

WORLD EXPO 2025 NEWS

「KIZUNA – 絆 – News letter」

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

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We expect that a lot of visitors will come to the Osaka-Kansai Expo, not only to share ideas, connect lives, and save lives, but at the same time to respect the SDGs and to discuss various issues, whether climate change, agriculture, food security, peace and security,

political participation, women's participation, or gender equality. We hope and we assure visitors that Osaka will be full of energy and liveliness come 2025, and I look forward to seeing you there.



Ms. Juli Endee, Representative of the Government of Liberia

Nordic Circle

The Nordic Pavilion is unique in that we are five countries working together: Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, and Iceland in one pavilion. We are thrilled to be part of the Osaka Expo 2025 insofar as we hope that we can build bridges, not only to Japan, but to the world. And we will bring co-creation of things in the field of sustainability, having one foot in the past and one foot in the future.



Ms. Magnus Scholdtz, Vice-Chairman, The Nordic Pavilion

We expect the Osaka-Kansai Expo to be an excellent event, just like the other events that Japan has hosted. And it's an amazing opportunity for us, for Kosovo, which is a relatively small country. We will try our best to do our part as a participant in achieving global changes for a better future. The title of our programme is “youth and society”, which goes quite well with the main theme of this Expo.



Ms. Arber Mehmet, Representative of the Government of Kosovo

We all know that technology and social media offer us the chance to connect and explore. These are the best platforms for us to meet, share, connect, and understand more about each other so that we can increase our friendship as well as our collaboration and cooperation. In the same way, the Expo will be the best place for people to connect.



Mr. Trần Nhật Hoàng, Deputy Government Representative of Viet Nam

【The week's report】

1. Overseas Pavilions Construction Status
July 1: Bahrain Pavilion Groundbreaking Ceremony
2. Last week's main events / Schedule for this week and beyond
July 4: IHARA Rikka appointed as Special Supporter of the Expo
July 3: Number of Signature Pavilion Sponsors reaches 80
July 8: Suntory and Daikin hold a groundbreaking ceremony featuring an aquatic show
July 3: Announcement of release of collaboration products featuring Sanrio characters and MYAKU-MYAKU
New official stores scheduled for opening in Okinawa (July 12), Hiroshima (July 19), and

Hyogo (July 27)

Expo information sessions scheduled to be held for elementary, junior high, and senior high schools nationwide (mid-July to early August)

3. Sales / Applications
Tickets sold: 3,172,947 (as of July 5)



Let's make it a successful Expo together!

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Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan Weekly Report (July 2 – July 8)

~ 278 days to go !

**1. Official Participants**

- On Monday, July 1, Bahrain held a groundbreaking ceremony for the pavilion in Yumeshima. Mr. Sheikh Khalifa, Director General of the Bahrain Culture and Ancient Heritage Agency and Inspector General of the Pavilion of the World Expo Kingdom, visited Japan and participated. "We have taken an important step towards participation" and "I am honored to take on the responsibility of showcasing the Kingdom at the Expo," he said.



<https://www.instagram.com/culturebah/>



Reference: Image of the completed Bahrain Pavilion that has already been announced (from the weekly report on June 4, 2024)



Status of participating countries as of July 4

- Number of countries with official participation agreements:	123 countries
- Countries where have been decided their construction companies:	41 countries
- Countries where already handed over the site:	45 countries
- Countries where construction has started:	35 countries

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

- On Thursday, July 4, Ms. Rikka Ihara, who is popular among young people and is widely active as an actress and talent, was newly appointed as a special supporter of the Expo. Participated in various promotional activities for the upcoming Osaka-Kansai Expo.

Ms. Ihara's Profile

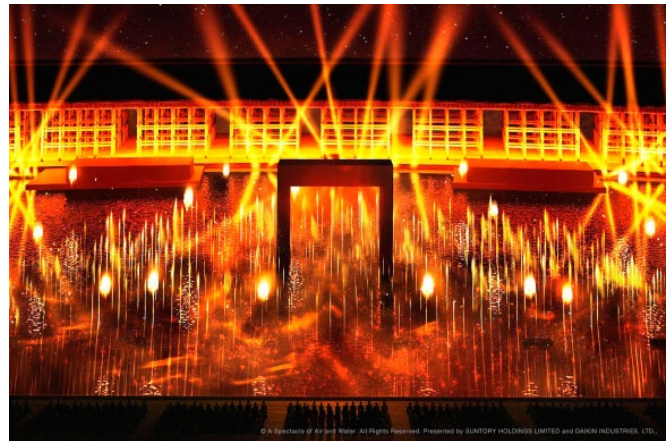
Born in 1999. Born in Sayama City, Osaka, Japan. Former captain of the dance club of Osaka Prefectural Tomioka High School, who attracted attention with "Bubbly Dance". In addition to movies and stage plays, he has also appeared in dramas such as NHK TV series. In April 2024, she starred in the NTV drama "The Wife Who Lost Her Liver" and became a personality on MBS Radio's "Young Town".



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240704-01/>

- On Monday, July 8, Suntory and Daikin jointly held a groundbreaking ceremony for the "Ao and Night Rainbow Parade". This event is a powerful water show that is held twice a day after sunset during the Expo. Set in a waterfront area of about 8,800 square meters, the story is based on the theme of "water" and "air" through images, lighting, and lasers

projected on a screen of water flowing down from about 300 fountains and an object about 18 meters high.



<https://www.expo2025.airandwatershow.jp/>

There is a promotional movie →



- On Wednesday, July 3, the Exposition Association announced that five new companies and one school corporation have joined the list of sponsors of the Signature Pavilion, which will be held in the center of the venue by eight producers. This brings the total number of sponsors to 80 (we are still recruiting sponsors and are still in discussions with many companies.)



<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240703-01/>



List of new sponsors (alphabetical order)

- JTEKT Corporation (Kariya City, Aichi Prefecture, President Sadato Kondo)
- Shiono Fragrance Co., Ltd. (Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture, President and CEO: Taichi Shiono)
- Mimitsu Co., Ltd. (Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture, Representative Director: Toshiyuki Mimitsu)

- Daido Life Insurance Co., Ltd. (Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture, President & CEO: Mutsuro Kitahara)
- Nimatsu Gakusha School Corporation (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, President: Hidenori Mito)
- Furukawa Electric Industry Co., Ltd. (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, President and CEO: Hideya Morihira)

- On Wednesday, July 3, the Expo Association announced the sale of collaboration goods between Mr./Ms. characters who are active in the world such as Hello Kitty (Expo Special Supporter) and Myakumyak. It is scheduled to go on sale at official stores nationwide and online from Friday 12th.



【photograph】 T-shirts, keychains, and stickers for collaboration products

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240703-04/>



- New Osaka-Kansai Expo official stores are scheduled to open sequentially in Okinawa, Hiroshima, and Hyogo prefectures. This is the first time that the store has opened in these prefectures. With this, the number of official stores that Japan has expanded nationwide to 15.



【photograph】 From left to right: Junkudo Naha store (7/12~), Maruzen Hiroshima store (7/19~), Junkudo Shoten

Sannomiya Ekimae store (7/27~)

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240705-02/>

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240705-03/>

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/news/news-20240705-04/>

Official stores nationwide that have already opened

Abeno Harukas store, Daimaru Umeda store, Maruzen Marunouchi OAZO store, JR Shin-Osaka Station Eki Marche store, MARUZEN & Junkudo Shoten Umeda store, Maruzen Kyoto BAL store, Junkudo Shoten Fukuoka store, Takashimaya Osaka store, Osaka Nanko ATC store, Shinsaibashi PARCO store, MARUZEN & Junkudo Shoten Sapporo store, Junkudo Shoten Namba store

- From mid-July to the beginning of next month, the government and the Exposition Association plan to hold a briefing session on the use of the Expo for staff in charge of elementary, junior high, and high schools nationwide who are considering school trips and field trips to the Expo. Basic information on how to visit the venue (how to apply, transportation access, meals, rests, etc.), safety measures in the venue, and highlights in the venue will be explained.
 - For schools considering overnight school events (school trips, etc.): Held on July 17 and August 5
 - For schools that are considering school events that do not involve overnight stays: Held on July 22 and August 6

3. Ticket sales

Number of tickets sales: 3,182,947 as of July 5

4. Q&As

Methane Gas Accident

- Regarding the methane gas explosion that occurred at the end of March, it was too late to release the accident site to the media on July 2, more than three months after the accident.
1. The purpose of the on-site opening to the media is to deepen understanding of the details of the measures to be implemented in response to the recent announcement of safety measures during the exhibition period (June 23).

2. This timing was decided as a result of considering the safety aspects of the accident site and the construction schedule.

Occupational accidents that occurred at the Osaka Healthy Care Pavilion

- I hear that an industrial accident occurred during the construction of the venue, but what is the fact?
1. At around 11 a.m. on Monday, July 1, at the Osaka Healthcare Pavilion construction site, one worker was drilling a hole in the wall with a hole saw (a tool that is attached to the end of an electric conduction drill to make a hole in the wall) for electrical piping work. An accident occurred in which he injured his left thumb.
 2. In response to the accident, the pavilion's construction entity (Osaka Pavilion for the 2025 Japan World Exposition) announced that it would work closely with the builder to prevent a recurrence. The Exposition Association has also issued warnings to the Liaison and Coordination Committee to prevent similar accidents from occurring.
 3. This is the first time that an "occupational accident with four or more days of lost work" that requires a report to the Labor Standards Inspection Office without delay has occurred at the Expo site.

<https://www.city.osaka.lg.jp/hodoshiryo/banpakusuishin/0000630345.html>



<https://expo2025-osakapv.or.jp/news/1374>

