

The Urban Cooperation Action Plan (UCAP) at a Glance

Cities	Essen	Koriyama
State/Country	Germany	Japan
Population	590,000	330,000
Size in km²	210.34 km ²	757.20 km ²
Pairing agreement signing date	November 16 th 2018	
Date of city visit to counterpart city	April 22-27 th 2018 May 14-19 th 2019	November 14-17 th 2018
Theme of cooperation	Renewable Energy Medical Device Related Industry Water Management Smart City Regional and Urban Innovation, Competitive, Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth Urban Transport Education and Development of Future Generations	
Key challenges of cooperation theme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urgent need to enhance climate, social, and economic urban resilience to shocks and stresses • High demand for globally competitive and innovative industries in the fields of renewable energy and medical device related industry • Development of next generations who bear the future of urban innovations and relationships between the cities of Essen and Koriyama • Insufficient resources which could cause inefficiency or failure of actions and have impact to the outcome of the cooperation theme 	
Main Objective of UCAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance mutual understanding and strengthen the bilateral relationship for the purpose of achieving a prosperous future. • To bolster local industries' competitiveness, create new businesses in each respective city. • To create opportunities to learn 'advanced expertise and technologies which create the future of society', 'scientific thinking, decision making and the ability of public relations', 'receptiveness to diverse and different values', 'active citizenship' and 'resilience' 	
Short description of main activities and key outputs	Knowledge transfer, study tours, joint seminars, and joint research activities regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge transfer on sewage sludge treatment and disposal in consideration of contained pollutants in Essen • Knowledge transfer on transformation of digester gas to biogas in sewage treatment plants and its utilization in Essen • Knowledge transfer on municipal water management in Essen (climate resilience, rainwater management sewer management) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study tour to Essen on energy generation, storage, and savings • Joint seminars in the fields of renewable energy and medical, and healthcare in Essen and Koriyama <p>Business matching events and trade fairs in each city with involvement of industrial circles for the purposes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building business cooperation in the renewable energy, medicine and healthcare industries • Facilitating personnel exchanges of medical doctors and students and cooperation between medical institutions • Developing synergy effects and innovations in the fields of technology, processes and didactics for medical training centres • Creating a joint digital start-up platform with the objectives of mutual market transparency and market entry • Developing storage and use of energy under the application of innovative energy carriers and technologies (ex. Power to methanol) • Exploring possibilities to enter into German and Japanese markets and launch joint ventures by participating in trade fairs in each city • Sharing information on local major business enterprises in each city for further business matching <p>Academic internship and student exchange programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The internship program initiated by the Faculty of Medicine, Duisburg-Essen University which is received by Southern Tohoku General Hospital in Koriyama in 2020 • The student exchange program of Fukushima Prefectural Asaka High School to promote innovative and scientific thinking in 2020 • Two 17-year-old scholars from Essen are received in Koriyama on the Alfried Krupp Pupils Scholarship program for practical business training
Expected results - benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge transfer of energy and water management that will enhance climate, social, economic resilience in these sectors in the two cities • The development of the foundation for renewable energy and medical device related industry in close collaborations among the industry, academia and government • The development of a foundation for the next generation in which globalization, science and innovation serves as the basis of the education system
Non EU city contact person	<p>Mr. Yohei Watanabe, Chief, Business Creation Division, Industry and Tourism Department, City of Koriyama watanabe-yohei-a@city.koriyama.lg.jp</p>
European city contact person	<p>Ms. Petra Thetard, City of Essen, Head of the Office for European and International Affairs and sustainable Development, petra.thetard@international.essen.de</p>
IUC contact person	<p>Prof. Hidefumi Imura, IUC-Project Coordinator, Professor of Nagoya University, iuc@iuc-japan.iuc.eu</p>

