

Report on Ribariba Osaka 2010

Aqua Metropolis Osaka Revitalization Project—River! River! River! (also known as River River Osaka 2010) was held for three days from October 1 to October 3, 2010 as an event to inherit and continue the philosophy of Aqua Metropolis Osaka 2009. The project aims to reexamine the effective use of rivers and waterfront areas as places for citizens to develop activities and contribute to the urban development movement to revitalize Aqua Metropolis Osaka.

[This project was launched by the Aqua Metropolis Osaka Promotion Committee as a pilot program to formulate an urban development plan focusing on water and light and serves as a guideline for various entities, including citizens, nonprofit organizations, business circles and Osaka prefectural and municipal governments, to promote urban development of the aqua metropolis.]



Stage performance

[Period] October 1 (Fri.) to October 3 (Sun.), 2010 (three days)
*The event was ended at 5 p.m. on Oct. 3 due to rain.

[Venue] Each of the piers at Nakanoshima Park, Hachikenyahama Pier Area, and the Water Corridor

[Policy and Effect of the Project]

Policy: Create waterfront areas unique to Osaka.
Effect: Create models for urban development of Osaka.

[Overview of the programs] A Waterfront Programs

- Civic Participation Projects (Jointly hosted projects)
Stage performances, booth exhibitions, hands-on activities to experience e-boat ride
- Projects to Revitalize Waterfront Areas that Contribute to Realization of a Low-Carbon Society
Electric/eco-friendly car festival, etc
- Hachikenya River Side Cafe, etc.



Port Attractions

B Port Attractions (Regional collaboration project)

- New Noh Play "Mizu no Wa"-Introducing the Abundant Water Resources of Osaka to the World!
- "e-Yoko: Funa-tabii! Funa-asobi! (e-Yoko: Boat Ride! Boating!) [Honmachi-bashi Temporary Pier]
- Tombori Live (Live Performances at the Dotonbori Riverfront)
[Tazaemon-bashi Pier], etc.

C Water Fantasia

- The event features a fountain show that responds to music during the daytime and a fantastic water and light show at night.

[Total number of visitors] About 42,000
(Nakanoshima Park, Hachikenyahama Venue)



Water Fantasia

Information from the ICAP Secretariat

We are pleased to issue Aquapolis No. 13, reporting to each member various information, including an invitation to be the host city for the 6th ICAP, an announcement of Osaka's exhibition at Expo 2010 Shanghai China, and a report on River River Osaka 2010. We ask for your continued support for ICAP.

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Seeking Host City for the 6th International Conference of Aquapolises

Seeking Host City for the 6th ICAP

The International Conference of Aquapolises (ICAP), proposed by the Osaka Municipal Government to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Osaka municipal administration, was held for the first time in 1990. ICAP assembles delegates from cities around the globe that are dubbed aquapolises, each city possessing its own unique characteristics relating to water and greenery. Participants exchange information such as urban development expertise featuring effective use of water. They also discuss various topics such as the ideal form of a 21st century aquapolis.

ICAP has been held every three to five years. Recently, the 5th ICAP was held in Busan Metropolitan City in Korea, in May 2008. With the participation of mayors, experts and other delegates from 41 aquapolises in 15 countries around the world, the 5th ICAP was held under the main theme "For a Sustainable Aquapolis." Participants exchanged information such as know-how of urban development featuring water and greenery. They also discussed topics such as the ideal form of an aquapolis for the future

Currently, in an effort to continue ICAP, the ICAP Secretariat is seeking a host city for the 6th conference. Accordingly, we would like to ask your city to consider becoming the host city for the 6th ICAP. We would very much appreciate it if you could fill out the attached "Response in Regard to Hosting the 6th ICAP" and send it back to the ICAP Secretariat.

<Appearance the 5th ICAP>



Holding declaration



Plenary meeting



Expert meeting

Past ICAP holding passage

ICAP	Host City	Month and Year	Participating Cities
1st	Osaka (Japan)	July 1990	33 Cities (210 people)
2nd	Shanghai (China)	November 1993	28 Cities (110 people)
3rd	Piraeus (Greece)	March 1997	22 Cities (80 people)
4th	Osaka (Japan)	March 2003	55 Cities (900 people)
5th	Busan (Korea)	May 2008	41 Cities (150 people)

Osaka Pavilion at Expo 2010 Shanghai China “Environmentally Advanced City—The Challenge of Water Metropolis Osaka” (Report)

Osaka held an exhibition under the basic concept of “Environmentally Advanced City—The Challenge of Water Metropolis Osaka” at the Urban Best Practices Area as the only Japanese city to do so. Osaka introduced advanced environmental technologies from Osaka and the Kansai region in an easy-to-understand way through hands-on exhibits, while promoting the city’s attractiveness as a water metropolis that has prospered since ancient times thanks to rich water resources to China and other parts of the world.

Overview of Expo 2010 Shanghai China

Expo 2010 Shanghai China, which attracted participants from 246 countries/regions, international organizations, enterprises and cities, was presented in a variety of exhibitions, events and forums under the theme of “Better City, Better Life.” The Shanghai Expo became the largest world’s fair in history with about 73.1 million visitors during the 184-day period from May 1 to October 31.

The Shanghai Expo introduced brand-new programs such as the Urban Best Practices Area, featuring participation from various cities, and Expo Online, where people could experience a virtual tour of the Expo



Venue of Expo 2010 Shanghai China

Osaka Pavilion (Exhibition)

The Osaka Pavilion attracted over 1.7 million visitors, far exceeding the initial estimate of 1.4 million. The pavilion attracted a great deal of attention for the warm hospitality offered by the staff and the exhibition of environmental technologies of Osaka and the Kansai region especially in such areas as water and energy, and was well received by visitors.

Although Osaka has developed as a water metropolis, the city has suffered from various drawbacks such as air pollution. Osaka introduced its efforts to overcome those environmental problems as well as its environmental technologies and urban development projects.

The fact that the Osaka Pavilion received coverage on water technologies from Chinese media on more than 100 occasions and many inquiries from visitors revealed the seriousness of environmental issues such as water pollution and water resources that China is facing. Meanwhile, Osaka and the Kansai region acquired a high reputation for their efforts to address environmental issues and the advanced technologies that have been put to use.

Meanwhile, Osaka publicized the sightseeing attractions of the city and the Kansai region in cooperation with other prefectures and cities in the region, and promoted initiatives for revitalizing Osaka as a water metropolis.

One of the environmental technology exhibits at the Osaka Pavilion will be donated to the Memorial Hall of Expo 2010 Shanghai China to open in the spring of 2012 with the approval of Osaka University, which produced the exhibit.



Outside the Osaka Pavilion



Cherry Blossom Tunnel Promenade



Special exhibition and “Water Corridor”



Exhibition of advanced environmental (energy) technologies



Exhibition of advanced environmental (water) technologies (Water technologies)



Visitors view the exhibits with keen interest.



The charms of cities in the Kansai region are introduced.

Event

Each country was designated a national day when it could celebrate its own culture at the Expo. For the first time, Expo 2010 Shanghai China also enabled cities to designate one day during the Expo as a special day equivalent to a national day.

Osaka designated July 28 as its special day, called “Naniwa Day,” and held such events as an Osaka-Shanghai Friendship Bon Dance Festival and Brilliance of Osaka: Osaka Bon Dance Grand Parade. More than 500 people, including representatives from various fields and local residents, left for Shanghai from Osaka. The bon dance festival promoted people-to-people exchange between Osaka and Shanghai with about 2,000 people in attendance, including those participating in the dance on the day of the event. High school students from Osaka also journeyed to Shanghai aboard the sailing training ship “Akogare” to interact with local young people.



Osaka-Shanghai Friendship Bon Dance Festival



Brilliance of Osaka: Osaka Bon Dance Grand Parade

Forum

A number of Expo-related public forums were held prior to the Shanghai Expo, and six theme forums and one summit forum were held during the Expo period. Osaka Vice Mayor Keizo Kitayama participated in the theme forum 4, “Toward a Low-Carbon City: Environmental Protection and Urban Responsibilities,” held in Nanjing. He talked about past experiences of the city and explained the city’s efforts to tackle various issues in cooperation with local residents and the city’s advanced environmental technologies. Meanwhile, Osaka Governor Toru Hashimoto gave a speech on the theme of “Social Capital that Supports Urban ‘Growth and Settlement’” at the summit forum.

Conclusions

To commemorate its participation in the Shanghai Expo, Osaka held a seminar in Shanghai on the city’s environmental and water technologies in collaboration with companies involved in the exhibition of environmental technologies at the Osaka Pavilion. Osaka Mayor Kunio Hiramatsu promoted the city’s attractions, and various issues were addressed. The seminar provided an opportunity for Osaka to promote business exchanges, with the city receiving reports from some participating companies that regarding proposed plans to introduce their unique technologies, and receiving inquiries from the media after the Expo ended. In a questionnaire survey of visitors to the Osaka Pavilion, about 94% of respondents said they hoped to go on a sightseeing trip to Osaka, while about 45% said they learned that Osaka’s environmental technologies have made progress. The survey showed the charms of Water Metropolis Osaka, and the advanced environmental technologies of the city and the Kansai region were widely introduced to the world. Taking advantage of their participation in the Shanghai Expo, in the future Osaka hopes to strengthen friendly relations while promoting business exchanges in China.



Osaka Mayor Kunio Hiramatsu promoting the city’s high-quality tap water.



Hospitality of the staff at the Osaka Pavilion is appreciated.



Children receive a message on their Expo passports (with stamps).