

**ICA 2017
Conference**



Interactive Community Engagement: Case of the Amagasaki Municipal Archives, Japan

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*¡BUENAS TARDES A
TODOS !*



Amagasaki

Kobe

Osaka





Amagasaki City is known as a coastal industrial city.



The Amagasaki Municipal Archives is on the 7th floor of this building. Let's take a look inside.



**Welcome to the Amagasaki Municipal Archives.
We will show you historical records and how to
search them tailored to your research purpose.**



Amagasaki Municipal Archives

Jan 17

Archive Today (Jan 17)

Today marks 19 years from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. We would like to again express our condolences to all of the victims.

Today many people visited the Archives, to browse and investigate a variety of topics. In the afternoon, a meeting was held to enjoy modern historical documents of Amagasaki, so it was a day with a lot of people coming and going.

This photograph shows one such scene of visitors browsing. In the top left, is citizens looking for history about the castle, and in the bottom right are city environmental conservation department staff examining materials about pollution and environmental issues.

One of the characteristics of the Archives is the diversity of user characteristics and purposes of use.

Add Location Information Edit

Like ! · Comment · Share · Edit

Toshifumi Nishimoto, Kazuo Niki, Megumi Fuji and 27 others have Liked!

Koji Matsushima So it's been 19 years already. I had relatives in Itami and Amagasaki, and immediately after the earthquake I went to help with cooking. I still remember it like yesterday.

Jan 17, 14:31 · Remove Like ! · 1

Amagasaki Municipal Archives So Mr. Matsushima, I guess you helped the victims in the disaster area at the time. Thank you.

Jan 17, 15:10 · Like !

Hiroshi Takahashi My parent's home collapsed. Time passes so quickly, but I still remember those days.

Jan 18, 10:20 · Remove Like ! · 1

Amagasaki Municipal Archives Takahashi, comment received

Comment...

One day in the reading room
Posted on the Archive's official Facebook page.

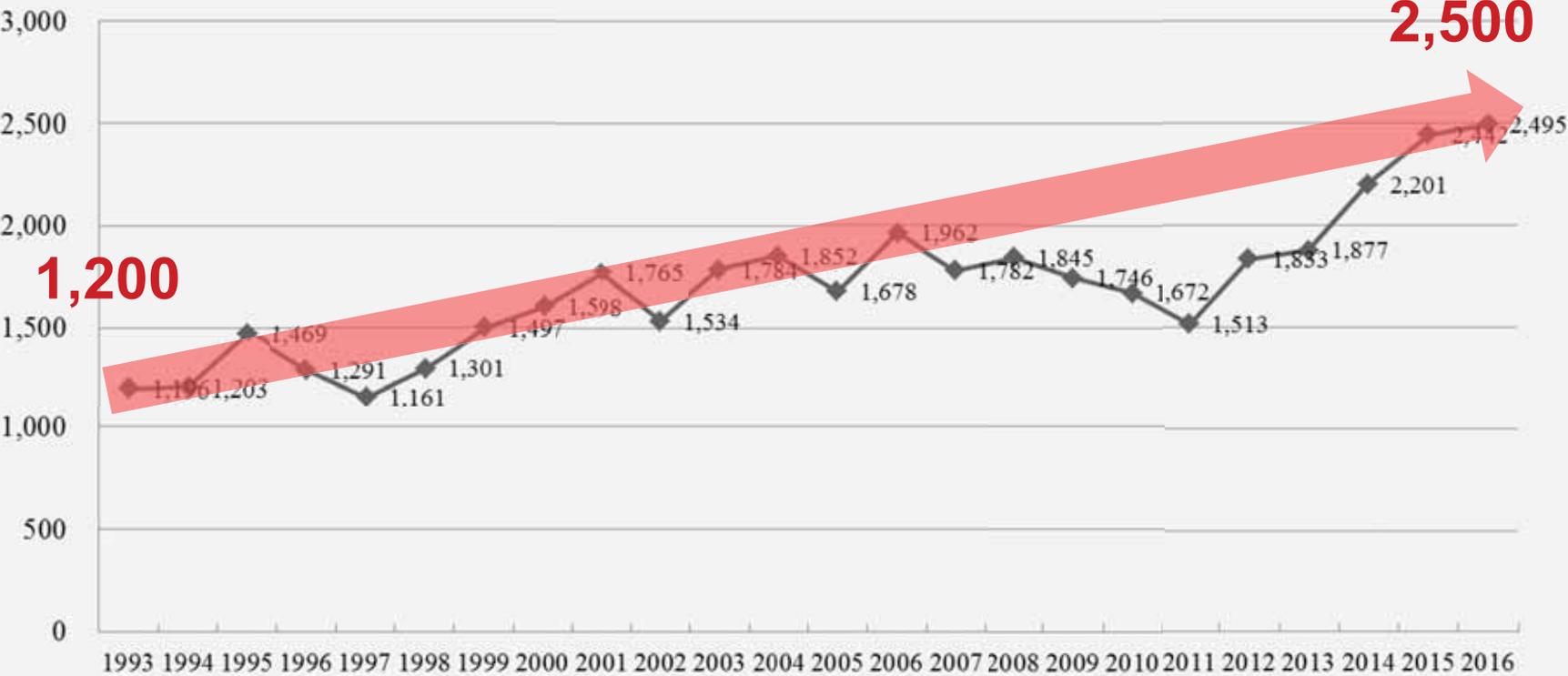


We focus on improving reference services and user-friendliness.



Reference data is documented in a database and shared to be used in daily services.

Trends in Annual Reference Service Recipients



1993

2016

Past



Ancient documents, Drawings
Historical public records in
modern times



Map, photograph
Recent documents
database

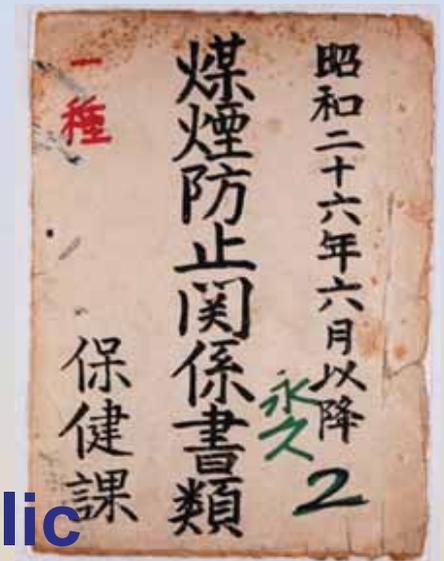


Present



Amagasaki City once struggled with serious pollution.

Archives collects and preserves public records related to the damage conditions and the antipollution measures, court records and documents about citizen movements.





Mr. Goro Asano, who was involved in pollution control as a city worker.

“At the time, many citizens raised their voices about pollution problems, and in response companies and the government have taken measures. I think the archiving of documents at the Archives and making them available to public can be of great help in the future.”



Documents and testimonies about pollution are utilized in various efforts to learn about its history. They are also included in the City History published by the city.



Mr. Takeo Tsunamoto, the Amagasaki Southern Restoration Research Lab, Panelist at the “Amagasaki City History” Symposium



Mr. Tsunamoto's comment:

“I use the Archives to edit and write articles for a community information magazine. I ask them for the confirmation of facts and professional advice...”



“I visit the Archives when I have a particular purpose, but the actual functions are not limitedly working in the place where the Archives is located.”



The Archives' functions are not limitedly working in the building ...?



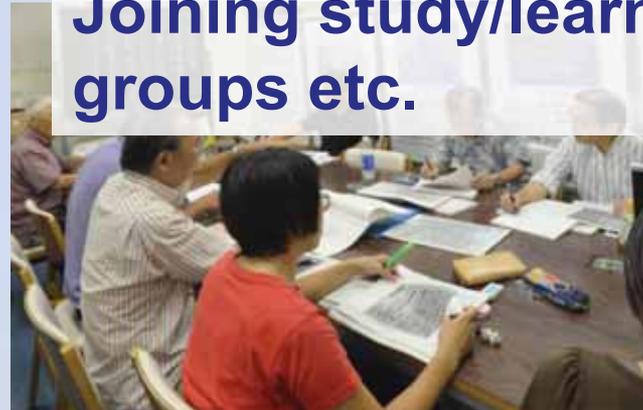
“Activities such as small lectures and fieldwork are carried out outside the Archives building. There is also volunteer work in arranging historical materials in which citizens can participate.”

Onsite

Researching in the reading room



Joining study/learning groups etc.



Searching the Archive's database



History Culture

Real Issues

Participation in collaborative events including lectures, school classes, exhibitions and workshops



Off-site



**Amagasaki City Tsukiji District
Recovery from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake**



Volunteer Activities supporting the Archive's Projects
Every day, many volunteers come to arrange historical materials/input data etc.



**Mr. Toshio Takeda, a Volunteer
Making use of his hobby camera
skills, he engages taking photos of
historical materials two days a week.**



“I’m helping to preserve historical records through photography. I retired five years ago, and started volunteering because I wanted to make a mark on the world outside of my work.”

[Efforts of Amagasaki City Archives]



1 Emphasizing user-friendly reference service

2 Responding to various needs of users, regardless of periods or topics

3 Participation and cooperation with the various activities of citizens and the government in relation to history and the region

[Requirements]

1 Various materials corresponding to a variety of topics

2 Staff expertise

Specialist knowledge/skills

Knowledge/understanding of the region and motivation to learn

Communication skills

Full commitment to civil society





[Achievements to be Expected]

- 1 Archives widely used by various users, both specialists and non-specialists.**
- 2 Archives that contributes to enrich local history and culture, and to give a solution to various issues which the region and the government face.**
- 3 Acquiring understanding and recognition of the significance of the Archives, backed by experiences and achievements.**



[Our Aim]

Responding to various needs of users and making contributions to society, we aim to be an Archives supported by the understanding and cooperation from citizens and communities!!

¡HASTA LA VISTA !

