Water Environment Federation

JSWA Japan Sewage Works Association

DELEGATION PROGRAM:
JAPAN CIRCULAR WATER ECONOMY STUDY TOUR

AUGUST 24-30, 2025

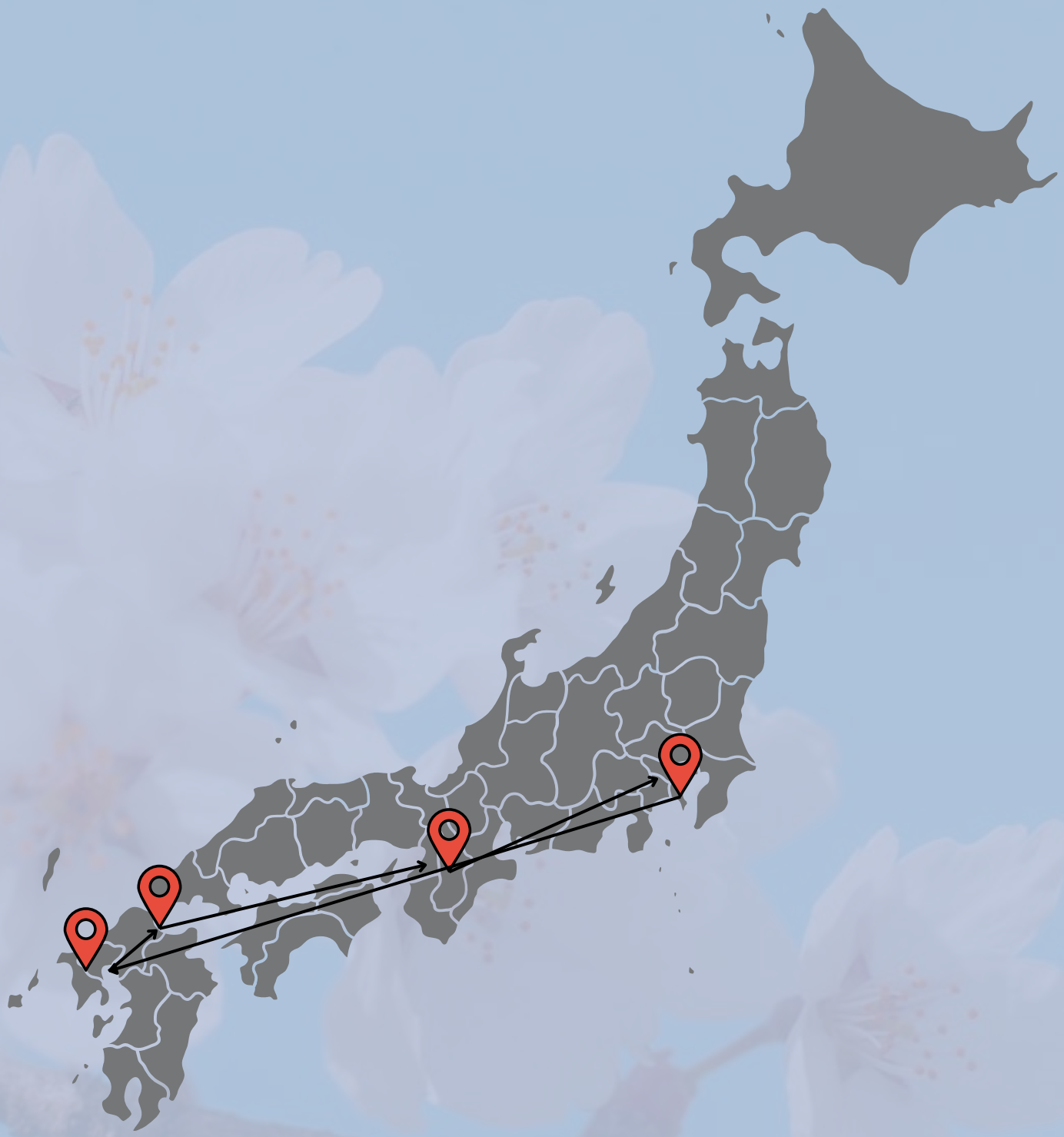
IMMERSIVE INNOVATION: EXPLORING JAPAN'S CIRCULAR WATER SOLUTIONS

This weeklong immersive experience will be led by Japan Sewage Works Association (JSWA), a WEF Member Association.

With WRRFs among the most critical capital assets for communities, you'll explore how Japan leverages cutting-edge wastewater treatment, solid waste reuse, and public-private collaboration to create resilient, low-carbon systems.

SCAN THE QR-CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT JAPAN SEWAGE WORKS ASSOCIATION

JOURNEY AROUND JAPAN



PROGRAM

YOUR 7-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1, August 24

Arrive, check-in at your hotel

Day 2, August 25, Tokyo, Saitama

09:00	Leave hotel
09:30	Welcome by Hirofumi Okahisa, Director General, JSWA
10:00	ZLD Presentation, Toshiba
11:30	Lunch meeting, 8 WEF, 5 Toshiba, 2 JSWA
12:00	Leave JSWA
14:00	Flood Control Tunnel Tour
16:00	Leave for Tokyo
18:00	Dinner, 8 WEF, 5 JSWA, 1 interpreter
20:00	End, back to hotel

Day 3, August 26, Fukuoka

06:30	Leave hotel
09:55	Fukuoka Airport
11:00	Fukuoka City, Water Resilience presentation, SCADA tour
12:00	End, leave for "Canal City Hakata"
12:20	Lunch meeting, 8 WEF, 2 Fukuoka, 1 JSWA
14:00	Onsite water reuse, presentation & tour
15:00	Leave for Chubu WRRF
15:30	Water Reclamation, Hydrogen Production, Biogas generation, presentation & tour
17:30	End
18:00	Dinner, 8 WEF, 1 JSWA
19:30	End, return to hotel

Day 4, August 27, Kitakyushu

07:50	Leave hotel
09:30	Eco Town presentation
10:30	Facility tour
12:00	Lunch Meeting, 8 WEF, 3-5 Kitakyushu, 1 JSWA
13:30	Water Plaza presentation
14:00	Facility Tour
14:15	Q & A
14:30	End, leave for Osaka
18:00	Dinner
19:30	End, return to hotel

Day 5, August 28, Osaka

08:40	Leave hotel
09:15	Arrival at Osaka Clean Water Museum
09:30	Management of WW in Osaka presentation
10:00	Museum Tour
11:00	Bio coal project presentation
11:30	Discussion
12:00	Lunch Meeting, 8 WEF, X Osaka, 1 JSWA
12:45	Leave for Hirano WRRF
13:15	Arrival
13:30	Bio coal Facility Tour
14:30	Discussion
15:00	End, leave for Tokyo
19:30	Dinner, 8 WEF, 1 JSWA
21:00	End, return to hotel

Day 6, August 29, Tokyo

08:45	Leave hotel
09:15	Water Scape presentation & discussion, Suntory
10:30	End
10:45	Roundtable Discussion, 8 WEF, 4 JSWA, 1 interpreter
12:00	Lunch Meeting, 8 WEF, 4 JSWA, 1 interpreter
13:00	End

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Visit to Flood Control Tunnel, Monday 25th

- Walk down and up stairway with 116 steps
- Wear appropriate shoes and clothes for slippery floor with dirt. No heels
- Possibility of suspension due to bad weather
- No lockers, leave bags in van or at hotel

Flight to Fukuoka, Tuesday 26th

- Pack light for a 2-night trip, you can leave suitcase at Tokyo hotel
- Only carry-on bag to leave airport smoothly
- Carry-on:

Bag dimension < 45in (115cm)
1 porch/camera/umbrella + 1 bag < 22lbs (10kg)

Pack light, make sure your passport is up to date, wear comfortable walking shoes.

JSWA AND WEF STAFF

Yosuke Matsumiya

Director of the International Division at Japan Sewage Works Association, enhancing technical exchange between Japan and the global water sector. With over 33 years in the wastewater industry, he has worked in utilities, research institutes, and served as a diplomat in Kenya.

Fidan Karimova

Senior Director of Circular Water Economy at the Water Environment Federation, focusing on scaling circular solutions, fostering innovation, and fostering cross-sector collaboration to address global water challenges. She has extensive experience leading sustainability initiatives and developing partnerships across the water sector. Fidan holds a Bachelor's degree in International Business and a Master's degree in Environmental Management.

Justin Mattingly

Senior Advisor for Resource Recovery at the Water Environment Federation, providing expertise in biosolids, nutrient recovery, energy recovery, and water reuse. He previously served at the U.S. EPA and the Water Research Foundation, leading national water reuse programs and research strategies. Justin holds a Master's degree from American University, a Bachelor's from the University of Delaware, and is a Board Certified Environmental Scientist.

MEET THE DELEGATION

Keith Hobson

President-elect of the WEF Board of Trustees and a Project Manager at FOX Strand with over 40 years of experience in water and wastewater projects. He has held leadership roles across WEF committees, including Treasurer and Speaker of the House of Delegates. Keith holds civil engineering degrees from Iowa State and the University of Missouri and is a Board-Certified Environmental Engineer.

Marques Eley

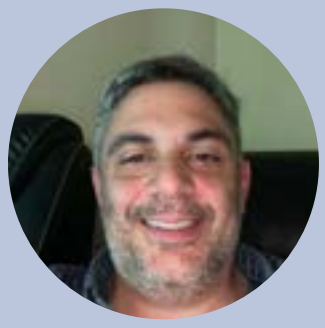
Senior Engineer at the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, the fifth largest WWTP in the U.S., with 26 years of experience in wastewater treatment and regulatory compliance. His work includes combined sewer projects, biosolids management, and advancing water reuse and recovery initiatives. Marques has worked on numerous projects related to combined sewers, biosolids treatment and disposal, and has a strong interest in water reuse and recovery.

Melody Labella

Resource Recovery & Development Services Division Manager at Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, where she has worked for 25 years. She leads sustainability, resource recovery, and pollution prevention initiatives, as well as special projects and development services. Melody holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering from Penn State and is a licensed Civil Engineer in California.

Michael Kessler

Director of Water and Wastewater for the Town of Tonawanda, New York, with prior experience overseeing treatment operations at the Niagara Falls Water Board. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration with a minor in organic chemistry, a Six Sigma green belt, and has extensive leadership experience in both industry and utilities.



Sadra Heidary-Monfared

Process Engineer with the Capital Regional District in Victoria, British Columbia, specializing in water and wastewater treatment operations. He is eager to explore innovative technologies in Japan and has a personal interest in woodworking, joinery, and Japanese culture.

Viraj deSilva

Senior Treatment Process Leader at Freese and Nichols with over 34 years of experience in water and wastewater engineering, including biosolids and PFAS management. He advises municipalities on regulatory compliance and treatment upgrades and chairs the WEF Emerging Contaminants Community.