

Reporting Yokohama's Major
International Projects

YOKOHAMA INTERNATIONAL DIGEST

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[Meeting with BIFZA in Batam, Indonesia]

Meetings to promote smart city development in Batam, Bangkok

On July 11, officials from the International Affairs Bureau of Yokohama had meetings with the officials from Batam City, Indonesia and the Batam Indonesia Free Zone Authority (BIFZA), which administrates infrastructure in Batam such as ports, waterworks, and industrial parks, to discuss further technical cooperation through the Y-PORT project to promote sustainable development over the coming years.



Meeting with Bangkok Metropolitan Administration

The officials from the International Affairs Bureau also traveled to Bangkok, Thailand, on July 13-14. There, they met with local businesses and related organizations to discuss integrating "smart" technology into Bangkok's industrial parks and recycling waste materials from paving roads.

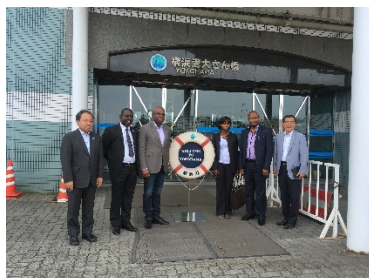


Waste water treatment facility in Batamindo Industrial Park

Minister of the Republic of Benin tours sites in Yokohama

The Republic of Benin's Minister of Living Environment and Sustainable Development, visiting Japan to attend the Second Japan-Africa Business Forum, toured facilities in Yokohama on July 24.

The Minister boarded the Port and Harbor Bureau's "Otori" craft to observe the Yokohama Port, and then proceeded to the facilities at the Tsurumi Recycling Center and Tsurumi Plant.



Yokohama and Cotonou City, Benin, shared a proclamation of exchange and cooperation between their two cities in 2016 on several themes, particularly in the field of port and harbor. While onboard the "Otori," staff described the history of Yokohama as a port city and the current functions of its port.

During the facility tour, staff explained the city's waste management policies and introduced the connections Yokohama shares in that field with cities in Africa.

Returning exchange students share experiences at informal debriefing

The youths who traveled abroad to study through the "Support Program for Students Aspiring to the World" in fiscal 2016 took part in an informal debriefing for students returning home on August 8, where they reflected and shared their impressions of their experiences abroad.

The upcoming Asia Smart City Conference in October and the planned "exchange student debriefing session" in March will see the students present the results of their international studies. We wish them every success in their future endeavors!



《Comments from the debriefing》

"While I struggled the first few months to make myself understood, my studies paid off."

"I discovered new interests in languages outside of English, like Chinese and Spanish. I learned the importance of continuous effort."

"While there were similarities to Japanese culture, I learned there were many differences as well."