

2015 JETRO Global Trade and Investment Report

~New efforts aimed at developing global business~



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World trade (merchandise trade) in 2014 slightly rose by 0.8% from the previous year, amounting to \$18.7 trillion (JETRO estimate), reflected by a low world economic growth rate (3.4%) and a decline in natural resource prices. Recent trade trend by product type indicates that export growths of intermediate goods and capital goods have been slower compared to consumer goods. In 2014, China's import growth rate slowed to 0.7%, while the US rose 3.5% by its economic recovery. By product category, the recovery of the silicon cycle has led to strong trade in communication equipment and semiconductor manufacturing equipment.

World FDI in 2014 decreased by 16.3% from the previous year to \$1.23 trillion (UNCTAD) mainly due to a decrease in direct investment in developed countries.

The global economy has been moderately recovering in general, both in advanced and emerging/developing economies. Risk factors include impact of an expected rise in US interest rates in 2015, the Greek debt crisis and deceleration of China's economic growth.

						(Unit: US\$ 10	0 mi ll ion, 9
			2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Vor l d r	nerc	handise trade (export basis)	151,249	180,524	180,993	185,896	187,461
No	min	al growth rate	21.7	19.4	0.3	2.7	0.8
Re	al gr	owth rate	16.8	8.3	2.4	3.0	2.5
Pri	ce g	rowth rate	4.9	11.1	-2.1	-0.3	-1.7
BEC)	Ma	iterial growth rate (export basis)	35.4	29.2	-0.4	-1.4	-6.3
ries (Inte	ermediate good growth rate (export basis)	24.7	19.8	-0.4	3.5	0.3
tego	Processed goods		25.9	24.7	-0.7	3.0	-0.8
Broad Economic Categories (BEC)		Parts and accessories	22.5	11.2	0.1	4.5	2.4
mond	Fin	ished goods growth rate (export basis)	15.9	14.1	1.1	3.4	3.9
d Eco		Capital goods	19.1	14.4	1.2	1.0	2.0
Broa		Consumer goods	13.6	13.8	1.1	5.3	5.3
/orld ı	eal (GDP growth rate	5.4	4.2	3.4	3.4	3.4
dustrial p	oroduc	tion index growth rate (developed countries)	7.8	2.1	0.6	0.6	2.3
rude oi l	Cr	ude price (US\$/barrel)	79.0	104.0	105.0	104.1	96.2
atural gas	Na	atural gas price (US\$/1 million BTU)	8.2	10.6	12.0	11.2	10.5
hange ra	tio of	dollar's nominal effective exchange rate	-2.5	-5.7	3.8	2.2	2.5

Word trade related indicators

1

Notes: 1) Trade values in 2013 and 2014 and nominal growth rate in 2014 are estimated by JETRO Real growth rate = nominal growth rate - price growth rate.

All of the provided of the provid

5) The definitions of materials, intermediate goods and finished goods are based on the HS2007 version of BEC (the United Nations) and RIETITID2013 (the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry).
6) Crude oil prices are the average of Dubai, Brent and WTI.
7) Natural gas prices are Russian market prices.

8) Negative figures of change of ratio of nominal effective exchange rate indicate depreciation. Source: "IFS, May 2015" (IMF), "WEO, April 2015" (IMF), "WEO, July 2015" (IMF), data from the WTO and the British Petroleum, Trade statistics of respective country and region.

GDP growth by country and region

				(Unit: %)
	2013	2014	2015(Projections)	2016(Projections)
World	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.8
Advanced economies	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.4
US	2.2	2.4	2.5	3.0
EU	0.1	1.4	1.8	1.9
Germany	0.2	1.6	1.6	1.7
UK	1.7	2.9	2.4	2.2
Japan	1.6	-0.1	0.8	1.2
Emerging and developing economies	5.0	4.6	4.2	4.7
Asia	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.4
China	7.7	7.4	6.8	6.3
India	6.9	7.3	7.5	7.5
ASEAN5	5.1	4.6	4.7	5.1
Latin America and the Caribbean	2.9	1.3	0.5	1.7
Europe	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9
Russia and CIS	2.2	1.0	-2.2	1.2
Middle East and North Africa	2.4	2.7	2.6	3.8
Sub-Saharan Africa	5.2	5.0	4.4	5.1

Notes: 1) The definitions of advanced economies and emerging and developing economiew follow those of WEO (IMF). The EU includes advanced and emerging/developing countries. ASEAN 5 refers to Indonesia Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. Middle East and North Africa includes Afghanistan and Pakistan. 2) EU's growth rates are based on WEO, April. Source: "WEO, April/July 2015" (IMF)

Contribution rates of change to world import value by country and region



Note:Figures are calculated based on data of 53 countries and regions that released import values. Source: Trade statistics of respective country and region.



Trends in global inward foreign direct investment

Japan's trade deficit shrinking since middle of 2014. Profits from overseas operations increasing further.

Japan's export volume growth rate reversed to a slight increase of 0.6% for the first time in four years, driven by a strong demand for general machinery, up 2.9% from the previous year. The trade balance marked a deficit of \$122.8 billion for the fourth consecutive year, while the latest deficit has been shrinking since the middle of 2014. The correlation between the export price index (contract currency basis) and exchange fluctuations indicates that industries such as transportation machinery and general machinery see smaller changes in export prices than in exchange fluctuations. This shows that companies focus on profitability during a period of weaker yen.

Profits from overseas operations of Japanese firms, assumed to consist of credit on direct investment income and credit on intellectual property right, has been increasing recently, reaching nearly 20% of total exports.

	(Unit: US\$ million, 100 million yen, %)						
		2013	2014	2015 (Jan-Jun)			
	Total exports	719,205	694,270	315,126			
eq	(growth rate)	-10.3	-3.5	-7.7			
bas	Total imports	838,889	817,103	329,757			
Dollar-based	(growth rate)	- 5.6	- 2.6	- 20.6			
Dol	Trade balance	-119,684	-122,832	- 14,630			
	(year-to-year difference)	-32,435	- 3,148	59,394			
	Total exports	697,742	730,930	378,079			
ğ	(growth rate)	9.5	4.8	7.9			
oase	Total imports	812,425	859,091	395,378			
Yen-based	(growth rate)	14.9	5.7	- 7.4			
ř	Trade balance	-114,684	-128,161	-17,299			
	(year-to-year difference)	- 45,273	- 13,477	58,983			
Exp	oort volume index	90.2	90.7	89.9			
	(growth rate)	-1.5	0.6	1.6			
Im	port volume index	105.3	106.0	101.9			
	(growth rate)	0.3	0.6	- 3.4			
Crude oil import price		110.5	105.1	57.9			
	(dollar/barrel, growth rate)	- 3.7	- 4.9	- 47.7			
Exc	hange rate (yen/dollar)	97.6	105.8	120.2			
	(yen appreciation, %)	- 18.3	- 7.8	- 14.8			

Japan's trade trends

2

Note: 1) Yen-based values were converted to dollar-based values by JETRO.

2) Volume index is 2010 basis.

3) Exchange rate is interbank average rate.

4) Growth rate is year-to-year comparison.

Source: "Trade Statistics" (Ministry of Finance), "Foreign Exchange Rate" (Bank of Japan)

Main items with increase in export volume (general machinery, 2014)

Products	Export partner with increasing volume (top 3)			
Floducts	1st	2nd	3rd	
Machines for manufacturing equipment of semiconductor devices, IC	China	Ireland	South Korea	
Mechanical shovels (with a 360 degree revolving superstructure)	US	Netherlands	Vietnam	
Other machinery	Saudi Arabia	South Korea	South Africa	
Machining centers	Hong Kong	China	Vietnam	
Parts & accessories of manufacturing equipment of semiconductor devices	South Korea	Ireland	US	
Vehicular engines (over 1000 cc)	China	UAE	France	
Parts of turbojets and turbo propellers	US	Hungary	Singapore	
Ball bearings	Hong Kong	China	US	
Lathe (numeric control method)	Netherlands	Vietnam	Taiwan	
Parts of water heaters, dryers, distillation devices and so on	China	Germany	Italy	
Outboard motors for marine engines	US	China	Ecuador	
Industrial robots	China	Hong Kong	Netherlands	
Other machinery – Other (parts)	US	China	UK	
Gas pumps, air compressors	Poland	UK	Czech	
Front-end shovel loaders	US	Egypt	Vietnam	

Note: Top 15 products with largest export volume, among those with a year-to-year increase in export volume (based on HS6 figures) Source: "Trade Statistics" (MOF)

Export price index (contract currency basis) and exchange rate



Note: General machinery consists of general-purpose, production & business oriented machinery. Source: "Corporate Goods Price Index", "Foreign Exchange Rate" (BOJ)

Profits from overseas operation



Note: Charges for the use of intellectual property consists of patent royalties (including royalty trades between parent companies and subsidiaries), franchise costs, usage fees of software, music and video, and so on. In Japan the returns are said to be mainly from trading between parent companies and their subsidiaries. Source: "Balance of Payments" (MOF, BOJ)

Japan's outward FDI remains at high level with robust investment in ASEAN

Japan's outward FDI in 2014 declined by 18.6% to \$119.7 billion from the previous year. Although it did not reach the record high, \$147.2 billion in 2013, Japan's outward FDI has surpassed \$100 billion for four consecutive years. This indicates a positive disposition by Japanese firms toward exploring growing overseas market. In Asia, the difference in Japan's outward FDI value has widened threefold between ASEAN (\$20.4 billion) and China (\$6.7 billion). Since 2013, many industries have tended to invest a larger amount in ASEAN than in China.

The percentage of overseas sales of Japanese firms has risen since 2010. In particular, Americas has seen a remarkable gain from 18.6% in FY2012 to 23.3% in FY2014, bolstered by the recovery of the US economy.

Weakening yen and other factors have encouraged parts of Japanese firms to enhance their domestic production. Trends in the domestic production ratio of general home appliances have shown an increase in that of air conditioners since September 2014.



Notes: 1) Yen-based values are converted to dollar-based values by JETRO. 2) Figures are based on BPM6 Source: "Balance of Payments" (MOF, BOJ)

Japan firms' sales share by region

		-					(Unit: %)
Fiscal y (number of c	year ompanies)	Domestic	Overseas	Americas	Europe	Asia-Pacific	Others
2000	(547)	71.4	28.6	13.4	5.6	5.8	3.8
2001	(581)	68.5	31.5	14.7	6.1	6.3	4.4
2002	(592)	67.2	32.8	14.9	6.6	6.8	4.5
2003	(624)	66.5	33.5	14.1	7.0	7.7	4.8
2004	(669)	65.4	34.6	13.6	7.4	8.5	5.1
2005	(724)	64.9	35.1	13.8	6.9	9.5	4.9
2006	(751)	62.3	37.7	14.5	7.7	10.3	5.1
2007	(781)	60.8	39.2	14.2	9.1	10.7	5.2
2008	(817)	62.6	37.4	12.7	8.6	10.8	5.3
2009	(844)	63.3	36.7	12.4	7.5	11.3	5.4
2010	(320)	54.0	46.0	18.1	8.1	15.2	4.7
2011	(236)	53.1	46.9	17.7	8.9	15.0	5.3
2012	(221)	51.3	48.7	18.6	7.8	17.2	5.1
2013	(211)	45.6	54.4	21.5	9.2	18.2	5.5
2014	(196)	43.3	56.7	23.3	9.3	18.6	5.6

Notes: 1)Companies surveyed: The fiscal term is from December to March, and geographical segment information is released.

2) Figures for 2014 totaled companies with financial statements released by June 1, 2015. For companies however, that have both their financial statements and securities reports publicized by the above day and have their information on securities reports in database "SPEEDA", sales data of the report was used. 3) Sales include transactions between internal segments

 A Percentage = each regional sales/entire regional sales.
 Surveyed companies include listed subsidiaries, which were double-counted.
 Companies which combine multiple regional sales such as "Americas and Europe" and "Europe and Africa", were excluded

Source: Data from SPEEDA

3

Trends in Japan's outward FDI by industry-Comparison between ASEAN and China

					(Unit: %	, US\$ million)
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (Jan-Mar)
Food	13.9	4.5	3.8	0.0	4.1	9.3
Chemicals and pharmaceuticals	0.4	0.2	1.4	1.9	2.0	1.3
Iron, non-ferrous, and metals	0.9	0.9	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.5
General machinery	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.3
Electric machinery	3.6	1.2	-	2.0	7.5	1.4
Transportation equipment	1.3	1.5	0.9	1.9	2.9	1.5
Wholesale and retail	0.9	0.6	0.8	1.3	1.5	0.8
Service	0.4	1.3	0.6	1.1	3.5	6.0
All industries	1.2	1.2	1.1	2.6	3.0	2.3(Jan-May)
FDI value in ASEAN	8,930	15,721	14,349	23,619	20,368	9,120(Jan-May)
FDI value in China	7,252	12,649	13,479	9,104	6,742	3,959(Jan-May)

Notes: 1) Index=Japan's FDI value in ASEAN/Japan's FDI value in China. Figures greater than one indicate that the investment in ASEAN exceeds that in China. Shaded cells are greater than one 2) Figures have been calculated based on the new standards set in the sixth edition of IMF Balance of Payments Manual since January 2014.
 3) The FDI values in ASEAN and in China for 2015 are cumulative total from January to May (P)

4) The FDI values in ASEAN for 2011 and 2012 exclude investments in the finance and insurance sectors of

Thailand related to its floods. (Q4, 2011: \$3.9 billion, Q1, 2012: - \$3.7 billion) 5) "-" indicates unreckonable due to net outflow

6) The table lists industries with large shares of Japan's outward FDI in 2014

Mining was excluded since no investment in China was recorded in 2014. 7) The

service industry includes accommodation, restaurants, entertainment and other related sectors

Source: "Balance of Payments" (MOF, BOJ)

Trends in domestic production ratio of major home appliance



Note: Domestic production ratio = domestic production volume/domestic production volume + imported Source: "Current Survey of Production" (METI), "Trade Statistics" (MOF)

Japan's inward FDI increases for three consecutive years. Asia gains importance.

In 2014, Japan's inward FDI increased for the third consecutive year, by 22.5% from the year before, to \$9.1 billion. Asia is becoming more important as FDI in Japan, mainly from Hong Kong, Singapore and the Republic of China, are growing. The inward FDI stock in Japan posted ¥23 trillion at the end of 2014, exceeding ¥20 trillion for the first time. Asia's share of inward FDI stock increased from 14.4% at the end of 2013 to 15.5% at the end of 2014.

Many investments take full advantage of Japan's high technological skills, such as enhanced production of a next-generation memory and establishment of production bases of high-function fiber for aviation engines as well as leading companies' research and development bases.



Notes: 1) Yen-based values are converted to dollar-based values by JETRO. 2) Figures are based on BPM6. 3) Cumulative total for 2015 is preliminary.

Source: "Balance of Payments" (MOF, BOJ)

4

Share of inward FDI stock in Japan by region (Unit: %) The end The end The end The end The end The end of 2000 of 2010 of 2011 of 2012 of 2013 of 2014 World 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 100.0 Asia 78 10.8 11.8 13.5 14.4 15.5 North America 32.3 34.4 32.2 30.8 31.6 29.4 51.6 42.9 45.1 46.3 46.8 Europe 46.1 Latin America 7.0 11.0 10.0 8.6 6.7 6.0 Oceania 1.1 0.6 0.6 0.8 0.9 1.8 Middle East and Africa 0.2 0.2 0.3 0.1 0.1 0.4 Inward FDI stock / GDP 1.2 3.9 4.0 4.0 4.1 4.8 Inward FDI stock 60.958 187.353 188,238 192.273 195,510 233,439

Notes: 1) Inward FDI stock by region is based on BPM5 until the end of 2013, and is based on BPM6 at the end of 2014. 2) Inward FDI stock and inward FDI stock / GDP are based on BPM6 over the entire period.

Source: "International Investment Position" (MOF, BOJ), Data from the Cabinet office

Operations of leading foreign companies since 2014

	Company	Year/Month	Overview
	KKR (US)	2014/Mar	Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co, the US investment firm, acquired Panasonic Healthcare Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of the Panasonic Corporation.
M&A	Wuthelam group (Singapore) 2014/Dec		The Nippon Paint Co., Ltd announced strategic partnership with Singaporean paint maker Wuthelam group. Investment from Wuthelam allowed Nippon Paint to achieve the majority of the paint business in Asia conducted in a joint venture with Wuthelam. That raised the 2014 world share ranking of the Nippon Paint from 10th to 4th.
	Charoen Pokphand (CP) Group (Thailand)	2014/Sep	The Itochu Corporation and the Charoen Pokphand Group (CP Group), one of the largest conglomerates in Thailand, announced a capital and business alliance. The CP Group and Itochu are mutually sponsored. The CP Group, with a large network in Asia, is seeking to take advantage of its relationship with Itochu, with substantial earnings power in non-resources areas, to expand their business overseas mainly in Asia.
	Baring Private Equity Asia (Hong Kong)	2014/Dec	Baring Private Equity Asia, one of the leading Asian investment companies which is based in Hong Kong, acquired Bushu Pharmaceuticals Ltd., a leading contract manufacturer for pharmaceuticals.
	CTBC Bank Co., Ltd. (Taiwan)	2014/Jun	CTBC Bank Co., Ltd. (CTBC Bank), a leading Taiwanese bank, acquired Tokyo Star Bank. This is the first acquisition made by a foreign bank.
	Micron Technology, Inc. (US) 2014/Nov		Micron invested at the 100 billion yen level in plant of ex-Elpida Memory, which became its wholly owned subsidiary company in 2013. It decided to increase production of state-of-the-art memory designed for smartphones, and also plans to manufacture next-generation memory.
Production	SanDisk (US)	2014/Sep	A factory for NAND flash memory, jointly built with Toshiba, was partially completed and started manufacturing. A new factory is under construction to produce next-generation memory.
Proc	General Electric Company (US), Safran S.A. (France)	2014/Sep	A joint venture company with Nippon Carbon Co., Ltd. announced the construction of a new factory to produce high-function fiber for airplanes. The special material, which is only available from two Japanese manufacturers in the world, will be supplied to General Electric Company and Safran S.A. as parts for the jointly-developed next-generation airplane engine.
	Apple Inc. (US)	2015/Mar	Apple plans to build a technical development center in a next-generation smart city, which is under construction in Yokohama, Kanagawa. The operation will start in fiscal 2016.
0	Nokia(Finland)	2015/May	An R&D center was established in Kawasaki, Kanagawa. The center will enhance the research and development of fifth-generation (5G) and cloud products for practical use. The results of the research will be introduced to the R&D centers in other countries.
R&D	Johnson & Johnson (US)	2014/Aug	"Tokyo Science Center" was established in the International Strategic Zone in Kawasaki, Kanagawa. The center, equipped with a surgery simulation system, is expected to be utilized by Asian countries as a research and training facility for healthcare providers.
	BASF (Germany)	2014/Feb	The battery material research and development center was established in Amagasaki Research Incubation Center in Hyogo. The laboratory is the first development base in the Asia-Pacific region specializing in lithium ion batteries, which conducts basic research, develops the products and provides customer support.

(100 million yen)

Note: The dates show when M&As have been completed.

Source: Press release of each company, press report from various news sources

271 FTAs are in force around the world. Mega FTAs expected to develop further, led by TPP.

The number of free trade agreements (FTAs) in force reached 271, including 17 new agreements in 2014(as of July 2015). The number of new FTAs enacted each year has recorded double digits worldwide for twelve years in a row since 2003.

A Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) bill was signed by US President Obama on June 29, 2015. It is expected that this new law will encourage the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations, which consists of twelve Asia-Pacific countries, including Japan and the US. The conclusion of the TPP would bring the Asia-Pacific regions a high-level and wide range of liberalization as well as trade rules. This also would accelerate the negotiations of other mega-FTAs including the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and US.

Japan's FTA coverage ratio, the share of total trade represented by countries with which Japan has FTAs, recorded 22.3% in 2014, exceeding the 20% mark for the first time. Japan's FTA coverage ratio would reach 73.3% if the trade values with participant countries of the mega-FTAs under negotiation were added up, such as the TPP, RCEP and Japan-EU EPA.

Number of the FTAs which are in force by region and year (as of July 2015)

5

						(Unit: case)		
		Asia/ Pacific	Americas	Europe	Middle East/ Africa	Russia/ CIS	Cross- regional	Total
1	955~59			1	1			2
	60~64		1	1	1			3
	65~69							0
	70~74		1	1			2	4
	75~79	2					1	3
	80~84	2	1					3
	85~89		2		1		2	5
	90~94	4	1	5	1	6	1	18
	95~99		5	3	9	16	6	39
2	2000~04	9	7	5	7	3	19	50
2	2005~09	20	7	4	3	2	36	72
2	010~	14	10	8		2	36	70
	2010	5	1	6			1	13
	2011	3	1				10	14
	2012		6	1		1	6	14
	2013	3	2				7	12
	2014	2					11	13
	2015	1		1		1	1	4
Total		51	35	28	23	29	103	271

Note: The total includes two FTAs with unknown conclusion years. Source: WTO, data from each government and organization

FTA coverage ratio of major countries/region (2014)

										(Unit: %)
		FT	A cover rat	tio	FTA partner countries/regions (two-way trade)					
		Two-way trade	Export	Import	1:	st	2n	ıd	3rd	
Japar	ı	22.3	20.7	23.7	ASEAN	14.7	Australia	4.1	India	1.0
US		40.1	47.1	35.3	NAFTA	30.1	South Korea	2.9	DR-CAFTA	1.5
Cana	da	71.8	79.8	64.1	NAFTA	68.6	South Korea	1.1	EFTA	1.0
Mexi	0	81.0	92.5	69.6	NAFTA	67.1	EU	8.1	Japan	2.5
Chile		90.9	89.5	92.4	China	22.4	US	15.8	EU	14.9
Peru		90.6	93.0	88.5	China	19.7	US	18.5	EU	14.1
Color	nbia	63.8	62.1	65.2	US	27.2	EU	15.2	Mexico	5.2
Brazil		14.9	16.5	13.5	Mercosur	9.6	CAN	3.1	Chile	2.0
EU28	Total trade	75.6	77.2	74.1	EU	64.7	Switzerland	2.6	EEA	1.7
EUZO	Extra-resional trade	28.7	31.4	26.0	Switzerland	7.0	Turkey	3.8	EEA	3.7
China	1	18.7	15.3	22.8	ASEAN	11.1	Republic of China	4.6	Switzerland	1.0
South	n Korea	41.1	43.1	39.0	ASEAN	12.6	US	10.5	EU	10.4
ASEA	N	59.9	58.7	61.1	ASEAN	24.0	China	15.9	Japan	8.8
Singa	pore	77.2	73.2	79.5	ASEAN	24.0	China	12.0	US	8.7
India		17.2	19.9	15.3	ASEAN	9.8	South Korea	2.4	Japan	2.0
Austr	alia	44.1	43.8	44.5	ASEAN	15.0	Japan	12.5	US	7.3
New	Zealand	48.9	51.1	46.9	China	18.7	Australia	14.2	ASEAN	13.2

Notes: 1) FTA coverage ratio means the ratio of trade with countries and regions in which the subject country has established FTAs (as of July 2015), out of the subject country's total trade. The figures are based on trade statistics in 2014. 2) Abbreviations: The Central America-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR), the Andean Community (CAN), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and the European Economic Area (EEA). 3) China's figures exclude those of Hong Kong (8.7%) and Macau (0.1%), 4) ASEAN's figures were based on the total trade value with each member country although some have not yet issued FTAs. 5) Figures for Canada, Singapore and New Zealand were calculated by export statistics, which exclude re-exported trade Source: Materials and trade statistics from each country's government, "DOT, May 2015" (IMF)

Comparison of negotiations areas between mega FTAs and WTO agreements

		TPP	Jaman FU	TTID	RCEP	WTO
		IPP	Japan-EU	TTIP	RCEP	WIO
	Trade in goods	0	0	0	0	0
	Trade remedies, subsidies	0	0	0		0
	Trade facilitation	0	0	0	0	0
	Technical barriers to trade (TBT)	0	0	0		0
	Sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS)	0	0	0		0
	Trade in services	0	0	0	0	0
	Protection and liberalization of investment	0	0	0	0	\triangle_2
Negotiating	Intellectual property	0	0	0	0	0
areas	Competition, state companies	0	0	0	0	
	E-commerce	0	0	0	\triangle_1	
	Government procurement	0	0	0		∆3
	Environment	0	0	0		
	Labor	0	0	0		
	Conflict resolution	0	0	0	0	0
	Cross-cutting issues	0	0	0		
	Standards and conformance, regulatory cooperation		0	0		

Notes: 1) riangle 1 indicates that the area is not explicitly stated as the category of negotiation but is included in other negotiating areas. 2) \triangle 2 indicates that the area is only under negotiation in TRIM. 3) \triangle 3 indicates that the area is under negotiation in plurilateral agreements. Source: Websites of WTO, USTR, EU, Japan's Cabinet Office, data from METI

Mega FTA coverage ratio by major countries (2014)



Note: Ratios are based on two-way trade as of the end of 2014. The EU's figures exclude those of its interregional trade. China's figures exclude those of Hong Kong and Macau. Japan's figures exclude double-counted numbers by TPP and RCEP. The China-Japan-South Korea FTA is not categorized but included in RCEP. Source: Trade statistics of each country

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) to develop further at the end of 2015

The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), trying to complete its integration process by the end of 2015, has almost eliminated all tariffs. Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) have eliminated tariffs for 89-93% of items from 2015, expecting to complete the tariff elimination in 2018 with a few exceptions. In areas other than tariffs, the requirement of FOB values to be stated in certificates of origin was removed in 2014 under given conditions. The liberalization and facilitation of areas such as services, investment and non-tariff measures that include the introduction of a self-certification system, the ASEAN Single Window and mutual certification of standards are expected.

Three FTAs have newly entered into force since 2014 in Asia-Pacific region.

The trade value and ratio of utilizing the current Japanese FTAs are both increasing each year.

Focus area of AEC

6

		Contents
Tariff		Among the 10 ASEAN states, six states (Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Brunei) have eliminated tariffs of almost all items within the region since 2010. CLMV (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam) have also eliminated tariffs on about 90% of items since 2015. Tariffs of remaining items will be eliminated in 2018 with a few exceptions.
Trade in goods	Non- tariff	 In 2014, the requierments of FOB values to be stated in certificates of origin (CO) was abolished under certain conditions. Negotiations are underway to introduce a self-certification system in CO procedures in ASEAN from 2016. Regarding the ASEAN Single Window, which aims at centralization/digitization of customs clearance procedures in ASEAN states, full-fledged implementation would commence following a pilot project for mutual exchange of CO (Form D) and customs clearance documents among a portion of states. Mutual certification and conformity standards of auto-related products, processed food, medical instruments, electronic equipment, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, for which negotiations are underway, would be introduced in the future. ASEAN states are currently building ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR) centralizing trade-related information, which will help improve transparency.
Serv	vices	The ASEAN Blueprint stipulates a policy to permit ASEAN investors to invest foreign capital up to 70% in other ASEAN members. Though it is still uncertain how much liberalization will be achieved —for example, in some cases it might be limited to merely a promise to eventually liberalize a small portion of each service sector—it is probable that extensive restrictions on foreign capital into the service field, which is currently imposed in many ASEAN states, will be alleviated.
Investment		The ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement (ACIA), which includes investment protection (prohibition of performance requirement, expropriation/compensation, and fair and equitable treatment, etc.) and investment liberalization in the manufacturing industry, became effective in March 2012. The revised protocol was signed in August 2014.
Movement of persons		Mutual recognition agreements (MRA) for professional service qualification are being promoted. To date, ASEAN concluded MRAs in eight fields (engineering, nursing care, construction, surveyors, accounting, practitioners, dentists and tourism experts). Operations commenced in engineering and construction services.

Status of tariff liberalization in AEC

			(Unit: %)
		Percent of tariff lines with the tariff rate of zero percent	Percent of tariff lines with the tariff rate less than five percent
ASEAN6		99.2	99.4
	Thailand	99.9	100.0
	Indonesia	98.9	98.9
	Malaysia	98.7	99.2
	Philippines	98.6	99.4
	Singapore	100.0	100.0
	Brunei	99.3	99.3
CLN	1V	90.8	98.5
	Vietnam	90.0	96.9
	Cambodia	91.5	98.4
	Laos	89.3	99.1
	Myanmar	92.6	99.5
ASE	AN	96.0	99.1

Source: Created based on materials of ASEAN

FTAs which entered into force in Asia-Pacific region (2014 – July 2015)

	Enforcement date	Agreement details
Singapore- Taiwan	2014/Mar	In Taiwan, tariffs will be eliminated or reduced for 99.5% of items. According to the announcement, tariffs will be eliminated for 83% of total product categories, immediately when the agreement enters into force.Singapore will completely eliminate tariffs once the agreement goes into effect. In Singapore, however, the products subject to general tariffs are limited to six items such as beer and medicated liquor.
South Korea- Australia	2014/Dec	Based on tariff lines, South Korea and Australia will eliminate import tariffs by 90.8% and 100%, respectively, within eight years after the FTA enters into force. South Korea will gradually eliminate the tariff for beef imported from Australia, in 15 years. Australia will eliminate the tariffs for as many as 20 automobile items imported from South Korea including medium-sized gasoline powered vehicles (1,500-3,000cc) and small-sized gasoline powered vehicles (1,000-1,500cc), once the agreement goes into effect.
Japan- Australia	2015/Jan	Australia will eliminate tariffs for about 75% of the trade value of imported vehicles from Japan upon the agreement entering into force, with the remaining tariffs eliminated in the third year. The tariffs for automobile parts will be eliminated within three years. Japan will eliminate tariffs for almost all products related to mining and manufacturing including mineral fuels in ten years. Rice is excluded from the elimination of Japan's tariffs, while wheat, dairy products and sugar will be reviewed in the future.

Status of Japan's FTA utilization (based on import value)

						(Unit: 100 mi	llion yen, %
		Value	of utilized	FTAs	Utilization rate		
		2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014
ASEAN	Thailand	4,898	5,615	6,247	26.0	26.1	27.2
	Indonesia	2,378	3,125	3,414	9.2	11.1	12.6
	Singapore	421	476	474	6.0	6.5	5.7
	Vietnam	2,724	3,854	4,847	22.6	27.7	29.7
	Malaysia	2,356	2,635	2,998	9.0	9.1	9.7
	Philippines	1,758	2,192	2,418	23.6	24.3	22.5
	Myanmar	7	11	33	1.3	1.4	3.7
	Cambodia	13	42	105	4.0	7.4	12.9
	Laos	7	10	9	7.2	9.2	7.7
	Brunei	0	0	1	0.0	0.0	0.0
	AJCEP	2,716	4,130	5,207	3.5	4.8	5.5
Other Asian region	India	1,042	1,367	1,565	18.7	19.8	21.2
Europe	Switzerland	333	401	476	5.1	5.6	6.2
Latin America	Mexico	684	834	1,052	19.5	20.3	23.2
	Peru	79	116	134	3.5	4.6	7.2
	Chile	1,576	1,567	1,851	21.2	20.2	21.5
Total		18,275	22,244	25,624	14.2	15.5	16.8

Source: Data from ASEAN Secretariat

Notes: 1) Overall import value of AJCEP excludes that of Indonesia, which has not signed the agreement. 2) According to one estimate that tariff revenue is divided by total imports, almost 80% of Japan's imports are estimated to be duty free. Source: "Trade Statistics" (MOF)

Source: Trade publicity (JETRO), data from METI

Service sectors becoming important in overseas expansion

Commodity trade includes a large amount of value added created by intangible services. In particular, the wholesale, retail and transportation services have a high value added ratio of 18.3% in Japan's exports and around 17% in world exports, which indicates that those services have become a critical factor for goods exports.

- Meanwhile, emerging countries, especially Asia, still have restrictions on foreign entry in the service industry. With Japanese companies accelerating their business expansion overseas, the liberalization of the area is required.
- Several frameworks on service liberalization, such as the Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) which mainly consists of developed countries, and the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS), which allows its internal investors to take a 70% stake at most, are under negotiation. APEC is also addressing the liberalization of manufacturing related services. The utilization of deregulation in the service industry, implemented by these international frameworks, will be a critical choice for overseas business.

Breakdown of value added in Japan's commodity exports (2011)

	(Unit: %)
Business type	ratio
Total	100.0
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	0.7
Mining and quarrying	5.9
Total Manufactures	57.9
Electricity, gas and water supply	2.3
Service industry	33.2
Construction	0.7
Distribution services	15.6
Wholesale and retail trade, repairs	14.5
Transport and storage, post and telecommunication	4.8
Transport and storage	3.8
Financial intermediation	2.2
Real estate, renting and business activities	8.7
R&D and other business activities	5.7
Community, social and personal services	1.1
Source: "OECD-WTO Trade in Value Added" (TiVA).	

Restrictiveness of distribution services in major emerging countries



Notes: 1) The definitions of the distribution industry follow those of warehouses, wholesale, retail and franchise in WTO classification. 2) A 100% foreign entry can be counted as a regulation even if authorized, because "Restrictions on foreign entry" includes requirements of M&A screening, nationality requirements of executives, land possession restrictions and so on, in addition to foreign capital ratio control. Source: "Service Trade Restrictiveness Index" (OECD).

Restriction on foreign ownership in distribution and transportation services in Asia

	Wholesale	Retail	Domestic transportation
Thailand	 Wholesale services with a "minimum capital of less than 100 million baht per store" are subject to foreign ownership restrictions under the Foreign Business Act However, the Foreign Business Act defines companies with less than 50% foreign ownership as Thai companies and therefore less than 50% foreign ownership is allowed. As an exception, foreign ownership is allowed based on the Foreign Business Committee's approval with the chief's permission. In some business operations, 100% foreign ownership is allowed if accompany obtains permission from the Thailand Board of Investment (BOI). 	Retail services with minimum capitals of less than 100 million baht and minimum capitals of less than 20 million baht per store" and food sales" are subject to foreign ownership restrictions under the Foreign Business Act. However, the Foreign Business Act defines companies with less than 50% foreign ownership as Thai companies and therefore less than 50% foreign ownership is allowed. As an exception, foreign ownership is allowed based on the Foreign Business Committee's approval with the chief's permission.	 Domestics land, water and air transportation" is subject to regulation, in which foreign ownership is limited to less than 50%. As an exception, foreign ownership is allowed based on the Foreign Business Committee's approval with the chief's permission. For some businesses, 100% foreign ownership is allowed on the condition that approval is obtained from the BOI. The Land Transport Act specifies the conditions that foreign ownership be 49% or less and a half of board members be Thais.
Malaysia	 100% foreign ownership is allowed. Companies are required to obtain open approved permits (APs) in order to import and sell new completely assembled vehicles. However, new APs are not issued today. 	Foreign investment in stores with floor spaces that are less than 3000m, grocery shops, and pharmacies is not permitted. There are requirements for a minimum of 30% Burniputera stake in hypermarkets and supermarkets. A minimum capital of 20 million ringgit for department stores and a million ringgit for specialised stores is required for 100% foreign ownership to be allowed.	 Foreign ownership is limited to 49% for cargo and container transportation, with minimum capital of 250,000 and 500,000 ringgit respectively. Though 100% ownership is allowed for transportation of goods possessed by a company with a capital of 250,000 ringgit or more. Licenses for Malaysian domestic ships are granted only for those whose foreign ownership is 49% or less. For long-term permission, 30% Bumiputra stake is required.
Indonesia	●Up to 33% foreign ownership is allowed for distributor businesses, warehouse businesses, and cold storage businesses. Until April 2014, 100% foreign ownership was allowed.	 100% foreign ownership is allowed for minimarkets, supermarkets and department stores with floor spaces of larger than or equal to 400m²,1200m²,2000m² respectively (foreign entry is prohibited for those of smaller scale). Foreign investment is prohibited in the retail for toy, cosmetics, footwear, electric appliance, mail-order and internet, food and beverage. 	In the fields of general cargo transportation, domestic marine transportation and freight forwarding and foreign ownership is limited to 49%.
Philippines	●100% foreign ownership is allowed for import-export businesses, foreign ownership is restricted to up to 40% for domestic wholesale services in principle, but 100% foreign ownership is allowed if paid-incapital is over \$200,000.	(1) 100% foreign ownership is allowed if \$2.5 million or more of the minimum capital is invested and investment per store is \$383,000 or more and (2) the minimum capital requirement is relaxed to \$250,000 or more for businesses that handle luxury goods. However, if the parent company's net assets apply to (1) above, it must be capitalized at \$200 million or more and if the parent company's net assets apply to (2) above, it must be capitalized at \$50 million or more and must have five or more stores or franchises worldwide and the capital of one of these stores must be \$25 million or more.	100% foreign ownership is allowed for cases in which capital is 200,000 dollars or more. This condition for the ownership ratio is interpreted as being limited to 40% or less among legal experts recently.
India	●100% foreign ownership is allowed.	 Single Brand: 100% foreign ownership is allowed with individual permission from the government and under certain conditions. However, for foreign ownership exceeding 51%, procurement regulations are applied. Multiple Brand: Up to 51% foreign ownership is allowed under certain conditions. Such conditions include the minimum investment amount of 100 million dollars, investing in back-end infrastructures, procuring 30% of the procurement amount from small-scale companies, and business operations in cities with 1 million people or more. 	 100% ownership is allowed for marine and road transportation. Among air transportation, foreign ownership is limited to up to 49% for regular services and up to 74% for irregular services or charter flights. Foreign ownership is prohibited for railway transportation, except in some cases such as high-speed railway, cargo lines and public-private projects, for which 100% ownership is allowed.

Source: Reports from JETRO overseas offices. Regulations as of end of June 2015.

Increasingly attractive "critical mass" markets and business expansion through alliances

- In emerging and developing countries, consumption is expected to grow as their income levels rise. In emerging regions other than China and ASEAN, Japanese firms are behind European and US companies in advancing into the countries with large markets and high growth rates. It is becoming important to cultivate these so called "Critical Mass" markets which are 1) among middle-income countries other than China and ASEAN, 2) have more than a \$100 billion nominal GDP and 3) the ten most largely populated countries.
- Making inroad into huge and complicated "Critical Mass" markets alone, firms especially in the field of sales of consumer products and in the service industry, are likely to face many obstacles in exploring markets, acquiring customers and so on. This indicates that partnering local firms or third-country companies with abundant knowledge and experience can be considered as a good option easing entrance into the markets. When advancing into promising markets such as India, Brazil and Turkey, some Japanese companies have chosen to set up joint ventures, acquire local companies, establish business alliances and so on.
- The large US market sees a remarkable gain in the Hispanic population, which is expected to reach around 30% of America's entire population by 2060. The Hispanic market can be regarded as the critical mass market of America.

Share of countries by income level

8



10 Critical mass markets

23,530 20,495 12,827 8,061 5,737 3,849	20,277 125,970 11,972 7,690 17,394	62.5 57.1 69.0 70.9 72.1
12,827 8,061 5,737	11,972 7,690 17,394	69.0 70.9
8,061 5,737	7,690 17,394	70.9
5,737	17,394	
	,	72.1
3,849	1700	
	4,766	61.0
3,501	5,400	60.6
2,864	8,670	81.2
2,501	18,629	81.0
1,854	15,822	72.8
103,804	136,782	36.2
8,886	25,149	55.8
3,738	6,866	51.9
3,269	3,026	51.2
	2,864 2,501 1,854 103,804 8,886 3,738 3,269	2,864 8,670 2,501 18,629 1,854 15,822 103,804 136,782 8,886 25,149 3,738 6,866

Critical mass market's inward FDI stock (2013): Share of each investing country

(Unit: %, US\$ million						
Investing country Recipient country	US	UK	Germany	Japan	Total inward FDI stock	
India	16.0	15.9	5.7	7.1	249,288	
Pakistan	11.4	18.0	1.6	5.0	10,586	
Bangladesh	8.7	11.0	0.7	5.0	8,063	
Brazil	15.1	3.2	2.6	4.2	715,182	
Mexico	45.3	4.0	2.5	2.2	391,879	
Turkey	4.9	6.0	10.6	0.9	112,814	
South Africa	6.1	48.3	4.7	2.2	152,124	
Nigeria	4.5	10.6	0.3	0.0	94,960	
(Reference)						
China	3.3	0.9	2.3	6.3	2,331,238	
Singapore	13.0	5.4	2.1	7.4	750,078	
Indonesia	3.2	4.6	1.1	11.3	230,439	
Thailand	7.8	3.3	2.0	35.4	178,221	
Malaysia	8.6	4.3	4.3	14.7	135,638	

Notes: 1) Bangladesh's data are as of the end of 2012. No data for Colombia and Egypt. 2) Shaded areas indicate the largest investing country for each recipient. Source: "Coordinated Direct Investment Survey " (IMF)

Trends in Japanese firms' business expansion by country and approach (January 1, 2010 – April 13, 2015)

emerging countries. Sources: World Bank, WEO(IMF), and UN.

							(Case, %)
	Total	Greenfield investment	Establishment of a joint venture	M&A	Cooperation with government	Business/ capital alliance	Capital participation
Overall critical mass market	1,700	62.9	9.1	9.7	1.5	11.6	5.1
India	829	61.6	10.4	9.4	0.7	12.7	5.2
Mexico	349	81.4	7.2	1.7	2.0	5.4	2.3
Brazil	292	57.5	4.5	15.4	2.1	13.4	7.2
Turkey	82	50.0	11.0	19.5	-	7.3	7.3
South Africa	52	42.3	-	26.9	-	21.2	-
Bangladesh	45	57.8	28.9	-	-	-	-
Colombia	18	38.9	-	-	-	27.8	-
Egypt	13	-	-	-	-	38.5	-

Note: Only items with five or more cases are valid

Source: Nikkei Value Search

Source: World Bank

Revitalization of regional economies through investment in Japan, exports of agricultural and fishery products and inbound tourism.

- The number of total full-time persons employed by foreign companies, with a more than 33.4% foreign capital ratio, is 610,000. Greenfield investment in Japan varies depending on regions: a large amount of investment is made in the tourism-related industry in Hokkaido, the renewable energy industry in Kyushu and Okinawa and the electronic parts industry in Tohoku, Chubu and Kansai. Investment by foreign companies have a positive impact on regional economies, by such means as creating jobs, increasing the number of foreign tourists, expanding exports and the introduction of new technologies and services.
- In 2014, exports of Japanese agricultural, forestry, fishery and food products hit a record high at ¥612 billion, 11.1% higher from a year earlier, driven by a rise in exports to Asian countries and regions including Hong Kong, Taiwan, China and Korea. Geographical Indication (GI) Act came into force in June 2015. The law is expected to promote the creation of regional brands. JETRO has implemented the "One Prefecture One Support Program", which creates specific export projects.
- The Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) announced that the number of overseas tourists in 2014 reached a new high of 13.4 million, an increase of 29.4% from the previous year, on the back of weakening yen and other factors. (The deficit of the travel service balance substantially shrank from \$6.8 billion in 2013 to \$0.5 billion in 2014). Industrial tourism, utilizing the Cool Japan resources, is expanding in region. More tourists are expected to come from countries and regions in Asia, given their proximity to Japan.

(U-1+ UCC ---- 10-----)

Top greenfield investment in Japan by region

	(Unit: US\$ million)						
Des	Destination Pro		Company name	Nationality	Industry sector	Capital investment	
		Apr 2013	Hanwha	South Korea	Renewable energy	272	
Ho	kkaido	May 2008	West Paces Hotel Group	US	Hotel/tourism	183	
		Aug 2008	Pacific Century Group (PCG)	Hong Kong	Leisure/entertainment	170	
	Fukushima	Jun 2006	Spansion	US	Semiconductor	1,200	
Tohoku	lwate	Jul 2014	Royal Dutch Shell Plc	Netherlands	Renewable energy	272	
	Yamagata	Feb 2004	Entegris	US	Semiconductor	220	
	Ibaraki	Jan 2009	Areva	France	Coal, oil and natural gas	840	
Kanto	Tokyo	Jan 2007	Aegon	Netherlands	Financial service	490	
	Tochigi	Oct 2013	Juwi	Germany	Renewable energy	272	
	Shizuoka	Apr 2006	Corning	US	Electronic components	174	
Chubu	Shizuoka	Feb 2012	Intelligent Energy	UK	Electronic components	147	
Chubu	Aichi	Jul 2008	ProLogis	US	Real estate	144	
	Gifu	Nov 2014	Simon Property Group	US	Real estate	144	
	Mie	Aug 2013	SanDisk	US	Semiconductor	4,000	
Kansai	Mie	Dec 2003	SanDisk	US	Semiconductor	2,600	
	Osaka	Dec 2007	Corning US Electronic componen		Electronic components	400	
	Hiroshima	Nov 2014	Micron Technology	US	Semiconductor	859	
Chugoku	Yamaguchi	Dec 2006	Royal Dutch Shell Plc	Netherlands	Chemicals	168	
	Okayama	Feb 2012	Global Logistics Properties (GLP)	Singapore	Real estate	103	
	Ehime	Aug 2005	Albemarle Corporation	US	Chemicals	81	
Shikoku	Ehime	Nov 2012	Assuranceforeningen Gard	Norway	Financial service	48	
	Tokushima	May 2008	Volkswagen	Germany	Automotive parts	30	
Kunahu /	Fukuoka	Nov 2013	First Solar	US	Renewable energy	272	
Kyushu/ Okinawa	-	Apr 2013	Hanwha	South Korea	Renewable energy	272	
	Nagasaki	Apr 2014	Royal Dutch Shell Plc	Netherlands	Renewable energy	272	

Examples of companies made use of JETRO supports to set up their business/affiliate in region (2009-2014)

Destir	nation	Company name	Nationality	Business
Tohoku	Miyagi	Osbert Hotels Ltd.	Hong Kong	Hot spring & spa resort
	Chiba	Snowflake	Switzerland	Open source software
Kanto	Saitama	Thaicom Public Company Limited (IPSTAR)	Thailand	Satellite base station
Nanto	Chiba	Spring Airlines Japan	China	LCC
	Kanagawa	Faurecia Japan	France	Automobile parts
	Aichi	Infosys Ltd.	India	IT Consulting
	Mie	Mag-Isover KK	France	Glass wool for residential and industrial use
Chubu	Aichi	Magnate Technology Co., Ltd.	Taiwan	Parts of air planes, precision parts of industrial machinery
	Mie	Cabot Microelectronics Japan	US	Polishing materials and cloth for semiconductors
Kansai	Hyogo	INSTAR ITS	Czech Republic	Energy saving business management
Ndf15dl	Hyogo	Umicore	Belgium	Materials of lithium-ion battery
Chugoku	Tottori	DBS Cruise Ferry Co., Ltd.	South Korea	Cargo-passenger liner
	Okinawa/ Osaka	Juneyao Airlines	China	LCC
Kyushu/	Fukuoka/ Osaka	Air Busan	South Korea	LCC
Ókinawa	Fukuoka	Elanex	US	Translation
	Fukuoka	T'way Airlines	South Korea	LCC

Note: The investment destinations of Juneyao Airlines and Air Busan are classified according to their first flight destinations in Japan. Source: JETRO website

JETRO's industrial tourism support projects in region

Note: Investment values include estimates. Source: "fDi Markets" (Financial Times)

Japan's exports in agricultural and fishery products



Note: Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and pearls are included.

Source: "Overview of Foreign Trade of Agricultural, Forestry, and Fishery Products" (MAFF)

	Saga	Hamamatsu	Ibaraki	Kyoto	Tsubame Sanjo
Area	Design	Music	Science	Lifestyle	Manufacturing such as metal working
Period	Mar 1-5, 2015	Mar 9-10, 2015	Mar 16-19, 2015	Mar 11-12, 2015	Jun 25-28, 2015
Invited personnel	Buyers, media, designers and design schools from Singapore	Those involved in music business, a music business school and media from the US and France	A research organization of industrial technology from Taiwan, media and travel companies from Vietnam	Buyers, media and others from ASEAN and Northeast Asia	Buyers, designers hairdressers, chefs, design schools, media from Singapore and Malaysia
Arita ware companies, Arita College of Ceramics, companies related to Morodomi furniture and so on		Music instrument manufacturers (vocal synthesis technology, score recognition and writing technology, etc.), high-sensitivity acoustic systems and so on	Science and technology research facilities (Space Center, AIST, robot suit development companies) and so on	Companies related to kitchen, tableware, interior, beauty and health products, gifts and so on	Companies related to kitchen tools including knives and cutlery, beauty products such as scissors and nail clippers

Source: JETRO

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10

Among challenges that Japanese firms face when engaging in export and expanding their business overseas, a lack of human resources capable of playing a central role in overseas operations is commonly reported.

Looking at the status of hiring foreign employees by Japanese firms, Japanese companies that are currently hiring foreign staff (42.2%) and interested in hiring foreign staff in the future (20.8%) totals 63%. Of these companies, the percentage of hiring / wanting to hire foreign students studying in Japan is the highest. This indicates that there is a high demand for international students among Japanese companies.

Lifestyle survey of privately financed international students concluded by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) found that the percentage of foreign students who intend to work in Japan was 65.0% in FY2013. According to the survey on international students career and academic degrees by the same organization, despite the high number, their actual employment rate was only 23.7%. This difference in percentage indicates that there is room for improvement.

Bottlenecks for export and overseas business expansion

10

(Unit:%,Multiple answ					
	Total (n=3,471)	Large companies (n=680)	SMES (n=2,791)		
Local business partners	47.8	46.3	48.1		
Human resources to play a central role in overseas business	41.2	52.6	38.4		
Information on rules®ulation (tariff, regulations, license, etc.)	40.1	48.7	38.0		
Information on local markets (Consumers' preferences and needs, etc.)	39.4	42.1	38.8		
Expansion of sales network in overseas	32.5	33.8	32.2		
Cost competitiveness	27.0	36.0	24.8		
Products development for local markets	21.4	26.3	20.2		
Securement of necessary funds	16.2	8.1	18.2		

Note: Parameter is the total number of replying companies participating in this survey. Source: "Results of JETRO's FY 2013 Survey on the International Operations of Japanese Firms' (JETRO)

Demands for foreign nationals by Japanese companies

		(Unit: %,	multiple answers)
	Total (n=1,887)	Large companies (n=534)	SMEs (n=1,353)
Hiring/want to hire foreign students studying in Japan	48.1	60.7	43.2
Hiring/want to hire foreign nationals (not including foreign students studying in Japan)	40.6	42.1	40.0
Hiring/want to hire foreign nationals residing overseas	34.6	35.8	34.1
Others	3.5	3.4	3.5

Note: Parameter is the total number of companies responding with "hiring foreigners" and "want to hire foreigners

Source: "Results of JETRO's FY 2014 Survey on the International Operations of Japanese Firms" (JETRO)

Hiring of foreign employees by Japanese firms

			(Unit: %)
	Total (n=2,995)	Large companies (n=661)	SMEs (n=2,334)
Currently hiring foreign employees	42.2	70.3	34.2
Not currently hiring foreign employees but expecting to consider recruitment of it	20.8	10.4	23.8
Not currently hiring foreign nationals and not planning to consider it in the future	27.2	12.9	31.3
No answer	9.7	6.4	10.7

Note: Parameter is the total number of replying companies participating in this survey Source: "Results of JETRO's FY 2014 Survey on the International Operations of Japanese Firms" (JETRO)

Status of employment of foreign students in Japan



Notes: 1) "Foreign study abroad students " are defined as those studying in such institutions as universities, two-year colleges, specialized vocational high schools, special technical schools, etc. 2) Years represent fiscal years 3) "Unemployed" is calculated by subtracting the number of "employed" from that of "foreign study graduates". The number includes those with no set career options. Source: Survey on international students career and academic degrees (JASSO)

Globalization of management through diversity

Challenges that Japanese companies face in terms of expanding utilization of foreign employees, such as international students, include lack of experience of how to recruit, treat and manage foreign staff.

There are also cases of SMEs proactively utilizing foreign personnel, including international students, in developing their overseas business. SMEs consider foreign staff to be useful in areas such as expanding sales channels. Nowadays, local governments in certain regions are establishing collaborative industry-academia-government bodies that offer continuous services from recruitment of foreign students to support for their employment.

Current status and challenges to promote utilization of foreign students and other foreign nationals

	Companies	Foreign nationals including international students
Pre- employ- ment	High Japanese skills required (1st level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test or the equivalent)	A good command of Japanese is required. (Japanese literacy is required from the time of submitting entry sheets)
	Lack of knowledge on how to recruit foreign employees, a small number of applicants (especially for SMEs)	Unclear recruitment process that is particular to Japan (employing new graduates all at once)
	Difficulties in finding appropriate foreign nationals in local universities (especially for local companies)	High demand for positions in large companies around Tokyo.
Post- employ- ment	Low retention rate (high attrition rate, concerns over leakage of technologies and know-how) Difficulties in sharing a common vision of the organization Lack of experience of how to treat and manage foreign employees.	Unclear career plan (Searching for a job where staff can exercise their expertise, preferred work locations and compensation package according to job responsibility are available, among others).
	Lack of knowledge on administrative procedures such as changing status of residence (for companies hiring their first foreign staff member)	_

Benefits of hiring/employing foreign employees

		(Unit: %, M	ultiple answers)
	Total (n=1,887)	Large companies (n=534)	SMEs (n=1,353)
Expanding sales channels	40.9	33.0	44.0
Improving international negotiation ability	39.7	40.1	39.6
Improving foreign language ability	31.6	32.0	31.4
Strategic preparation for localization of management	28.6	36.1	25.6
Lowering psychological barriers among Japanese employees in communication with foreign nationals	27.9	31.6	26.5

Note: Parameter is the total number of companies responding with "hiring foreigners" and "want to hire foreigners".

Source: "Results of JETRO's FY2014 Survey on the International Operations of Japanese Firms" (JETRO)

Source: interview survey and others

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Cases of utilizing foreign students and other foreign nationals in terms of SMEs' business expansion overseas and employment supported by industry-academia-government collaboration bodies

	Effects	Cases regarding business expansion overseas/industry-academia-government collaboration bodies
Companies	Expanding sales channels	On referral from a local university, we hired a foreign student from Asia in 2014. He was hired as a part-timer at first and was made a regular employee. The staff enhanced our public relations activities by posting product information on our new English website jointly created by a Japanese engineer. This brought us specific results such as increased business inquiries from overseas.
	Expanding sales channels, improving international negotiation ability	We started to employ foreign staff seven years ago, hoping to hire employees with knowledge on trading operations and partner countries. Our current foreign staff member, who is from Africa and fluent in four languages, has helped us to expand business in Africa and the Middle East. We intend to hire a foreign employee who has a good command of Portuguese and Spanish in accordance with our business expansion plans.
	Expanding sales channels, improving international negotiation ability	We hired a foreign staff member with experience studying in Japan in 2013, which allowed us to create a dedicated department for overseas business afterward. Active promotional activities such as demonstrating products at overseas exhibitions resulted in exports. He/she also contributed to changing specifications and taking the necessary steps to make our products meet local standards. We came to be able to grasp overseas customers' needs accurately, which led to the improvement of our products.
	Management localization, improving international negotiation ability	We started to employ foreign employees from around 2004. We hired foreign staff including international students from Latin America in 2014 as well. Employees from Northeast Asia, Southwest Asia and Latin America are working with us. They are improving our international negotiation ability. We have assigned Chinese employees with a good command of local languages to the procurement department, because we largely depend on materials from China. We are promoting foreign staff to sales managers of the headquarters and directors of the overseas offices.
	Management localization, expanding sales channels	We have hired foreign students from China and also assigned Chinese employees to top executive positions of our local office in China. Our Chinese staff has contributed to our business expansion in China, through the discovery of customers by utilizing their knowledge on Japanese management and adapting it to the Chinese culture. Since our customers largely consist of Chinese local companies, the Chinese staff is essential to our business. We are considering the employment of foreign nationals from the region into which we are planning to expand business.
	Management localization, expanding sales channels	We employed a person from Southeast Asia as an engineer at the headquarters. He is currently playing an important role as a future executive officer in our overseas office in his native country. Additionally, our overseas office employed a local with experience working in Japan for the sales department. We are planning to train him to be a candidate president of our subsidiary. We are also planning to further utilize local staff. Senior personnel with experience working for large companies are also hired to be assigned to overseas subsidiaries as their executive officers.
	Establishment of bases	A capable graduate from a local university in Southeast Asia, who we employed five years ago, was the deciding factor in expanding our business there. The headquarters hired an engineer who graduated from a university in Southeast Asia. He is expected to be assigned as a manager of a representative office, which is planned to be established. Moreover, we are planning to hire a few other local employees as programmers. They are expected to be responsible for selecting local staff and communicating with the headquarters.
Industry-academia-government collaboration bodies		In recent years, some regions see a number of local governments establishing organizations in collaboration with industry and academia, in order to provide comprehensive service ranging from attracting foreign students to assisting them in getting a job in Japanese companies. The Fukuoka International Student Support Center (established in 2008) and the Hiroshima Support Center for International Students (established in 2011) have taken steady steps. In Nagasaki, aiming to boost the economy, Nagasaki Summit has been held by its parent organization composed of prefectural and municipal governments, Nagasaki University, the Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other local management organizations. The Nagasaki International Student Support Center was built in 2013 as a facility to deal with the top priority issues of support for and utilization of foreign students. It also provides the students living in Nagasaki with employment support such as creating opportunities to meet with local companies in addition to recruiting and supporting the students. Iwate Prefecture has established an organization in 2007, Iwate Exchange Student Job Search Support Association,

Source: Interview survey

which is dedicated to providing employment support with international students and composed of universities, industry groups and local governments.

JETRO activities promoting "Cool Japan"

Japan is a country rich in culture and history, and also a leading center of design and innovation. From traditional crafts with a modern appeal to gourmet foods and cutting-edge textiles, the Japanese Government has created a campaign called "Cool Japan" to redefine its reputation as a pioneer in design, fashion, entertainment and cuisine. JETRO has an important role in promoting the Cool Japan concept by supporting unique, attractive products and services to be showcased all over the world.



1) JETRO provides various support to SMEs to expand Cool Japan related activities overseas.



Business consultation



Business seminar



Participating in overseas trade fairs Business meeting in emerging markets



Inviting potential buyers and influencers to Japan



Dispatching business delegations to promising countries and areas

2) JETRO cooperates with The Japan Tourism Agency (JTA), the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) to increase the number of foreign visitors.

JETRO activities for promoting direct investment in Japan



- (1) Providing information on Japanese business environment: Promoting investing in Japan via Invest Japan website (available in six languages), brochures, Invest Japan seminars/symposia.
- (2) Finding and developing businesses interested in investing in Japan: Approach by Invest Japan specialists, finding businesses interested in investing in Japan by visiting companies and exhibitions, individual consultation, providing information about Japanese market and industries, helping build business models, providing information about regulations, supporting establishment of branch offices, solving problems related to regulations and business.

(3) **Supporting business startups:**Offering temporary offices (IBSCs located in six major cities in Japan). Consultation by professionals (taxation/accounting, incorporation, human resource and labor, visa, real estate, etc.).

(4) Increasing business opportunities with Japan: Supporting business matching with Japanese companies.

•Cooperation with local governments: Providing information on locations all over Japan, market and industry information, incentives provided by local governments, and supporting promotional activities by local governments.

Cooperation with government establishments overseas:Finding businesses interested in investing in Japan by cooperating with government establishments overseas.

Cooperation with relevant government authorities:Arranging meetings with officials of regulatory agencies, relaying requests for regulatory reforms to the Japanese Government.



Invest Japan website (available in six languages)



Distributing information via seminars/symposia, etc.



Providing temporary offices (IBSC)



Business matching events, increasing business opportunities with Japan



For more information, please contact:

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