

WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

「KIZUNA –絆– News letter」

“Kizuna” is the Japanese word for “bond.”

Issued August 24, 2024, Vol.17



JIMI Hanako, Minister for the World Expo 2025, with members of Otowa Electric Co., Ltd. (Chairman YOSHIDA Osamu to the left of Minister Jimi, President YOSHIDA Atsushi on the far right)

Otowa Electric Co., Ltd. is one of the world's leading companies in the area of lightning protection technology. We plan to utilize Otowa's lightning prediction radars at the Osaka-Kansai Expo.

We are now less than one year away from the Expo, and excitement for the event is growing around us. Centered around the theme of “Designing Future Society for Our Lives,” the Expo will bring together 161 countries and countless visitors from all over the world to Kansai. I'm really looking forward to visiting the wooden Grand Ring and many highly creative pavilions, as well as to share a connection with the world.

YOSHIDA Atsushi, President, Otowa Electric Co., Ltd.

The Osaka-Kansai Expo will bring together 161 countries and regions to showcase their culture, art, industry, and much more. JICA is providing exhibition support to developing and emerging countries in particular, as shown in the pictures below. The government will strive to ensure that all countries and regions can equally and sufficiently showcase their respective appeals.

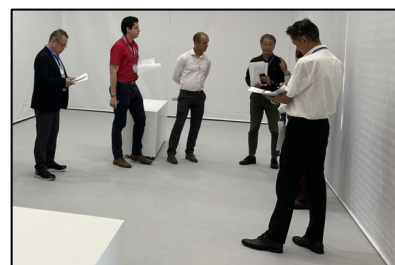
JIMI Hanako, Minister for the World Expo 2025



Exhibition plan presentation session by countries participating in the Expo©JICA



Inspection tour of a display facility ©JICA



Discussion at a model display facility ©JICA

【Contents of this week's report】

1. Overseas Pavilions Construction Status
August 8: Poland holds groundbreaking ceremony
August 6: Belgium reveals the construction process up to the topping-out ceremony on Instagram
2. Last week's main events / Schedule for this week and beyond
August 6: Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Saito visits the Japan Pavilion construction site on an inspection tour
August 7-8: Promoted the Expo at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Cabinet Office on

“Kodomo Kasumigaseki Day” (children's day for visiting government ministries)

August 12-13: Ran an Expo promotion booth at the Awa Odori Dance Festival in Tokushima Prefecture

August 14: Uploaded materials and videos for the Expo explanatory session for educational institutions

August 15: New Expo pamphlet created

3. Sales / Applications
Tickets sold: 4,248,034 (as of August 14)

Revitalizing Japan's SMEs through the Expo

© EXPO 2025



Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (August 6 – August 19)

~ 236 days to go!~



1. Official Participants

- August 8; Poland held a groundbreaking ceremony for the pavilion. The theme is "Heritage that drives the future." The pavilion uses wood in consideration of sustainability and adopts a traditional Japanese wooden framing method, while expresses Poland's innovative spirit through its woven spiral wall.



<https://expo.gov.pl/news/inauguration-of-the-construction-of-the-poland-pavilion-for-expo-2025-osaka-kansai/?lang=en>

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/official-participant/poland/>



- August 6; Belgium released the construction process of its pavilion on Instagram. The construction started on July 1, and the process of its steel frame assembly the frame, as of July 31, can be viewed as a timelapse video.



https://www.instagram.com/belexpo_belgianpavilion/



Status of official participants as of August 6

- Of 161 countries and 9 international organisations participations:

Those with official participation agreements:

125 countries and 5 international organisations

Individual pavilions (Type A and Type X) :

52 countries (47 Type A, 5 Type X)

Those with construction partners secured: 43 countries

Those who have started construction: 39 countries

Independent pavilions provided by the Association (Type B) : 17 countries

Shared pavilions provided by the Association (Type C) : 92 countries

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

- August 6; Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Ken Saito visited the Expo venue at Yumeshima and inspected the construction site of the Japan Pavilion. In the press interview, he mentioned "I felt a sense of anticipation and excitement for the opening next year" he said.



- August 7-8; During the Children's Tour Day in Kasumigaseki, the annual summer event for children to visit central government offices and learn about their work, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry set up a booth for Expo 2025. Myaku-Myaku interacted with a total of 3,500 visitors. Minister Ken Saito also visited the booth and called on children to go visit the Expo. On August 8, Minister Hanako Jimi held an exchange event with children and Myaku-Myaku at her office to raise awareness about the Expo.



- August 12-13; The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Association exhibited PR booths for the Expo at the Awa Odori in Tokushima Prefecture, one of the largest summer dance events in Japan. Myaku-Myaku also participated, distributing promotional goods and pamphlets to visitors.



- August 14; Explanatory materials and archived videos for educational institutions planning school trips to the Expo were posted online. Questions are accepted until August 23 and will be answered on the Association website.

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240814-01/>



https://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/expo_suisin_honbu/topics/topics_2025_setsumeikai.html



- August 15; A new pamphlet for the Expo was released on the Association website. Foreign language versions in English, French, Chinese (simplified / traditional), Korean and Thai will also be subsequently published on the website.

• [For viewing]

https://www.expo2025.or.jp/wp/wp-content/uploads/20240815_panf_ip_eturan.pdf

• [Printable]

https://www.expo2025.or.jp/wp/wp-content/uploads/20240809_panf_ip_insatu.pdf



3. Ticket sales

Number of tickets sales: 4,248,034 as of August 14, 2024

4. Q&As

1) Large-scale cybersecurity exercises

It has been reported that the Cabinet Cyber Security Center (NISC) and critical infrastructure operators plan to jointly conduct large-scale exercises in early 2025 in preparation for the Expo.

- i. In preparation for the Expo, the government has been conducting studies on cyber security measures in cooperation with relevant agencies, local governments and the Association.

NISC has taken the lead in preparations including incident response exercises and drills and risk management. The exercises reported in the press are part of this effort. Details such as timing and content are currently being coordinated.

2) IR construction and the Expo

There are reports that the Association has requested that construction for the IR (integrated resort) project be suspended during the Expo.

- i. The Association has requested Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka to give top priority to Expo while it is being held and requested that the Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka take appropriate measures regarding IR construction – including changing the construction schedule – so as not to have a negative impact on the Expo.
- ii. The Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry has also been coordinating with Osaka Prefecture and the City of Osaka to seek alterations, including changes to the IR construction schedule.

3) Modification of the contract for the Japan Pavilion

In preparation for the Expo, there were reports that the contract for the maintenance work of the Japan Pavilion was changed.

- i. On August 7, the Kinki Regional Development Bureau has agreed with its contractor an alteration to the contract for the Japan Pavilion construction.
- ii. The altered contract will include interiors and exhibition work (6.7 billion JPY) that was not included in the initial contract for the structure of the pavilion (7.7 billion JPY).

- iii. The total cost related to the Japan Pavilion, including operation, is planned to reach 36 billion JPY maximum, and the contract alteration remains was made within this range.

4) The Grand Ring

Will the Grand Ring be completed ahead of schedule?

- i. The wooden frame structure of the Grad Ring, including the upper floor surface and the slope installation, will be completed on August 21, with the Ring forming a full circle. Elevators, escalators and planting on the Ring will be completed by the end of the year, and the final completion is scheduled for February 2025.