National Chengchi University College of International Affairs Center for Shinzo Abe Research Annual Report Academic Year 114

Center Name	Center for Shinzo Abe Research
Director	Shui-Hui Li
Implementation Period	August 1, 2025–July 31, 2026

Participants	**I. Key Personnel**
	(e.g., Executive Director, Advisors, etc.)
	• **On-campus**
	  ◦ Tadahiro Ishihara, Deputy Director
	  ◦ Sheng-Chih Chen, Deputy Director
	• **Off-campus**
	  ◦ Akie Abe, Senior Advisor
	  ◦ Akira Amari, Advisor
	II. Other Personnel
	(e.g., assistants, staff, or contracted personnel)
	• **On-Campus**
	  ◦ Li-Hsuan Cheng, Principal Research Fellow
	  ◦ Fan-Chin Tai, Executive Secretary
	  ◦ Hsin-Lan Liao, Administrative Assistant
	• **Off-Campus**
	  ◦ Wen-Ling Chen, Director of the Southern Taiwan Center

Report Submission Date	

Achievements and Future Work Plan

I. Work Achievements for the Current Academic Year

Since its establishment on September 21, 2025, the Shinzo Abe Research Center at National Chengchi University has been committed to

deepening academic exchanges between Taiwan and Japan and enhancing Taiwan's visibility in the field of international Japanese studies. Focusing on key issues advocated by former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, including a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, Taiwan–Japan relations, and political and economic strategy, the Center has promoted a range of activities, including international forums, youth exchanges, and talent development.

From the first half of 2026 through mid-year, the Center successively organized the "First International Forum on Shinzo Abe and Contemporary Japan Studies," the "2026 Taiwan–Japan Youth Sustainability Forum," and the "First Abe Political Economy School." Through academic research, international exchange, and practical training, the Center has gradually established a platform for Japanese studies exchange with distinctive Taiwanese characteristics and international connections.

On June 9, 2026, the Center held the first "International Forum on Shinzo Abe and Contemporary Japan Studies" at IINO HALL in the IINO Building in Tokyo, Japan. The forum was titled "Abe's Grand Strategy and Taiwan–Japan Relations as a Cornerstone of the Indo-Pacific." It was organized by the Shinzo Abe Research Center, College of International Affairs, National Chengchi University, with the cooperation of the Japan Institute of National Fundamentals and the Taiwan Japan Studies Institute. Experts and scholars from Taiwan and Japan gathered to discuss developments in Japanese foreign policy, security, and economic policy during the Shinzo Abe era, as well as their profound impact on the contemporary Indo-Pacific order and Taiwan–Japan relations.

A major outcome of the forum was to broaden Shinzo Abe studies beyond research on an individual political figure to encompass broader issues such as Japanese foreign policy, security, economics, and Indo-Pacific strategy. By using Tokyo as a venue for international exchange, the forum also strengthened direct dialogue between Taiwan's academic community and Japan's research and policy communities. The forum not only raised the Center's international profile but also demonstrated Taiwan's academic expertise in discussions of Japanese

studies and Indo-Pacific affairs, laying the groundwork for a long-term and stable Taiwan–Japan academic cooperation network.

To sustain academic exchange between Taiwan and Japan and cultivate a new generation of international talent, the Center held the "2026 Taiwan–Japan Youth Sustainability Forum: Future Leadership Development and International Exchange" from June 28 to July 2, 2026. The five-day event was primarily held in Yilan and brought together 50 Taiwanese and Japanese faculty members and students, including 10 participants from Waseda University and 40 from Taiwanese universities, including National Chengchi University and National Tsing Hua University.

The forum focused on youth development, sustainability, and international exchange. By integrating university academic resources with local practical settings, it enabled participants to move beyond traditional classroom learning toward field observation and intercultural exchange. The program covered an ecological continuum from "里山" (satoyama) to "里海" (satoumi), incorporating environmental, social, and local development issues into its activities. Through joint learning and discussion, Taiwanese and Japanese youth deepened their understanding of each other's societies and sustainability issues while building a foundation for continued exchange and cooperation among younger generations, advancing the Center's goal of cultivating international talent.

In talent development, the Center held the "First Abe Political Economy School" in Taipei on April 25–26, 2026. At the opening ceremony, remarks were delivered by Chiu Chui-cheng, Chairperson of the Mainland Affairs Council; Chen Ming-chi, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Lee Yen-hui, Vice Chairperson of the Overseas Community Affairs Council; and Chen Wen-chia, Vice President of Kainan University. Naoya Kiara, Director of the News and Cultural Affairs Department of the Japan–Taiwan Exchange Association, read a message on behalf of Kazuyuki Katayama, demonstrating the significance attached to the program by various sectors in Taiwan and Japan. The inaugural cohort enrolled 32 participants from diverse fields. Through systematic coursework and interdisciplinary exchange, the

program aims to help participants understand Japanese politics, economics, and international affairs and translate their knowledge into practical action.

Taken together, these three activities have established an initial framework of "international academic forums—youth international exchange—political and economic talent development." At the international level, the Tokyo forum enhanced the global visibility of Taiwan's Japanese studies. In youth exchange, the Taiwan–Japan Sustainability Forum deepened cooperation and intergenerational exchange between universities in the two countries. In talent development, the Abe Political Economy School cultivated interdisciplinary talent with perspectives in Japanese studies, public policy, and international affairs.

Looking ahead, the Center will continue to draw on Shinzo Abe's political thought and policy legacy as important research resources while expanding its research into contemporary Japanese politics, economics, foreign policy, security, and Indo-Pacific affairs. It will deepen cooperation with Japanese academic and policy institutions and continue promoting youth talent development. By integrating research, exchange, and practice, the Center aims to gradually become an important Japanese studies platform connecting Taiwan with Japan and the Indo-Pacific region, further promoting long-term exchange and cooperation between Taiwan and Japan in academia, talent development, and society.

II. Work Plan for the Following Academic Year

To build on the achievements in Taiwan–Japan academic exchange, youth talent development, and international policy dialogue since its establishment, the Center will focus on four priorities over the coming year: deepening Taiwan–Japan exchange, strengthening talent development, expanding technological cooperation, and enhancing the international visibility of its research. It will gradually build a diverse cooperation platform encompassing academic research, political and economic talent, technology and industry, and international exchange.

Future activities will be based primarily in Taiwan and Japan, with exchange initiatives in Taipei, Tainan, Kumamoto, and Tokyo. The Center

aims to establish a Taiwan–Japan cooperation network spanning cities, disciplines, and generations. Through initiatives such as the Shinzo Abe Library, the Abe Political Economy School, Taiwan–Japan technology dialogues, international research forums, and scholarships, it will develop an integrated framework for knowledge preservation, talent development, policy exchange, industrial cooperation, and academic research.

1. Opening Ceremony of the Shinzo Abe Library

The opening ceremony of the Shinzo Abe Library is scheduled to take place at National Chengchi University on October 20, 2026. The Library will serve as an important knowledge platform for the Center's research on Shinzo Abe and contemporary Japan. It will collect books, documents, and research materials related to Abe's political thought, diplomacy, security, economic policy, and Taiwan–Japan relations. The Library will also feature an exhibition area displaying stationery and personal items used by Shinzo Abe during his lifetime.

After its opening, the Library will serve not only as a research resource for faculty and students but also as a venue for Taiwan–Japan academic exchange, lectures, and presentations of research findings. It will further strengthen the Center's academic foundation in Japanese studies in Taiwan and preserve important historical and research resources related to Taiwan–Japan exchange.

2. Second Abe Political Economy School

The second Abe Political Economy School is scheduled to take place in Tainan on December 5–6, 2026. It will continue the first session's mission of cultivating interdisciplinary talent, with further emphasis on practical discussions of politics, economics, diplomacy, international affairs, and local development.

Holding the program in Tainan will expand the Center's social connections beyond northern Taiwan. It will also allow the program to draw on Tainan's strengths in culture, industry, technology, and local governance. Through in-person exchange, participants will deepen their understanding of local development in Taiwan and potential areas for Taiwan–Japan cooperation.

3. “2027 Taiwan–Japan Technology Dialogue: New Strategies for Taiwan–Japan AI Data Centers and Physical AI Supply Chains”

The event is scheduled to take place in Kumamoto, Japan, in mid-March 2027. It will focus on emerging technology issues, including artificial intelligence, AI data centers, and physical AI supply chains. Representatives from government, industry, academia, and research institutions in Taiwan and Japan will be invited to discuss cooperation opportunities in data center development, semiconductors and key components, AI applications, and supply chain resilience amid the rapid development of AI.

Using Kumamoto as a platform for exchange, the event aims to connect with technology industry resources in Japan’s Kyushu region and combine them with Taiwan’s strengths in semiconductors, ICT, and AI to establish a forward-looking platform for concrete technological cooperation.

4. Third Abe Political Economy School

The third Abe Political Economy School is scheduled to take place in Tokyo, Japan, in early April 2027. It is planned to focus on cultivating and engaging Japan’s next generation of political leaders, with an expected cohort of 30 newly elected Liberal Democratic Party members of the National Diet.

Centered on emerging Japanese political talent, the third session will feature policy exchanges, keynote lectures, and seminars on Taiwan–Japan relations. It aims to enhance participants’ understanding of Taiwan’s political, economic, social, and security environment. This initiative will also help establish a network for political exchange between younger generations in Taiwan and Japan, laying the foundation for long-term cooperation in parliamentary affairs, policy, and public service.

5. Fourth Abe Political Economy School

The fourth Abe Political Economy School is scheduled to take place in Taipei in July 2027, continuing to expand the scale of talent development and public participation. Building on the exchange

outcomes of the first three sessions, it will further integrate participants from political and economic sectors, industry, academia, and youth communities to create an interdisciplinary platform for Taiwan–Japan public policy exchange.

By alternating sessions between Taiwan and Japan, the program will promote two-way exchange among participants and gradually develop the Abe Political Economy School into a sustainable and internationally oriented Taiwan–Japan talent development brand.

III. Other Activities

1. **Key Center Members:** Li Shui-hui, Ishihara Tadahiro, Chen Sheng-chih, Cheng Li-hsuan, Tai Fan-chin, and Liao Hsin-lan; six members in total.
2. **International Exchange:** Six exchange activities were conducted with the University of the Ryukyus, Keio University, Osaka University, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto University, and Hosei University.
3. **Center Members' Participation in Conferences:** These included the annual conference of the Taiwan Japan Studies Institute in April 2026 and the First International Forum on Shinzo Abe and Contemporary Japan Studies in June 2026. Center members participated a total of 10 times.
4. **Lectures and Forums Organized:** The First Abe Political Economy School in April 2026 and the 2026 Taiwan–Japan Youth Sustainability Forum: Future Leadership Development and International Exchange in June 2026; two events in total.
5. **Academic Conferences Organized:** The annual conference of the Taiwan Japan Studies Institute in April 2026 and the First International Forum on Shinzo Abe and Contemporary Japan Studies in June 2026; two conferences in total.
6. **Research Projects:**
    - Phase IV of the Taiwan–Japan Science and Technology Cooperation Mechanism Research and Promotion Project (National Science and Technology Council)

    - “Technological Innovation? Technonationalism and Japan’s Geotechnology Thinking” (National Science and Technology Council)
    - Taiwan–Japan Future Higher Education Talent Co-Creation Project (Ministry of Education)
7. **Publications:** Twelve articles on the Japanese economy were published in *能力雜誌* from August 2025 to July 2026.
8. **Books Published:** *台湾 美し島へようこそ* (September 2026) and *Ten Key Issues in Sanaenomics and Japan’s Economic Recovery* (November 2026).