the Bulgaria Pavilion
June 24: Announcement of the Chile Pavilion's conceptual design
June 24: Announcement of the Nordic Pavilion's name and concept
- Last week's main events / Schedule for this week and beyond
June 24: Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry begins sharing attraction of Osaka's cuisine on social media
June 26: Bandai Namco Holdings announces a full-scale Gundam display for its pavilion
June 26: Construction of the Grand Roof (Ring) completed in the northeast construction area
June 30: Osaka-Kansai Expo construction site tour held
July 1: EXPO 2025's digital wallet service launched
July 2: Announcement of the final number of applicants for the EXPO service crew
- Sales / Applications
Tickets sold: 2,976,414 (as of June 26)

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Co-creating the Expo with participating countries!

Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (June 25 – July 1)

~ 285 days to go !

**1. Official Participants**

- June 25 - 26; IPM 2024 Summer was held at the Nara Convention Center. Approximately 600 representatives from around 160 official participants attended. Minister Hanako Jimi participated in the first day of the meeting. Sessions were held where the Association provided information on a wide variety of topics related to participation in the Expo.
- After the IPM, representatives of Switzerland, Angola, Italy, UK and the Netherlands held a press conference where they commended the lively exchange of views during the IPM as well as their resolve to contribute to the spirit of the Expo, where people from different backgrounds come together.
- Secretary General Kerkentzes of the BIE congratulated the success of IPM and noted the positive role played by the media in communicating the message.



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240627-06/>

- June 24; The UAE held a groundbreaking ceremony. The pavilion will be built combining UAE-built palm trees made from agricultural waste and Japanese wooden construction technology. The exhibit will showcase innovation and R&D achievements in areas such as healthcare, space and sustainability.



<https://prtimes.jp/main/html/rd/p/000000007.000118196.html>

- June 24; Bulgaria held a groundbreaking ceremony. The pavilion will be a two-story steel framed building constructed by Daiwa Lease and designed by Kobayashi Maki design workshop.



https://www.daiwalease.co.jp/news/news_5016.html



- June 24; Chile unveiled a pavilion image. Under the theme We Care, it will feature the attraction of Chile including its beautiful sky and Easter Island culture, as well as a zone to enjoy food and wine and exhibits of traditional textiles.

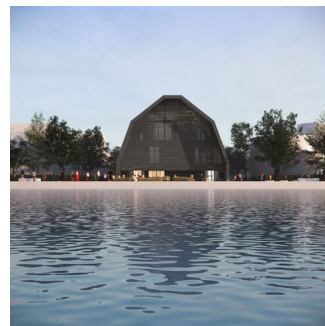


- June 27; The Nordic Pavilion announced the name and concept of the pavilion. The pavilion will be named Nordic Circle and will represent a vision of building new connections between the Nordic countries, Japan and other countries, while striving for sustainable development.



<https://www.thenordics-exposaka.com/news/concept-expo>

<https://www.thenordics-exposaka.com/media-bank>



Status of participating countries as of June 28

- Number of countries with official participation agreements:	120 countries
- Countries where have been decided their construction companies:	41 countries
- Countries where already handed over the site:	43 countries
- Countries where construction has started:	32 countries

2. Reports from the past week and plans for the upcoming week

- June 24; The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, together with the Osaka Convention and Tourism Bureau and the Osaka Food Service Industry Association, launched an initiative to use social media to promote the appeal of Osaka's diverse food to global audiences. The slogan is Let's Eat Expo (Kuuzo, Expo).



- As a first step, the grouping will hold an Instagram campaign calling on restaurants and food businesses to post original menus based on the theme of Expo and then serve them at the locales.



<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/expo2025/files/article/file00000088.pdf>

- June 26; BANDAI NAMCO Holdings announced that it will exhibit a live-scale Gundam statue at its pavilion. The Gundam will be 17 meters high and will be installed in the Kansai area for the first time.



https://www.bandainamco.co.jp/files/WEBE794A820240626E4B887E58D9A_E382ACE383B3E38380E3.pdf

- June 26; The assembly work of the Grand Ring was completed in the Northeast construction zone. Assembly in the West construction zone had been completed on June 7. Once the work in the Southeast construction zone is completed this autumn, the Grand Ring will be connected as one loop.



https://www.obayashi.co.jp/news/detail/news20240626_1.html

- June 30; The first Expo Construction Tour was held. A total of 143 participants, aged from 2 to 79 years old, participated. The participants went up on the Grand Ring and experienced the view, soaking in the fragrance of the wood and the atmosphere of the venue. Minister Jimi and Governor of Osaka Prefecture Yoshimura welcomed the participants. The next tour will be held on July 28.



- July 1; The EXPO 2025 Digital Wallet service, the cashless service at the venue was launched. The electronic money MYAKU-PE!, the electronic points MYAKU-PO! and the Expo's own NFT MYAKU-N! Started. Myaku-Myaku Rewards Program, which allows users to earn benefits based on the usage of digital wallets was also launched.

* MYAKU-PE! is mobile payment that can be charged from a credit card or bank account. Since it is available on Visa's contactless payment, it can be used at any payment-enabled merchant nationwide, both inside and outside the venue.



* MYAKU-PO! allows visitors to earn points by participating in various SDGs and EXPO initiatives.



*MYAKU-N! encourages visitors to participating in events using MYAKU-PE!, receiving unique, Expo-themed NFTs (non-fungible tokens).



* MYAKU-MYAKU Reward Program allows visitors to raise your status and receive gifts and services according to your status by using the "EXPO2025 Digital Wallet" to perform various activities related to the Expo.



- July 2; The final number of applicants for the EXPO Service Crew (tentative) who will be engaged in various support work at the venue, was announced. A total of 16,828 people applied. They will be responsible for supporting visitors at the entrance and exit gates and service facilities as well as patrolling the venue to provide guidance and support to visitors.

3. Ticket sales

- Number of tickets sales: 2,976,414 as of June 19

4. Q&As

Sale of paper tickets

- It has been reported that a decision has been made to introduce paper tickets. Will it not interfere with the operation of the venue?
1. Paper tickets will cater to those who are not used to smartphones and those who want to gift tickets to others to someone. Visitors with the newly introduced paper tickets will be able to either register an Expo ID and reserve the date and time of visit, or not register an Expo ID and visit the Expo excluding of selected dates and time.
 2. For the safety and convenience of visitors and local residents, certain hours in the morning hours and times when many visitors are expected, based on the viewpoint of traffic restrictions and restrictions in front of the gate.
 3. In order to introduce the system, it is necessary to consider how to make reservations for venues, how to communicate congestion status, and transportation congestion status, and how to prepare for unforeseen situations in each transportation system, as well as explanations and approvals from the visitor transportation measures council, which is composed of academic experts, government agencies, and related organizations.