

# Kusatsu Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan Second Edition Summary

FY2026 - FY2030

## <Basic Philosophy>

みんなの<sup>ちが</sup>違いを<sup>みと</sup>認めて <sup>ささ</sup>支えあう

みんな<sup>しあわ</sup>幸せを<sup>かん</sup>感じる<sup>たぶん</sup>多文化<sup>かきょうせい</sup>共生の<sup>くさつ</sup>まち 草津

Respect differences and support each other

Kusatsu, a multicultural city where you can live happily

## What is Multicultural Coexistence?



It is a condition where people of different nationalities and ethnicities live together as members of the local community while accepting each other's cultural differences and striving to build equal relationships.

All residents, either foreigners or Japanese, will cooperate to create a multicultural coexisting city.

## Background and Objective

The number of foreigners living in Kusatsu city is expected to increase as it has been every year.

The City of Kusatsu formulated Kusatsu Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan in April 2021, which has been worked on for the realization of a community where people with different nationalities or ethnicities can live together mutually accepting each other in cooperation with multiple actors.

As that plan ends at the end of March 2026, the second edition of Kusatsu Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan has been formulated to address social changes and new challenges in reference to the governmental and Shiga prefectural plans.



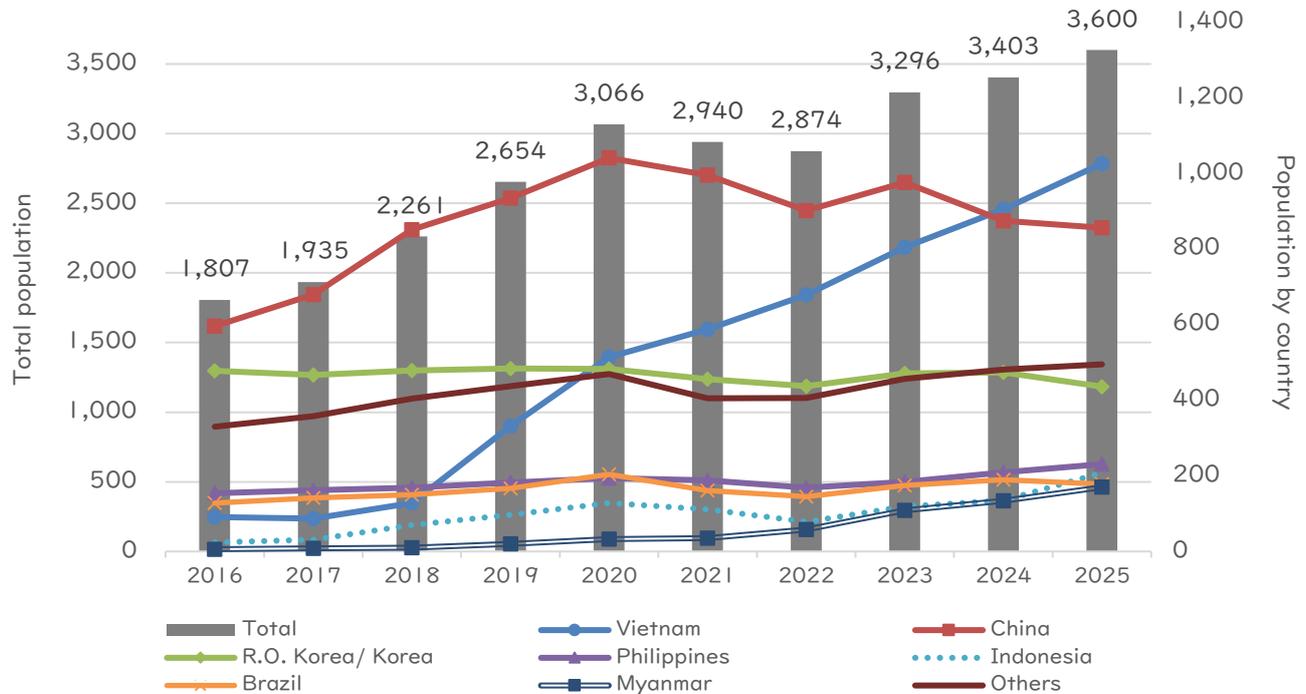
March 2026

City of Kusatsu

## State of Foreigners Living in Kusatsu City

- The number of foreigners living in Kusatsu reached a record high of 3,600 as of the end of March 2025.
- In descending order, they are from Vietnam, China and Republic of Korea/ Korea.
- Permanent Residence is the most common residential status, followed by Student and Engineer/Specialist in Humanities/International Services.

【Number of Foreigners Living in Kusatsu】



## Matters Needs to Be Addressed to Foster Better Community

- Provision of information about procedures at city hall or daily life in multiple languages or Yasashii Nihongo (Plain Japanese) as utilizing ICT
- Efficient information provision relating to Japanese language classes or studies
- Support for children with foreign roots in Japanese language studies and communication with friends
- Secure employment opportunities for foreign residents as well as actions to create supportive working environment for foreign residents
- Raising awareness of disaster prevention among foreign residents, along with the dissemination of measures that their community members can take to support them
- Development of supporting structures for foreign residents to connect them to governmental services equally, regardless of their Japanese language capabilities or their being bound by knowledge based on societal customs in their countries of origin
- Raising public awareness of multicultural coexistence so that both foreign and Japanese residents can understand each other and cooperate along with increasing opportunities for their interaction
- Measures to enhance the active participation of foreign residents in local communities

## Measures Planned to Be Implemented



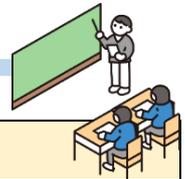
### 1. Support Communication

Use multiple languages or Yasashii-Nihongo (Plain Japanese) to inform foreign residents

Measures	Examples of Specific Actions
Provide governmental and life information in multiple languages (utilizing ICT) and develop supporting structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Use multiple languages or Yasashii-Nihongo (Plain Japanese) for the news or life information from Kusatsu City</li> <li>○Utilize media such as city website or social media (e.g., LINE and X) for life information provision</li> <li>○After listening to foreign residents' concerns relating to administration or general matters of life, provide appropriate advice and information</li> </ul>
Promote Japanese language education and learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Support Japanese language classes with their operation and management</li> </ul>
Provide information needed for daily life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Provide information or rules needed to live in Kusatsu, Japan</li> </ul>

### 2. Enhance Life Support

Develop supporting structures for safe and secure life of foreign residents



Measures	Examples of Specific Actions
Secure educational opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Use multiple languages or Yasashii-Nihongo (Plain Japanese) to provide school information for foreign residents</li> <li>○Support children with foreign roots in Japanese language learning</li> <li>○Educate all children about multicultural coexistence</li> </ul>
Secure supportive working environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Enhance actions to create supportive working environment for foreign residents</li> </ul>
Establish supporting structures in case of disaster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Raise awareness of disaster prevention among foreign residents through disaster education</li> <li>○Strengthen the structure to secure safe evacuation of foreign residents</li> </ul>
Provide health and medical services (including measures against infectious disease)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Inform foreign residents about hospitals and pharmacies where multilingual services are available</li> <li>○Provide infant-health checkup or health consultation in multiple languages and Yasashii-Nihongo (Plain Japanese)</li> </ul>
Provide childcare, family-support and welfare services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○To address valid problems at different stages of life, strengthen supporting structures for foreign residents in different fields</li> </ul>
Support to secure housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Enhance support for foreign residents to secure their dwellings</li> </ul>

▼Japanese Language Class



▼Activities of Functional Volunteer Fire Corps



### 3. Raise Awareness and Support Social Engagement

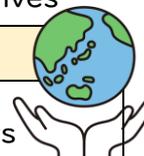
Develop communities where foreign and Japanese residents live together with mutual acceptance



Measures	Examples of Specific Actions
Raise and foster awareness about multicultural coexistence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Foster awareness about multicultural coexistence among community members</li> <li>○Strive to eliminate unfair discriminatory speech and behavior</li> <li>○Create opportunities where foreign and Japanese residents can interact mutually</li> </ul>
Enhance support to realize active social participation of foreign residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Develop bridge people who can connect foreign and Japanese residents</li> <li>○Promote events where foreign and Japanese residents can interact mutually</li> </ul>

### 4. Promote Community Revitalization and Respond to Globalization

Revitalize the community and respond to local globalization as utilizing foreign residents' potential, such as multilingualism, knowledge or international perspectives



Measures	Examples of Specific Actions
Promote community revitalization and respond to globalization through collaboration and cooperation with foreign residents, including international students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Support entrepreneurship of foreign residents</li> <li>○Create and promote opportunities, such as community events, where foreign residents including international students can participate</li> </ul>
Support life especially of international students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○Support international students with their lives in addition to offering interactive local activities where they can forge connections with community members and exchange local information</li> </ul>

▼Yasashii Nihongo (Plain Japanese) Training



▼Cultural Exchange Event



### How to Promote Multicultural Coexistence

To enhance multicultural coexistence, cooperation from all citizens, regardless of their nationalities, whether foreign or Japanese, is required. Community Development Department of Kusatsu City will take the lead in implementing this plan collaborating with various actors.

Foreign Residents·Japanese Residents / Community Development Committee · Neighborhood Association / Public Interest Organizations or Groups / Kusatsu International Friendship Association / Educational Institutions · Childcare Institutions (Daycare Centers, Preschools, Centers for Early Childhood Education and Care, Elementary Schools, Junior High Schools, High Schools) / Medical Institutions · Health Institutions · Welfare Institutions / Private Companies / Higher Educational Institutions / Kusatsu City

◆Full version of the Second Edition of Kusatsu Multicultural Coexistence Promotion Plan



◆Implemented actions relating to Kusatsu Multicultural Coexistence

