

Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman and President Pham Tan Cong. Although the ASEAN Business Promotion Platform had met online at the time of the organization's founding in April 2023, this was the first time the members had met in person.

OCCI President Setsuo Iuchi worked hard during the visit to network extensively with officials from counterpart chambers, laying the groundwork for an expansion of activities.

Meanwhile, the number of overseas visitors to the OCCI is on the up. For instance, on September 6, 2023, the chamber hosted a Seminar on Investment Promotion in Bac Ninh Province, Vietnam as part of a visit to Osaka by provincial officials, including an opening address by OCCI Vice Chair Kyoko Hirose. Similarly, on September 15, the OCCI hosted the Japan-Vietnam Investment and Trade Promotion Forum as part of a visit to Osaka by a delegation led by Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry Vice President Hoang Quang Phong. The forum was opened with an address by OCCI Chairperson Shingo Torii, and featured speeches by Tsutomu Himeno, representative of the Government of Japan and Ambassador in charge of Kansai.

Find out more (in Japanese) about the ASEAN Business Promotion Platform at:

<https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/abp/>

Tel: 06-6944-6400

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**2. GLOBAL INNOVATION FORUM OSAKA 2023 IS NOW ON!
READ EXHIBITOR INFORMATION AND SIGN UP TO VIEW LIVE PITCHES NOW**

Bringing together international startups and local businesses for exhibits and meetingsGlobal Innovation Forum (GIF) Osaka 2023's online exhibits are now up and ready for viewing.

GIF Osaka provides startups interested in doing business in Japan to exhibit, make pitches, and meet with local business. For the 2023 edition of the event, we are seeking startups from two regions: Europe and the

Middle East, and North and Latin America.

More information is available below. We look forward to seeing you at GIF Osaka 2023!

GIF Osaka Website

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

This year's exhibiting startups come from:

Europe & Middle East Edition

Israeli 2, France 1, Switzerland 2, Spain 1, Estonia 1, UK 1

North and Latin America Edition

Canada 2, USA 1, Colombia 2, Brazil 2

Online exhibits and exhibitors' details can be viewed at:

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

Schedule

Online exhibition: Starts on September 20, 2023

Live pitches: October 19, 2023 (Europe and Middle East), November 21, 2023 (North and Latin America)

One-on-one meetings: November 8 and 9, 2023

Program

(1) Online Exhibition

Open viewing. No application required.

When: Starts on September 20, 2023

What: Detailed information on exhibitors, their products, and a description of the kind of partnership they hope to forge with Japanese companies

How: View at <https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/company/>

(2) Keynote Addresses

What: Europe & Middle East Edition

Richard Lyle, VP and deputy managing director, Japan at Intralink, a UK-based international business consulting firm with many experts in Japan and elsewhere in East Asia, will provide up-to-date information on the European startup scene and its expectations for Japanese companies.

What: North and Latin America Edition

Hear all the latest information on startups and business in North and Latin America.

*More details will be released at a later date.

When, Where (all dates and times JST):

Europe and Middle East Edition: Zoom-based webinar, 16:00-18:30 on October 19, 2023

(keynote address starts at 16:00, live pitches start at 17:00)

North and Latin America Edition: Zoom-based webinar, 09:30-12:00 on November 21, 2023

(keynote address starts at 09:30, live pitches start at 10:30)

Register to attend at: <https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/program/>

(3) Live Pitches

What: Exhibitors will give presentations on the kind of partnership they hope to forge with Japanese companies. Those viewing in real-time can participate in a vote to determine which startups get invited to

Osaka. Winning startups will come to Osaka in January or February 2024.

When, Where (all dates and times JST):

Europe and Middle East Edition: Zoom-based webinar, 16:00-18:30 on October 19, 2023

(keynote address starts at 16:00, live pitches start at 17:00)

North and Latin America Edition: Zoom-based webinar, 09:30-12:00 on November 21, 2023

(keynote address starts at 09:30, live pitches start at 10:30)

Register to attend at: <https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/program/>

(4) One-on-one meetings

What: Online one-on-one meetings with exhibiting startups. Interpreters are on hand free of charge to ensure language is no barrier to productive meetings.

Cross-border business meetings can be daunting, but the GIF Osaka organizers and our partner institutions offer pre-meeting advice to help alleviate participants' concerns and guide them through the process. We're here to help, so don't hesitate to ask.

When, Where (all dates and times JST):

Zoom-based meetings on December 7 and 8, 2023 (available times varies for each exhibiting startup)

Register to attend at: <https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/program/>

Exhibiting Startups (Europe and Middle East Edition)

Israel

Votiv Subdermal Imaging Technologies, Ltd. (health tech)

Steakholder Foods (agri-food tech)

France

Facil'iti Japon K.K. (DX)

Switzerland

AICA SA (robotics)

Lighthouse Tech (health tech)

Spain

Bio2Coat S.L. (agri-food tech)

Estonia

Gscan (AR, VR, MR, DX, green tech, carbon neutrality)

UK

Q5D Technology Limited (robotics, DX, green tech, carbon neutrality)

Exhibiting Startups (North and Latin America Edition)

Canada

Audace Technologies (green tech, carbon neutrality)

IPtoki (health tech)

USA

Somalytics, Inc (AR, VR, MR, robotics, DX, health tech)

Colombia

Bioingred Tech (agritech, food tech)

Insect Farming Technologies: EntoPro (agri-tech food tech)

Brazil

Vivax (AR, VR, MR, robotics, health tech)

Tidalwatt - On Flow Energy (robotics, green tech, carbon neutrality)

Details of exhibiting startups are available at:

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

Contact

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3. 360 COMPANIES TO EXHIBIT AT OSAKA KANGYOTEN 2023, OSAKA'S PREMIER TRADE AND INDUSTRY FAIR, ON OCTOBER 18 AND 19

It's that time of year again, when Osaka's most exciting companies gather at Mydome Osaka to display their wares at Osaka Kangyoten 2023, Osaka's premier trade and industry fair. The event is organized under the auspices of the OCCI, the Sakai Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Osaka Prefectural Federation of Societies of Commerce and Industry, with the cooperation of all chambers and societies in Osaka Prefecture.

When: 10:00?17:00 on October 18, 2023, and 09:30?16:00 on October 19, 2023

Where: Mydome Osaka (Chuo-ku, Osaka)

Admission is free, but advance online registration is required.

Osaka Kangyoten is Osaka's foremost multi-industry trade fair, showcasing the best that companies and organizations throughout Osaka Prefecture have to offer. This year's show will feature fully 360 exhibitors, some 40% will be making their first appearance.

A total of 12 industries will be represented?metals, machinery, equipment, componentry, chemicals and energy, textiles, construction, building materials, lifestyle-related goods, environment and hygiene, food, paper and printing, information and communications, servicesas well as various other organizations.

Some 73 major distributors are scheduled to attend, making Osaka Kangyoten a golden opportunity to sell directly to buyers.

Following this, on November 16, the OCCI will hold the Kaimasse 2023, the 27th edition of our trade show where buyers discover the next hit products and vendors forge new sales channels. Kaimasse affords vendors, who usually struggle to get a foot in the door of major distributors, an opportunity to meet with buyers from those companies by having the buyers set up booths at which vendors can make their pitches directly. It is the largest event of its kind in Japan. Most of the buyers are from the nation's major distributors, including department stores, supermarkets, direct sales companies, co-ops, and specialty stores, but overseas buyers representing sales channels outside of Japan will also participate. In all, booths will be attended by around 250 buyers from 73 companies ready to meet with vendors.

Buyers: Kintetsu Department Store, Keihan Department Stores, Hankyu Hanshin Department Stores, Aeon Retail, co-ops, Kohnan Shoji, Isetan Singapore, Shobido Macau, Mottox China, and many more. (Total 73 companies from throughout Japan and around the world)

Product categories: Food, food ingredients (including primary products), housing and household goods, clothing, furniture, local specialty products, etc.

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4. OCCI SENDS BUSINESS DELEGATION TO CHINA TO GET A FEEL FOR THE LOCAL BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND SEEK NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

The OCCI's China Business Platform sent a business delegation to China from September 3 to get a feel for the local business environment and gauge the potential for business opportunities. The delegation visited Beijing, as well as Qingdao, Linyi, and Xiamen, which are forecast to grow.

In Xiamen, the group visited the China International Fair for Investment and Trade, a large-scale

international business tradeshow; in Beijing, they visited an industrial park that serves as a hub for cutting-edge technologies, and dropped in on companies involved in AI development other state-of-the-art operations; and Qingdao reinforced its image as a center for advanced trade and logistics industries.

Participants commented that the trip was a fine opportunity to seek clarity amid the clamor of so many complex threads of information about business in China, including high-potential cities such as Linyi and Xiamen with their free trade zones.

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5. OSAKA AND SAKAI TO HOST 2023 G7 TRADE MINISTERS' MEETING

The latest meeting of G7 trade ministers is due to be held in Osaka and Sakai on October 28 and 29, 2023.

Japan is the current G7 chair; in addition to hosting the G7 Summit in Hiroshima in May 2023, it will also host the ministerial meetings: specifically, those of trade (in Osaka and Sakai), digital and tech (Gunma), and climate, energy and environment (Sapporo). The trade ministers' meeting will be the focus of worldwide attention, with important topics including international trade rules, economic security, and global business cooperation on the agenda.

In addition to the meeting at the Osaka International Convention Center on October 29, 2023, a local welcoming event is scheduled to be held in Sakai City on October 28.

Expectations are high that the globally-watched G7 Trade Ministers Meeting in Osaka and Sakai will serve to spread the word about the 2025 World Expo, which is also to be held in Osaka.

More information on the G7 Trade Ministers Meeting is available on the METI website:

<https://www.meti.go.jp/english/index.html>

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6. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TO EXHIBIT AT THE 2025 WORLD EXPO IN OSAKA

**EXHIBITORS REQUIRED FOR THE OSAKA HEALTHCARE PAVILION ON THE THEME OF
“ACHIEVING WELLNESS THROUGH INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY AND SPACE”**

The OCCI is looking for exhibitors for the Osaka Healthcare Pavilion at the 2025 World Expo, which is to be held in Osaka. The exhibitions will focused on the theme of “achieving wellness through innovative technology and space,” With advances in technology and design, healthcare and medical care have merged seamlessly, and elements conducive to wellness are a natural part of daily life.

To date, however, no clear model has been established, and a variety of entities are searching for the future direction of wellness. We at the OCCI are seeking to use the 2025 World Expo as a first step toward such a future by recreating an office environment?in which many people spend the better part of their day?and exhibit products and services to benefit a range of scenarios.

We would love to hear from SMEs and startups interested in showcasing their products in the Exhibition Zone of the Osaka Healthcare Pavilion. Applications are open through October 13, 2023. Applicants will be able to make their pitch for selection at a screening session at Nakanoshima Museum of Art on December 18, 2023. Around 30 exhibitors will be officially selected through document screening and pitches by the end of FY2023.

Applications should be submitted here:

https://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/expo2025_osaka_pavilion/

<Courtesy Visit (31st August- 31th September)>

(Embassy of the Federal Democratic)21th December

His Excellency Mr. DABA Debele Hunde

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

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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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