

特定非営利活動法人 可児市国際交流協会

2024年度 活動報告書

NPO Kani International Exchange Association Annual Report 2024

NPO Associação de Intercâmbio Internacional de Kani Relatório Anual 2024



特定非営利活動法人 可児市国際交流協会

NPO Kani International Exchange Association

NPO Associação de Intercâmbio Internacional de Kani

What is Kani International Exchange Association = KIEA...

It is our goal to create a place where people of different race and culture cooperates and live together in a safe and secure environment

Progress of KIEA

- Year 2000 With the support of the city and its residents taking the lead, the International Exchange Association Establishment Preparation Development Group was founded
- Year 2008 Received the certification as NPO and became the managing authority and operator of Multicultural Center, Frevia

For 25 years since our establishment, we've been based in Frevia, engaging in a variety of activities. We provide Japanese language education and lifestyle consultations for foreign residents, offer a wide range of educational support from preschool through high school, conduct disaster prevention activities to ensure the safety and security of local people, and organize various events and courses to connect community members. Our hope is that all these efforts will help create a community where multicultural coexistence becomes an everyday reality.

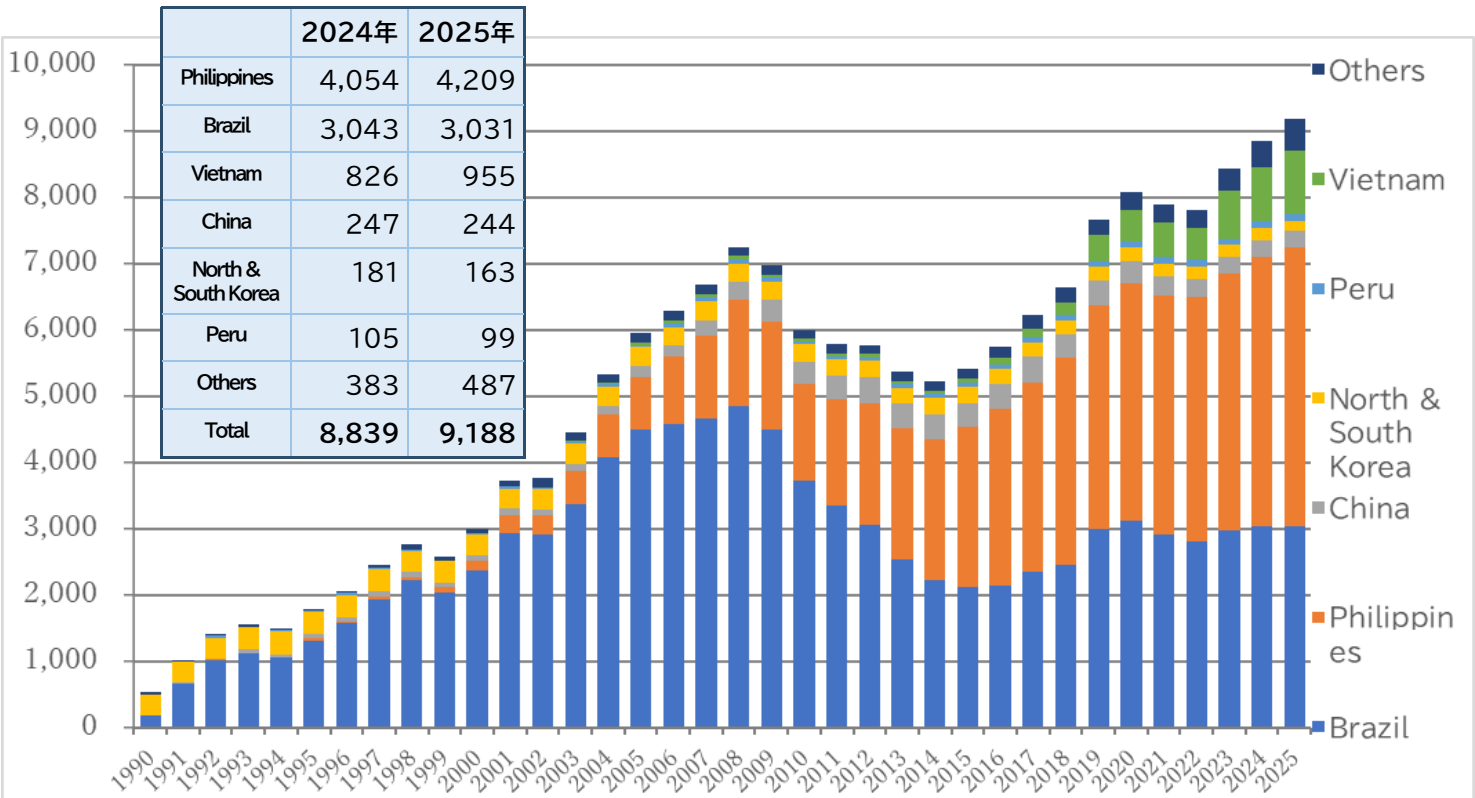
Achievements and Challenges in FY 2024

In December 2024, the foreign population living in Japan hit a record high of around 3.7 million. In Kani City, the number of foreign newcomers has been subtly rising every month, making the area increasingly multinational.

While people from the Philippines and Brazil account for just under 80% of the foreign population, there's been a continuous increase in residents from Southeast Asian countries like Vietnam in recent years. Although people from about 43 countries have resided here historically, the number of people eligible to bring their families on their visa status has increased, leading to a rise in the child population. Consequently, our initiatives to accommodate this increasing internationalization are moving forward.

On the other hand, Kani City's overall population has been decreasing, falling below 100,000 since April 2024. The increasing number of foreign residents are also citizens living in our community, and many of them are working taxpayers. As our foreign citizen population expands into different parts of Kani City, it will remain crucial to continuously work on fostering multicultural coexistence in every city area.

Foreign Resident Population in Kani City (Transition Graph) as of March 31, or April 1 or 4 of each year



Management and Operation of Kani City Multicultural Center, Frevia

~As part of the Frevia's Multicultural Coexistence Center's operations, we carried out the following activities this fiscal year ~

1

Information Gathering Dissemination, and Provision

We collected useful information and shared it with the community in various ways.

Mail Magazine Distribution
(Every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month)
Registered Members: 250 people
(as of May 31, 2025)

↓ For Mail Magazine Registration ↓
Please send us a blank email at
reg@frevia.nows.jp

Information Dissemination Through Social Media
↓ Scan the 2D code below ↓



Facebook



Instagram

Publication of Newsletter in 3 Languages

Frevia Dayori (Japanese)

250 newsletter/month

MAGKAISA (English)

900 newsletter/month

UNIDOS (Portuguese)

750 newsletter/month

※The multilingual publication ended in December

2

Japanese Language Support

Various types of Japanese Class was opened in accordance to the needs of the learner.

There's a dedicated Facebook page for Japanese class, wherein we share and update information about the class schedule and activities.

Registered Member : 732 members (as of May 30, 2025)

⇒For more details on Activity Reports please see p.6

↓ Scan the 2D code below ↓



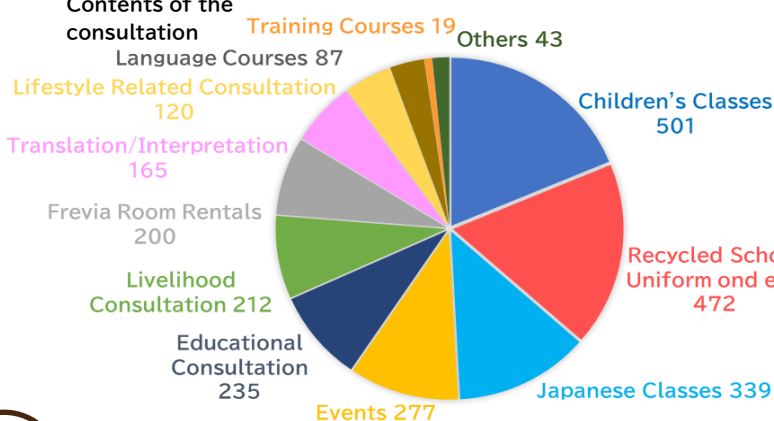
3

Consultation of Foreign Residents

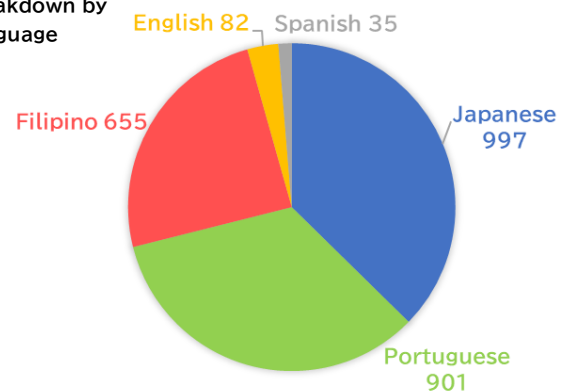
Number of Cases: 2,670 cases

Gifu Hoterasu, Free Legal Consultation, Residency Status Consultation held with Nagoya Immigration Staff

Contents of the consultation



Breakdown by Language



4

Providing a Place and Opportunity for Social Exchange and Interaction

Multicultural Coexistence Festival

Under the theme "Let's Create a Fun Festival with SDG's," we featured various attractions! There were hands-on corners for making shrines (mikoshi), games, decorations, and key chains using recycled materials, a patrol car exhibition, volunteer stage performances, and booths from international food trucks, companies, and government organizations!

Total Number of Visitors: 762 people

Sponsors: 5 companies (see p.7 for details)



11/24



Educational Support for Children

~We operate various classes with the goal of providing seamless support from pre-school through high school ~



Pre-school



Ohisama Class (Apr. to Mar.)

This is a class designed to connect young children of foreign roots, ages 4 to 6 years old, with Japanese kindergartens and nursery schools. We also collaborate with local privately operated day care facilities to provide guidance.

For FY 2024 in collaboration with privately owned daycare centers, we provided Japanese language and life skills instruction to a total of 25 children. Of these, we successfully helped 4 un-enrolled children transition to public Japanese kindergarten and 1 child to a privately owned daycare center. Furthermore, 2 children were directly enrolled in pre-school following a consultation process.



Hiyoko Class (Oct. to Mar.)

This class assist preschool-aged children who have not yet entered kindergarten and offer support to help prepare them for elementary school.

For the FY 2024, in collaboration with privately owned day-care centers, we provided Japanese language and life skills instruction to a total of 48 children, preparing them for school entry. This included experiences such as sweet potato digging, school lunch participation, fire station visits, disaster prevention workshops, drama workshops, traffic safety classes, and elementary school tours.

In collaboration with the Board of Education and schools, we organized and delivered two separate guidance sessions focused on school enrollment preparation for parents. These sessions saw the participation of a combined total of 31 parent-child groups.

Additionally, we received 8 consultations to transfer their children from privately owned day care for foreigners to Japanese kindergarten. Of these, 5 children were accepted into our Hiyoko Class before successfully transferring to a Japanese kindergarten.

Elementary and Junior High School



Yume Class ~A class which serves as bridge between students and school~

Japanese language support and subject guidance were given to those children who are not enrolled in any schools, unable to go to school or staying at home. As necessary we also offer Japanese language support to elementary and junior high school student to help these children transition back to school.

We supported two children who were at risk of school refusal due to family or other reasons. After working with their schools and the Board of Education over a two-month period, they were able to return to school.



Supplementary Class to strengthen Japanese Language Proficiency

Kibou Class

Provision of supplementary lessons on academic subject and Japanese learning to children and students attending public schools.

We were able to provide support to 23 junior high school students and 6 of 3rd year junior high school students were able to pass the senior high school entrance examination.

From July, classes were arranged by grade, and instruction was tailored accordingly. As a result, students interacted more with one another, teaching and supporting each other — demonstrating the idea of "learning and growing side by side." Learning alongside others who face similar challenges has been motivating, and is also starting to serve as a place where they feel they belong.

支援の 拡充



After School Kibou Class

The demand for supplementary lesson has been increasing year by year, and recognizing the limitations of the existing Kibou Classroom framework, we started offering the after school classroom.

During this fiscal year, we supported 29 elementary and junior high school students through a mix of face-to-face and online sessions. Of these, six (6) 3rd year students were able to pass the entrance exams for the high schools they aimed for.

We implemented tablet-based learning, and continuing the study at home helped reinforce the students' understanding. Additionally, by using multilingual content, some students were able to deepen their comprehension by viewing lessons explained in their native language.

6 to 15 years old

Junior High
School
Equivalency
Certification
Examination

Senior High
School Ad-
vancement

15
Years
old
and
above

Satsuki Class • Kagayaki Class Stasuki II Class

This class supports students beyond compulsory education age in advancing to senior high school. The class offer comprehensive support, which includes Japanese language instruction, targeted academic subject guidance, and specialized preparation for the Junior High School Graduation Equivalency Examination. In this classroom, children from various countries learn collaboratively, nurturing their teamwork and communication proficiency as they progress and mature.

For FY 2024, a total of 35 students from seven different countries studied together across our classrooms: 16 in Satsuki Class (residents of Kani City), 14 in Kagayaki Class (residents of Minokamo City), and 5 in Satsuki II Class (residents elsewhere in Gifu Prefecture). Of these students, 14 advanced to high school.

We revised our teaching materials, introducing resources that emphasize conversational skills, which led to an im-



provement in student's ability to speak Japanese and their willingness to speak it. For mathematics, we used materials with clearly defined teaching methods, which helped standardize instruction among support staff and resulted in an overall improvement in math proficiency. Additionally, by enhancing field trips, sports events, and workshops, we aimed to maintain learning motivation while also deepening the relationships between supporters and students, and among students themselves.

Following a program restructuring, Satsuki Class, Kagayaki Class, and Satsuki II Class will not be offered in fiscal year 2025. Nevertheless, support such as consultation services and volunteer placements will continue.

Gifu Network Promotion Project for the Education of Children with Foreign Roots

This is a three-year project concluding this fiscal year (2024), with long-term goals of establishing places where children across the prefecture can receive learning support regardless of their location, and enabling parents and children to better access information related to education together. To further promote the creation of a network focused on the education of children with foreign roots in Gifu Prefecture, an initiative previously run independently, KIEA is now serving as the lead organization. We've formed and are managing a consortium with other organizations across the prefecture to operate the project. At present, we are managing a network conference comprising 10 organizations. Within the scope of career education for junior and senior high school students, we implemented a career camp designed to help students envision their futures through listening to the experiences of older role models, and additionally organized career guidance sessions specifically for senior high school progression. In addition, five organizations, serving as the direct implementers, collaborated on this initiative: the Minokamo International Exchange Association, Multicultural Children Edu niho☆nic. (Mizunami City), Ena City International Exchange Association, Machizukuri Spot (Takayama City), and KIEA. Each of these groups was responsible for operating classrooms that support children's Japanese language and learning, as well as conducting related surveys.

Nijiirō☆Camp held at Fukui Prefectural Mikata Youth Center from October 12th to 13th

This is a youth camp held annually as part of a career development program. It is aimed at 3rd year junior high school students with foreign backgrounds and other youth who are considering further education. Young people who are beyond school age spend time together with Japanese university students, reflecting on their futures. A positive cycle has begun to form, as some university students who participated in last year's camp are now involved in its operation. On the second day, we invited senior students with foreign backgrounds to share their personal experiences and stories.

Participants Youth People: 27 individuals University Students: 5 Senior guests: 6

Mother Tongue Language Support

~Supporting multicultural children on their studies and conveying the importance of one's native culture and heritage language~

Portuguese Class 「Saci-pereré」

Learning Brazilian culture by learning Portuguese. We also provide a space for Brazilians to interact and build friendships.

A total of 84 students who were enrolled on basic Portuguese class (7 classes including Global Class) and 49 students for English and Portuguese class (4 classes).

The Portuguese class prioritizes "reading and comprehension." As more children show weak abilities in both languages, we feel it's important not only to learn their mother tongue in this classroom but also to foster communication within families and continuous support from parents in their native language.



~Introduction of Events~

Project GAMBATEANDO [プロジェクト ガンバテアンド]

The project was carried out where children and their parents worked together to create original kamishibai (paper theater) stories in both Japanese and their native language. They collaborated by sharing tasks such as writing stories based on personal experiences and Brazilian folktales, as well as creating illustrations. The completed works were presented in storytelling sessions at the Kani Mirai Library.



Participants: 7 children
and their families

Japanese Language Education



~Development of program and activities that connects
the community and Japanese classroom~

Japanese Classroom

Through learning in the Japanese language class, we aim to help learners live safely and securely in the community. At the same time, we strive to strengthen the connection between the class and the local area, contributing to community-building through our activities.

The number of young people who continue to attend the Japanese language class has increased, leading to stronger peer connections and greater participation in community activities outside the classroom.

-Saturday Class

Conversation, Kanji, Group Study, and Cultural Experience.

Number of classes held: 28 times, total participants: 311 people

-Sunday Class

Focusing on daily life conversation and introducing hands on experience and actions.

Number of classes held: 28 times, total participants: 341 people

-Diverse Class

① JLPT N3 Preparation Course

held 8 times, with a total of 10 participants

② Let's try different ways to learn Japanese

Number of Classes held: 4 times, Total Participants: 5 people

Adviser Deployment in Promoting Japanese Language Education

3 staffs who completed the Local Japanese Language Coordinator Training of the Agency for Culture Affairs has been dispatched as advisers to share and utilize their knowledge and experience.

1. Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) Regional Japanese Language Startup Project

Gotemba City, Shizuoka Prefecture

2. Gifu Prefectural Regional Japanese Language Education Coordinator Dispatch Project

Toki City Japanese Language Class, Gifu Prefecture

Kakamigahara City In-company Japanese Language Class

3. Japanese Language within Companies

Katayama Seisakusho Co., Ltd.

4. Promotion of "Simple Japanese".

Outreach to businesses and the Kani City Industrial Estate Association

5. Cooperation with Gifu Prefecture International Exchange Center Projects

Local Human Resource Training and Workshops

~Learned what I can do to better support foreign residents~

In this region, the required qualities and competencies for Japanese language education are becoming increasingly diverse. To increase the number of Japanese language educators, we aim to enhance teaching abilities by equipping individuals with the necessary knowledge for instruction and support.

~Courses, Training, and Meetings that was conducted on FY 2024 ~

-Cooperation with training courses organized by the Gifu Prefecture International Exchange Center

-Online Training for Instructing Children with Foreign Roots

-Hosted 4 training sessions/workshops

-18 Cases of Instructor Dispatch

-16 media/interview requests and other queries

Furthermore, from October 11th to December 24th, we facilitated the JICA Nikkei Community Training Program, welcoming participants of Japanese descent directly from Brazil. This initiative involved various activities aimed at deepening their understanding of the present circumstances of Nikkei people residing in Japan, offering cultural introductions, and providing Japanese language guidance, ultimately contributing to both Brazil and Japan. Simi-

larly, we'll share feedback from students involved in Project Ganbatteando (P. 5), an endeavor that serves as a bridge between two countries.

Mother: I shared my experiences, my son crafted them into a story, and my daughter added the illustrations. In Japan, we're all so busy with school and work, so it's rare for our family to truly come together and create something. This occasion proved to be incredibly valuable for us.

Brother: The biggest challenge was finding words that would make a similar impression in both Japanese and Portuguese, as their expressive qualities are quite different. This experience taught me that when dealing with people from diverse backgrounds and environments, it's incredibly difficult but absolutely necessary to learn how to choose words that effectively convey your meaning.

Sister: While it was a difficult process, akin to cramming all your summer homework into the final day, I felt a strong sense of accomplishment. Deciding on the right composition for the requested illustrations was particularly tough, and it got so challenging that I even contemplated pulling an all-nighter to get them done.

Takeshita Family,
residents of Gifu
Prefecture



Promoting Multicultural Understanding to the Community and Society

Community Collaboration

To build visible connections among residents and promote community building, we collaborated with the neighborhood association and location community centers to implement and support various activities.

-Let's connect through Japanese! !
「Watashiba」



Aiming to create a space where both foreign and Japanese residents in the community can participate freely, we carried out our activities centered around the welfare center

Number of times held: 10 times,
Participants: 78 people

-Kani City Collaboration Project

Kani City Community Development Network Conference

Support for community activities led by foreign residents
Assisting with the planning and management of cooking workshops and similar programs hosted by the community district center
Storytelling in multiple languages
Multilingual picture book reading sessions, led by citizens and students, were held 14 times at the Kani Mirai Library
Information exchange meetings with the Social Welfare Council and the Community Comprehensive Support Center, as well as translation of disaster volunteer center forms and related materials



Watashiba Instagram



Disaster Response Drill

In collaboration with Kani City, we conducted a disaster preparedness drill and established a Multicultural Language Information Center. In addition, this fiscal year we conducted a training program titled "Multilingual Disaster Support Center Setup Drill Involving Foreign Residents." This included separate training sessions for staff with invited instructors, as well as disaster consultation response drills linked with the Japanese language classes.

災害時多言語支援センター
Centro Multilíngüe de informações
Multi-language Information Center
Sentro ng Impormasyong Multilingwal

Frevia will serve as a
Multi-language Information
Center in gathering and
disseminating information
during disaster



Language Course

Conducted basic and conversational classes
Portuguese, Chinese, English, Korean,
Spanish

<First Term> Course: 55 participants
Salon: 38 participants

<Second Term> Salon: <1>67 participants
*For the second semester, the language classes were re-envisioned as a conversational salon

Understanding Multiculturalism

Dispatch Lecturers on Multicultural Coexistence
Conducted courses for International and Multicultural Understanding

Collaboration and cooperation with other organizations

Foreigner Support/Multicultural Coexistence Network
Multicultural Theater Unit MICHI
Information dissemination activities through workshops utilizing theatrical methods for disaster prevention and more
NPO NICE
CITIZEN First Watch Project
Multicultural Parenting Salon
Assistance with National Senior High School Entrance Examination surveys
partnerships with NGOs
CSR's Activities
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies
Gifu Shotoku Gakuen University

Donation Collection and Distribution

Recycling of School Uniforms and Educational Supplies
Items Received: 682 | Items Distributed: 739
Corporate and Individual Donations
•Support for scholarships, tuition assistance, and more from numerous individuals

Language Interpretation and Translation

Upon request from other local organizations and schools, we provided interpreter dispatch and translation services
Interpretation requests: 12
Translation requests: 25

Documentary Film Screening

In 2017, KIEA produced the documentary film "Journey to be continued" for Educational Awareness on Children with foreign roots living in Japan.

•Screened in Kawaguchi City, Saitama Prefecture on October 19

•Screened on February 16 as part of ALA's multicultural project

Event Sponsors

(No particular order)

SHEKINAH EDUSENCE INTERNATIONAL,
可児ライオンズクラブ,
株式会社 御嵩建築,
ZION CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER,
協同組合 岐阜県可児市工業団地管理センター

Management of Frevia Cafe

The business temporarily closed in July for restructuring. However, applications for prospective vendors continue to be accepted at Frevia Café, where a wide variety of food, drinks, and handmade goods from different countries are sold, making it a widely utilized space for multicultural exchange.

An Invitation from the Organization

KIEA is inviting everyone who would like to be a member and get partnered with us in supporting the organizations activities.

Your membership donations will be used in the promotion and realization of Multi-cultural Society, and will be utilizing these funds for activities in relation with this goal. A general meeting of members is regularly organized to discuss the project content. Scheduled every end of May.



Recruitment of Members

◆ Membership Requirements

Anyone who is interested and agrees with the organization's advocacy and projects. You may choose from Individual Membership, Family Membership, or Company/Organization Membership

◆ Yearly Membership Fee

Individual Membership : 2,000円

Family Membership : 3,000円

Company/Organization : 10,000円

※You may choose to be a Regular Member (may participate in decision making), or be a Supporting Member (has no voting rights).

Number of Members (as of May 1, 2025)

Individual Member : 206 members (28 members are within the company/organization)
Supporting Members: 387 members

Recruitment of Supporters

◆ Using your free time as supporters!

As a supporter in children's classes and Japanese classes, you can also be a supporter on the education of foreign residents.

Now recruiting volunteers in times of disaster! You may also register as a volunteer, interpreter or translator in times of emergency or participate in disaster preparedness trainings.

◆ Scholarship Support!

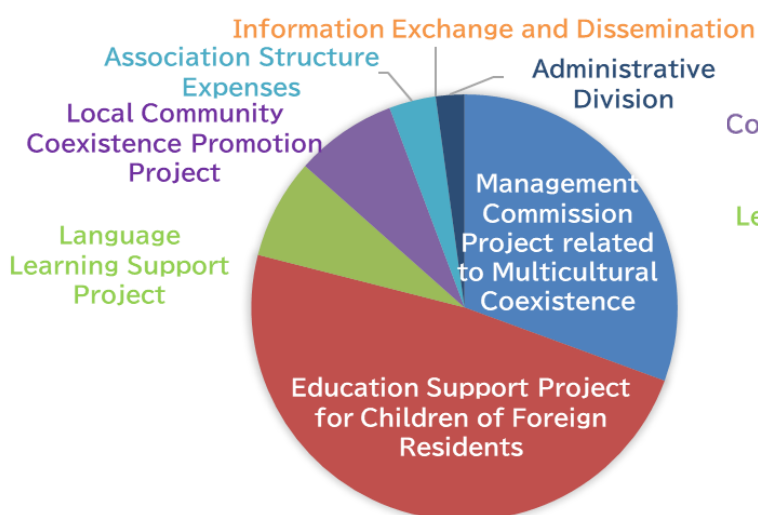
We are supporting financially challenged students who wish to pursue their education. We wish to provide opportunities for these children to continue their studies. Looking for individuals who can support us in this endeavor.

Total Accumulated Donation for 2024: 149,100円

Financial Statement Report for FY 2024

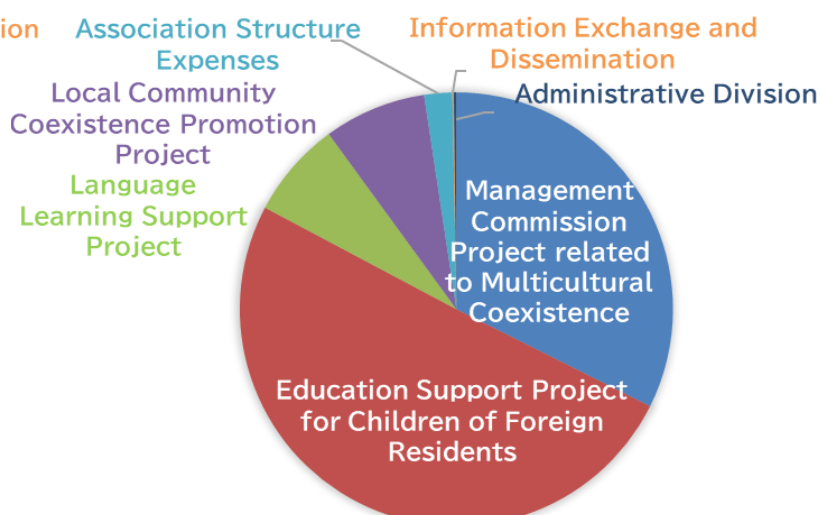
Total Project Income : 65,594,148円

◆ Breakdown of Income



Total Project Expenditure : 59,780,358

◆ Breakdown of Project Expenditure



NPO Kani International Exchange Association (KIEA)

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