



[The Nippon Foundation News] December Greetings

Greetings from The Nippon Foundation. In Tokyo, the autumn leaves have now mostly fallen from the trees and winter weather has arrived. As with *ume* (Japanese plum) and sakura cherry blossoms in springtime, *momiji* (Japanese maple) viewing is popular in the late autumn, when the leaves turn various shades of red and orange before falling to the ground.

Inokashira Park in Tokyo's western suburbs is a popular place to visit for both its sakura blossoms in the spring and *momiji* foliage in the fall. The park encompasses a large pond, which is the source of the Kanda River that flows eastward through the city and into Tokyo Bay, as well as a zoo, and a shrine dedicated to the goddess Benzaiten. The grounds of the Imperial Palace in central Tokyo are another large green urban oasis. Although mostly closed to the public, a section along Inui Street is opened twice a year to allow people to enjoy its sakura blossoms in the spring and *momiji* in the fall. This year, the street was opened to the public for nine days from late November through early December, for the first time in three years after having remained closed as a coronavirus prevention measure. On the first day, 50 people were already waiting at the gate by the time the street opened.



Inokashira Park, with the Benzaiten Shrine in the background (left) and visitors enjoying the foliage along Inui Street on the Imperial Palace grounds (right)

This is the last issue of The Nippon Foundation News for 2022. Please note that our offices will be closed from Wednesday, December 28, 2022, to Wednesday, January 4, 2023, for the New Year holidays. We would like to wish all of our readers a relaxing and enjoyable holiday season, and to extend our best wishes for the new year.

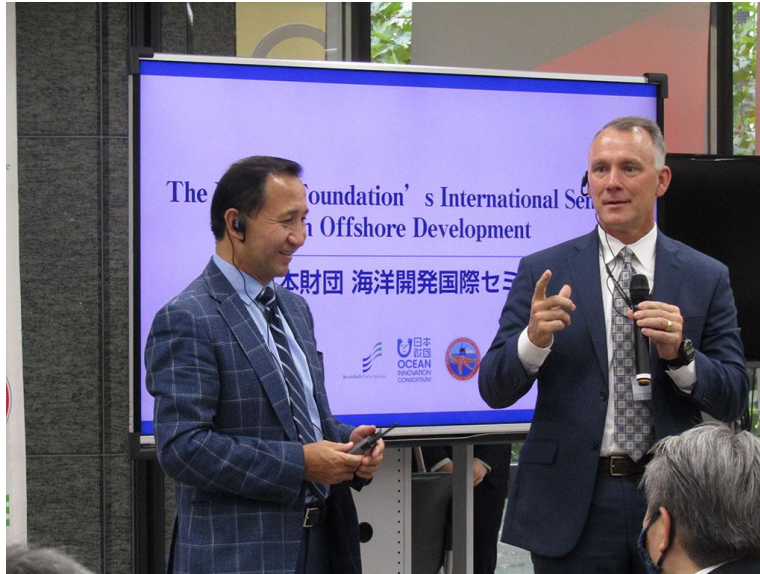
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International Seminar on Ocean Development

Presentations on joint research and development with DeepStar and Scottish Enterprise



The Nippon Foundation held an international seminar on ocean development on November 9, with more than 200 people attending either in person or online. Keynote presentations by research and development partners DeepStar and Scottish Enterprise covered the latest developments in DeepStar's technology development and work on carbon capture and underground storage, and on offshore wind power generation in Scotland. Japanese companies also presented updates on their joint R&D with DeepStar and Scottish Enterprise.

[Full Article](#)

Removing 1.2 Tons of Debris from Beach on Remote Island

Demonstration uses landing craft, special vehicles, and volume reduction equipment



The Nippon Foundation, Hiroshima Prefecture, and Otake City held a joint demonstration project on November 17 on Atata Island for the efficient recovery and processing of large amounts of debris that have washed up on a remote island that is difficult to access, as part of their efforts to reduce plastic ocean debris. Using a landing craft, special vehicles for transporting materials and cleaning beaches, and plastic volume reduction equipment, roughly 1.2 tons of debris was removed from a 350-meter section of Nagaura Beach.

[Full Article](#)

THE TOKYO TOILET - Creators discuss their thoughts on each public toilet

Designers Masamichi Katayama and Shigeru Ban

In the first of a series of discussions with the creators involved in THE TOKYO TOILET project, being carried out by The Nippon Foundation and the Shibuya City government to renovate 17 public toilets in Shibuya to make them accessible for everyone regardless of gender, age, or disability, Masamichi Katayama and Shigeru Ban share their thoughts that went into the renovation of public toilets in Ebisu Park, Yoyogi Fukamachi Mini Park, and Haru-no-Ogawa Community Park.

[Full Article](#)

Yohei Sasakawa Blog

Chairman of The Nippon Foundation



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