

This newsletter is being sent to current and former The Nippon Foundation fellows, and persons who have asked to be added to the mailing list or have been introduced by The Nippon Foundation staff.



## **[The Nippon Foundation News] The Heat Is On**

August greetings from The Nippon Foundation. The main news topic in Japan for the past several days has been a heat wave that is covering much of the country, with temperatures exceeding 40 degrees Celsius at numerous locations around the country on a daily basis. July 2025 was the country's hottest July on record for the third year in a row, and on August 5, a national record-high temperature of 41.8 C was recorded, surpassing the previous record 41.2 C set the previous week. People are being urged to avoid heatstroke by staying indoors and using air conditioning, and drinking plenty of water or sports drinks. The Tokyo Fire Department has also issued warnings of a potential shortage of ambulances due to people suffering from heatstroke.

The national high school baseball tournament, which began on August 5 and is a major summer event, is also adapting to these conditions. For the first time in its more than 100-year history, this year's opening ceremony, which is usually held in the middle of the day, was moved to the late afternoon, and games are only being played in the morning and late afternoon to avoid the hottest part of the day. Higher temperatures over the past few years have also led to new products becoming popular. Neck coolers (a U-shaped tube that is frozen and then worn around the neck) and hand-held, battery-powered fans are relatively new products that have already become commonplace, and an increasing number of men can be seen using parasols, which traditionally were used primarily by women.



*Summer scenes – people using parasols in downtown Tokyo and children playing a rubber ball-scooping game at a local community summer festival*

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- **Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds – Politics and the Election** (June 27, 2025)

## 4 Neighboring Prefectural Governors Join 1,000-Person Seto Inland Sea Cleanup Event

*Landing craft, special vehicles, and heavy equipment used to collect 26 tons of debris*



The “Setouchi Four Prefecture Joint Cleanup!” event was held on July 5 at locations in four prefectures simultaneously, as part of the Setouchi Oceans X project to implement comprehensive measures to address ocean debris jointly being carried out by The Nippon Foundation and four prefectures bordering the Seto Inland Sea. Using landing craft (private ferries), a special vehicle, heavy machinery, and other equipment, roughly 1,000 people collected a total of roughly 26 tons of debris in one day on coastlines, estuaries, and other places where the topography and climate make it easy for debris to accumulate.

[Full Article](#)

## Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds – Politics and the Election

*More than 60% think ‘Politics should change,’ roughly 40% ‘Intend to vote in Upper House election’*



## Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds

The 70th installment of the Awareness Survey of 18-Year-Olds was carried out on May 23-26 to gauge young people's interest and level of trust in politics, its effects on their own daily lives, and their intention to vote in the Upper House election to be held on July 20. While roughly half of respondents replied that they are interested in politics, there was a large gap between women and men. In addition, 40% of respondents felt that their own vote has an effect on Japanese politics, surpassing the close to 10% who replied that it does not, and 38% of all respondents said that they intend to vote in the upcoming election.

[Full Article](#)

### Yohei Sasakawa Blog

Honorary Chair of The Nippon Foundation



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[27.3% of World's Ocean Floor Now Mapped in Seabed 2030 Project](#) [2025/07/28]

[Joining 380 Cosplayers, Others to Launch "UMIGOMI Zero Week 2025"](#) [2025/07/23]

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