



## Japan Collaboration Group (JCOG) Meeting

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM, April 13, 2021, EST

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM, April 14, 2021, JST

<https://meet.google.com/ixn-zmzd-cej>

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### Notes

action item

idea/thought added after the meeting

### Members Present

Kendrick Leong, Lorenzo Mastino, Carter Williams, Jennifer Rae Pierce,  
Connery Cepeda, Tetsuya Yaguchi, Takafumi Inoue, David W McFarland III  
Louis Alcorn, Susannah Davidson, Margaret Ambrosino

Coordinator:

Jing Zhang

### Website Update

The website is alive.

<https://international.planning.org/community/japan/>

The website will be optimized in the next few weeks with a better structure and refined content.

*Comments and suggestions will be appreciated.*

### Survey Outcome

The survey outcome is posted online. Top three topics to be focused on as a group: Disaster management, aging community, and housing.

The next step after the survey:

- Knowledge sharing (s) on the topic of disaster management (15-30 minutes) in the May meeting. *All gather information on this and prepare for this agenda.* Potentially develop an article for publication in the Planning Magazine.



- Contact APA Disaster Planning Division to explore potentials (Jing).

### **Ideas for Ongoing Programs**

Develop sustaining programs that can survive in a long run. Avoid overwhelming the group by operating at an unsustainable pace.

- Planning News Monthly Summary / Monthly Newsletter. *Tets, Connery, Taka, and Jing will test the feasibility of this program, as well as its format in April / May.*
  - Share the news source by sending the information to Jing, who will upload it to the website.
- Japan Planning 101 White Paper/fact sheet, introducing the basics about planning practice in Japan. 2-4 pages. Concise, valuable, high-quality, and targeted content. (*Jing to draft a document about Japan's planning mechanism for group review*)
- Explore partnership potential with AIA Japan, such as sharing webinars and cohosting events. *Tets will reach out to AIA Japan.*
- Identify overseas technical assistance from Japan, such as in Latin American countries.

### **Review Vision, Mission, and Value Statement**

It looks fine for now.

### **Develop a task force for specific topics**

The topic has been addressed in the Survey Outcome discussion.

### **Leadership and Organization**

Connery Cepeda, Tetsuya Yaguchi, Takafumi Inoue serves as the Division's Japan Collaboration Group Representative to Japan. Jing serves as a coordinator.

Keep it informal for about 6 months and then start to formalize it by establishing a leadership team (Chair and Vice-Chair) and other operating procedures.

### **Other Business / Happy Hour (minutes)**



American Planning Association

**International Division**

*Creating Great Communities for All*

- Gather and list network opportunists, such as planning-related meetings and other events held in Japan that has easy access to U.S. planners.
- Jing will work on formal appointment confirmation letters for Japan Representatives.
- Consider establishing an Advisory Board for the group.

### **Chatbox Information**

Jennifer shared the link of Yokohama City University Global Cooperation Institute for Sustainable Cities (GCI): <https://www-user.yokohama-cu.ac.jp/~english/index.php/global/gci/>

Jennifer shared: The link of international Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative <https://satoyama-initiative.org/>

Connery was intrigued. And so did Jing.

Jennifer suggested identifying case studies and practitioners from Japan on specific topics. Susannah agreed that case studies would be useful

Jennifer suggested short presentations (paring one Japanese and one North American planner, if possible), and potentially start to build up a video library for the website. Jennifer will be helpful on the sustainability/biodiversity topic

Susannah noted that the leadership structure could depend on the activities that the group decides to pursue.

Jennifer noted that she may be able to identify someone from YCU for the Advisory Board.