

Stories from Alliance for Healthy Cities: recent agendas

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September 22, 2026, WHO Regional Healthy City Network for SEAR Sharing Session

AFHC Recent Agendas



AFHC Conferences

Steering Committee

Progress Awardees

Creative Awardees



- ***AFHC Global Conferences***
 - ***September 2024, Seoul, Republic of Korea***
 - ***September 2026, Sydney, Australia***
- ***Steering Committee Members***
- ***AFHC Progress Awardees***
 - ***Monitoring/ Evaluation***
- ***AFHC Creative Developments***



The Alliance for Healthy Cities

- **International non-profit organization**
- Started with 7 cities in 2003; inaugurated in 2004; 238 members in 2026.
- Cooperation from **WPRO**
- **City members / non-city members** (NGOs, academics, national agencies, private sectors, individuals)
- Decision-making by the **General Assembly and Steering Committee (7 city mayors, 1 academic, 1 national, 1 NGO member)**
- Membership is recognized by a submission of
 - written policy statement in support of Healthy Cities
 - future vision and goal/ profile of the city (baseline data)/ analysis of priority health problems
 - signature on the Charter by the Mayor/ Representative
 - membership fee/ contact information
- **Secretariat** with the in-kind support of a university and an NGO, and membership fee
- **National Chapters** strengthen activities in the countries
 - Academic Committee contributes to capacity building and creation of learning platforms

The Alliance for Healthy Cities Membership, August 2026

238



Australia
Cambodia
China
Japan
Republic of Korea
Malaysia
Mongolia
Philippines
Saudi Arabia
Singapore
Vietnam

<Conference participation>

Bangladesh/ Brazil/ Canada/
Chile/ Denmark / Fiji / France/
Hungary/ India/ Indonesia/ Iran/
Israel/ Kenya/ Netherlands/ Nepal/
Nigeria/ Pakistan/ Saudi Arabia/
Samoa/ Sri Lanka/ Thailand/
Tunisia/ Turkey/ Ukraine/ UK/ USA

The 10th Global Conference of AFHC, Seoul, ROK (Seoul Metropolitan Government, Republic of Korea)

Seoul Declaration

Smarter and Healthier Cities for a
Better Future

The 10th
Global Conference
of the Alliance
for Healthy Cities

Multi-sectoral Collaboration efforts
to date and their effectiveness
during the 20 years of Healthy City
HEALTHY CITY
OWARIASAH!

제10차
건강도시연맹 세계총회

도시, 새로운 도시의 미래
Healthier Cities for a Better Future

2024. 9. 25.(화)~9. 27.(목) 동대문디자인플라자 아레나를 일대

The 11th Global Conference of AFHC, Sydney, Australia (Univ. New South Wales, Cities Institute; Healthy Cities Australia)



Healthy Cities for All: Equity, Innovation, and Action

Members of the Steering Committee

□ SC Members (2024 – 2028)

- Kiama, Australia
- Kuching, Malaysia
- Kwai Tsing District, Hong Kong SAR, China
- Healthy Cities Australia
- College of Public Health, University of the Philippines, Manila

□ SC Members (2026 – 2030)

- Izumisano, Japan
- Dong-gu, Jeonnam-Gwangju, Republic of Korea
- Darkhan, Mongolia

In-person steering committee meetings
(once every year)

Online steering committee meetings (0-4
times/ year)

Elected by AFHC full members

AFHC 2026 Award for Healthy Cities

Award for Progress in Healthy Cities (16 cities)

- ◆ Healthy City with Good Infrastructure
- ◆ Healthy City with Good Dynamic
- ◆ Healthy City with Strong Action
- ◆ Healthy City with Expert

Award for Creative Developments in Healthy Cities (27 awardees)

- ◆ Public Spaces for Health and Well-Being;
- ◆ Universal Health Coverage in Cities;
- ◆ Remedy for Loneliness in Cities;
- ◆ Evaluation of Long-term Commitment of a Healthy City;
- ◆ Nature-based Solutions for Planetary/ One Health in Cities;
- ◆ Increasing Resilience to Health Emergencies in Cities.



Healthy City with Expert

◆ Owariasahi City, Japan

- ◆ The Sixth Owariasahi City General Plan, March 2024, identifies Healthy City development as a central means of realizing the city's broader vision, "Owariasahi—bringing happiness filled with smiles."
- ◆ The Owariasahi Healthy City Program, March 2025, is structured around three policy pillars: lifelong health, a city that encourages people to go out, and a city where people wish to continue living. Approximately 400 administrative programs are linked to this framework, with progress managed through the city's administrative evaluation system.
- ◆ Nearly two decades of Healthy City development, evidence-based monitoring of citizen satisfaction and health indicators, and active dissemination of its experience through the Alliance for Healthy Cities.
- ◆ The Healthy City with Expert award was given for sustained policy action and for integrating the Healthy City ethos into everyday life.



第3次尾張旭市健康都市プログラム
令和6～15年度(2024～2033年度)



令和7年3月
尾張旭市



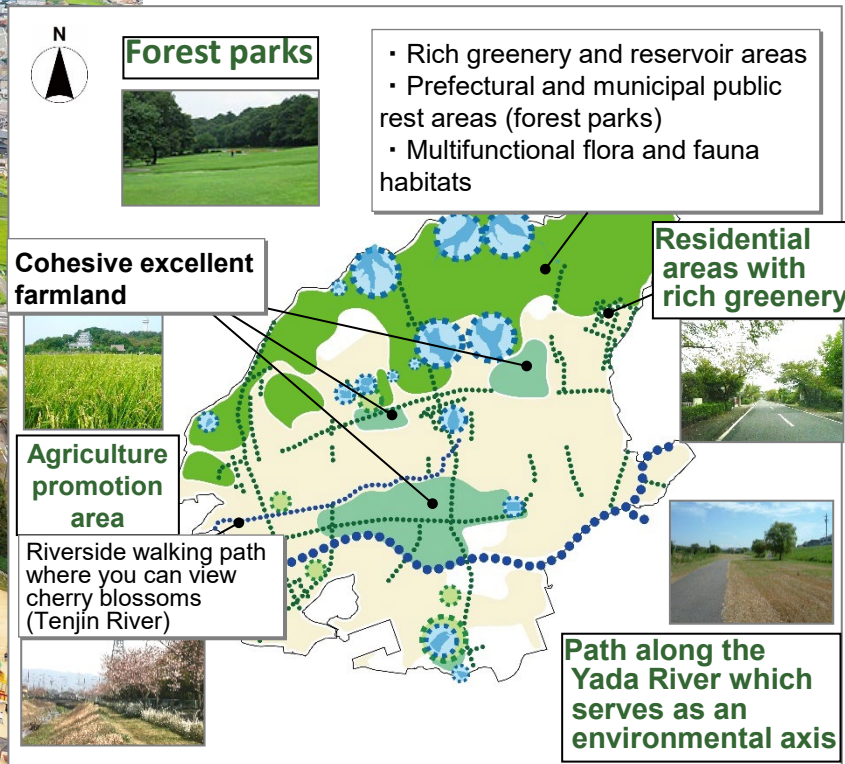
Owariasahi Citizens' Charter, enacted in 1980 (excerpt)

“Let us love nature and
create a hometown surrounded by greenery”

Green spaces
in the city:
**approx.
40%**



(Owariasahi cityscape, 2020)



Promotion of activities: toward a healthy city overflowing with greenery



The Healthy City Program



Basic Plan for Greenery



Eco-garden City (Promoting activities to nurture greenery)



A city where people support greenery together (Cooperation)

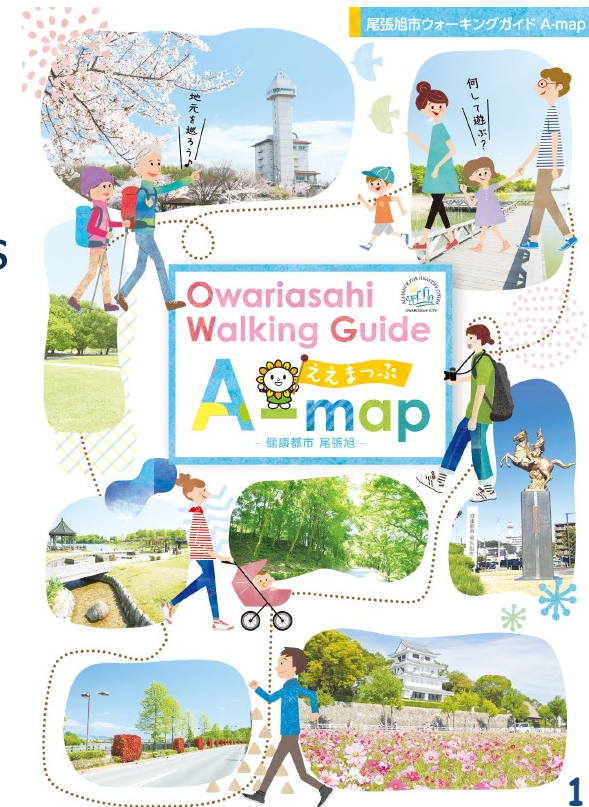
A. The Junior Green Friends



B. National Tree Planting Festival



C. Nature Conservation Activities



Healthy City with Expert

- ◆ **Gangdong-Gu, Seoul, South Korea**
- ◆ Healthy City movement in Gangdong-Gu, Seoul, is based on continued policy commitment, legal support, and multi-sectoral health promotion. The mayor's pledges and Healthy City-related ordinances provide a strong foundation for initiatives that improve urban environments and community health.
- ◆ Key initiatives include school-based obesity prevention, ICT-based mobile healthcare, multicultural family support, neighborhood health check-ups, and Healthy 100s counseling centers across all 19 sub-districts. These initiatives are monitored through community health surveys and local indicators, with resident feedback gathered through regular consultations.
- ◆ The city contributes to the broader Healthy City movement by sharing case studies, supporting overseas cities, and others.
- ◆ The Healthy City with Expert award was given for its exemplary and sustained contribution to Healthy City action.

LOCAL ACTION

Health reaches residents where they live

Mobile neighborhood health services, education, healthy schools, children's nutrition and intergenerational spaces.



◆ AFHC 2026 Award for Creative Developments in Healthy Cities **Nature-based Solutions for Planetary/ One Health in Cities**

- ◆ Taicang City, China: Taicang's One Health Approach to Water, Biodiversity and Climate Resilience
- ◆ Changwon City, Korea: Restored Forests, Revived Rivers, and Healthier Citizens: Changwon's Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) and One Health Governance
- ◆ North District Healthy City Promotion Association: Promoting Planetary Health and Urban Resilience in Coastal Areas through Nature-based Solutions: A Case Study of the Ciwan Land Readjustment Project in Tainan
- ◆ Shilin Health Promotion Association, Tainan: Awakening from a Silent Spring: Building Shilin into an Equitable and Healthy City Where Mountains, Rivers, and People Thrive Together.

Restored Forests, Revived Rivers, and Healthier Citizens: Changwon's Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) and One Health Governance

One Health governance turns nature into health infrastructure

A citywide operating model

- Links public health, environment, climate, streams, parks, forests and wetlands.
- Reframes restored nature as everyday health-supportive infrastructure.
- Ordinances and annual municipal budgeting support continuity.



Restore, reconnect, and layer urban ecosystems

Ecological design innovation

- Naturalizes channelized streams with riffles, pools and riparian vegetation.
- Combines restoration with protection and resettlement of endangered species.
- Connects streams, wetlands, ecological trails, forests and rooftop greening.

47 green/rest sites • 171 green roofs • 28,068 m²

Restored Forests, Revived Rivers, and Healthier Citizens: Changwon's Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) and One Health Governance



Residents become co-creators of nature-based solutions

Participation beyond consultation

- Plogging links everyday physical activity with ecological conservation.
- Citizen biodiversity monitoring documents species recovery.
- Walking leaders, mobile challenges and ecological education activate restored spaces.

Nature-based solutions deliver measurable well-being

Health + equity

24.2% → 29.6% **40.6% → 60.9%**

moderate-or-higher intensity
physical activity, 2015–2025

Jinhae walking practice rate, 2015–
2025

93.3%

average resident satisfaction with
restored streams

Up to 77.1%

increase in stream use

Restored Forests, Revived Rivers, and Healthier Citizens: Changwon's Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) and One Health Governance

From projects to a durable system

- Second Biotope Map is being linked to urban planning and environmental assessment.
- Air-quality monitoring provides quantitative environmental indicators.
- The planned Sapa Small Stream project applies techniques proven through Yanggokcheon.

Changwon's innovation = ecology + health + participation + data + governance

Science and institutions make the model scalable



Learning Opportunities

- **Global Conferences**
- **Awards/ Recognitions** (including process evaluation)
- **Study/technical visits** (within/outside region, conference program, collaborations of chapters)
- **Study courses** (Universities, WHOCCs)
- **Seminars** (region, national, online, e-learning)

Joint Learning Opportunities for Health and Well-being in Cities

- Equity, diversity & inclusiveness
- Physical and social determinants of health
- Infectious diseases prevention and control
- Disaster preparedness and emergency response
- Risk governance and communications
- Age-friendly & elderly care
- Medical provision & disease control
- Physical activity, exercise & sport
- Smoking, alcohol, and drugs
- Sexual & reproductive health
- Mental health, social & community well-being
- Non-communicable diseases
- Public & occupational safety
- Healthy urban planning and transport
- Digital health
- Planetary health
- Ecology & natural environment
- One health
- Water, sanitation, and waste management
- Food & nutrition security
- Employment & economic security
- Art and culture
- Indicators and guidelines

