

Chile, Japan closely cooperating for promising future

By Ricardo G. Rojas
Ambassador of Chile

Chile is celebrating its 211 years of independence and is returning to normality amidst COVID-19. The pandemic has imposed new challenges on the world, and it has been a reminder of the importance of keeping people at the center of public policy-making.



Ricardo G. Rojas

In this regard, Chile and Japan signed a Memorandum of Cooperation for the Aging Society in 2019 to promote cooperation through the exchange of best practices, building technical capacity and the promotion of public-private cooperation.

Within this framework, a webinar between the technical agencies of both countries will be held in October to deepen the exchange of experiences in specific areas.

Technology has also been fundamental in finding ways to keep us connected. In December 2020, Chile and Japan signed a Memorandum of Collaboration to strengthen technical exchange on Information and Communication Technologies. This agreement covers 11 topics related to telecommunications and includes two strategic issues: the deployment of 5G networks and the trans-Pacific submarine cable between Asia and Latin America, better known as Project Humboldt. With regard to this initiative, Chile welcomes Japan to join the process and looks forward to materializing this crucial piece of telecommunication infras-

tructure.

In agriculture, the Embassy of Chile through its Agriculture Office, together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries of Japan and local universities, is working to provide new technologies to small and medium-sized farms. As a result, they will produce more competitive and sustainable products, as well as tackle the challenges of rural-urban migration, the scarcity of workers in the fields and the aging of farmers, among others.

This initiative will lead to a smart agriculture pilot program in Chile, aimed to reduce the development gap between large farms and small and medium-sized farms by accelerating the utilization of new technologies (drones, sensors and weather data), AI and the so-called Internet of Things. Furthermore, we will hold a webinar on technology

and innovation relating to fructiculture and horticulture by the end of September in which academics from Chile and Japan will present their latest research and developments in those areas.

Looking ahead to a zero-emission society, investors in Chile and Japan are increasingly paying more attention to project portfolios consistent with climate action, transitioning to a low-carbon economy in every company. Chile's vast array of renewable energies, together with its copper and lithium industries, are vital to support the development of technologies leading to this global transition.

In 2022, Chile and Japan will celebrate 125 years of diplomatic relations, and we can confidently say that our steps are leading us to a promising future, thanks to a profound and rich relationship.

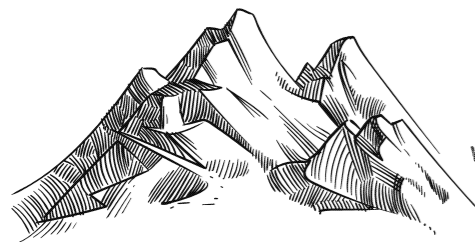


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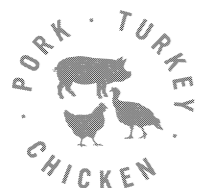
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