

## Yokohama and TICAD

TICAD, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development, has been co-hosted under Japan's leadership since 1993, together with the UN, the UNDP, the World Bank, and the African Union Commission. It brings together African heads of state, other leaders, and diverse experts to discuss development in Africa. Yokohama, as the host city for four past TICAD meetings, has worked with local residents and businesses to warmly welcome participants and help facilitate the smooth and safe running of the conference. At the same time, Yokohama strives to deepen its engagement with Africa by pursuing exchanges and collaborations as "the closest city to Africa."



TICAD 9 (Courtesy of MOFA)

	Dates	Attendance	Ripple effect on Yokohama's economy ※
TICAD IV	May 28-30, 2008	Over 3000, including representatives from 51 African countries	1.57 billion yen
TICAD V	June 1-3, 2013	Over 4,500, including representatives from 51 African countries	2.15 billion yen
TICAD 7	August 28-30, 2019	Over 10,000, including representatives from 53 African countries	2.77 billion yen
TICAD 9	August 20-22, 2025	Representatives of 49 African countries	3.34 billion yen

※Based on the Japan Tourism Agency's "Simplified Model for Measuring the Economic Ripple Effects of Hosting MICE"

### Yokohama's ties with the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize

Sustaining the vision of the late Dr. Hideyo Noguchi, the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize seeks to improve the health and welfare of people living in Africa and humanity as a whole by honoring those who have made outstanding achievements in medical research and medical services for Africa. A former bacteriology laboratory where Dr. Noguchi once worked has been preserved next to Nagahama Hall in Yokohama's Kanazawa Ward, offering glimpses of its past. During TICAD 9 in August 2025, the recipients of the 5th Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize toured the lab. A monument at the hall bears nameplates of past awardees.



Visit of the recipients of the 5th Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize to Nagahama Hall (August 2025)

### TICAD 9 Spouse Program hosted by the Prime Minister's wife

Mrs. Yoshiko Ishiba, wife of the Prime Minister of Japan, hosted an outing for the spouses of the African delegation heads at Sankeien Garden in Naka Ward and Yokohama Strawberry Park in Tsurumi Ward, with assistance from Yokohama as the TICAD 9 host city. The Sankeien event enabled the participants to experience traditional Japanese culture such as Noh and tea ceremony, with the support of local groups that preserve those traditions. Next, they visited Yokohama Strawberry Park, where they learned about its commitment to employing people with disabilities and picked strawberries attentively grown by the workers, gaining insights into Japan's efforts toward becoming a diverse and inclusive society.



Noh performance at Sankeien (August 2025) (Courtesy of Cabinet Public Affairs Office)

### Japan-Africa Friendship Yokohama City Council Members' League

Since its founding in 2015, this nonpartisan association of Yokohama City Council members, chaired by councilor Hirofumi Sato, has worked with diverse partners in Japan and abroad to build up Yokohama's friendship and exchanges with Africa through activities such as visiting African countries, exchanging opinions with African ambassadors to Japan, hosting lectures, and fostering international understanding among younger generations. In conjunction with TICAD 9, the League organized a friendly football match with the African Diplomatic Corps in Tokyo (ADC) and others, as well as a welcoming event at City Council Hall that included an address by the President of Kenya.



Friendly football match with the African Diplomatic Corps in Tokyo (August 2025)



Kenyan President William Samoei Ruto addressing the City Council (August 2025)

## Yokohama: Japan's 2nd largest city



• 23 min. from Haneda Airport (Keikyu line)

• 25 min. from Tokyo (JR line)

Population as of July 2025  
**3.77 million**

Land Area  
**438 km<sup>2</sup>**

Gross Product in Yokohama FY2022  
**14.7 trillion yen**

Budget FY2025  
**4 trillion yen**

Garbage Collection FY2023  
**928 thousand tons**

Recycling rate FY2023  
**22.1%**

Public Sewerage Coverage FY2023  
**100%**

Universities as of July 2024  
**28**

### Attractive Yokohama City — A vibrant place to do business, sightsee, and live

#### Business

Home to 232 foreign company headquarters, Yokohama stands as a leading global business hub.

#### Sightseeing

Japan's New Top 3 Night Views (2024) Featuring YORUNOYO, a spectacular city-wide illumination event synchronized with light and music held every winter

#### Live

No.1 desirable place to live in Kanto for 8 consecutive years Survey by Recruit Co., Ltd.



# Yokohama and Africa

## - Creating the Future Together -

## Showcasing Yokohama's initiatives at TICAD 9

### Meetings with African delegations

Mayor Yamanaka met with visiting heads of state and officials from 22 African countries during TICAD 9. He briefed them on the technical cooperation that Yokohama provides in Africa, including projects supporting water supply, ports, and waste management. He also exchanged opinions with them on how to strengthen intercity partnering and promoted GREEN×EXPO 2027.



Liberian President Joseph Boakai and Mayor Yamanaka

### Meeting with UN Secretary-General Guterres

Mayor Yamanaka met with UN Secretary-General António Guterres on the sidelines of TICAD 9. The Mayor expressed his admiration for the Secretary-General's leadership toward the realization of a sustainable society, and declared Yokohama's commitment to supporting the international community, especially through stronger partnering with the UN in areas such as protecting the environment and nurturing younger generations.



Secretary-General Guterres and Mayor Yamanaka

### Yokohama to Africa Student Project

Launched in November 2024, this 6-month program provided some 100 interested university students with the opportunity to learn about Africa in 18 groups focused on specific topics. During the final seminar, the groups each gave a video presentation on their research and findings, and proposed solutions to the challenges studied.



Group work

## African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP)

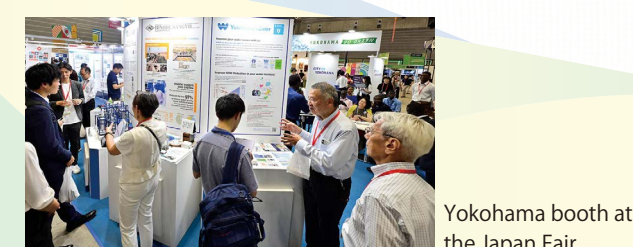
Yokohama hosted the 4th ACCP Assembly, co-organized with the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, UN-Habitat, JICA, and UNEP. Mayor Yamanaka delivered a welcome address at the opening session. Participants gave presentations and shared insights on the waste management challenges faced by African countries, with Yokohama providing a presentation on its waste management initiatives. The Assembly adopted the New Yokohama Action Guidance as a roadmap for actions going forward.



4th ACCP Assembly

### Yokohama booth at Japan Fair

The city government co-hosted a booth with seven local businesses at the Japan Fair, a side event organized by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) that drew some 700 African visitors. The Yokohama booth spotlighted GREEN×EXPO 2027 and the city's technical cooperation projects in Africa and promoted local companies' products and services for improving water supply, transportation, and other urban needs.



Yokohama booth at the Japan Fair

### Africa Month 2025

The municipal government designated July–August 2025 as "Africa Month 2025" and organized a city-wide campaign for residents and visitors to experience African cuisine and culture at restaurants, shopping malls, zoos, and many other facilities across the city.



A musical performance at "African Stage: 25 days to TICAD 9"



Yokohama Takashimaya department store

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Yokohama Official Website

## Fostering the next generation of international talent and creating an inclusive society

With support from African embassies in Japan, international organizations, and other partners, exchanges between local children and African representatives are held at public schools and other locations in Yokohama in conjunction with the city's hosting of TICAD meetings. These exchanges provide children with opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of other countries and the international community.

### Special lessons at public schools

African-themed special lessons at Yokohama's public schools began with its hosting of TICAD IV. Since then, the city has continued to organize various programs with the assistance of partners such as JICA, African embassies in Japan, and international organizations. These efforts have included using interactive quizzes, games, and lunchtime at schools as an opportunity to introduce students to Africa, including through the serving of African cuisine, in order to foster their international understanding and respect for diversity. The various exchanges help foster future global talent by intimately connecting youths with the international community.



Special lesson by Senegalese Ambassador Jean Antoine Diouf and WFP Japan Relations Office Director Yasuhiro Tsumura (February 2025)



©February 28 (Fri.)

#### Ceebu jën (thieboudienne)

This Senegalese home-style dish features fish, vegetables, and rice cooked together. The name comes from the Wolof words for rice (ceebu) and fish (jën).

**Yassa poulet**  
Originating in Senegal, this home-style dish consists of stewed chicken, onions, and other ingredients marinated in mustard.

Senegalese cuisine was served for lunch at a junior high school (Courtesy of Kyushoku Times, Vol. 43)

### Exchange visits with Africa

A program run by the Japanese government enabled exchange visits and other interactions between youths from African countries and public high school students in Yokohama conducted ahead of TICAD 9, with the face-to-face interactions helping the youths of both sides to gain deeper understanding of each other. In the years ahead, Yokohama will continue to encourage the activities of motivated youths.



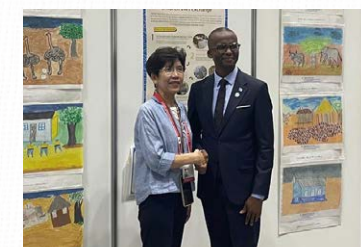
High school students from Tanzania and Yokohama Shogyo High School interacting through baseball (October 2025)



Yokohama Shogyo High School students visiting Kenya (February 2025)

### Friendship through art: Tsuzuki-Botswana Children's Art Exchange, an exchange project between Yokohama and Botswana

Since TICAD IV in 2014, third graders at Chigasaki Elementary School in Yokohama's Tsuzuki Ward and Ben Thema Primary School in the Republic of Botswana have engaged in a cultural exchange in which they share paintings depicting their daily lives. The 10th anniversary was celebrated in FY2023.



Botswanan Vice President Ndaba Nkosinathi Gaolathe visiting the children's art exhibition during TICAD 9 (August 2025)

### Student volunteers

High school and university students who had previously participated in Yokohama's international projects were recruited as volunteers to help set up the TICAD 9 venue and run the Yokohama booth at the Japan Fair. The volunteers greeted TICAD 9 participants from Japan and abroad with warm hospitality.



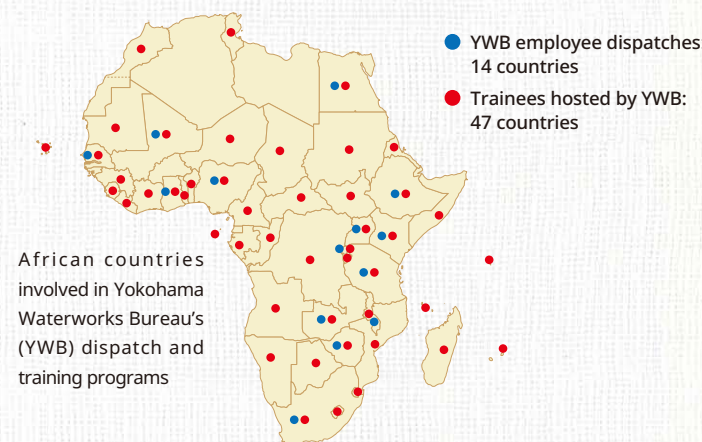
A student volunteer tells a visitor about Yokohama's initiatives (August 2025)

## Yokohama is ramping up its international cooperation

As a city that achieved tremendous growth following the opening of its port to international trade in 1859, Yokohama possesses technologies and expertise that can be put to good use in rapidly growing African cities. Working together with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), governments, international organizations, and Yokohama businesses, the city government contributes to the growth of Africa through projects in water supply, waste disposal, port operations, wildlife protection, health/sanitation, and other facets of urban development. To date, more than 1,500 people from Africa have visited Yokohama for technical tours and training.

### Water supply

As Japan's first city to install modern waterworks, Yokohama has assisted African countries in water supply development since it first dispatched city workers to Kenya in 1976. As of March 31, 2025, Yokohama, had hosted 764 trainees from 47 African countries and sent 97 city employees to 14 African countries. Municipal workers have been continuously dispatched to Malawi in particular, where their activities have included support for JICA technical cooperation projects.

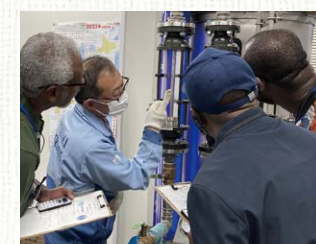


### Waste management

Yokohama achieved a roughly 43% reduction in waste over 10 years starting in FY2001. Leveraging that experience, the city provides waste management training to national and municipal workers from Africa via the African Clean Cities Platform (ACCP), which was co-founded with the Japanese Ministry of the Environment, JICA, African countries, and other related parties. To date, Yokohama has hosted trainees from 41 African countries.

### Port operations

Every year Yokohama hosts representatives from across Africa for port operations training and tours. The lectures provide an introduction to the Port of Yokohama, including its development, port planning, logistics measures, and efforts to become carbon neutral, and the tours inspect facilities such as containers and cruise terminals. In FY2024, 41 participants from 12 African countries took part in the training and tours.



Training of African engineers in Yokohama (November 2024)



Repairing Leaks in the Republic of Malawi (July 2024)

### JICA technical cooperation project

Yokohama Waterworks Bureau supported the "Project for Strengthening the Capacity of Non-Rvenue Water Reduction for Lilongwe Water Board," a JICA technical cooperation project, by dispatching an employee to Malawi and hosting trainees from the country. This support helped the Lilongwe Water Board to improve its capacity to plan and implement measures for reducing non-revenue water (unbilled water lost due to leaks, etc.).



Visit to the collection office (August 2025)



Workshop on collection planning (September 2025)



Training at Yokohama Bayside Marina (July 2024)



Lecture for JICA trainees (January 2025)

## Creating and expanding business opportunities

### Hosting business seminars

Yokohama hosts business seminars for local companies that are interested in pursuing business opportunities in Africa, providing them with insights such as the latest information on the African business environment and examples of business relationships established in Africa by Yokohama companies. The city held eleven seminars for a total of over 1,000 participants in the period from November 2023 to August 2025.



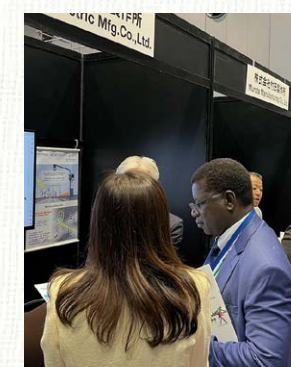
"New Trends in Environmentally Conscious Business" (July 2025)



"Business with Africa" (October 2024)

### Africa-Yokohama business networking

The city government used its hosting of Asia Smart City Conference 2024 as an opportunity to organize a technical tour that enabled around 30 invited African businesspeople to network with Yokohama businesses that participated in the conference's exhibition.



Networking (October 2024)



Technical tour participants (October 2024)

### Supporting Yokohama companies' activities in Africa

The municipal government leverages its intercity partnerships and other active relationships with Africa to support Yokohama companies' activities in Africa. In FY2024, the city used the occasion of METI's Japan-Africa Public-Private Economic Forum to organize a visit to Côte d'Ivoire for local companies. It also gave a presentation at a side event of the forum to highlight Yokohama businesses and provided support to business activities during the visit.



Yokohama's presentation at a side event (December 2024)



Business consultation in Côte d'Ivoire (December 2024)

### Supporting women's empowerment and entrepreneurship

Yokohama runs a women's empowerment and entrepreneurship support program aimed at reinforcing African women's capacity in leadership, management, and entrepreneurship—one of the concrete support strategies outlined by the Japanese government at TICAD V. As of FY2025, the city has hosted training seminars for a total of 169 female entrepreneurs and leaders from 30 African countries with the cooperation of JICA, providing the participants with insights on Yokohama's empowerment and entrepreneurship, among other topics.



Tour of Gender Equality Center Yokohama (August 2025)



Seminar participants with city representatives (August 2025)

## Laying the groundwork for GREEN×EXPO 2027

In 2027, Yokohama will be the site of GREEN×EXPO 2027, an expo overflowing with flowers and greenery where people can come together and think about a future green society in which humans coexist with the environment. This will be the first category A1 international horticultural exhibition to be held in Japan in the 37 years since the International Garden and Greenery Exposition in Osaka in 1990. The expo is expected to draw participants from all around the world, including Africa. The city is organizing various activities and events for attendees, including Yokohama's own exhibition spaces, volunteer opportunities, programs with resident participation, and educational programs for children.

### Expo details

**Title:**  
International Horticultural Expo 2027

**Dates:**  
March 19 (Fri.) – September 16 (Sun.), 2027

**Organizer:**  
Japan Association for the International Horticultural Expo 2027

**Expected number of visitors:**  
15 million (more than 10 million paying visitors)

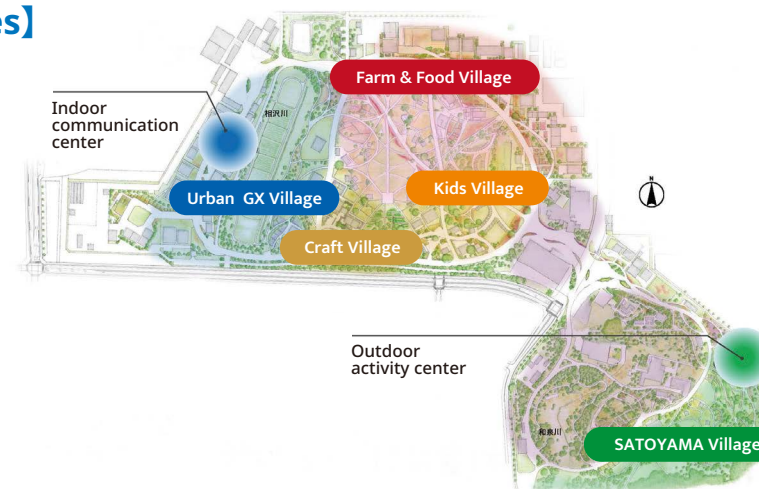
**Site:**  
Former Kamiseya Communications Facility (Seya Ward and Asahi Ward, Yokohama)

Japan Association for the International Horticultural Expo 2027  
**Official website**



### [Yokohama's exhibition spaces]

As part of the venue, the city government will organize an "Indoor communication center" and an "Outdoor activity center" to showcase the outstanding civic power of residents and the technological strengths of local businesses, and to enable visitors to experience environmentally friendly lifestyles and close encounters with nature. These spaces will also be a place for everyone to ideate concrete actions for realizing a society where humans coexist with the environment.



### [STYLE100]

STYLE100 seeks to accelerate the transition toward a sustainable society by spotlighting the efforts of people in Yokohama who practice eco-friendly lifestyles. With STYLE PARTNERS, a partnering program for expanding involvement in those efforts, Yokohama will provide Expo experiences across the city, both inside and outside the venue.

地球1個分で暮らそう

STYLE 100

CITY OF YOKOHAMA



STYLE100 official website



GREEN×EXPO 2027  
YOKOHAMA JAPAN

International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan  
March 19, 2027 – September 26, 2027

