

# Overview of the Exchange Program

The 2020 Asia Pacific Women Journalists Exchange Program was a three-day undertaking in which women journalists (13 from Japan and 20 from the Asia Pacific region) who play active roles in the media industry took part. The purpose of the exchange program is to highlight the work of women journalists who play significant roles in the media including newspapers and television networks to promote mutual understanding among the countries and facilitate networking among the women journalists through discussion. The overall theme “Hasshin!” as mentioned earlier, has two meanings of “sending out messages” and “takeoff.” Prior to the exchange program, we conducted a questionnaire survey on the participants to understand the current situation of women’s participation and journalism in their respective countries and to determine the field of their interest toward the exchange program. The participants also shared their findings, thoughts and gaps they found during the program with each other, and exchanged opinions. After the program, we conducted a post-program survey on the participants as a reference for future programs.

## Day 1: Symposium

Objective: Sharing of practices of women’s participation in the media industry, opinion exchange

Date: 10:00-18:00, Sunday, December 1, 2019

Venue: Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo

Theme: Asia Pacific Women’s Hasshin! – A New Era That The Media Creates

Program: AM: Orientation, international get-together

PM: Symposium, opinion exchange, international exchange

## Day 2: Visits

Objective: To understand Japan and its various emerging challenges, and to observe efforts to address such issues

Date: 9:00-17:00, Monday, December 2, 2019

Venue: Each site of visit

Program: Participants are divided into four groups: Declining Birthrate and Aging Population, and Elderly Care, Sports and Women’s Health, Barrier-free Society, Disaster Prevention and Rehabilitation, then visit two sites associated with respective theme

## Day 3: Opinion Exchange

Objective: Discussion on each country’s journalism and women’s participation in the media such as newspaper and television companies

Date: 9:00-13:30, Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Venue: Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo

Program: Reflection on visits on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, group discussion, formulation of “Hasshin Declaration,” closing remarks, photo shoot