

Business Expanding

Canada's Largest Startup Incubator DMZ Establishes a Japanese Subsidiary in Tokyo



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[DMZ](#)  is a university-based startup incubator based in Toronto, Ontario, in Canada, with incubation programs in more than 15 countries. DMZ has backed more than 1,800 startups since 2010, raising a total of 2.78 billion dollars. It has created more than 5,000 jobs, and is a leader in the development of new technologies and services.

**Establishment** 2025/01**Destination** Tokyo

Other

Canada



DMZ at Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University) is funded by government grants and partner companies, and primarily provides incubator programs and boot camps for early- to lead-stage startups.

In Japan, since 2020, the company has worked with local governments and universities, such as the City of Yokohama and Chiba University, to develop programs to support startups' growth and assist companies seeking to expand overseas. In 2023, Japan was selected as the first Canadian incubator partner in the Global Acceleration Hub of the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), and in 2025, it was selected for the Tokyo Metropolitan Government's Startup Support and Development Project by Diverse Actors (TOKYO SUTEAM) project, which offers three programs: Launchpad for Entrepreneurs, an online program for early-stage entrepreneurs; Launchpad for Women, which addresses issues specific to female entrepreneurs; and Basecamp, a short-term intensive program for young entrepreneurs.

To assist with establishing DMZ's Japanese subsidiary DMZ Japan GK, JETRO's Invest Japan Business Support Center (IBSC) assisted with business matching with local governments and universities, consultation on tax, labor, and registration matters, introductions to real estate agents and other service providers, and temporary office space.



JETRO supports your business in Japan

JETRO IBSCs are located in Japan's major business hubs and provide one-stop support and service to foreign firms seeking to set up or expand business in Japan. The centers, which provide free temporary office space, consultation with expert advisors and access to a wealth of business information, tailor support according to the specific needs and phase of development of each firm.

[Investment Japan Business Support Centers \(IBSCs\) >](#)