# ntroduction—25 years of Mukojima—

# History of Mukojima

Mukojima is located in the northern part of the Sumida Ward, east of Tokyo. It is on a delta lowland shaped by Sumida river and Arakawa river. In the 17th century, Samurai (Japanese soldiers) houses were built in the farmland area. In the late 20th century, Geisha Girls started to lead the area to become "Kagai" a society of Geisha and Ryotei (Japanese restaurants), and developed its special culture. In the early 20th century along with modern industrialization, Mukojima became an area of dense and mixure of housing and industry.

### **Problems of Mukojima**





High density wooden houses area

Vacant house

The dead ends

## **Recent Mukojima**

Tokyo Skytree has brought new energy to the Sumida Ward. It has contributed the revitalization of the area, by promoting increase of shops, new young residents and renovation of old buildings.

'However, wooden and dense housing area faces the problems with security and seismic improvement measures. In addition, to create a safe, comfortable society where the elderly or children can live, the strengthening of community and utilization of local resources are needed.

Large scale redevelopment taking over local community

#### Activities in Mukojima over 25 years



Overview of activities

#### Announcements



The residents did research and made a draft plan for the high density targeted area, to propose an authorized city plan.

Through "Rojison" and "Tensuison", they thought about the significance and the need of rainwater utilization.

By having artists move in, vacant houses or spaces can be utilized.



- Introduction—25 years of Mukojima—  $(\mathbf{1})$
- **Approachs of Disaster Prevention in Mukojima** (2)
- Art on the Theme of Rainwater use of Mukojima (3)
- Having fun while Disaster drill "IZA ! KAERU CARAVAN ! " (**4**)
- (5) Vacant shops revitalization project in the Hatonomachi Shopping Street
- **Embroidery project to save the Cabanyal** (6)
- **Tokyo Jane's Walk**  $(\mathbf{7})$

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With the Mukojima Jane's Walk, people rediscov-25 years ago, a visit to Ottenzen from Mukojima. Internaered the attractiveness of the walkable community. tional exchange has been carried out mainly in Germany.

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