Machine Translated by Google

VIPO Member Companies (in alphabetical order) As of March 31, 2026

RX Japan LLC
American Motion Pictures Association of Japan
IMAGICA GROUP Co., Ltd.
Japan Federation of Film Industry Associations
Japan Satellite Broadcasting Association
Japan Association of Film and Video Producers
ADK Emotions Inc.
Avex Inc.
SPO Co., Ltd.
NHK Enterprises, Inc.
Okura Pictures Co., Ltd.
Japan Association of Foreign Film Importers and Distributors
KADOKAWA Corporation
Capcom Co., Ltd.
Kinema Junpo Co., Ltd.
Kino Films Co., Ltd.
GAGA Corporation
Kyoei Arts Co., Ltd.
King Records Co., Ltd.
Quoras Co., Ltd.
Kodansha Ltd.
Koei Tecmo Games Co., Ltd.
Konami Digital Entertainment Co., Ltd.
Japan Concert Promoters Association
Computer Entertainment Supplier's Association
Saitama Prefecture, Sainokuni Visual Plaza
Sanrio Co., Ltd.
Japan Publishing Culture Industry Promotion Foundation
Shochiku Co., Ltd.
Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.
STUDIO4ý Co., Ltd.
Sega Sammy Foundation for Arts and Culture
National Federation of Entertainment and Public Health Industry Associations
All Japan Television Program Production Companies Association
Sony PCL Corporation
Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc.
Sony Music Entertainment Inc.
Daiichi Kosho Co., Ltd.
Takatsu Decorative Art Co., Ltd.

TI Comnet Co., Ltd.
TBS Television, Inc.
TY Limited Co., Ltd.
Digital Content Association of Japan
Digital SKIP Station Co., Ltd.
Digital Policy Foundation
Tezuka Productions Co., Ltd.
TV Asahi Corporation
TV Tokyo Corporation
Dentsu Inc.
Toei Company, Ltd.
Toei Animation Co., Ltd.
Toei Lab Tech Co., Ltd.
Toho Co., Ltd.
Toho Gakuen Educational Foundation, Toho Gakuen Vocational School
Toho Towa Co., Ltd.
Tohoku Shinsha Co., Ltd.
TOSE Corporation
Tohan Co., Ltd.
Dolly Music Co., Ltd.
Drecom Co., Ltd.
Chubu Nippon Kogyo Co., Ltd.
Nikkatsu Corporation
Nikkei BP Co., Ltd.
Japan Academy Prize Association
Nippon Animation Co., Ltd.
Japan Film Producers Association
Japan Film Producers Association
Japan Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers
Japan Video Software Association (General Incorporated Association)
Japan Video Translation Academy Co., Ltd.
Japan Music Business Association (General Incorporated Association)
Japan Music Producers Association
Nippon Columbia Co., Ltd.
Nippon Television Network Corporation
Japan Animation Association
National Association of Commercial Broadcasters in Japan
Recording Industry Association of Japan (RIAJ)
Hakuhodo Inc.

VAP Corporation
Bandai Namco Filmworks Inc.
Pia Corporation
Fuji Television Network, Inc.
Broadband Association, a specified non-profit organization
HOKUETSU PLANETS Co., Ltd.
The Pokémon Company
Pony Canyon Inc.
Polygon Pictures Inc.
Horipro Co., Ltd.
Musashino Kogyo Co., Ltd.
Universal Music LLC
Yoshimoto Kogyo Holdings Co., Ltd.
Yomiuri Telecasting Corporation
Licensing International Japan (General Incorporated Association)
Lapin Co., Ltd.
Ryukyu Broadcasting Corporation
Warner Music Japan Inc.
WOWOW Corporation

[Supporting Member]
Kindai Co., Ltd. Tokyo Headquarters
SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation
Takasago Thermal Engineering Co., Ltd.
Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

Total: 101 companies/organizations

Visual Industry Promotion Organization
特定非営利活動法人 映像産業振興機構

104-0045 Tokyo, Chuo-ku, Tsukiji 4-1-1, Togeki Building 2F
TEL: 03-3543-7531 FAX: 03-3543-7533 URL: https://www.vipo.or.jp/

Edited and published by the Visual Industry Promotion Organization, a specified non-profit organization, on June 24, 2026.

FSC ミックス 紙 | 責任ある森林管理を支えています FSC® C004514
VEGETABLE OIL INK
Waterless Printing Naturally

This product is made from FSC® certified materials and controlled raw materials.
Furthermore, it uses "VEGETABLE OIL INK," which incorporates vegetable oils to minimize the generation of volatile organic compounds, and employs "waterless printing" to eliminate hazardous wastewater.

2025
Annual Activity Report

Annual Report

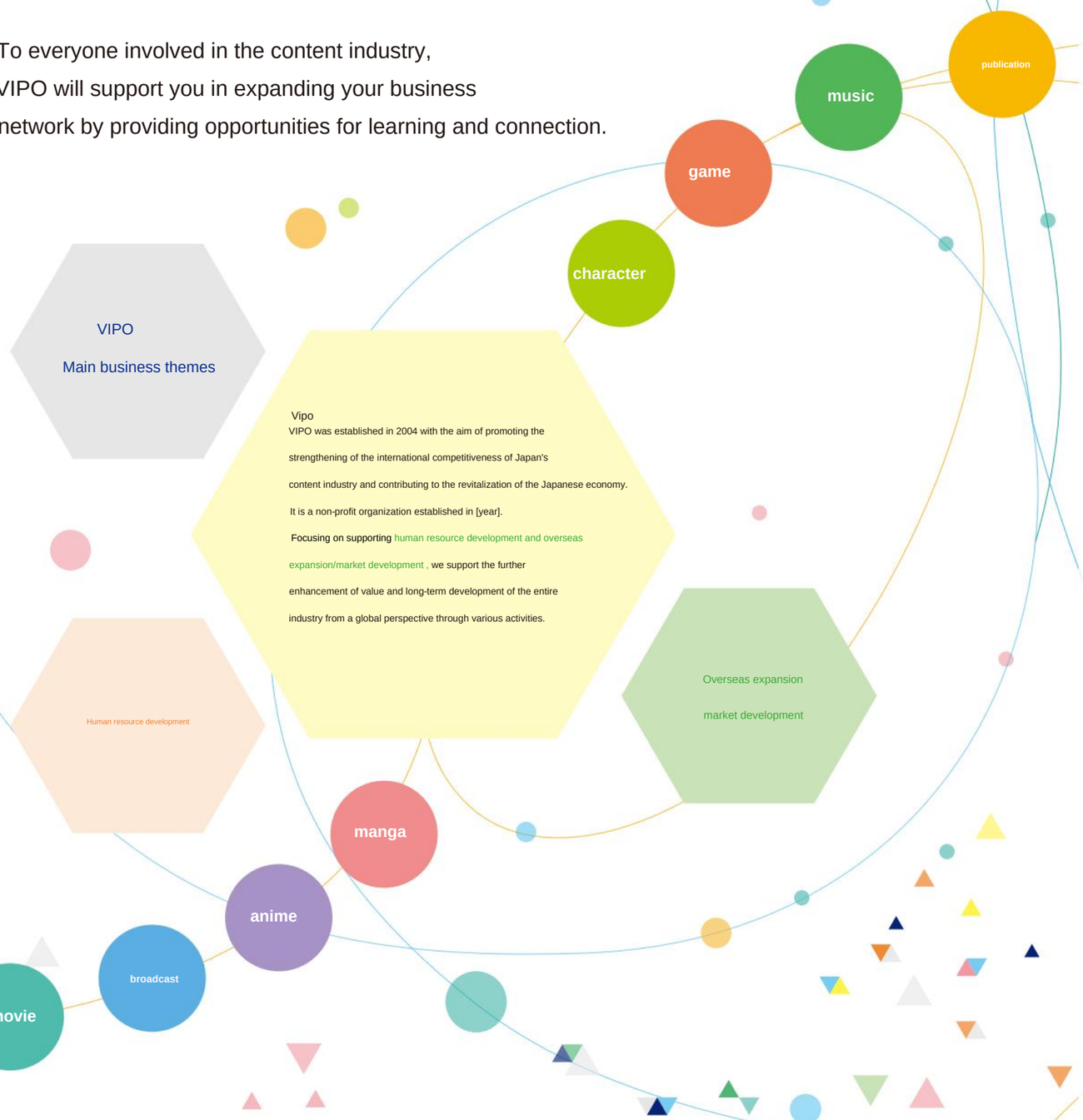
April 1, 2025 - March 31, 2026

Visual Industry Promotion Organization
特定非営利活動法人 映像産業振興機構

Machine Translated by Google

Connecting and expanding the future of content .

To everyone involved in the content industry,
VIPO will support you in expanding your business
network by providing opportunities for learning and connection.



Greetings

As we report on our activities for the 2025 fiscal year, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for your continued understanding and support.

This year, VIPO will continue to focus on supporting human resource development and overseas expansion in Japan's content industry, working with the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Agency for Cultural Affairs, and others.

We carry out commissioned projects from organizations such as the Japan Arts Council and our own projects, working to strengthen the foundation of the industry.

And here I am.

The government has set a goal of achieving 20 trillion yen in overseas sales for the content industry by 2033, and last year

The "Entertainment and Creative Industry Strategy" has been formulated to promote international expansion and strengthen competitiveness through public-private partnerships and new technologies.

We have put into concrete terms the entertainment industry policy. (See the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's "Entertainment and Creative Industry Strategy" website)

Against this backdrop, VIPO in fiscal year 2025 will further invest in "people" to ensure sustainable competitiveness in the global market.

This year marked an acceleration of our efforts. Specifically, we launched the following new programs, including multi-year projects extending to 2027.

We are contracted to manage and operate this service.

• Developing world-class global talent

"Showrunner and Drama Creator Development Program":

We aim to cultivate global talent capable of taking on executive production roles, targeting domestic broadcasters and program production companies.

• Bottom-up improvement of skills in the production field

"Film Nexus-PRO":

We aim to raise the skills of film production staff to international standards and cultivate individuals who can immediately contribute to global production environments.

• Creating the next generation of creators

"Film Nexus-SEED":

This program targets students studying film in Japan and aims to help young creators achieve international success through industry-academia collaboration.

Acquire the necessary foundation and practical professional skills.

In addition to these, the ongoing support we have provided through VIPO's network and the multifaceted support we have continued to offer

The results have steadily borne fruit and blossomed into concrete works and projects (see pages 3-4 of this magazine for details).

I was able to do it.

Furthermore, when discussing today's content industry, the dramatic evolution of technologies, including generative AI, is indispensable.

While AI can improve the efficiency of creative processes and open up new possibilities for expression, it also has implications for protecting rights and the very essence of creativity.

It also raises important issues related to this. VIPO does not view these technological innovations solely as threats,

By combining it with Japan's rich creativity, we can elevate it into "new value in the global market."

We believe this is important. As part of this initiative, in fiscal year 2025 we will be offering "Learning about AI Rights and the Cutting Edge of Legal Matters in 2 Hours."

(From the independent project, Kenji Fukui Lawyer Seminar), this year's seminar will focus on the theme of "Video and Animation Business x Generative AI".

We will hold an event to provide a learning opportunity about the ideal relationship between generative AI and intellectual property rights.

Supporting a proper coexistence with the powerful tool that is AI is also one of our important missions going forward.

Yes, I am.

Moving forward, in this rapidly changing market environment, we will continue to work together as a team to ensure that Japanese talent can shine to its fullest potential on the world stage.

We will continue to work towards this goal. We sincerely ask for your continued support and patronage.

I'll raise it.



Chairman Takayuki Matsutani



Executive Director and Secretary-General: Mitsue Ichii

Machine Translated by Google

Typical examples of 2025 project performance years

VIPO, in collaboration with the public and private sectors, continuously promotes support for the overseas expansion of Japanese content and the development of creators who can thrive globally. This multifaceted support has resulted in numerous achievements in 2025, including awards in major categories at international film festivals and decisions to publish works overseas.

Abbreviations of the contracting organizations: (Economy) Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry / (Bun) Agency for Cultural Affairs / (Kyoto) Kyoto Prefecture / Projects without abbreviations are VIPO's independent projects.

Directed by Akio Fujimoto and produced by Kazutaka Watanabe

LOST LAND

Winner of three awards at the 82nd Venice International Film Festival:

ÿ Special Jury Prize in the "Orizzonti Competition" ÿ Special Commendation Award for "Best Asian Film" ÿ Best Director Award at the "Bissato d'Oro Awards (Golden Eel Awards)"

- FY2020 JLOX video production support (economic)
- Support for the overseas expansion of the content industry in FY2023:

Participation in the Far East Film Festival "FOCUS ASIA 2024" (Producer: Kazutaka Watanabe) (Economics)

Participation in "First Cut Lab Japan 2024" (Director Akio Fujimoto, Producer Kazutaka Watanabe) (Economics) • FY2023 JLOX+ Localization & Promotion Support for Overseas (Economics)

- FY2024 JLOX+ Support for Overseas Localization & Promotion (Economics)



©2025 ExN KK



Director Akio Fujimoto



Producer Kazutaka Watanabe

Chie Hayakawa (director) and Eiko Mizuno (producer) "Renoir"

Selected for the "Competition Section" at the 78th Cannes International Film Festival; winner of the Nagisa Oshima Award (directed by Chie Hayakawa)

- Participation in the 2020 Japanese Film Overseas Expansion Enhancement Project Short-Term Practical Training (Director Chie Hayakawa) (Text)
- FY2020 JLOX video production support (economic)
- Support for the overseas expansion of the content industry in FY2023:

Participation in "First Cut Lab Japan 2024" (Director Chie Hayakawa, Producer Eiko Mizuno) (Economics)

- FY2023 JLOX+ Support for Overseas Localization & Promotion (Economics)
- Participated in the 2021 VIPO Film Lab International Producer Course (Producer: Eiko Mizuno)



©2025 "Renoir" Production Committee / International Partners



Director Chie Hayakawa



Producer Eiko Mizuno

Eiko Tanaka, Producer (STUDIO4ÿ)

ChaO

Winner of the Jury Prize in the Feature Film Competition at the Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2025.

- FY2023 Support Project for Overseas Expansion of the Content Industry:

Participation in Cannes' "Spotlight Asia" (Producer: Eiko Tanaka) (Economics)

- FY2023 JLOX+ Support for Overseas Localization & Promotion (Economics)
- FY2024 JLOX+ Support for Overseas Localization & Promotion (Economics)



©2025 "ChaO" Production Committee



Producer Eiko Tanaka

The circumstances leading up to the establishment of VIPO

- In March 2004, the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren) proposed the establishment of an organization to promote the development of the entire video industry in its recommendation, "Toward the Revision of the 'Intellectual Property Promotion Plan'."
- In November, a preparatory committee was established, mainly composed of businesses related to the video industry, to finalize the details of the organization's activities. On December 6, the founding general meeting was held, and Junichi Sakamoto was appointed as the first chairman.

Yukari Sakamoto's film "White Flowers and Fruits"

The 73rd San Sebastian International Film Festival "New Directors Category" Closing Film Selection

- Participated in ndjc2022 "Support for Feature Film Planning and Script Development" (Article)
- Participated in the 2023 VIPO Film Lab Directing Course



©2025 BITTERS END/ CHIAROSCURO

Director Yuiga Danzuka's "The Lookout Generation"

Selected for the Directors' Fortnight at the 78th Cannes International Film Festival, becoming the youngest Japanese director ever to receive this honor.

- Participation in ndjc2021 "Young Filmmaker Development Project" (Text)



© 2025 Siglo / LesPros Entertainment

Producer Taichi Matsumoto's "The Man Who Carries the Voice of August"

NHK's drama commemorating the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II (aired August 13, 2025) won the Grand Prize in the "Television Category" at the 2025 Galaxy Awards.

- Participating project in the 2023 VIPO Film Lab Film Planning and Development Workshop



Producer Taichi Matsumoto

Tetsichiro Tsuta's film "The Black Cow"

Winner of the Firebird Award, the top prize at the 49th Hong Kong International Film Festival, the film has been made into a feature film and will be released in theaters in January 2026.

- 2016 Kyoto Film Project Fair - Excellent Film Project Pilot video (Kyoto) • FY2019 J-LOD Project to raise funds and develop human resources to support overseas content production (Economics) • FY2023 JLOX+ Support for overseas localization and promotion (Economics)



©NIKO NIKO FILM / MOOLIN FILMS / CINEMA INUTILE / CINERIC CREATIVE / FOURIER FILMS

Written by Hayako Takase

"I hope you can enjoy a delicious meal."

(Kodansha)

A German publisher has decided to translate and publish the book in February 2026.

- FY2024 Global Promotion and Dissemination of Print Culture Project: Frankfurt Book Fair 2024 Business Meeting with German Publishers (Text)



Examples of how JLOX+ subsidies can be used

Representative examples of how the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's "JLOX+ Subsidy" was utilized, with VIPO handling the secretariat operations.

"Rental Family"

- FY2023 JLOX+ Support for attracting domestic filming by overseas production companies (Economics)



© 2025 Searchlight Pictures. All Rights Reserved

"National Treasure"

- FY2023 JLOX+ Domestic Video Production Project (Economy)



©Shuichi Yoshida/Asahi Shimbun Publications
©2025 "National Treasure" Film Production Committee

"Music Awards Japan 2025"

- FY2024 JLOX+ Localization & Promotion Support for Overseas Markets (Economics)



©CEIPA / MUSIC AWARDS JAPAN2025

Machine Translated by Google

INDEX

P03-04 • Business results: Representative examples for fiscal year 2025 • Background of establishment

P05-06 • VIPO business mapping • Organizational chart • Past records of general meetings, etc.

P07-09 ndjc: Young Filmmaker Development Project
•AFI Conservatory Japanese international student recommendation project

P10 - Film crew training program

P11 Kyoto Film Project Market

P12-13 VIPO Film Lab

P14 - Creator Support Project (Development and Implementation of Training Programs): A practical professional development support program for the overseas expansion of games. "Global Game Growth Gateway"

P15 Film Nexus-PRO
Film Nexus-SEED

P16-18 - Film Frontier Residency-Based Project Development - Agency for Cultural Affairs "International Cultural Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Project" for FY2025 (Research, planning, and operation of TICAD9-related events) - Project to promote the global expansion of print culture

P19-20 VIPO Academy

P21 •VIPO Film Award project

P22 Cannes Directors' Fortnight in Tokyo 2025

P23-24 • Seminars and workshops for the content industry

P25-26 •FY2024 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Creator and Business Support Projects (Promotion of Overseas Expansion for Creators and Businesses) JLOX+

Pages 27-28 • Training programs for personnel involved in the production of live-action content • Overseas business matching • Seminars for the Global Expansion Division

P29 - FY2024 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Creator and Business Support Projects (Promotion of Overseas Expansion for Creators and Businesses) JLOX+
- FY2025 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Content Industry Growth Investment Support Projects (Support for Overseas Expansion and Development Platform Construction) IP360

P30 - FY2024 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Creator Business Support Projects (Cultural and Artistic Activity Base Strengthening Fund Creation Expenses) - FY2025 Comprehensive Support Project for Performing Arts, etc. (Nationwide Caravan)

P31 • Research and study to promote the use of the nationwide location database

P32 - Japan Book Bank, an online publishing content catalog site for overseas audiences.

P33 - Archiving Core Hub Formation Model Project

P34 VIPO Interview

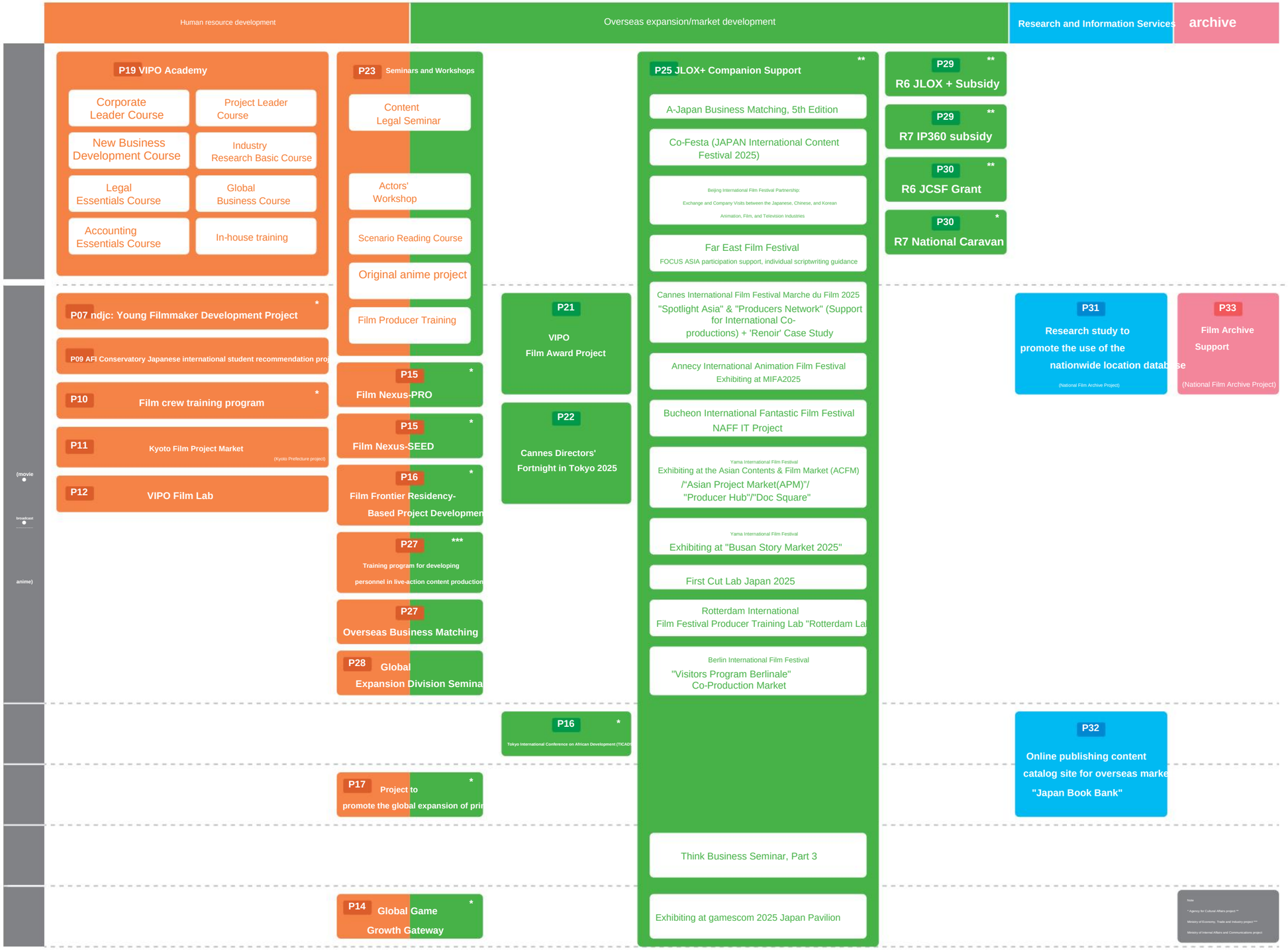
...Human resource development ...Overseas expansion/market development

...Archives...Research and Information Services

...Public relations activities

*Regarding the notation of business names: As a general rule, the names of organizations and groups omit legal entities such as "Independent Administrative Agency" and "Stock Company." (Example: Japan Arts Council ÿ Japan Arts Council) Also, the International Game Developers Association Japan (NPO) is listed as IGDA Japan.

VIPO Business Mapping



General Assembly, Board of Directors Meeting, and Executive Board Meeting held: *All held using a combination of online and in-person methods.

I.General Meeting /June 26, 2020 (Regular General Meeting) II.Board of Directors Meeting /June 11, 2020/December 3, 2020III.Secretary Board Meeting/April 2, 2020/June 11, 2020/December 3, 2020

Organizational chart

The highest decision-making body of the General Assembly

ýRegular members (consisting of corporate members and individual members) ýVoting rights: 5 for corporate members, 1 for individual members

ýGeneral Meeting: Held once a year

ý Extraordinary General Meeting: A meeting of more than 1/4 of the regular members

If requested, other events will be held.

Executive Board

ý10 to 50 people from the regular member representatives, individual members, etc.

Chairman

Executive board

ý Corporate membership is necessary for the smooth operation of the organization.

The event will be held with 3 to 10 representatives from each industry, selected from the board of directors.

ýTemporary events will be held as needed.

Conducting/ Supervising

Secretariat

Machine Translated by Google



This project is commissioned by the Agency for Cultural Affairs and implemented by VIPO with the aim of discovering and nurturing the next generation of feature film directors.

ndjc2025

69 applications were received from 36 organizations, and 15 writers who passed the initial selection participated in the workshop. From these, four writers were selected to proceed to the final assignment, a practical production training, where they developed scripts and produced short films. The completed works were presented at a joint screening and critique session. All feedback received from various perspectives will be incorporated to help the writers in their future activities.

Along with the ndjc works presented so far, we will continue to provide opportunities for presentations in the future.

Supervisor

Chikahiro Ando

April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December January February March

Call for submissions

- Workshop participants will be selected from writers recommended by film-related organizations.

Workshop : [Short Film Production] Participants create a 5-minute short film on the same theme and under the same conditions (filming, editing, screening, and critique) . [Pre-Script Guidance] Individual consultations with the instructor provide advice (individual consultations followed by script revisions).

Practical training in film production : Production of a short film between 25 and 30 minutes in length (script development ÿ filming ÿ post-production ÿ completion)

Critique sessions and review meetings;

screenings and review meetings for film industry professionals and the media; review meetings by instructors; film festival submissions (domestic and international); special screenings in cinemas; and more.


workshop


Practical Training in Production


Joint screening screening


Review Session

ndjc2025 Participating Artists in the Practical Training Program and Their Completed Works

"360,000 liters of overflow"





Director: Shun Tsujii

[Artist Recommendation Organization] Tokyo University of the Arts Graduate School of Film and New Media, Film Studies Department [Production Company]

Episcope

[Cast]

Riku Tsuji, Mana Asaki, Fuku Kondo, Mio Matsunaga

2026/16:9/ 29 minutes/©2026 VIPO

"The Woman Who Repeats Her Feelings"





director

Eri Nakata

[Author Recommendation Organization]

PFF

[Production Company]

DOTS&LINE

[Cast]

Ayumi Ito, Rena Tanaka, Yoko Imamoto

2026 / European Vista / 30 minutes / ©2026 VIPO

"Wavy and Straight"





Director Natsuka Yashiro

[Author Recommendation Organization]

PFF

[Production Company] Pot-au-feu

[Cast]

Nao Yamato, Sosuke Ogata

2026 / American Vista / 30 minutes / ©2026 VIPO

"The End of the Cycle"





director

Shuki Kamobayashi

[Author Recommendation Organization] Fukui Film Festival Executive Committee

[Production Company] Toei Commercial [Cast]

Kisei

Hirano, Rakuto, Yoshifumi Sakou

2026 / American Vista / 30 minutes / ©2026 VIPO

Celebrating 20 years since its inception, the project has produced 99 film directors (93 short films + 2 feature films + 8 project developments), with directors who are active both domestically and internationally emerging one after another!

The "ndjc: Young Filmmaker Development Project," commissioned by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, started in 2006. It targets promising young filmmakers and provides them with comprehensive training.

We conduct workshops and practical production training to pass on the knowledge and skills necessary to hone video production techniques and artistic expression, as well as projects.

By providing a platform for their work, we aim to discover and nurture the next generation of feature film directors. For young filmmakers, this is a platform where they can work with professional staff.

Under their guidance, they had the opportunity to produce an original short film script.

The completed film will be screened for review by film industry professionals and the media, etc.

Special screenings in movie theaters for the general public, as well as events held both domestically and internationally.

We have opportunities to present our work to a wider audience through film festivals and other means.

In the "Feature Film Planning and Script Development Support" program, leading film producers, directors, and screenwriters were invited as instructors to support talented young filmmakers in planning, script development, and pilot film production for their original feature films.

Support for planning and developing scripts for feature films

We solicited proposals and screenplays for original feature films, and selected 12 finalists in the initial screening by the selection committee. The selected writers attended project development lectures by Tokuhiro Koizumi (film director) and Kyohei Sudachi (producer) to refine their proposals. In the final selection, each writer gave a presentation, and two writers were selected to participate in the training program. Under the guidance of the instructors, these two writers worked on developing their projects and screenplays and producing pilot videos, and then gave presentations to filmmakers using their developed screenplays and pilot videos.

Instructor

Tokuhiro Koizumi (film director) / Kyohei Sudachi (producer) / Shiho Kosaka (screenwriter)

schedule

May — Recruitment begins

June — Application deadline

July

August — First selection:

lecture

September — interview, final selection

October

November — Planning and script development, pilot video production

December January February March — First draft and pilot video completed, presentation

Participating artists in the training program and their developed works



Directed by Ryosuke Tanaka, "Junior High School Wars"



©2026 VIPO



Directed by Gohei Nakayama, "I'm in Love with Emi's Eyes"



©2026 VIPO

PICK UP

Project success stories are piling up!

"White Flowers and Fruits" directed by Yukari Sakamoto (participated in 2022)



©2025 BITTERS END/CHIAROSCURO

It was selected as the closing film in the New Directors section of the 73rd San Sebastian International Film Festival. After its Asian premiere at the 38th Tokyo International Film Festival, it will be released nationwide in December 2025.

"Melting into the City" directed by Naoko Komiyama (Participating in 2023)



©2024 VIPO

The pilot video we produced will be included as part of the omnibus film "PLAYLIST: Asian Talents" (distributed by Stranger, provided by JAIHO), and will be released nationwide starting in June 2026 at Shinjuku Musashino-kan, Stranger, and other theaters.

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

Coaches who came from this school Recent achievements



ndjc2019

Yoko Yamanaka's

film "The Desert of Namibia"

Official Selection, Directors' Fortnight, 77th Cannes International Film Festival

International Federation of Film Critics Award (youngest ever for a female director)

Released on September 6, 2024

©2024 "Namibia Desert" Production Committee



ndjc2018

Tamaki Yamamoto's

film "Watching the Stars This Summer"

17th TAMA Film Awards: Best New Director Award

39th Takasaki Film Festival New Director Grand Prix

Released on July 4, 2025

©2025 "Watching the Stars This Summer" Production Committee



ndjc2021

Director Yuiga Danzuka's

"The Lookout Generation"

78th Cannes International Film Festival Directors' Fortnight

Officially exhibited (youngest Japanese person in history)

Released on October 10, 2025

©2025 Siglo / LesPros Entertainment



ndjc2020

Daisuke Shigaya's film

"Letting the Cats Go"

30th Yama International Film Festival, Competition Section

Official listing

Released on May 2, 2026

©2025 "Leave the Cat Alone" Film Partners



ndjc2014

Kohei Yoshino's film

"Your Quiz"

Released on May 15, 2026

©2026 "Your Quiz" Film Production Committee



ndjc2009

Yukiko Sode's film "All

Midnight Lovers"

79th Cannes International Film Festival, Un Certain Regard section

Official listing

©2026 "All Midnight Lovers" Production Committee

*Partial excerpt

AFI Conservatory Japanese international student recommendation project

independent business

Professionals who will lead the future of the video industry

Discovering and developing professional talent

With this goal in mind, we also hope that Japanese film projects and young creators will be able to reach the world stage.

With the aim of establishing a system for Japanese students to study abroad at the AFI (American Film Institute) Conservatory, we conduct recommendation activities for Japanese students who wish to study at the AFI. In the 2025 academic year, we solicited recommendations for Japanese students who planned to apply for the Fall 2026 semester.

What is AFI?

As a U.S. national institution, AFI demonstrates leadership in film education and is highly regarded for its value and excellence in the arts fields of film, television, and digital media. At AFI Conservatory, AFI's educational institution, instruction is based on practical production experience and on-the-ground methods, with a faculty comprised of working professionals from the film and television world, training cinematographers, directors, editors, producers, art directors, and screenwriters.

Film crew training program

Commissioned project by the Agency for Cultural Affairs



This is a human resource development program aimed at providing students aspiring to become film crew members with fundamental on-set knowledge and skills through practical training on actual film production sites. Working in collaboration with students, schools, and production companies, the program aims to continuously cultivate staff who can thrive in film production after graduation by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and communication abilities required in a professional production environment—qualities that cannot be acquired or experienced through school classes alone. Our organization has been managing the program's secretariat since 2018. We recruit students primarily from universities and vocational schools with film or video-related departments, but also include general universities, art universities, and fashion and beauty vocational schools. In 2025, 45 students gained internship experience on the sets of 16 live-action feature films. Post-internship surveys showed high satisfaction and value ratings from both production companies and students. [Students: 98% value rating, Production companies: 98% would like to accept students again on future projects]

Internship occupations

Direction/Cinematography/Lighting/Sound Recording/Production/Producer/ Art Direction/Set Decoration/Costumes/Hair & Makeup/Editing/Sound Design, etc.

Interns' Voices : • I

gained a clear vision of the path I should take, and my doubts have decreased. • I learned that "planning" and "attentiveness" greatly affect the quality of the finished product. Through long-term participation in the field, I also learned the importance of self-management, both physically and mentally, and I was able to prepare myself to work in a professional setting. • The biggest takeaway was being able to hear many stories about specific job duties that I couldn't quite understand even after researching online.

•They facilitated many wonderful encounters that will lead to future opportunities. I did it.

•I want to cherish forever the feeling of accomplishment I experienced when we wrapped up filming, despite all the difficulties we faced.

Voices of school officials

•I learned a lot of things that I couldn't get in class, such as how to work on set, the sense of fulfillment and satisfaction. •Knowing the reality of the production site and being able to think about wanting to be involved in it is an important experience when considering my career. •I was impressed by the passion of the staff and cast for their work.

I received a great deal of guidance and was able to grow as a person.

•She seemed happy that everyone on site gave her advice about her dilemma of whether to become a freelancer or get a job.

Voices from the production

•There are things you can learn on the job, so schools should send students to the field as much as possible. I'd like you to send in some students.

•It was deeply moving to see that there are still so many young people who want to make movies. •Having interns brought a fresh perspective to the set. •Being asked questions by the students forced me to articulate my usual work and the purpose behind my actions, which was a great learning experience for me as well. •As it was a practical training session with overnight stays, which is typical of location shoots in rural areas, the interns were able to have a very enriching experience, communicating with each other both on and off set.

137 practical training projects from 2018 to 2025.

From major studio productions to independent films, students gain practical experience in a wide variety of settings, including period dramas, Japan Academy Prize-winning films, and films submitted to international film festivals.

Films scheduled for release in 2026

"Godzilla-0.0" directed by Takashi Yamazaki / "Soon, Goodbye" and "The Song You Left Behind" directed by Takahiro Miki / "Your Quiz" directed by Kohei Yoshino / "Black Prison" directed by Kiyoshi Kurosawa / "Kingdom: The Battle of the Soul" directed by Shinsuke Sato / "mentor" directed by Keisuke Yoshida / "Thou Art the Star" directed by Michihito Fujii / "Last Dance"

"Playful" directed by Toru Murakawa / "Suddenly Feeling Unwell" directed by Ryusuke Hamaguchi, etc.

[Films screened at international film festivals] *Godzilla-1.0*, directed by Takashi Yamazaki: 96th Academy Award for Best Visual Effects / *Journey and Days*, directed by Sho Miyake: 78th Locarno International Film Festival Gold Medal & Young Jury Prize / *A Pale View of Mountains*, directed by Kei Ishikawa; *Love Trial*, directed by Koji Fukada: 78th Cannes International Film Festival / *Suddenly Feeling Unwell*, directed by Ryusuke Hamaguchi; *Black Prison*, directed by Kiyoshi Kurosawa: 79th Cannes International Film Festival

Some of the previously released works [Entertainment works] "Ojou to Banken-kun" directed by Keiichi Kobayashi / "Otoko wa Tsurai yo: Okaeri Torasan" directed by Yoji Yamada / "Kioku ni Gozaimasen!" directed by Koki Mitani / "35-nenme no Love Letter" directed by Renpei Tsukamoto / "Shin Ultraman" directed by Shinji Higuchi / "Shin Kamen Rider" directed by Hideaki Anno / "The Fable: The Killer Who Doesn't Kill" directed by Kan Eguchi / "Soshite, Baton wa Watasareta" directed by Satoshi Maeda / "Dear Family" directed by Sho Tsukikawa / "Fly Me to Saitama: Biwako yori Ai wo Komete" directed by Hideki Takeuchi / "Haken Anime!" directed by Kohei Yoshino / "Bre

"Eve -Gunjÿ Senki-" directed by Katsuyuki Motohiro / "From the Gulag with Love" directed by Takahisa Zeze, etc.

[Independent Films] "A Boatman's Tale" directed by Joe Odagiri / "Winny" directed by Yusaku Matsumoto / "Egoist" directed by Daishi Matsunaga / "The Boy Who Doesn't Kill and the Girl Who Doesn't Die" directed by Keiichi Kobayashi / "Going to the End" directed by Michihito Fujii / "Fish Child" directed by Shuichi Okita / "Moon" directed by Yuya Ishii / "Crime and Evil" directed by Yuki Saito / "Fabrication: The Man Called a Murderous Guru" directed by Takashi Miike / "The Box Man" directed by Gakuryu Ishii / "Missing" directed by Keisuke Yoshida / "A Girl's Profile" directed by Koji Fukada, etc.

[Period dramas] "Onihei Hankacho: Ketto" directed by Tomohiko Yamashita / "Goban Giri" directed by Kazuya Shiraishi / "Sisam" directed by Hiroyuki Nakao / "Muromachi Burai" directed by Yu Irie / "Yuki no Hana - Tomo ni Arite -" directed by Takashi Koizumi, etc.

Online seminar for students (2 sessions)

To complement on-set training and classroom lessons, and to help students gain a broader and deeper understanding of the work of on-set staff, we invited professionals active on the front lines of the film industry to serve as instructors, and held the course online so that students from all over the country could participate. In a post-course survey, 92% of participants gave high marks, saying they "wanted to pursue a career in the film industry."

ÿ Learn about the behind-the-scenes of film production: Production Department work February 3, 2025 Instructor: Tomoyuki Makinouchi 95 participants ÿ

Learn about the behind-the-scenes of film production: Art direction (art meeting) March 9, 2025 Instructors: 3 staff members from the practical project "Soon, Goodbye" Producer: Daisuke Katahira (TOHO Studios), Art Director: Hidefumi Hanatani, VFX: Kosuke Kamata 101 participants

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

Kyoto Film Project Market

Kyoto Prefecture commissioned project

京都映画企画市

A contest to create original period drama film ideas will be held in Kyoto, the heartland of period dramas. The winning film ideas will have a pilot episode produced at the Toei Kyoto Studios in Uzumasa.

Film project contest

[Date] October 4, 2025, Heartpia Kyoto

A film project contest is being held in Kyoto where period dramas and historical dramas can be turned into films. The event was held with the aim of creating a system for realizing the projects of new talent. It solicited project proposals for period dramas to be filmed in Kyoto Prefecture from filmmakers. Five projects that passed the initial screening gave presentations, and the submissions were judged by leading figures in the industry: director Isshin Inudo, producer Takashi Yajima (Shochiku), and producer Takashi Wada (Eiga.com). Kyoto Prefecture Governor Takatoshi Nishiwaki gave the opening address. The winning film project, "Katari Yakuchi" (directed and written by Mayu Midoricha & Ryuzo Saeki), was awarded the right to produce a pilot version worth 3.5 million yen, and filming took place at Toei Kyoto Studio.



From a pilot version to a feature film: The 2016 award-winning film project "Black Cow" (directed by Tetsichiro Tsuta) is finally released.

This film marks the first feature-length adaptation, made possible through an international co-production between Japan, the United States, and Taiwan. It stars renowned Taiwanese actor Lee Kang-sheng.

The cast includes Japanese actor Min Tanaka and music by the late Ryuichi Sakamoto, making for a truly international cast and crew.

Gathering. At the 49th Hong Kong International Film Festival, it won the "Firebird Award," the first time a Japanese film has ever received the highest award.

It was finally released in Japan in January 2026.



From left: Takafumi Sumori, Min Tanaka, Lee Kang-sheng, and director Tetsichiro Tsuta.



©NIKO NIKO FILM / MOOLIN FILMS / CINEMA INUTILE / CINERIC CREATIVE / FOURIER FILMS

Film project consultation

[Date] September 13, 2025 (Online)

An online planning consultation session will be held where you can learn the know-how of planning from leading producers Suguru Kubota and Takuro Nagai.

It was carried out at [location/location].

(Titles omitted)

VIPO Film Lab

independent business

VIPO Film Lab

VIPO Film Lab is a place to cultivate industry professionals such as producers, directors, and screenwriters who possess a global perspective and can thrive both domestically and internationally. We offer a variety of talent training programs tailored to specific objectives, including practical training, workshops, and online courses.

1. International Producer Course (Sponsored by Netflix)

In order to cultivate young producers who can be active on the international stage, we have invited experienced industry experts from Japan and abroad, as well as active players currently working in the field, to serve as instructors.

This event was held with the aim of helping participants acquire fundamental knowledge and techniques that can be immediately applied in practice.



[Event Period] August to December 2025 (10 sessions in total)

[Lecture Content and Instructor] • "What is a film festival? How to utilize film festivals" Yoshihiko Yatabe (Former Director of Tokyo International Film Festival)

• "Regarding the Overseas Project Market" Alessandro Gropplero (FVG Audiovisual Fund)

• "The Role of Overseas PR" Miyuki Takamatsu (Representative of Freestone Productions)

• "Legal Literacy in International Co-productions" - Rui Ishido (Partner Attorney, TMI Associates)

• "Outline of International Co-production" by Eiko Mizuno (Film Producer)

• "The Role of a Sales Agent" by Yohann Comte (chairman & co-founder, Charades)

• "The Diversity of International Co-productions" Miyuki Fukuma (Producer)

• "Strategies and Tools in Script Development" Clare Downs (EAVE Script Advisor)

• "On Pitching Projects for Overseas Markets" by Shrihari Sathe (Film Producer, Lecturer at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts)

• "Support for International Co-productions in Asia" Doohee Park (South Korea), Patrick Mao Huang (Taiwan), Alemberg M. Ang (Philippines), Yulia Evina Bhara (Indonesia), Tan Si En (Singapore)

[Participants] Young producers aiming for international success (approximately 20 people)

2. Film Planning and Screenwriting Workshop (Part 4)



This course will focus on how participants can bring their original project ideas to life as a film.

Therefore, the instructor will provide advice to each participant, incorporating lectures on scenario writing based on their own experiences.

We provided feedback to each other.

[Event Dates] October 6th and 7th, 2025 (2 days)

[Lecturer] Masato Kato (Screenwriter, known for films such as "Climbers' High," "Nagimachi," and "Goban-giri")

[Participants] Screenwriters, film producers, and people involved in video production.

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

3. Directing Course (Sponsored by Netflix)

Brice Covin, who teaches at the French National Film School (FEMIS) and other institutions worldwide, was invited as an instructor to lecture on world-class film expression and specialized knowledge in a workshop format. The practical and logical instruction, which is rarely encountered in Japanese educational settings, was very well received by participants, who said it could be immediately and greatly applied on set. The first day's lecture was conducted as a public lecture with online participation to provide learning about advanced directing to a wider audience.

[Dates] March 2-6, 2026 (5 days) **[Public lecture with online participation] Lecture on directing** [Practical workshop] Acting structuring with actors, shooting, rush critique [Instructor] Brice Covin [Participants] Directors Sakurako Ueki, Seiyo Hoya, Asuna Yanagi, and Young Paul (38 participants in the public lecture)



4. Film Planning and Development Workshop (Part 5)

For each participant's project proposal, instructor Ikehata and moderator Shinohara provided guidance from the perspectives of a screenwriter and producer, respectively, on character development, storytelling challenges, and other aspects. Participants revised their proposals based on this guidance, and a more in-depth critique session was held on the final day. [Dates] March 12th, 13th, and 26th, 2026 (3 days) [Instructor] Shunsaku Ikehata (Screenwriter) **[Moderator] Kei** Shinohara (NHK Enterprises)

[Participants] Screenwriters, producers, and those involved in video production, etc.



5. NY Screenwriting Workshop (Sponsored by Netflix)

We invited a screenwriting lecturer from Columbia University School of Arts and film producers to provide intensive screenwriting instruction through in-person and online sessions, as well as individual coaching. Through screenwriting lectures, including those open to the public, and feedback on screenplays, we aimed to further refine screenplays and provided a practical program aimed at turning screenplays into films.

[Period] December 2025 - March 2026 [Participants] Screenwriting Workshop:

Directors Yurina Kaneko, Mai Nakanishi, and Kana Hatakeyama

• Public lectures: Approximately 40 directors, screenwriters, etc.



6. Respect Training (co-hosted by Netflix)

As part of its efforts to improve working conditions in the Japanese entertainment industry, Netflix's "Respect Training" program was implemented again in 2025, following its successful implementation in the previous year. The program was designed to be accessible not only to those involved in video production but also to a wide range of people, primarily within the content industry. [Dates] April to December 2025 (16 sessions total) [Instructor]

Hidenori Tanaka (PeaceMind Co., Ltd.) [Number of Participants]

509 (16 sessions total)



7. "Self-Tape Audition Preparation Course for Actors" by Yoko Narahashi (Part 2)

This workshop focused on the key points of "self-tapes" used in auditions for overseas productions, and provided detailed acting guidance tailored to scenes in either English or Japanese, helping each actor unleash their hidden talents. [Dates] October 19th, 25th, and 26th, 2025 (3 days) [Instructor] Yoko Narahashi (Artistic Director/ Director/Producer/Lyricist at United Performers Studio [UPS Academy])

[Participants] Experienced actors (high school age and above)



(Titles omitted)

Creator Support Project (Development and Implementation of Training Programs): A Practical Professional Development Support Program for the Overseas Expansion of Games

"Global Game Growth Gateway"

New Project Commissioned by the Agency for Cultural Affairs / Japan Arts Council / IGDA Japan



https://www.gggg-project.jp/

The "Global Game Growth Gateway" is a program that focuses on the three major game markets of North America, Europe, and China, and implements three measures: online lectures by experts active on the front lines of overseas markets, overseas event visits, and joint exhibitions at game stores as practical sales activities. Ten overseas sales and marketing personnel from Japanese game companies, selected through a process by program instructors and external experts, will be given the opportunity to acquire the practical knowledge and know-how necessary for overseas sales. The program also aims to build relationships with overseas media and influencers.

Online lectures on overseas game marketing

We invited an expert in overseas game marketing to give an online lecture on selling games abroad. The lecture covered marketing strategies and the fundamentals of community building, taking into account the market characteristics of Greater China and Europe/America.

[Number of lectures]

7 [Main themes] Fundamentals of marketing in Greater China, Fundamentals of marketing in Europe and America, Pre-event preparations for overseas event visits, etc.

Conducting overseas game event observations and meetings with local companies.

We visited major overseas gaming events and held meetings with local game companies, PR companies, media outlets, and other relevant parties.

• **Visit to WePlay Expo (Shanghai)** [Dates] November 22-25, 2025 [Contents] Venue visit, visits to local publishers and investment companies • **Visit to GDC / Festival of Gaming (San Francisco)** [Dates] March 10-14, 2026 [Contents] Venue visit, meetings with local publishers and platform providers



Overseas inspection report meeting and public seminar

To share the practical knowledge gained through the program with those involved in the domestic game industry, we held public reporting sessions and seminars inviting experts from overseas.

•**WePlay Expo Report Meeting** [Date] December 23, 2025 [Contents] 1. WePlay Expo Inspection Report 2. Cross-talk Session by Inspection Participants



• **Public Seminar: "Best Strategies for Game Publishing with a Global Market in Mind"** [Date] January 22, 2026 [Content] 1. What you need to prepare to succeed on Steam 2. How to understand the needs of your target audience in the global market. 3. How to find opportunities to expose your developed game.

[Instructor] Julia Kenny

This project is implemented by the International Game Developers Association Japan (IGDA Japan), a specified non-profit organization, under the "Creator Support Project (Development and Implementation of Training Programs)" of the Cultural and Artistic Activities Foundation Strengthening Fund established within the Japan Arts Council, an independent administrative agency, with a subsidy from the Agency for Cultural Affairs. VIPO serves as the secretariat.

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

Film Nexus-PRO

New business

Agency for Cultural Affairs / Japan Arts Council Subsidized Project

This project is a three-year initiative that, in collaboration with organizations such as the Japan Film Production Appropriateness Organization, will conduct quantitative and qualitative surveys of staff involved in film production. Based on the results, it will develop and implement a "Mid-Career Creator Training Program" and a "Reskilling Program for Film Technical Staff." The aim is to raise the skills of creators and technical staff to international standards and cultivate personnel who can support the overseas expansion of Japanese films, international co-productions, and location shooting in Japan by overseas production companies. In the first year, 2025, in addition to conducting basic surveys, the project included planning and developing programs in collaboration with overseas educational institutions, recruiting and selecting participants, and implementing a location shooting reskilling program for production departments in collaboration with the Japan Film Commission, with a total of 30 participants.

Implementation Overview

• Basic research to understand the current situation and needs of film production staff • Development of the IFA Masterclass and Wajda School joint workshop "DREAMS 2026," and the International Screenwriting Mentorship Program, as well as recruitment and selection of participants • Reskilling program for location shooting for production departments



Reskilling program for location shooting for production departments

This project is part of the "Creator Support Project (Development and Implementation of Training Programs)" established by the Cultural and Artistic Activities Foundation Strengthening Fund at the Japan Arts Council, an independent administrative agency, with subsidies from the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

Organizer VIPO

Grant Japan Creator Support Fund (Fund for Strengthening the Foundation of Cultural and Artistic Activities)

Film Nexus-SEED

New Project Commissioned by the Agency for Cultural Affairs / Japan Arts Council

We were commissioned to undertake the "Creator Support Project (Development and Implementation of Training Programs)," which aims to cultivate globally active talent. In the first year of this three-year project, 2025, we conducted quantitative and qualitative surveys of approximately 70 educational institutions in Japan that teach film and video. We also conducted a workshop at Griffith University Film School in Australia, where students studying film in Japan learned the fundamentals of filmmaking at an overseas film school, experiencing and learning from the differences between domestic and international educational institutions. Furthermore, as an advanced course to cultivate outstanding students, including those who graduated within the last three years, at a higher level, we planned a training program in collaboration with the Cannes International Film Festival, which is scheduled to be implemented next year, and we completed the selection of participants this year.

Implementation Overview

• Quantitative and qualitative research on domestic film and video education institutions (targeting approximately 70 schools) • Film production workshop training at Griffith University Film School in Australia • Training at the Cannes International Film Festival's Cinéma de Demain (planned for next year)





Filmmaking workshop at Griffith University Film School

This project is funded by a grant from the Agency for Cultural Affairs and implemented by the Japan Art Institute (JART). The Cultural and Artistic Activities Foundation Strengthening Fund established within the Association for the Promotion of Arts and Culture: "Support Project for Creators (Development and Implementation of Training Programs)" This is what it will be.

Organized by the Agency for Cultural Affairs / Japan Arts Council / VIPO

Human resource development / Overseas expansion and market development

Film Frontier Residency-Based Project Development

Commissioned project by the Agency for Cultural Affairs / Japan Arts Council / UniJapan

With subsidies from the Agency for Cultural Affairs, the "Cultural and Artistic Activity Base Strengthening Fund" was established within the Japan Arts Council, an independent administrative agency, as part of a human resource development program aimed at supporting the challenges and nurturing of creators who will lead the next generation. In this second year of the three-year program, participants engaged in overseas residencies, focusing on project development, and four lectures for training were conducted prior to the residency. In the final year, 2026, the program will primarily involve dispatching participants to project markets, laboratories, and other similar settings.

Pre-residence lecture

"Overview of International Film Festivals/Film Markets" "About the Global Film Market and Labs"

"Improve Your Global Film Business" Skills (2 parts total)

Overseas Residences

Director Harumi Iizuka (Staying in New York from September 15th to October 4th) Director Keisuke Sakuma (Online preparations from June 10th, staying in Bucheon from June 30th to July 10th) Director Chie Hayakawa (Staying in Paris from August 6th to 28th) Director Tsubomi Yamashita (Staying in Paris from July 18th to August 7th) Preparations for 2025 Residence Dispatch, participation in project markets, etc.

Scenes from overseas residences



Director Harumi Iizuka (New York)



Director Tsubomi Yamashita (Paris)



Director Chie Hayakawa (Paris)



Keisuke Sakuma, Director (Bucheon)

This project is implemented by the UniJapan Foundation under the "Creator Development Program - Film Field" of the Cultural and Artistic Activities Foundation Enhancement Fund established within the Japan Arts Council, an independent administrative agency, with a subsidy from the Agency for Cultural Affairs. VIPO serves as the secretariat.

Agency for Cultural Affairs 2020

"International Cultural Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Project"

(Research, planning, and implementation of events related to TICAD9)

New business

Commissioned project by the Agency for Cultural Affairs

Regarding manga, a representative cultural content of Japan, we conducted research on manga culture in African countries, exhibited at the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD9) , and invited manga professionals from African countries. The aim was to deepen cultural and personnel exchanges between Japan and Africa, and to contribute to the future development of Japanese manga, which is gaining increasing interest in Africa.

Implementation of projects at the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD9)

We held a panel exhibition and symposium at the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD9). By linking the themes of both initiatives, we received a great response, including coverage from various media outlets. Due to popular demand, we have also made an archive video available.

ÿ Panel Exhibition: "The Manga Industry and its Market in African Countries"

[Event Period] August 20-22, 2025 [Venue] Pacifico Yokohama Exhibition Hall D (Booth Number: B-3) [Exhibition Contents]

1. Introduction to African manga artists (titles omitted) • Younes El haroussi (born and residing in Morocco) • Jean Bindjouli (born in Cameroon and residing in Senegal) **2. Explanation of the manga scene in Africa** • Manga culture and the reality of fans in French-speaking Africa • Trends in stories set in their own countries by African artists **3. Real voices of manga artists (interview survey)** • Exhibits of interviews with two manga artists from Nigeria and one manga artist from Kenya



(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

ÿ Symposium: "The Manga Industry and its Market in African Countries"



[Date] August 21, 2025 [Venue] Pacifico Yokohama Exhibition Hall D (Stage Number: S-05) [Languages Used] Japanese and French (Simultaneous interpretation available) [Speakers] Ken Akamatsu (Manga artist / Member of the House of Councillors / Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Reconstruction)

•Younes El haroussi (manga artist)

• Jean Bindjouli (manga artist) • Yoo Sugyeong (moderator/manga researcher, full-time lecturer at Kyoto Seika University, Faculty of International Culture)

Manga market research in five African countries

In December 2025, we conducted on-site research in five major African countries to understand the current state of the manga market. Following the completion of the research, we held a reporting seminar to share the results, which was a great success with over 70 participants, including companies and individuals interested in expanding into the African market. An archived video of this seminar is now available online.





[Countries and cities surveyed] South Africa (Johannesburg, Cape Town) , Kenya (Nairobi), Nigeria (Lagos) , Morocco (Casablanca, Rabat), Egypt (Cairo)

[Main survey items]

- Market characteristics, price range, language used, sales channels (bookstores, malls, e-commerce, etc.) - Status of piracy and censorship, popular Japanese manga works in the area, fandom trends, etc. [Researchers] - Takumi Furusato (Chief Operating Officer, Rudimus Co., Ltd.) - Sho Sato (Representative Director, Rudimus Co., Ltd.)

Project to promote the global expansion of print culture

Commissioned project by the Agency for Cultural Affairs

We promoted a project to disseminate and spread Japan's diverse and rich print culture overseas. This included discovering and nurturing translators who would form the foundation for overseas dissemination, promoting the overseas distribution of works by publishers and other organizations, and conducting activities to deepen the understanding of Japanese print culture among literary and publishing professionals around the world. Through these activities, we aimed to support translators of Japanese books and to promote the translation and dissemination of many Japanese books overseas.

Translation support program for the publication and distribution of Japanese books overseas.

With the aim of supporting the overseas expansion of Japanese publishers, we implemented a subsidy program to cover the costs of translating and creating proposals and translating samples necessary for sales and negotiations when licensing Japanese books overseas. We are seeing a growing number of success stories of books that have received subsidies and subsequently secured overseas publishing contracts.



Holding a seminar for publishers

We provide publishers with the knowledge and know-how necessary for the overseas expansion of Japanese books.

We launched a practical seminar in collaboration with the Japan Book Publishers Association.



Implementation Overview

[Date] July 17, 2025 [Lecturer] Kaja Murawska (Head of Rights Business & Business Development) [Topic] Exporting Copyrights to the United States and the United Kingdom: A Renaissance for Japanese Books in the Global Translation and Publishing Market

(Titles omitted)

Conducting business meetings at the "Frankfurt Book Fair 2025"

At the Frankfurt Book Fair 2025, held from October 15th to 19th, 2025, we organized a business matching event between Japanese businesses aiming for translation and publication in Germany and other countries, and publishers in Germany and other countries. This third annual event in 2025 saw participation from publishers in the UK, Switzerland, and France, in addition to Germany, resulting in a record-breaking total of 34 meetings. As a result of these business matching events over the past two years, two works have been translated and published.



Holding of the "Agency for Cultural Affairs Translation Contest" and the "International Literary Forum 2026"

The 10th Agency for Cultural Affairs Translation Contest was held with the aim of translating and disseminating excellent Japanese literary works to the world, further improving the level of Japanese literature, and fostering future translators. In addition, workshops and publishing seminars were held for the winners of the 9th contest, aimed at improving the skills of those aspiring to become literary translators. Furthermore, the awards ceremony and commemorative symposium for the 10th Agency for Cultural Affairs Translation Contest, "International Literary Forum 2026" (renamed from BUNGAKU DAYS), were held. This was the largest event to date, and it was a great success, with a wide range of attendees including those involved in Japanese literature, translators, publishing professionals, and members of the general public interested in Japanese literature. Many media representatives also covered the event, demonstrating the high level of interest in Japanese literature and translation. The 11th Agency for Cultural Affairs Translation Contest will begin accepting submissions from May 1, 2026, with the target languages being English and French for the contemporary literature category, and English for the classical literature category.

ÿ "International Literary Forum 2026"



Event Overview

[Date] February 12, 2026

[Venue] Ochanomizu Solacity Conference Center

program

- The 10th Agency for Cultural Affairs Translation Contest Award Ceremony

and Symposium Part I: "The Resonance Between Writers and Translators - Shouting Our Favorite Works to the World" Part II: "The Potential of Literature - Discussing the Frontiers of Global Business with Writers"

Conducting a survey on manga acceptance

Given the current situation where many Japanese manga are being read in libraries overseas, following last year's project in the United States, this year we will focus on libraries in France and Spain.

We conducted a survey of Japanese manga at the museum. In mid-February, we will be sending the survey results for two countries to domestic publishers interested in the overseas expansion of manga.

We conducted the seminar based on the event, and also provided archived video recordings to those who requested them.

ÿ Seminar Overview



Event Overview

[Date] February 12, 2026

program

Part 1 **The situation of manga in French public libraries**

[Speaker] Matthew Pinon *In-person participation

Part 2 **The situation of manga in Spanish public libraries** [Speakers] Marc Bernabé, Belo Carafel, Oriol Estrada, Ferran Cano *Online participation

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

Human resource development



Beyond acquiring business skills, the network forged among participants who studied together across different fields has become a catalyst for new business opportunities.

VIPO Academy is a leading organization in the content industry that was launched in 2015. We conduct industry-specific programs in our talent development business aimed at cultivating leaders.

The "Treater Course" and the "Project Leader Course," which strengthens on-site management skills, have become a platform for skill development, networking among participants, and collaboration between companies. In addition, there is the "New Business Development Course," which teaches the fundamental concepts for launching new businesses, the "Global Business Course," which hones communication skills in a global setting, and the "Legal Business Course," which teaches legal and accounting knowledge.

We currently offer a total of seven courses, including the "Le Essential Course," the "Accounting Essential Course," and the "Industry Research Basic Course," which allows participants to acquire foundational knowledge across various genres of the content industry. In 2025, we plan to increase the number of in-person courses and specialize in the content of our courses and lectures.

Some sessions were conducted online to accommodate gender differences. A total of 48 sessions were held over the course of a year.

113 people from companies (*) have taken the course, bringing the total number of participants since its inception to 1,114 people from 179 companies.

It happened.

*Excluding single-session participants in the Basic Industry Research Course

Course content for the 2025 academic year

Corporate Leader Course Target: Managers

Through lectures, exercises, and group activities, we cultivate corporate leaders (executive personnel) who can contribute to the growth and development of companies by providing them with knowledge and know-how in management strategy, business accounting, business planning, presentation, and leadership.

21st term: May 10, 2025 - August 28, 2025 and follow-up on February 5, 2026. 22nd term: September 6, 2025 - December 11, 2025 and follow-up on June 4, 2026.

Project Leader Course Target: Mid-career employees

Through lectures, exercises, and group activities, we aim to cultivate project leaders who can balance quality and speed, engage others, and lead projects to success by strengthening planning skills (logical thinking, business accounting, and creativity) and driving force (project management, leadership, and presentation).

19th term: May 17, 2025 - August 5, 2025 and follow-up on February 6, 2026. 20th term: September 13, 2025 - December 9, 2025 and follow-up on June 5, 2026.

Business Leaders' Lecture

We held a special lecture for participants in the Corporate Leader course and the Project Leader course.

<Spring 2025> Speaker: Takeshi Natsuno, Director and Representative Executive Officer, KADOKAWA Corporation



<Autumn 2025>
Speaker: Mitsuhisa Ishikawa, President and CEO of IG Port Co., Ltd. / Chairman of Production I.G, Inc.



Final Presentation Judging Session / Results Presentation Session



*In 2025, the event was held online.

In the Corporate Leader Course and Project Leader Course, on the final day of the course, many people gathered, from executives of various companies in the industry to the participants' supervisors and government officials, and the participants presented the results of their learning.

(Titles omitted)

New Business Development Course ~How to Start a New Business~ Target: Individuals who are being asked to consider new business ventures, and those who have not yet been able to translate their business ideas into concrete p

You will learn the fundamental concepts that underpin launching a new business, and through exercises (individual and group discussions), you will understand the process of developing a concrete new business plan.



2nd period April 11th to 25th, 2025

Industry Research Basic Course Target: Those who want to acquire basic knowledge of various genres in the content indu

To create cross-genre content businesses, we will understand the markets and business models of each genre in the content industry (characters, games, publishing, animation, movies, broadcasting/distribution, and music), and learn about their respective case studies (primarily cross-genre expansions and overseas expansions).



13th period January 14, 2026 - March 11, 2026

Legal Essentials Course

<Basic Course>

Target Audience: Individuals who want to acquire basic knowledge of contracts and intellectual property law, and those with about one year of experience in a legal department. This course will cover the basics of legal frameworks and legal thinking, an overview of the intellectual property rights system related to the video content business, focusing on copyrights and trademarks, and key points to consider when negotiating contracts.

Basics 5th period June 3rd to 17th, 2025

<Practical Session> Target Audience: Individuals with a basic understanding of contracts and intellectual property law, and those with at least one year of experience in a legal department or as a contract practitioner. In each session, the first half will consist of lectures to organize knowledge about contract practices related to the content business, and the second half will involve group discussions based on simulated cases to help participants acquire practical thinking skills.

Practical Training Session, 4th Term: July 8th - 22nd, 2025

Global Business Course Target Audience: Individuals who use English for communication in their work, and those who want to improve their ability to effectively communicate their ideas in English.

<Presentation Section>

Through practical lectures (in English and Japanese) and exercises conducted in English, you will learn the skills and knowledge to confidently and effectively communicate your thoughts and messages in various presentations that occur daily in business settings (business presentations, sales pitches, negotiations with clients, proposals to superiors and colleagues, etc.).

<Strengthening Intercultural Understanding and Negotiation Skills>

To facilitate smooth communication and deepen trust with people from different cultures and backgrounds, this program aims to improve negotiation and communication skills by teaching necessary knowledge, effective frameworks, analytical tools, and expression methods.

We provide in-house training.

In addition to our seven publicly offered courses, we also provide customized in-house training tailored to your company's needs. We can offer a variety of programs, including leadership, new business development, and copyright law.

For details on in-house training, please visit the VIPO Academy official website: **https://vipo-academy.jp/in-house_training/**

The Accounting Essentials course is for: individuals with sufficient business knowledge who wish to study financial statements from a business perspective; and those working in accounting or finance departments with approximately one year of experience.

This course will provide a fresh perspective on financial accounting concepts and how to interpret financial statements, allowing participants to learn the fundamentals of management accounting, including cost accounting, break-even point analysis, new business development, and KPIs, based on case studies from the content business.

Implementation Results

Leadership-related programs	Leadership training	Character industry, music industry, and others
	Business planning training (film industry) Logical thinking	
Thinking-based programs	training (music industry)	
Other Programs	Digital Marketing Training for the Game Industry	
	English Business Writing Training for the Film Industry	
	Sales pitch training	Television industry, film industry
	Legal Knowledge Training	Film industry, advertising industry
	Legal Training <Basic Course>	Character Industry
	Finance Essentials Training for the Music Industry	
	CS improvement training	Video industry

The VIPO Academy official website provides detailed information about in-house training and various courses, as well as other information useful for human resource development.

VIPO Academy's official website URL: https://vipo-academy.jp/ VIPO Academy's official Twitter account: https://twitter.com/VIPO_ACADEMY



Machine Translated by Google

VIPO Film Award Business

independent business

In partnership with the secretariats of three international film festival markets—"NAFF It Project" (Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival: July 4-8, 2025), "APM" (Busan International Film Festival: September 20-23, 2025), and "CineMart" (Rotterdam International Film Festival: February 1-4, 2026)—the "VIPO Film Award" was presented to one outstanding project at each market.

The purpose of the "VIPO Film Award" is to discover overseas producers and directors who aim for international co-productions with Japan, to grasp current project trends and utilize them in project development in Japan, and furthermore, to act as a bridge between Japanese projects and overseas markets through partnerships and collaborations with overseas market secretariats.

2025 VIPO Film Award Winning Projects

ÿ "NAFF It Project" • Project Title: "Brilliant Melody" • Production Countries: Philippines, France • Director: Carlo Francisco MANATAD • Producer: Chad Angelic CABIGON (NextLives) Yulia Evina BHARA (Kawan Kawan Media)



ÿ"APM (Asian Project Market)" • Project name: "Wake Me up When the Mourning Ends" • Country of production: Malaysia, Hong Kong, China, Italy, Taiwan • Director: LAU Kok Rui • Producers: Soi CHEANG, Stefano CENTINI, WONG Kew Soon



ÿ "CineMart"

• Project Title: "Neon Phantom" • Country of Production: Brazil • Director: Leonardo Martinelli • Producers: Felipe M. Bragança, Marina Meliande

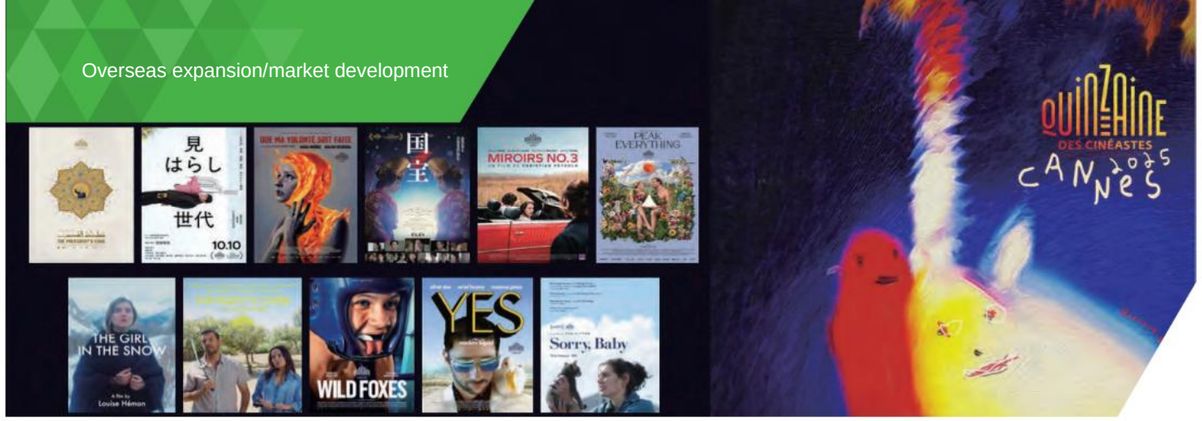


Additionally, Nicholas Red's film "POST HOUSE," which won the "VIPO Film Award" at the "NAFF It Project 2022" (a market event held in conjunction with the Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival), has been completed and had a special screening at the "21st Osaka Asian Film Festival." The director and producer came to Japan, and a Q&A session was held after the screening.





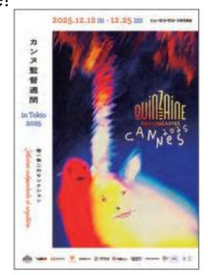
(Titles omitted)



Cannes Directors' Fortnight in Tokyo 2025

independent business

The official selection for the 2025 Directors' Fortnight section of the Cannes International Film Festival will be screened in Japan ahead of time!



From December 12th to 25th, 2025, Human Trust Cinema Shibuya hosted "Cannes Directors' Fortnight in Tokyo 2025," an early screening in Japan of films selected for the "Directors' Fortnight" section, an independent section of the 78th Cannes International Film Festival. This was the third time the event was held, and it featured 12 films: 11 films screened at the 2025 Cannes International Film Festival's "Directors' Fortnight," plus "The Tale of the Princess Kaguya" (an official selection for the 2014 "Directors' Fortnight"). All foreign films were subtitled in Japanese, while Japanese films were screened with English subtitles.

Artistic director Julian Régie once again visited Japan and hosted a talk event with guests. Lee Sang-il, Ryo Yoshizawa, and Ryusei Yokohama from "National Treasure," Yuiga Danzuka and Haruka Igawa from "The Lookout Generation," and Aki Asakura from "The Tale of Princess Kaguya" appeared on stage, sharing their thoughts on international acclaim, including Cannes, and their memories of film festivals—a talk session that could only be heard there. Furthermore, Nadav Lapid from "Yes" appeared online, engaging in in-depth discussions and interacting with the audience. A Q&A session was held.







Furthermore, with the support of the French Embassy, we also focused on planning and managing pre-events. We held a screening of "Hush!" (officially selected for the 2001 Directors' Fortnight), a talk by Ryosuke Hashiguchi and Seiichi Tanabe, and a special screening titled "Free Cinemas: Tracing the Cannes Directors' Fortnight through 7 Films" at Espace Image of the Institut Français de Tokyo, which was a great success as a collaborative project.

"Cannes Directors' Fortnight in Tokyo 2025," which delivers a truly unique selection, attracted a record-breaking 2,000 attendees over two weeks and continues to develop as an opportunity to connect Japan with the Cannes Directors' Fortnight.

Overview of "Cannes Directors' Fortnight in Tokyo 2025"

[Event Period] December 12-25, 2025 [Venue] Human Trust Cinema Shibuya [Organizers] Directors' Fortnight (Quinzaine des Cinéastes/Directors' Fortnight) / Visual Industry Promotion Organization (VIPO) [Co-organizer] Tokyo Theatres Co., Ltd. [Special Cooperation] Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group / TY Limited [Cooperation] AKIRA H / IMS Group Inc. / Heisei Project Inc. / Ceremony Inc. / Nobuaki Kaneyoshi (Nobu Pictures) / French Embassy in Japan / Institut Français [Screening Titles] *Foreign films will have English titles 'The President's Cake' / 'National Treasure' / 'The Lookout Generation' / 'Yes' / 'The Girl in the Snow' / 'Mirrors No.3' / 'Wild Foxes' / 'Her Will Be Done' / 'Peak Everything' / 'The Party's Over!' "Sorry, Baby" / "The Tale of Princess Kaguya"

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

Seminars & Workshops for the Content Industry

independent business

We hold seminars and workshops primarily focused on talent development for the content industry.

Seminar by Attorney Kensaku Fukui: Content-Based Legal Seminar

The 19th instal

"A Course on How to Deal with Copyright and Legal Troubles in Manga and Anime"

Manga and anime are symbols of Japan's soft power and are now a core industry in Japan.

Expectations grew to the point where it was called [a certain term]. The industry was in the midst of expanding its scale.

As a result, copyright infringement and legal troubles are increasing. In this course, we will cover manga...

This article explains several issues related to anime, including examples, and discusses how to address them.

They provided an explanation about this.



Kensaku Fukui

20th installment

"Fundamentals of Music Copyright and the Latest Trends in 2025"

Music is a powerful element that influences the value of content, but if rights are handled incorrectly...

It will cause serious damage to the entire business. What are the practical aspects of music copyright in 2025?

Is this how things are changing? Based on the latest legal reform trends, music copyright

They organized and explained knowledge that is truly useful in practical work, starting from the basics.



Event period May 21, 2025 (19th installment), December 17, 2025 (20th installment) - In-person event

Instructor Kensaku Fukui (Lawyer [Japan/New York State] / Kobe University Graduate School, Nihon University College of Art, CAT)

Other visiting professors

Workshop ctors' Workshop

Acting workshop for practicing realistic acting in films

We held the event. Director Kobayashi gave detailed feedback on each participant's acting.

Through the guidance provided, participants were able to identify their own challenges and improve their acting skills in the future.

This became an opportunity that could lead to further development.

Event period June 3rd and 10th, 2025 (2 days) - In-person event

Instructor Keiichi Kobayashi (film director)



Keiichi Kobayashi

Seminar & Workshop "Screen Reading Course for Voice Actors and Aspiring Voice Actors"

This course allows scriptwriters and voice actors, who don't usually have much contact with each other, to interact directly and practically...

Using the actual scenario, how to interpret the intentions of the characters and scenes, and how to perform them.

We delved deeper into the topic together.



Event period September 4th and 5th, 2025 (2 days) - In-person event

Instructor Yuji Kobayashi (screenwriter and novelist)

Seminar & Workshop "Original Animation Planning Course 2026"

In this course, participants will bring their ideas together and develop them from multiple perspectives through group work.

Rush up. On the second day, each participant will present the plot they created, and the instructor will...

We received feedback from a practical perspective.



Yuji Kobayashi

Event period February 20th and 27th, 2026 (2 days) - In-person event

Instructor Yuji Kobayashi (screenwriter and novelist)

Seminar Film Producer Training Course - Basic Level, Part 10

We held a course that focused on the fundamental knowledge of producing, which is essential for video content creation, using "film" as the subject.

This course, which systematically teaches the broad range of knowledge required of a sir, focuses on "scriptwriting," and participants will learn to read and understand scripts.

We learned mainly the know-how of filmmaking. In the latter half of the second day, we had a dialogue-style session between director Lee Sang-il and instructor Ando, where we learned about the filmmaking process from a professional.

We received practical advice on how to approach producers.

Event period In-person event on November 27th and 28th, 2025 (2 days)

Instructor Kohei Ando (Professor Emeritus, Waseda University / Film Director)

guest Lee Sang-il (film director)



Kohei Ando



Conversation with Director Lee Sang-il (left)

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google





FY2024 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Creator and Business Support Projects (Promotion of Overseas Expansion for Creators and Businesses)

JLOX+

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry subsidy program

This project aims to expand exports and promote overseas development of the content industry, as well as strengthen international competitiveness. Across multiple fields, including Japanese-born IP, anime, games, manga, films, music, and advanced content technologies, the project collaborated with overseas industry associations, organizations, companies, and international events to provide advice based on a deep understanding of the global market and financing environment, as well as support such as networking with overseas businesses. Through this, the project aims to widely disseminate the appeal and reach of Japanese content to the world, thereby stimulating international trade and creating new markets.

Beijing International Film Festival Partnership: Exchange and Company Visits between the Japanese, Chinese, and Korean Animation, Film, and Television Industries

[Event Period] April 21-24, 2025 [Venue] Beijing, China



Support for participation in the Far East Film Festival FOCUS ASIA, individual scriptwriting coaching

[Event Period] April 27th - May 1st, 2025 [Venue] Udine, Italy



Cannes International Film Festival Market Marche du Film 2025

"Spotlight Asia" & "Producers Network" (Support for International Co-productions) + 'Renoir' Case Study

[Event Period] May 13-21, 2025 [Venue] Cannes, France



Annecy International Animation Film Festival Adjacent Market Exhibiting at MIFA2025

[Event Period] June 10-13, 2025 [Venue] Annecy, France



Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival Adjunct Event Market: NAFF IT Project

[Event Period] July 5th - 8th, 2025 [Venue] Bucheon, South Korea



Exhibiting at gamescom 2025 Japan Pavilion

[Dates] August 20-24, 2025 [Venue] Cologne, Germany



Busan International Film Festival and related trade fair

Exhibiting at the Asian Contents & Film Market (ACFM) / "Asian Project Market (APM)" Producer Hub / Doc Square"

[Event Dates] ACFM & APM: September 20-23, 2025; Producer Hub & Doc Square: September 20-22, 2025 [Venue] South Korea



Exhibiting at "Busan Story Market 2025," a trade fair held in conjunction with the Busan International Film Festival.

[Event Period] September 20-23, 2025 [Venue] South Korea



A-Japan Business Matching, 5th Edition

[Event Period] October 30, 2025 - February 28, 2026 [Venue] Online [Cooperation] Amuse Group USA, Inc.

First Cut Lab Japan 2025

[Event Period] November 10th - 20th, 2025 [Venue] Online



Rotterdam International Film Festival Producer Training Lab "Rotterdam Lab"

[Event Period] January 31st - February 4th, 2026 [Venue] Rotterdam, Netherlands



"World-Standard Music Licensing Techniques ~Think Business Seminar Part 3: Expanding New Overseas Business Opportunities Through Licensing Strategies~"

[Date] February 10, 2026 [Venue] VIPO



Berlin International Film Festival Market EFM

Support for participation in the "Visitors Programme Berlinale Co-Production Market"

[Dates] February 13-16, 2026 [Venue] Berlin, Germany



Co-Festa (JAPAN International Content Festival 2025)

[Date] July 10, 2025 [Venue] Tokyo, Japan *Certified Event 32

Machine Translated by Google

Live-action content

Training for developing production personnel

New business

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications / Mitsubishi Research Institute Commissioned Project

Targeting domestic broadcasters, program production companies, etc., we offer world-class live-action

The aim is to improve the know-how and skills necessary for content creation and overseas expansion.

This refers to the "Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications' Human Resources for the Overseas Expansion of Broadcast Content in FY2025."

"Contract work for research and development related to training" is part of "production of live-action content"

In the "Training Program for Developing Creative Personnel"

The organization implemented the project, with VIPO providing some operational support. In particular, drama producers

"World-class showrunners and drama creators" targeting the materials

We implemented two training programs as part of our "development" program.



Aim for World-Class Standards! Intensive Course for Drama Creators

[Event Dates] November 12th, 13th, 18th, 20th, 25th, and 26th, 2025

[Program Contents]

Pre-course learning (on-demand): The evolution of Japan's overseas expansion (Lecturer: Makito Sugiyama)

Introduction to Overseas Expansion: ý Global Overview (Lecturer: Tomoko Hasegawa) ÿ Overview of South Korea (Lecturer: Seon-Hye Hwang)

Global Trends: ý Platform Provider Explanation (Lecturer: Wendy Bernfeld) ÿ Showrunner Explanation (Lecturer: Sue Hugh) Case Studies: ÿ International Co-production (Lecturer: Alan Poole) ÿ

Fundraising (Lecturer: Cindy Nariko Chino) ÿ Legal Aspects (Lecturer: Takehiro Kaneko)

ÿÿÿÿÿÿ ý Storytelling (Instructor: Kenji Yamada)

Learn from K-drama hits! Korean exchange program

[Event Period] Pre-training (online): January 13, 2026; On-site training (South Korea): January 19-21, 2026

[Program Contents]

ÿ Company visits and lectures: 5 companies ÿ Opinion exchange meeting: 1 company ÿ Studio tour ý Networking event (Korean-Japanese drama night)

Overseas Business Matching

independent business

Colombia Business Matching

[Date] September 3, 2025 [Venue] VIPO [Program Details]

As part of the Osaka Expo-related projects, the Colombian government's investment promotion agency...

At the request of PROCOLOMBIA, Colombian film industry professionals and Japanese producers came to Japan.

We planned and held a matching event with Sir.



(Titles omitted)

Poland Business Matching

[Date] September 29, 2025 [Venue] VIPO [Program Details]

As part of the Osaka Expo-related projects, the Polish Film Institute, the Polish government's film agency,

At their request, they facilitated a matchmaking service between Polish film producers who had come to Japan and Japanese producers.

We planned and executed an event.



Japan-Korea Producers Exchange @ Busan, Tokyo

[Event Dates] September 20-23, 2025 (Yama), October 29-31, 2025 (Tokyo) [Venue] ACFM venue (Yama

International Film Festival), TIFFCOM venue (Tokyo International Film Festival) [Program Content] A matchmaking event held in collaboration with

the Korean Film Council

(KOFIC) to promote international co-productions and collaborations between Japan and Korea.

An event will be held at ACFM (Asian Contents & Film Market), the market attached to the Yamagata International Film Festival.

Five Japanese producers were selected for TIFFCOM, which is held concurrently with the Tokyo International Film Festival, and five Korean producers were selected for TIFFCOM.

We invited the sir and provided each of them with the opportunity to have a "1 on 1 meeting" with local producers.

We held seminars introducing producers and explaining the incentive systems in both Japan and South Korea.



Global Expansion Division seminar

independent business

Europe's largest festival and market specializing in series. "Series Mania" Introduction Online Seminar

[Date] December 9, 2025 [Venue] Online [Co-sponsored by] French Embassy

in Japan, Institut français du Japon, VIPO [Lecturers] Laurence Herzberg (Director General of Series

Mania), Francesco Capullo (Forum Director of Series Mania),

Pierre Giémniac (Program Director of the Institute), Klaus Zimmermann (Drops of God)

Executive Producer)

[Program Contents]

The series' director-general and others explained the mechanism for promoting international co-productions. Furthermore, the production of "Drops of God"

Executive Director Zimmermann took the stage and shared insights into global expansion through successful case studies.



Lawrence Herzberg (top left) Francesco Capullo (top right)
Pierre Diemniac (bottom left) and Klaus Zimmermann (bottom right)

AFA Seminar: "Case Studies of Japanese Pop Culture Projects in Southeast Asia"

[Date] December 18, 2025 [Venue] VIPO [Lecturers] Sean Chin

(Founder of SOZO), Hiro Taneoka (SOZO Japan Client Representative)

[Program Content] Market

situation of Japanese pop culture in Southeast Asia, end of November 2025

The "Anime Festival Asia (AFA) Singapore" event, hosted by SOZO, took place on [date].

We explained a wide range of topics, including examples of IP merchandising.



Sean Chin

(Titles omitted)

Machine Translated by Google

FY2024 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Creator and Business Support Projects (Promotion of Overseas Expansion of Creators and Businesses) + JLOX

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry subsidy program

This project is funded by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's supplementary budget for fiscal year 2024, specifically the "Subsidy for Creator and Business Support Projects (Promotion of Overseas Expansion of Creators and Businesses)."

(5.65 billion yen)

(1) Businesses that conduct localization and promotion for overseas markets (2) Businesses that conduct video production, etc. - Businesses that conduct domestic video production (production and post-production support) - Businesses that conduct domestic video planning and development (pre-production support) - Support for attracting domestic location shooting by overseas production companies, etc. (3) Businesses that digitize and restructure content - Advanced digitalization and structural reform - Digitalization and distribution structural reform

This initiative aims to support the expansion of exports, overseas expansion, and the development of new markets for the content industry, taking into account the new business environment.

This subsidy is intended to help alleviate the financial burden on each project by providing financial assistance for a portion of the necessary expenses.

Main activities

- We held a "Subsidy Information Session" to introduce eligibility requirements and application procedures. We also posted an explanatory video on our website.
- We held a "Subsidy Consultation Session" to provide advice on projects that people are considering applying for. We also accepted consultations via email and telephone at any time.
- We held a "Business Start-up Orientation" for businesses that have received grant approval, to explain the basic rules regarding how to handle the expenses covered by the subsidy.

FY2025 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Supporting Growth Investments in the Content Industry (Support for Overseas Expansion and Development Platform Construction) IP360

New business

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry subsidy program

This project is funded by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry's supplementary budget for fiscal year 2025, specifically the "Subsidy for Supporting Growth Investment in the Content Industry (Overseas Expansion Support and Development Platform)."

With the "Construction Support" (2.98 billion yen),

(1) Support for overseas expansion of IP and ecosystems (2) Support for localization (3) Support for promotion (4) Support for development platform construction

This initiative supports the supply of overseas content and the number of foreign users, particularly in relation to games, anime, music, and live-action content.

The aim is to expand effectively. This subsidy provides financial assistance for a portion of the necessary expenses to reduce the cost burden on each project.

FY2024 Supplementary Budget: Subsidies for Creator and Business Support Projects (Expenses for Establishing the Foundation for Cultural and Artistic Activities)

New business

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry / Japan Arts Council Commissioned Project

This grant is funded by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry through the "FY2024 Supplementary Budget Subsidy for Supporting Creators and Businesses (Cultural and Artistic Activity Base Strengthening Fund Establishment Expenses)".

Following this, the Japan Arts Council, an independent administrative agency, took on the role of secretariat and was contracted to handle some of the operations as part of its support for the management of this grant.

(1) Businesses that conduct long-term domestic video production (production and post-production support) (2) Businesses that conduct long-term domestic video planning and development (pre-production support)

This grant supports the production of videos and games aimed at the global market, recognizing the importance of IP management and revenue generation by production companies.

The fund is a long-term investment in which production companies take the lead in fundraising and IP utilization, and produce high-quality content (videos, games, etc.) that appeals to overseas markets.

The aim is to support these organizations and promote the strengthening of their international competitiveness and revenue base. This grant will cover the costs of each project.

This program provides subsidies to cover a portion of the necessary expenses in order to alleviate the burden.

Main activities

- We held a "Grant Consultation Session" to provide advice on projects that people are considering applying for. We also accepted consultations via email and telephone at any time.
- A "Business Start-up Orientation" is held for businesses that have received grant approval, providing them with basic rules on how to handle the expenses covered by the grant.

  We held the event.
- Because this grant project spans across fiscal years, an "Interim Reporting Manual" has been created and published for grant recipients in order to conduct interim reports.

  We have received an interim report from the approved business operator.

FY2025 Comprehensive Support Project for Performing Arts (Nationwide Caravan)

New business

Commissioned project by the Agency for Cultural Affairs / Japan Arts Council

Supporting the implementation and distribution of large-scale, high-quality performances and other events nationwide.

Through this, the aim is to eliminate cultural regional disparities within the country and to promote the formation of activity bases by governing organizations.

This project targets cultural and artistic organizations. We have been entrusted with managing the project's administrative office, which will be implemented under the FY2025 budget.

[Grant period] April 1, 2025 - January 31, 2026

[Number of Grants Approved]

Projects involving performances, etc., by nationwide coordinating organizations: 9 projects

[Main activities] • Responding to inquiries from organizations that have received grants.

- Handling of grant applications, plan change applications, etc.
- Creation and publication of manuals related to performance reporting.
- Confirmation of performance reports and determination of amounts
- Setting up a website for soliciting new projects for the next fiscal year, and handling inquiries and application submissions.

Machine Translated by Google

Research study to promote the use of the nationwide location database

National Film Archive commissioned project

JL-DB JAPAN LOCATION DATABASE
全国ロケーションデータベース


web


smartphone

This project utilizes the locations owned by film commissions throughout Japan.
A system that allows you to search for information all at once: "National Location Database"
With the enhancement of the "JL-DB" (website and smartphone app) as its core focus, the JL-DB will utilize its database to attract film productions to various regions of Japan and provide various forms of support related to location shooting for domestic and international productions.
The aim was to strengthen the structure of film commissions. VIPO and the Japan Film Commission (JFC)* formed a consortium and jointly implemented and managed the project.

* Japan Film Commission (JFC): A network organization of over 130 film commissions (FCs) in Japan, and also a member of global and Asian film commission networks.

<Main business details>

• **Consideration of adding system functions to promote the use of JL-DB.**

In addition, operations, maintenance, and usage analysis.

The "National Location Database (JL-DB)" will be used by video producers in fiscal year 2025.
We conducted interviews with the target group to understand their usage patterns and the realities of location scouting.
And based on the opinions gathered there, we considered potential filming locations for filmmakers.
We've made several improvements to make searching for supplementary information more convenient.
We will examine the current system and the enrichment of registered data, and pursue areas for improvement.
It is.

• **Survey on effective information dissemination to overseas audiences through JL-DB**

From overseas filmmakers and TV producers to those who want to film in Japan
Interest is growing. For them, JL-DB is becoming a more convenient tool.
To that end, we will investigate the access situation both domestically and internationally, and through JFC,
We promoted the multilingualization of local film crew data. In addition, we worked with domestic location receiving organizations.
To strengthen the system, we will hold seminars inviting overseas video producers, and Tokyo International
Participation in the film festival's accompanying event, "TIFFCOM," and other diverse initiatives aimed at promoting its use.
We participated in the activity.

• **Strengthening support for each film commission (FC)**

Having location information from all over Japan, it plays a significant role in enriching the content of JL-DB.
The work of each regional fan club, which is responsible for the division of labor, will increase as video production becomes more active.
We are very busy. In order to strengthen our FC (Fan Club) system, we are planning to film in the region.
We will investigate the personnel and local conditions needed for support and provide support to FCs.
A model case for discovering and building a system for developing experts.
We created and tested it.
VIPO also participated, and we interacted with the event itself and the FC directly.
We use this information to inform the setting and operation of our policies.

<Related Event Information>

•Improve your skills in dealing with overseas video producers!

"Overseas Creator Seminar"

[Date] January 22, 2026
As the number of overseas productions filming in Japan increases,
Sharing challenges related to response and attracting
Experienced in producing international works, including legal works.
AreaM, which has extensive experience as a producer and supporter.
Managers and FC representatives are panelists



We welcomed them to the discussion and put into practice the mindset and challenges on the FC side.
It became a valuable learning experience.

•JFC National Filming Location Fair 2025 will be held twice, in summer and winter.

[Summer: Date] August 7, 2025 [Winter:
Date] January 21, 2026 [Venue] Mynavi
PLACE Kabuki-za Tower
Focusing on location information, one of JL-DB's main contents
Numerous fan clubs from all over the country exhibited at the event. Winter location shoot held in January
The local fair attracted a record-breaking 300 video producers.
At the VIPO booth, we're promoting JL-DB while letting people experience the search function.
And many visitors downloaded the smartphone app on the spot.
They did it for me.





Online publishing content catalog site for overseas markets "Japan Book Bank"

independent business

Japan Book Bank



https://japanbookbank.com/

"Japan Book Bank" connects overseas publishers interested in translating and publishing Japanese publishing content, as well as film production companies and professionals who wish to adapt Japanese content into films.
A webpage built for producers to search for Japanese publishing content.
This is a website featuring Japanese books and publishing content, as well as overseas publishing content.
Matching related companies and other entities to facilitate the overseas expansion of Japanese publishing content.
The aim is to promote this.

What you can do at "Japan Book Bank"

• Online catalog allows you to search for published content anytime. You can search for Japanese published content across a wide range of genres in Japanese and English.

Comics, Literature/Paperbacks, Children's Books, Practical Books, Business
Books, Study Guides/Dictionaries, Medical Books, and others (12 genres in total)

•Language-specific copyright licensing information is posted. By using this site before business negotiations, more efficient negotiations are possible.

Yes. *Copyright information will only be displayed to registered users.

• You can receive inquiries from overseas through a designated contact point without disclosing your email address . *Only registered users can submit inquiries.

• By promoting it as "original material for film/TV adaptation ," you can effectively communicate its potential to overseas publishers, film production companies, and producers through features on the top page and other means.

* "Japan Book Bank" is linked with "Japan Content Catalog" (japancontentcatalog.jp, commonly known as JACC®), a comprehensive database search system for movies, TV programs, anime, characters, music, games, scripts, filming locations, creators, and more.

In just five years since its launch, the number of completed transactions has exceeded 400! Starting in April 2026, it will transition to a paid service and evolve into an everyday catalog, a results-oriented B2B publishing site for overseas markets.

Since its launch in 2021, the site has been free to use, but from April 2026, it will be offered as a paid service. More than 1,200 users from 89 countries around the world have registered IDs, and more than 400 sales have been generated through the site.

A special feature page is published every two months . The homepage is updated every two months with a special feature introducing publications from various genres.













Exhibiting at overseas book fairs: At the Frankfurt Book Fair and the London Book Fair, we set up exhibition corners for books registered with "Japan Book Bank" and directly approached visitors by distributing flyers.

Email newsletter distribution to overseas ID registrants

Once a month, we send out an email newsletter to our registered overseas users, introducing the latest trends, including popular genres. We have also received inquiries as a result of receiving this email newsletter.



Flyer distributed at an international book fair (front)

*The registered trademark "JACC" is used by our organization with permission from ITSC Co., Ltd.

Machine Translated by Google
archive

Archival Core Hub Formation Model Project

National Film Archive commissioned project

To prevent the scattering and loss of valuable cultural materials of Japan, which have historical and cultural significance, we conduct research and studies on the ideal form of a system for the preservation and utilization of materials toward the construction of an archive, and are involved in archiving non-film materials related to film.
In order to form a core hub, we will promote networking in the field, thereby building and operating an archive for the entire field and promoting shared benefits.
The purpose is to promote the use of the product, etc.

Field research

- We conducted a survey of film materials at the following facilities and organizations in the Kansai and Kanto regions.
  Survey subjects: Kansai = Toei Kyoto Studio, Tokumichi Igawa Film Art Memorial Museum*1, Higashiomi City Kotÿ Library (Sawashima Collection)*2 / Kanto = Zenshinza Theatre Company, Nihon University College of Art, Department of Film.

*1 Tokumichi Igawa was a film art director / *2 Formerly owned materials of Tadashi Sawashima (film director and stage director)

Operation and effectiveness evaluation of the Film Materials Location Information Search System (JFROL: https://jfrol.jp/)

- We implemented a system that allows cross-searching of approximately 270,000 data points from seven film archives across Japan, and conducted an effectiveness evaluation through surveys.

JFROL
Japanese Film Resources Online

Publication of the National Film Archives Directory 2025

- Edited and published "National Film Archives Directory 2025," which contains information on 123 film archives nationwide (110 in the PDF version*).
  I did.

*A link to this project is posted on the VIPO website's introduction page.



<Event Announcement>

1. "National Film Archive Summit 2026"

This year's summit, the seventh of its kind, featured various case studies and seminars on the preservation and utilization of film materials.

[Date] January 23, 2026 [Location] Live Stream [Participants] 220 [Participation Fee] Free

[Program (Title/Speakers)] *Titles omitted

Part 1: Report on the Implementation Outline of the FY2025 Archive Core Hub Formation Model Project / Tomonori Sato (Secretariat)

Part 2: Report on Educational and Outreach Projects Utilizing Film Materials from the National Film Archive / Kenta Tamada (Senior Researcher, National Film Archive), Noriaki Miyamoto (Researcher, National Film Archive)

Part 3: Seminar - Learning about rights issues in film archives through case studies / Masahiko Suto (Partner Attorney, Gojo General Law Office)

Part 4: Report Film and Document Exhibition - 2025 Field Report

1. The Work of Film Subtitle Translation - The Magic of 4 Characters Per Second (Kamakura Kawakita Film Memorial Museum) / Yusuke Baba (General Manager, Kamakura Kawakita Film Memorial Museum)

2. Hirokazu Kawabe Film Collection Exhibition (Hashima City Film Archive) / Ryoichi Kondo (Advisor, Hashima City Film Archive)

Part 5: On the two-part film "Phantom Riders" born from reported film materials / Yusuke Sasaki (Associate Professor, Tottori University), Izumi Kijima (Graduate Student, Kobe University)

Part 6: Revision of the catalog of works included in the report book "History of Japanese Animation Films" and creation of a web version / Hitomi Matsuyama (Researcher, Kobe Film Archive)

Part 7: Seminar - Japanese Film Materials Spreading Overseas - On the Japanese Film Collection at Yale University Library / Aaron Jerro (Professor, Yale University)

2. "Unrivaled by the Nation! The Story of Toei Kyoto Studio / The Film History of the Zenshinza Theatre Company" (Exhibition) [Dates] February 6th - March 1st, 2026 [Location] Chofu City Cultural Center Tazukuri, 2nd Floor, North Gallery [Admission Fee] Free

[Contents] Based on the results of the FY2025 project, Part 1 is themed on "Toei Kyoto Studio" and Part 2 on "Gekidan Zenshinza"

The exhibition is divided into two parts. Since its establishment in 1951, it has showcased various films and television dramas, including period dramas and yakuza films, featuring popular stars.

Toei Kyoto Studio, which brought works to the world, and which began film production in 1933, with directors such as Sadao Yamanaka and Kenji Mizoguchi...

This documentary traces the history of the "Zenshinza Theatre Company," which produced socially conscious works and other pieces through independent production, using valuable film materials.



VIPO Interview

The VIPO Interview Series, which began in 2016, features interviews with a variety of individuals on timely topics, events, and projects in the content industry. Every year, we interview the Director-General of the Cabinet Office's Intellectual Property Strategy Promotion Office about the year's "Intellectual Property Promotion Plan," and publish articles based on those interviews. We also feature interviews with stakeholders about the content of executive lectures given at the VIPO Academy's "Corporate Leader Course," as well as the results of projects operated and implemented by VIPO, introducing the support provided by VIPO and their experiences. (Available at https://www.vipo.or.jp/interview/list/)

August 2025

NHK's drama commemorating the 80th anniversary of the end of the war, "The Man Who Carries the Voice of August," is being broadcast!



"VIPO Film Lab / Film Planning and Development Course: From Participating Project to Film Adaptation - Behind the Scenes of Production" Taichi Matsumoto (Producer, Drama Production Department, Content Production Division, WOWOW Inc.) As part of the "VIPO Film Lab" project, a "Film Planning and Development Course" was held with screenwriter Shunsaku Ikehata as the instructor (February 2023). The project submitted was broadcast as NHK's 80th anniversary of the end of the war drama "The Man Who Carries the Voice of August" (aired August 13, 2025). To commemorate the results of the course and the broadcast, we interviewed Taichi Matsumoto (WOWOW Producer), the project planner who participated in the course, about the process from the initial idea to its film adaptation, and what he learned in the course.

December 2025

An Interview with the Cabinet Office: Making the Content Industry a Pillar of the Nation. The Future of the Content Industry Guided by Intellectual Property Strategy and a Virtuous Cycle of Cooperation and Competition.



Hirohiko Nakahara (Director-General, Cabinet Office Intellectual Property Strategy Promotion Office) Following the announcement of the "New Cool Japan Strategy" in 2024, which positioned the content industry as a key industry for the country, the "Intellectual Property Promotion Plan 2025 - IP Transformation -" was formulated in June 2025. Along with a reaffirmation of the goals, an analysis of the current situation, future directions, and specific measures were presented. With momentum building for the growth of the content industry, we spoke with Mr. Hirohiko Nakahara, who assumed the position of Director-General, Cabinet Office Intellectual Property Strategy Promotion Office in July 2025, about what policies the government is trying to implement to support its development.

March 2026

Filmmakers Challenging the World: An Interview with Cinematographer Yoshihisa Toda
What I gained from studying abroad at AFI



Yoshihisa Toda (Director of Photography)

VIPO aims to discover and nurture professionals who will lead the future of the film industry, and to build a system that enables Japanese film projects and young creators to go out into the world. To this end, VIPO recommends Japanese individuals who wish to study at the AFI (American Film Institute) Conservatory. Those who are accepted also receive support for scholarship programs such as the "TATSUMI YODA Scholarship (The Tom Yoda Scholarship Award)." This time, we interviewed Yoshihisa Toda, who was accepted into the Cinematography course and studied abroad in the fall of 2023.

September 2025/January 2026

Interview with the Director of the Tokyo and Osaka Business Centers of the Korea Creative Content Agency (KOCCA)

<First installment: Tokyo Business Center Director's article>
Latest trends in Korean content, challenges facing the Japanese and Korean content industries, and future prospects.



Lee Hye-eun (Director, Tokyo Business Center, KOCCA [Korea Creative Content Agency])

<Second installment: Osaka Business Center Director's feature>
Unraveling the challenge of entering the global market through Japan-Korea cooperation originating from Osaka, and KOCCA's "Content Finance Support System" by Baek Seung-hyuk (Director, Osaka Business Center, KOCCA [Korea Content Promotion Agency])



KOCCA (Korea Content Promotion Agency), a government agency that supports the development and overseas expansion of the Korean content industry and operates business centers in 25 locations worldwide, is expanding its base in Japan. In October 2024, it opened the Osaka Business Center with Mr. Baek Seung-hyuk as its director. The following November, it added "KOCCA CKL TOKYO" to its Tokyo Business Center. We interviewed the directors of both centers to learn about the latest trends in Korean content, KOCCA's "Content Finance Support System," and the challenges and future prospects facing the content industries in Japan and Korea.

February 2026

"Set small goals, dream big." What is the relentless pursuit of Mitsuhisa Ishikawa, President and CEO of IG Port Co., Ltd., who has been continuously improving his "best luck" every year for 38 years?



(Reconstructed from a lecture by a business executive at the VIPO Academy's "Corporate Leader Course") Mitsuhisa Ishikawa (President and CEO of IG Port Inc. / Chairman and CEO of Production I.G Inc.) Production I.G has produced many hit works such as the "Ghost in the Shell" series, "PSYCHO-PASS" and the "Haikyu!!" series. And WIT STUDIO has worked on popular works such as "Attack on Titan (Season 1-3)" and "SPY×FAMILY". Mitsuhisa Ishikawa, President and CEO of IG Port Inc., which owns these two major studios that lead the Japanese animation industry, says that success lies in "good luck" and "encounters with people". While cherishing the deep trust he has built with renowned creators, his management philosophy is to have "minimal teams and maximum authority" and to "provide an environment in which people can grow" rather than "training people". Mr. Ishikawa, who says that he is currently experiencing the most challenging yet enjoyable period of his 38-year career, spoke to us about his passion for connecting people through "luck and connections" and his experiences so far.

(Titles omitted)