Advancing Towards the Realization of Global Financial City Osaka

Osaka Prefecture
Department of policy and Planning
Growth Strategy Bureau



Why is Osaka aiming to become a Global Financial City?

Osaka – Origin of Futures Trading

- During the Edo period, Nakanoshima in Osaka was known as 'Wall Street,' where financial institutions like the Dojima Rice Market, the Gold Exchange, and wealthy merchants were concentrated.
- In 1730, futures trading in rice began in Osaka's Dojima, marking the world's first organized futures market.



Historical Map of the Nakanoshima Area
Source：Naniwameisho-hitoriannnai
（Osaka Municipal Central Library）



Source: Naniwameishonochi Dojimakomeakinai
(National Diet Library)

The world's first futures trading market（Dojima Rice Exchange）
No physical goods (rice bales) in the image!



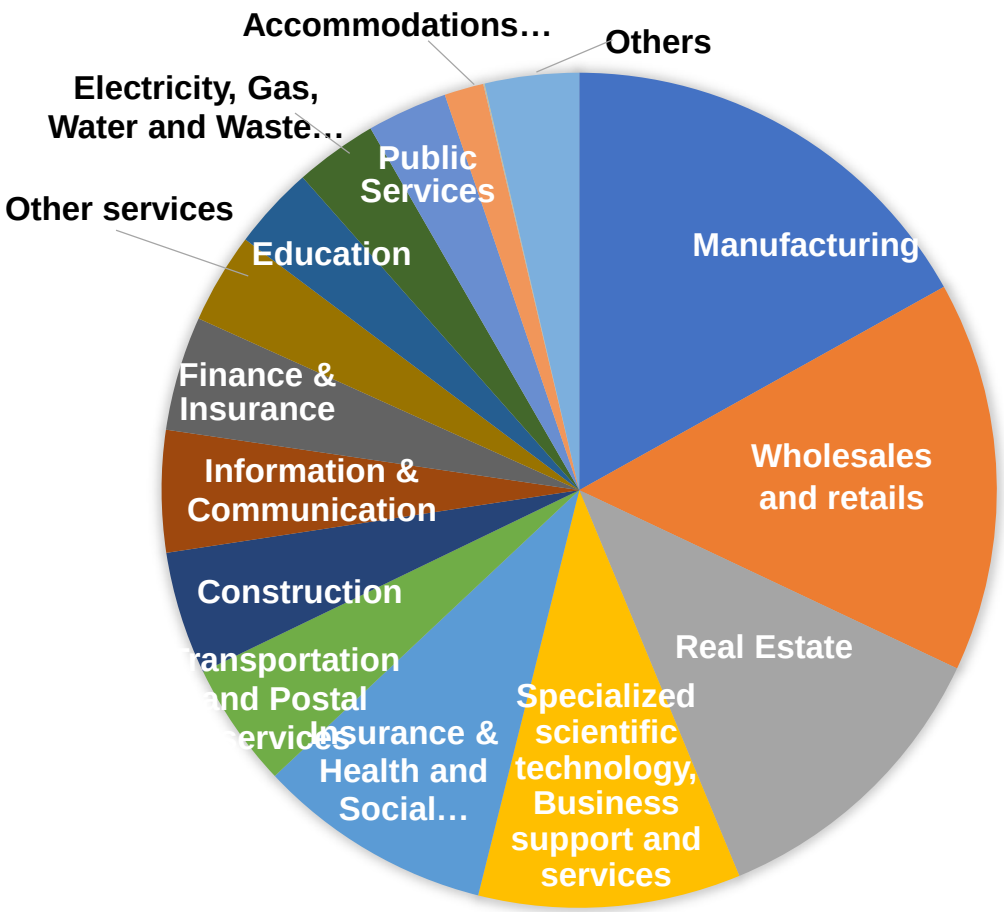
Source：Japan Exchange Group HP

Monument "Hitotsubu no Hikari (A Grain of Light)"
（by Tadao Ando, Architect）

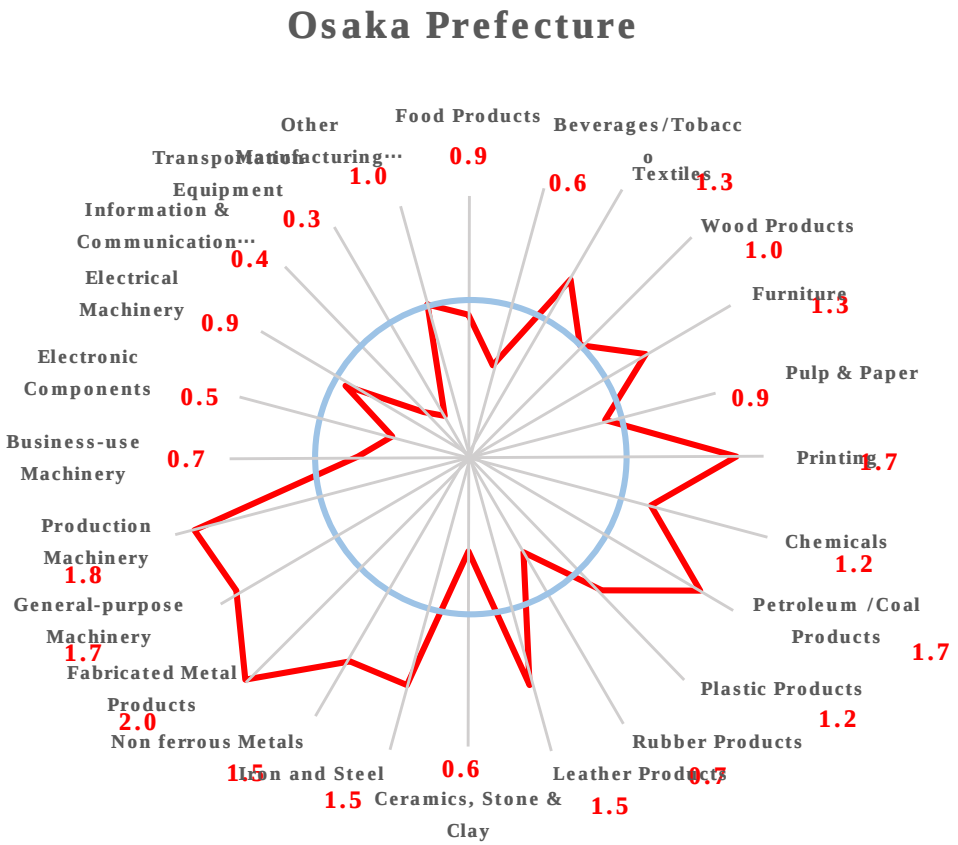
Osaka has been home to numerous financial institutions since the Edo period and has continuously embraced new challenges. Many financial institutions originated in Osaka, making it a city with deep-rooted ties to finance.

Osaka Industry

Osaka Prefecture's nominal GDP by insdustry (2024)



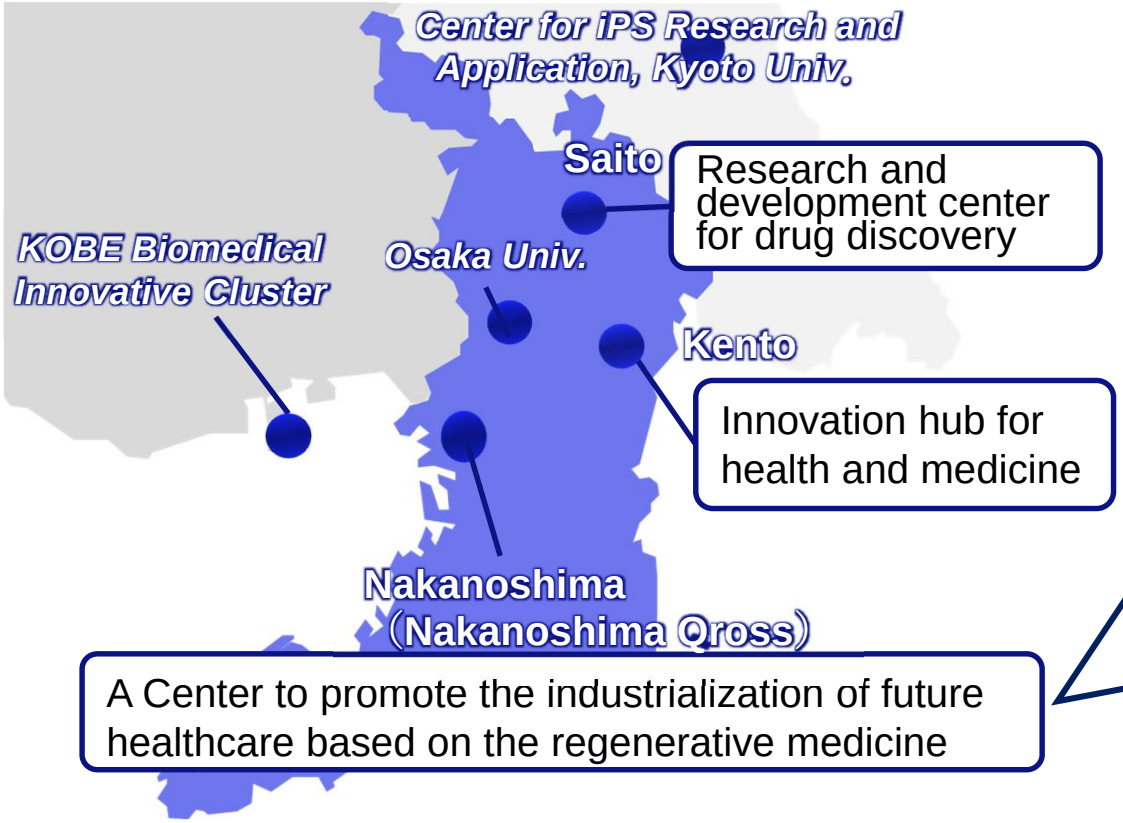
Osaka prefecture's special coefficient for manufactured goods shipments, etc. (2023)



Source: Osaka Prefecture "Naniwa Economic Data 2025"

Main Bases and Companies in Life Science

- ◆ **Unparalleled hub where medical institutions, companies, startups, and support organizations gather under one roof**
- ◆ **Nakanoshima Qross had its grand opening on June 29, 2024**



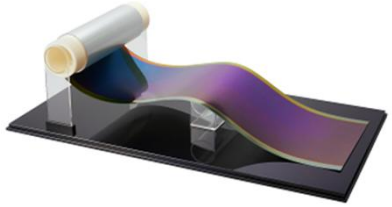


Source: Nakanoshima Qross HP

Technologies that Contribute to Carbon Neutrality

Perovskite Solar Cell (PSC)

- PSC implementation is progressing both inside and outside the Expo site, including the bus terminal roofs within the Expo grounds and the Umekita Station square.



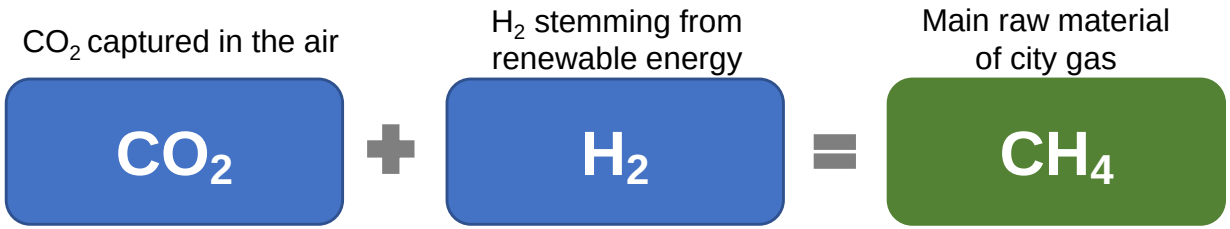
Source : News release from SEKISUI CHEMICAL, Co. LTD



Within the venue, Bus shelter
at the West Gate Transportation Terminal

Methanation

- Companies based in Osaka are conducting plant construction, etc. for experimental research, aiming for early implementation.



Created based on the website of Daigas group



Methanation Demonstration Facilities
Source : Daigas group press release

UMEKITA Project 2nd Stage (GRAND GREEN OSAKA)

- Advance opening of a portion of the area is scheduled for September 2024, full completion of the project is scheduled for FY2027
- University research institutes and various size companies will move in to create a cluster of innovations JAM BASE" is now open



Source：GRAND GREEN OSAKA HP

Core Functions

<JAM BASE>



Source：JAMBASE HP

大阪大学 みらい創発 hive

hive

Root Ritsumeikan Osaka-umekita Open innovation Terrace

JAFCO

MONEX Ventures

THE SEED

SAKURA internet

Office

SHIONOGI

For Earth, For Life Kubota

FUJITSU

HONDA The Power of Dreams

Outcome of the Osaka-Kansai Expo and its Legacy

◆Event Overview



提供：2025年日本国際博覧会協会

Event Dates April 13 – October 13, 2025 (184 days)

Number of visitors Approx. 29.02 million

Participating countries 158 countries and regions
7 international organizations

What the Expo brought to us



©Expo 2025

Numerous innovative technologies showcasing the future society

Promotion of appeals of Osaka, Kansai and other regions across Japan

Diverse exchanges with the world

Attraction of investment + Enhancement of Visibility



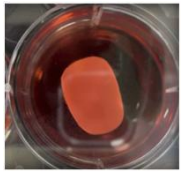
【MOU signing ceremony with Lombardia, Italy】

【Operating cost】up to approx. JPY 37BN in surplus

【Economic ripple effect】up to approx. JPY 3.6TN

※Estimate by METI

◆ Creation of new technologies



Heart muscle sheet



Demonstration of Flying Cars ©SkyDrive



Film-type perovskite solar cells
Photo courtesy:Sekisui Chemical co., Ltd.

◆ Enhancement of Business Opportunities

◆ Provided business opportunities through business meetings, seminars, and networking events
✓Participation by over 7,500 overseas companies and over 17,000 domestic companies

◆Osaka Prefecture and Osaka City concluded MOUs with 18 countries and cities

The State of Startups from Osaka and Support Hubs

No. of Startups launched

653 SUs

(5 years up to March, 2025)

Source : "New Strategy towards Revitalization and Growth in Osaka" (May, 2026)

No. of Osaka-based Companies listed

45 Companies

(4 years up to 2023)

Source : Website of JPX

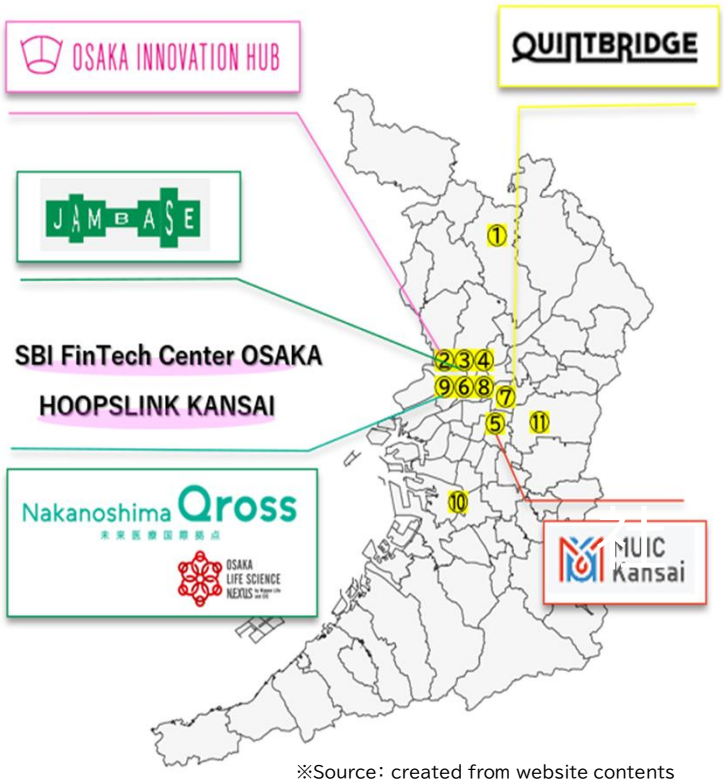
Amount of funds raised

20.3 BN (JPY)

(2025年)

Source : Japan Startup Finance 2025

◆ Innovation Support Base



※Source: created from website contents of news articles and relevant firms.

①	● Saito Incubation Facilities〈Bio Sight Capital〉
②	**Umekita Knowledge Capital** ● **Osaka Innovation Hub**(OIH)〈Osaka City (Osaka Business Development Agency)〉 ● **enellege**〈The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.〉 ● Osaka Global Finance One Stop Support Center〈Osaka Prefecture, Osaka City〉
③	**Umekita Grand Green Osaka** ● **JAM BASE**〈Co-creation Generator〉 ● AIST (National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology in Kansai) and Kansai Economic Federation Umekita Site ● **SBI FinTech Center OSAKA**〈SBI Holdings〉 ● **HOOPSLINK KANSAI**〈Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation〉 ● **BreaQ point Osaka**〈Risona Bank, Ltd.〉 ● **CN Business Base**〈Osaka Science & Technology Center〉
④	● **Xport**〈Osaka Chamber of Commerce × Osaka Institute of Technology〉
⑤	● **MUIC Kansai**〈Kansai Innovation Center〉
⑥	● **FUTRWORKS**〈Hankyu Hanshin Properties, Corp.〉
⑦	● **QUINTBRIDGE**〈NTT West〉
⑧	● **SeekS×pot**〈Keihan Ryutsu Systems × The University of Osaka〉
⑨	**Nakanoshima Qross** ● **Qrossover Lounge Yume**〈Organization of Future Medicine〉 ● **O-Nexus (Osaka Life Science Nexus by Nippon Life and CIC)**〈CIC Japan, Nippon Life Insurance Company〉
⑩	● **S-Cube Business Incubation Center**〈SAKAISHINJIGYO, INC.〉
⑪	● **MOBIO Innovation Center**〈Osaka Prefecture〉

Source: "Beyond EXPO 2025 − Initiatives Over the Past 10 Years and During the Expo - (Reference Materials Edition)", of which the content was processed by the Strategy Coordination Bureau

The Beginning of the Challenge Toward a Global Financial City Osaka

- Concentration of Financial Institutions in Tokyo in Today's Japan. As one of the two poles driving Japan's growth and further advancement, strengthening financial functions—the blood of the economy—is essential.
- In 2020, Governor Yoshimura declared the challenge of realizing a "Global Financial City unique characteristics and functions, distinct from Tokyo".



■"The Global Financial City OSAKA Promotion Committee"

Economic Groups
Kansai Economic Federation,
The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
Kansai Association of Corporate Executives

Administration
Osaka Prefecture, Osaka City

Private Companies
(28 companies)
Banks, Securities companies,
Insurance companies, Universities, etc.

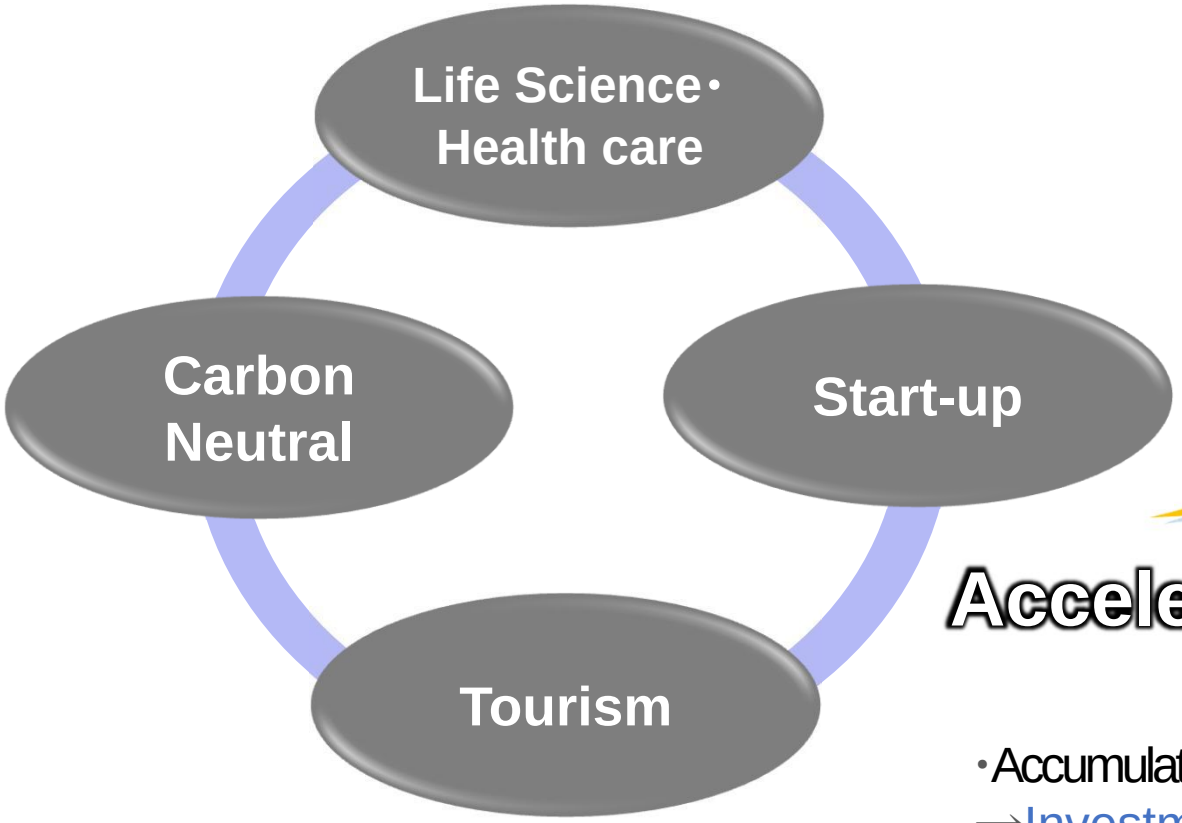
■Visions of the City Osaka Aims to Be

Global city that develops by leveraging finance

Frontrunner city in finance

Vision for Promoting a Global Financial City

Osaka industries/projects



Economic growth in Osaka and Kansai to solve the world's problems

Accelerate initiatives with the power of finance

・Accumulate human resources/companies/funds in Osaka
→Investment in industries and projects in Osaka
→Developing a new Fintech business from Osaka

Developing Osaka through the Power of Finance

Funding provided by venture capital and other funds

Management Support by Financial Institutions

Concentration of financial functions (e.g.)

New fundraising methods (crowdfunding, etc.)

Digitalization and new business development by Fintech

Development as a Global Financial City

synergy

Financing Growth Industries



Life Science



Carbon Neutral

Improving industrial productivity



Manufacturing

Growth of Osaka Economy



Strategic goals and main support items (1st phase)

◆1st phase (through FY2025) : Initiatives undertaken to build the foundational groundwork for realizing a global financial city

Outcome Goal
Number of foreign financial companies(including FinTech),investors, etc. recruited:30 by the end of FY2025 ▶ **Attracted 31 companies** (as of the end of FY2025)

Support for establishing a base in Osaka for foreign financial companies

One Stop Support Center



- Offers one-stop support for specialized consultations regarding the establishment of business operations, financial licenses, and other related matters. From FY2026, support will be expanded to include inquiries about international schools

Incentive



- 【First in Japan !】Prefectural corporate inhabitant tax and corporate enterprise tax are reduced for up to 10 years
- Subsidizing expenses for conducting a preliminary survey or establishing a base.
  Preliminary survey: Up to a maximum of 1.1 million yen (100% subsidy)
  Base establishment: Up to a maximum of 10 million yen (50% subsidy)

Business Matching



- Leveraging the cooperation of companies with networks in Osaka, introduce potential investment opportunities and collaboration partners, leading to the creation of new businesses.

Special Zone Concept: "Special Zone for Challenges to Realize a Future Society"

Prepare Business & Dwelling environment



- In June 2024, Osaka was designated as "Special Zone for Financial and Asset Management Businesses"
- Starting from October 2024, providing support for English procedures for various types of insurance, registration and bank account opening
- In April 2025, the Osaka Desk was set up as a support office for base establishment.

Strategic Goals and Progress Status

Companies that have expanded into Osaka（39 as of October, 2026）
⇒Target for the 2nd phase: attract 80 companies by 2030

Asset Management Business
Financial Instruments Business

BainCapital
ODX Osaka Digital Exchange Co.,Ltd.
MorganStanley MUFG
AMFC
THE SEED
Teneo Partners
CENTER OF SYNERGY IGPVP
MONEX Ventures
FGI
FinTech Global Incorporated
The firm of innovative financing
MARATHON CAPITAL PARTNERS
MITSUI & CO. DIGITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
SMBC SMBC Edge
IMM In Manus Mundus
JAPAN ASSET MANAGEMENT
funds Startups
共に歩む、真の金融パートナー NK Wealth Management
Asset Management One アセットマネジメントOne

Fintech

LayerX
SpaciaNet
こころのカンパニー
TicketMe
HashPort
sasuke financial lab inc.
ALTAIR
alteryx
TRUST
hokan

Others

FINTECH ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN
SOURCING BROTHERS
彰化銀行
第一商業銀行 First Commercial Bank
MEDTECH ACTUATOR
きらぼし銀行
東京短資株式会社
DOZAN PARTNERS
大和ネクスト銀行
Wi Bank
FDUA Financial Data Utilizing Association
ibex

Environmental improvement through the use of special zones (deregulation)

1. Concept of the region to be realized through “Special Zone for Financial and Asset Management Businesses”



Exchange of opinions with then-Prime Minister Kishida towards the realization of the special zone.

“Special Zone for Challenges to Realize a Future Society”

2025 Osaka-Kansai Expo



“People’s living Lab”

<Flying Cars>



<Hydrogen fuel cell ship>



- Life Science
- Carbon Neutrality
- Startup

Risk money supply
Creating innovation

Realization of “Future Society”

Create Global Financial City OSAKA that ranks with the world by attracting asset anagers, fintech companies, etc. through regulatory reforms in line with global standards.

2. Proposals for “Special Zone for Financial and Asset Management Businesses”

Ⅰ. Facilitate entry from abroad

Establishment of investor visas, enhancement of residence status, etc.

Ⅱ. Facilitate business start-up and daily life

Support for foreigners to open a bank account, financial license consultation, establishment of a contact point, and English-language support for incorporation procedures, etc.

Ⅲ. Facilitate business development

Relaxation of requirements for compliance personnel and registration requirements for asset management business, etc.

Ⅳ. Vitalize business activities of companies in Osaka Improve asset formation for residents in Osaka

Expansion of the scope of investment in VC and funds of public universities, etc.

Osaka as a Hub for Innovative Initiatives

Security Token Market（START）

ODX
Osaka Digital Exchange Co.,Ltd.

■**December,** 2023

the first domestic security token*-the secondary market opened

＊Securities, etc. issued using blockchain or other electronic means



⇒By dividing a large asset into small amounts with the blockchain technology, we invite a wide range of general investors for assets. Going forward, investment targets may expand to various assets and projects.

Listing of “Dojima Rice Average” Rice Index Futures

ODEX 株式会社堂島取引所 OSAKA DOJIMA EXCHANGE

■**March, 2023**

“In March 2023, the precious metals market was established (futures trading for gold, silver, and platinum began)



■**August, 2024**

Japan's first nationwide futures trading of average rice prices begins

Top leaders actively worked on promoting Global Financial City OSAKA

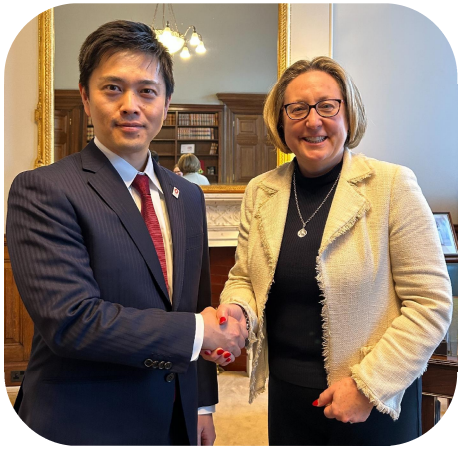
■Overseas Top Promotion

・Top promotions overseas by the Governor and the Mayor
2022: UK　2023: USA, Australia　2024：Germany, UK, China

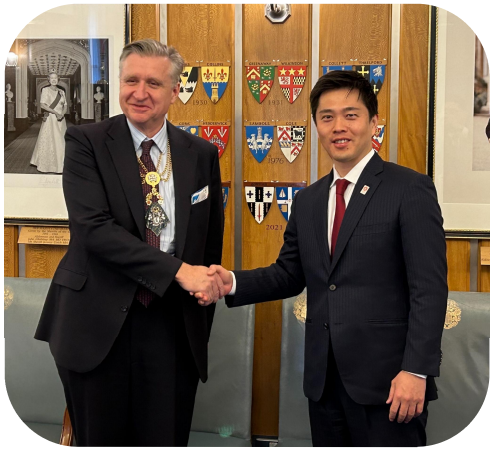
A significant challenge. Osaka has a spirit of valuing challenges, such as the birth of derivatives trading.



Interview with the Greater Manchester mayor



Interview with Minister for India and Pacific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development



Interview with Sherif, Deputy Mayor of the City of London



Speaking at the Global Regulatory Forum hosted by Bloomberg, etc.

■Seminar hosted by a major foreign investment bank.

・Promoting Osaka's attractiveness to overseas investors, etc.





■Exchange of Opinions with WAIFC

・A delegation from the World Alliance of International Financial Centers (WAIFC), consisting of international financial cities, visited Osaka and exchanged views with the Governor.

Using video messages and other means, they seized opportunities to make appeals.


＜Global Financial City Osaka Official site・SNS＞