




# **LGBT Support by Local Municipalities**

## **— Partnership System in Japan**

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# Partnership System in Japan

## What is “Partnership System”?

- Certification of the “partnership” relationship with a degree of **substance not dissimilar to that of a legal marriage**
- Provided by **Local Municipalities** (started in **2015** at Shibuya and Setagaya)

### Examples of Benefits\*

**\*Only in some companies/organizations**

- Joint mortgage loan with your partner
- Designation of your partner as life insurance beneficiary
- Family discounts on mobile phone services
- Hospital visits / consent as a family
- Moving into public housing as a family



# Use of the Partnership System in Japan

## Increase in the number of users

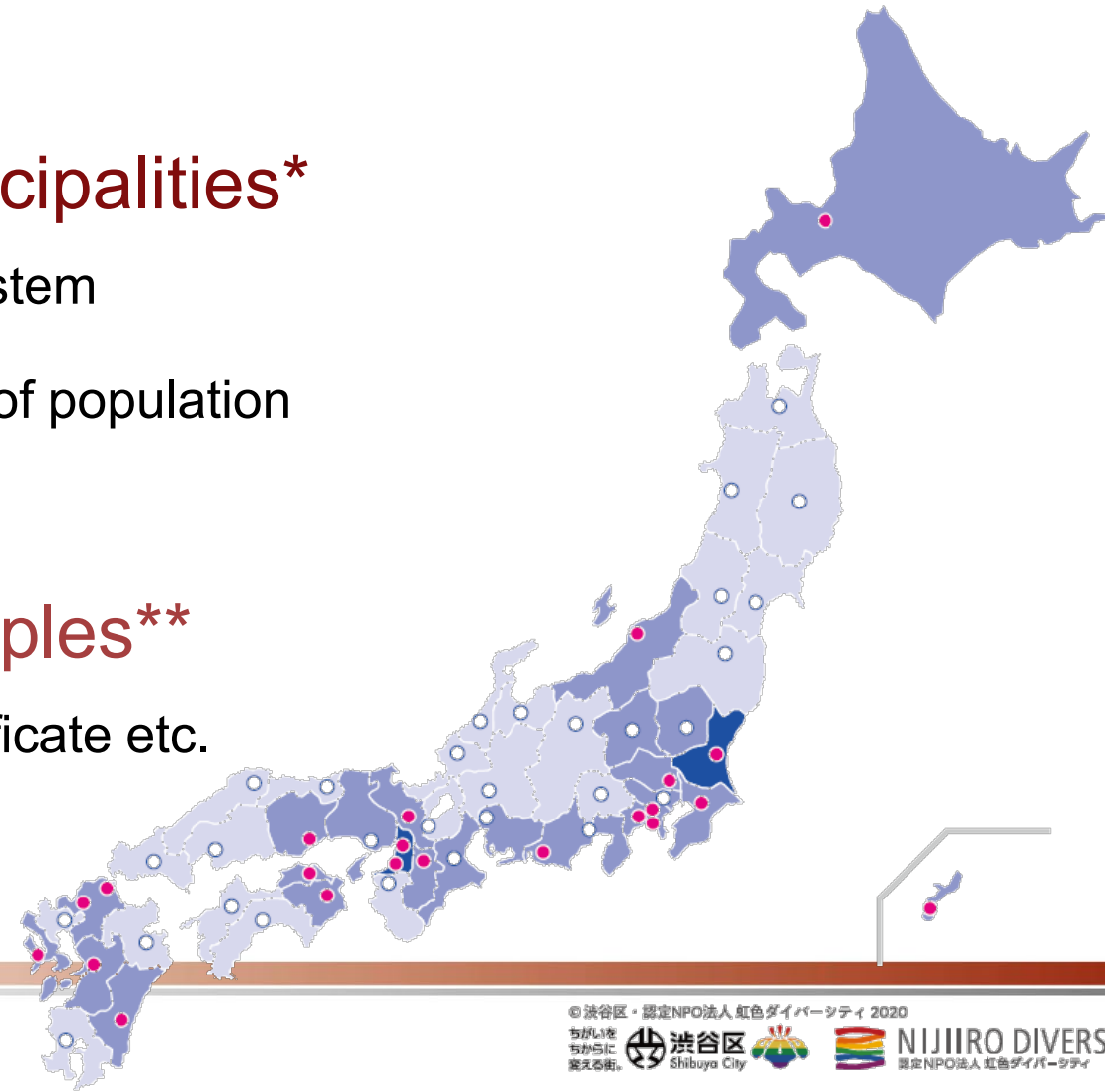
■ **60** Local Municipalities\*

introduced Partnership System

- covering almost **30%** of population

■ **1301** Couples\*\*

received Partnership Certificate etc.



\* as of September 30, 2020

\*\* as of October 1, 2020

# How to get Partnership Certificate in Shibuya

## Four Requirements & Four Steps

Living in &  
registered at  
Shibuya

Have  
attained 20  
years of age

No spouse  
& No other  
partner

Not  
close  
relatives

### Guides

- Download here



### Notarial Instruments

- Visit **Notary Public** (at least twice)  
Two Deeds (or \*One Deed)

\* If "special rules" apply to your case

### Application

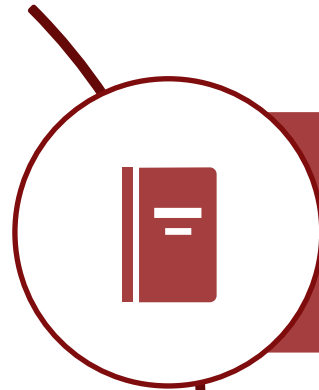
- Visit **City Office** (in pair)
- Bring Copy of Family Registry, or submit Affidavit (for foreigners)

### Certificate

- Visit **City Office** (either one person)

# Tips for Foreigners

Someone who understands Japanese may be necessary



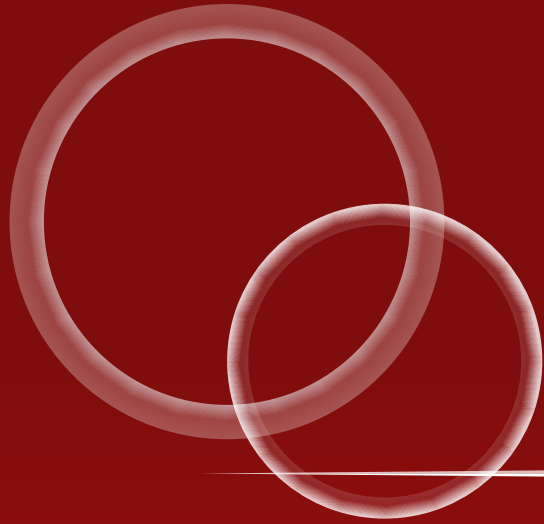
## ◆Language Barrier◆

No consultation services in English at local municipalities office



## ◆Legal Understanding◆

Interpreter who can explain legal effects in foreign language



Thank you

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