

American region online exhibit, featuring seven exciting startups from Canada, the USA, Mexico, and Colombia.

GIF Osaka 2022 website: <https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/en/>

GIF Osaka 2022: North & South America (all dates and times JST)

GIF Osaka 2022 website and online exhibition launch:

<https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/en/company/>

Live pitches: 9:00 - 12:00, Jun. 29

One-on-one meetings: Jul. 12 & 13

What is GIF? Check this page!

<https://o-bic.net/upload/pdf/file00000989>

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2. OCCI AND COLOMBIA: CLOSER TIES, MORE ACTIVITY

Readers may remember our report of a courtesy visit by Santiago Pardo, the Colombian ambassador to Japan, to then-OCCI Chairperson Hiroshi Ozaki, and Ambassador Pardo's participation in a well-attended business seminar that same day. The meeting and seminar, combined with OCCI Vice-Chair Junzo Tateno's supporting role as Colombia's honorary consul-general in Osaka and comprehensive support from the Colombian embassy, have sparked a surge in innovation-oriented exchanges between Japanese and Colombian businesses.

Examples of this increased momentum include a Japan-Colombia startup exchange forum hosted by the Osaka Innovation Hub in April 2022, and the scheduled participation of three Colombian startups (the most from any country) in GIF Osaka 2022 in June.

Other examples of the increasingly strong ties and cooperation between Colombia and the OCCI include a courtesy visit by Hiroshi Wago Rojas, vicepresident of international strategy and innovation at Procolombia, Colombia's trade promotion organization, to the OCCI in May 2022, where he met with

Minoru Tomita, chairperson of the International Business Committee.

We at the OCCI are determined to harness our position as the local conduit for international business interaction to generate more and more global business opportunities.

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3. THE BUSINESS MALL OFFERS ASSISTANCE FOR SMES IMPACTED BY RECENT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The Business Mall, a website administered by the OCCI with the participation of 517 chambers of commerce nationwide to help SMEs forge new sales channels announced on April 15 the start of a special “Buyers Find Suppliers, Suppliers Find Buyers” drive, which lasts through the end of September 2022. The initiative is aimed at helping SMEs struggling under the impact of recent international developments.

The Business Mall, one of Japan’s largest transaction support sites, will get a new page for those who need to source something urgently due to the effects of recent international events, and users can take advantage of the BM Trends function to place and receive orders.

The “Buyers Find Suppliers, Suppliers Find Buyers” drive is just one of the OCCI’s initiatives under the chamber’s SME Challenge Project “Yatte Minahare.”

Further information available online (in Japanese only):

https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/Chousa_Kenkyuu_Iken/press/20220415bjm.pdf

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4. OCCI TO HOLD SEMINARS TO HELP SMES TO KEEP UP WITH CARBON NEUTRALITY EFFORTS VIA SDGS & ESG BUSINESS PLATFORM

We at the OCCI are proud to announce a new addition to our menu of support for SMEs striving to contribute to effort toward carbon neutrality. We will hold a kick-off seminar on June 17, 2022, focusing on thorough energy conservation and how to get a better, more visible idea of carbon dioxide emissions. This will be

followed on October 12 & 13 by an exhibition of products, services, and technologies conducive to carbon neutrality (exhibiting enterprises will be available for meetings with those interested in doing business) coinciding with Osaka Kangyoten 2022, the huge annual exhibition hosted by the OCCI.

In an age of global warming and worldwide demand for decarbonization, the integrated nature of supply chains means that the need to cut carbon dioxide emissions applies just as much to SMEs as to major corporations; at the OCCI, we offer support for SMEs to help them stay ahead of the curve and become “first-stop” suppliers.

Further information available online (in Japanese only):

https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/Chousa_Kenkyuu_Iken/press/20220425sdgs.pdf

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5. “THE POLICY FOR THE SUSTAINABLE EXPO 2025 OSAKA, KANSAI, JAPAN”

AND REVISED ” EXPO 2025 GREEN VISION” RELEASED

STARTING A CONCRETE PROJECT WITH THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition is delighted to announce that "The Policy for the Sustainable Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan" has been launched.

In addition, “Expo 2025 Green Vision,” announced in June 2021, has revised and disclosed. The revisions concern decarbonization and resource recycling, which are considered to be the most important thing in the above policy, and appropriate directions for the Expo, potential core measures, and more.

This revised vision describes not only already announced measures related to energy, but also measures related to fields such as site maintenance, operation, visitors, and discussions by the Expo 2025 Green Vision Realization Task Force. This vision aims for "the realization of carbon neutrality at the Expo and presentation of a carbon-neutral society in 2050," as well as "the realization of a circular economy (zero waste, zero food

waste and zero fashion loss by introducing demand-side technology, etc.).

Further information available online:

<https://www.expo2025.or.jp/en/news/news-20220427/>

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<COURTESY VISIT (10TH-31ST MAY)>

(French Republic) 10th May

- H. E Philippe SETTON, Ambassador of the French Republic in Japan
- Mr. Jules IRRMAN, Consul General of the French Republic in Kyoto

(Republic of Colombia) 11th May

- Mr. Hiroshi Wago ROJAS, Vicepresident of International Strategy and Innovation,
Procolombia

(United States of America) 11th May

- H. E Rahm EMANUEL, United States Ambassador to Japan

(People's Republic of China) 18th May

- Mr. XUE JIAN, Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Osaka

(Republic of Benin) 25th May

- Mr. Joseph HOUINSINON, Charges d'Affaires of the Republic of Benin to Japan

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INFORMATION FOR COVID-19-

Japanese Government

<https://japan.kantei.go.jp/>

Osaka Prefecture Government

<https://covid19-osaka.info/en/>

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[O-BIC as one-stop service center for creating a foothold in Osaka]

<http://o-bic.net/>

[Information about scheduled events (in Japanese only)]

<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/event/index.php>



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Back Numbers of OCCI e-Magazine:

<http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/e/emagazine/>



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to inform us of your change of e-mail address, or of
your wishes not to receive OCCI e-Magazine.