



Applications are now open for the 2015 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar in Japan!

2015 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar in Japan

We are offering eligible participants the opportunity to visit Japan

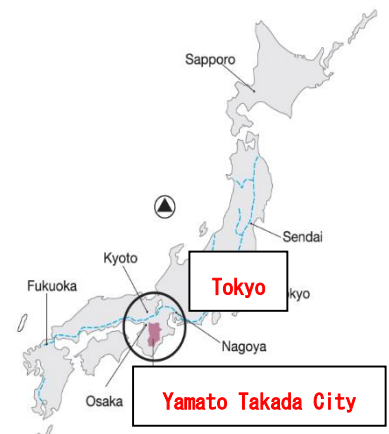
In order to promote a better understanding of Japanese local governments and culture, *the Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar* aims to bring together people from Japan, Australia and New Zealand who are working at local governments and related organisations by exchanging information regarding current issues of local governments.

General information about past seminars are available on our [website](#).

In this issue, we would like to tell you more about this programme's purpose and Yamato Takada City, which is this year's host local government.

Seminar details:

- *2015 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar includes:*
 - Seminars on Japanese Local Government in **Tokyo** (4nights) and this year's host local government **Yamato Takada City** (6nights)
 - Tour of national/local government facilities and cultural sites
 - Home-stay with Japanese families
 - Feedback/Discussion
- *Seminar Theme(See page 3)*
 - ① *Meaning of Sister City Exchange*
 - ② *Harmonise Town Planning and Heritage Conservation*



➤ *Schedule:*

- The seminar will be held from:

Sunday 1 to Wednesday 11 November 2015

➤ *Eligible Participants:*

- Applicants must be local government executives or executives involved in the promotion of local area international exchange and cooperation.
- In addition, applicants from national organisations, research institutes, or other related organisations may be eligible to participate, providing their backgrounds are related to the theme of the Seminar.
- Up to ***6 participants*** will be accepted from ***Australia*** and ***New Zealand*** through CLAIR Sydney.



➤ *Expenses:*

- Expenses incurred for the Seminar registration and materials will be borne by CLAIR.
- Any expenses prior to arrival in Japan and after departing from Japan shall be borne by participants
- Expenses incurred during the Seminar period in Japan will be borne by CLAIR.

Application:

To apply, please fill in the **Form** and send it to mailbox@jlgc.org.au by **Friday 31 July 2015**.

- For more details of the seminar, please refer to the **Outline**.
- Please note that there is a limit to the number of participants (6), the outcome your application will be made available to you by the end of August 2015.



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If you have any questions about the Seminar, please feel free to contact us at mailbox@jlgc.org.au or on 02 9241 5033. We look forward to your application.



- Photos from 2014 Local Government Exchange and Cooperation Seminar -

About Yamato Takada City:

Yamato Takada is home to many historical sites and buildings, which have been protected and cherished by its residents throughout history. Today the city is known for its rich historical atmosphere, however the city worked very hard to overcome the challenge of finding harmony between the heritage conservation and city planning.



Established in 1963, the sister city relationship between Yamato Takada and Lismore, NSW was the first between Australia and Japan. They are continuously deepening their relationship by not only visiting each other but also sharing ideas, such as foreign language programmes and dietary education in schools.

They look forward to talking with you about the benefits of, and how to get more people involved in sister city exchange, as well as how to balance town planning with protection of heritage.

Population:

67,740 (As of 1st June 2015)

Location:

Yamato Takada is located in the north western part of Nara prefecture, in the Kansai area. It takes approximately three and a half hours by bullet and express train from Tokyo.



area.

Popular attractions:

➤ Senbonzakura (Beautiful cherry blossom)

In late March to early April along Takada River – Yamato Takada’s main river – the *Senbonzakura* offers visitors a breathtaking cherry blossom experience. The *Senbonzakura*, meaning 1,000 cherry trees in Japanese, were planted in 1948 to help comfort the townspeople after the war. In recent years, an esplanade and steppingstones were placed along the Takada River, offering visitors and residents alike a peaceful area of relaxation.



➤ Okaden

Okaden is a stage that sits in the middle of the Onaka pond, which is located in the city’s central park. Okaden, which harmoniously blends in its natural surroundings, is one of the most famous and beautiful landmarks of Yamato Takada.



➤ Tsukiyama Burial Kofun

Tsukiyama Kofun is an enormous, 261 meters long burial mound that was built during the 5th century. It is said that Emperor Buretsu is buried in this mound, although the identity of the buried remains a mystery to this day.

