



green map system



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Japan's Aichi EXPO 2005

By Alice Hartley, GMS Program Assistant, with Yoko Niwa (GreenMap Aichi) and Asako Kondo (GMS).

With next-generation vehicles, the world's largest theater, and a frozen woolly mammoth on display, [EXPO 2005](#) will amaze and inspire millions of visitors who come to the World's Fair in Aichi, Japan. But what will they learn about the natural world around them, and how will the host prefecture be affected by the influx of people and related development? A mega-event, EXPO will draw as many as 20 million visitors from all parts of Japan, across Asia and the world from March through September 2005.



[EXPO](#) dates: March 25 - September 25, 2005

August 2005: Green Maps at the NGO Global Village

GreenMap Aichi website: www.kenminsanka.org

Links to several [Aichi Green Maps](#)

Logo © Chabata Kazuya

Aichi Pavillion in Seto

Our exhibit in the NGO Global Village lasts all of August and includes Asian Mapmakers Exchange events from the 18th-26th

Opening Day Pictures show the entrance and the map of Expo that visitors can add green sites to, plus the bandana-style Icon poster!



A coalition of non-government organizations (NGOs) and community-based grassroots groups, led by GreenMap Aichi and Chubu Recycle, will bring Green Mapmaking to the EXPO. Organizers hope to inspire visitors to become more active stewards of local resources, and return home with a message of conservation and resource protection. Moreover, the project will continue to chart the impacts of EXPO-related development on Aichi's environment until 2010. Planning began in 2002, and the first Aichi Green Maps were presented at exchange meetings in Nagoya in July 2003. In May 2004, six visitors from GreenMap Aichi/Chubu Recycle met with Green Map staff at the New York global headquarters. Collaborative development continues, and we hope our involvement sparks new citizen participation among the 120 countries participating in the big event.



Touring the site of EXPO in July 2003. [Keiko Nakagawa](#), seen under the blue umbrella, is overall Coordinator for the Aichi Green Map network. On the right, Mapmakers from the Bicycling Forum.



GMS Director, Wendy Brawer, became an Honorary Citizen of Nagakute, the town hosting EXPO. Click to see its [Green Map](#) in progress!

While the theme for the EXPO is "Nature's Wisdom," the event has become a source of controversy in Aichi's environmental community, over concerns about the impact on local infrastructure and natural resources. Some remain strongly opposed to the event, while others are hoping it could actually leave a positive legacy for the local environment. For example, because there will be no parking available at EXPO, all visitors will use newly upgraded public transportation or arrive by bicycle (and yes, a bicycling Green Map is in production!).

Two hours south of Tokyo, the main event site in Nagakute will host a Green Map pavilion in its NGO Global Village during the month of August. This will be the first time EXPO - which takes place in a different city every five years - will include an NGO presence. The Green Map pavilion will foster environmental awareness and international exchange, as visitors learn about sustainability and how to get involved in the local environment when they return home. Green Mapmakers from across Asia will also converge for discussions at the site starting August 21st.

Take EXPO's gondola or express bus to the nearby town of Seto for the primary Green Map exhibition. There, in Aichi Prefecture's pavilion, the Green Map [network](#) will hold a six month long exhibit displaying 32 different Green Maps, an environmental picture book, eco-tips for visitors and more. The Aichi network consists of 16 diverse map projects focused on a range of themes such as marine

resources, bicycling and social issues in many different communities, plus an additional 16 groups are making Green Maps just for EXPO. Chubu Recycle's director, Yoshiyuki Hagiwara, invited the network to collaborate in showcasing Green Maps and presenting educational activities.



Image © Chabata
Kazuya

*Chubu Recycle's
Aichi Green Map
coordinators with
Green Map
System staff at
our NYC office in
May 2004.*



Originally, plans called for the entire EXPO to be located in Seto, but concerns about the impact on endangered hawk habitat forced organizers to choose a less sensitive location for the main event. With the environment already an important issue in the planning process, Aichi Prefecture's Green Map network was inspired to take a leading role in raising environmental awareness through the event. According to project organizer [Keiko Nakagawa](#), "Green Map Aichi is a great tool to think about our environment and the way we live. You can start from what you're interested in, such as water or children, and connect to the community because of Green Maps." The Seto exhibit will be open from March 25 through September 25.

Members of the planning team hope that the city of Nagakute and surrounding areas of Aichi will continue to benefit after EXPO closes. Improving the region's transportation networks to accommodate bicyclers and walkers is just one example of important changes that support sustainability and healthy living. By educating and uniting people, Aichi's Green Map projects already encourage local citizens to support positive changes in hometown environments. Organizers in Aichi look forward to sharing these impacts while motivating millions of EXPO visitors in 2005.

Link to Aichi Green Maps Online

Aichi Prefecture


Bishu Green Map    (Japanese)

While the area depicted on the map is no longer called "Bishu," the Green Map team purposely uses this traditional name as they rethink their community. To see a close-up of the map, you must click on the colored dots on the larger map. [Read more.](#)

 <http://www5f.biglobe.ne.jp/~bishugm/>


 <http://www5f.biglobe.ne.jp/~bishugm/map.htm>

Green Map Aichi EXPO 05   (Japanese/English)

Envisioned as a "guidepost for sustainable community" by Chubu Recycle, this sophisticated website allows the public to search for and contribute green sites. The project will continue after EXPO is over, to assess its impacts on the local environment.  [Read more..](#)

 <http://www.aichi-greenmap.jp>

EXPO 05: Bicycle Map  

The slogan of this mapping project is "Come to Expo by Bike." Although this map does not yet use Green Map Icons, the project is affiliated with Green Map Aichi EXPO 05.  [Read more.](#)

 <http://www.cyclemap.net>

EXPO 05: Green Map of Chita Peninsula     (Japanese)

Handa City is located on the Chita Peninsula, where a famous folktale about a fox named "Gongitsune" originated. The primary focus of this project is children and nature. Open the map and click the "fish" Icon to see photos of youth-related activities.

 <http://ueno.cool.ne.jp/ctgm/>

 http://ueno.cool.ne.jp/ctgm/map/chitahanto_gm.html

EXPO 05: Nagakute Green Map  (Japanese)

The Green Map for Nagakute, EXPO's host city, is online and interactive. Adults are in charge of the editorial work, but they hope that eventually the fieldwork will be youth-initiated.

 <http://gis.town.nagakute.aichi.jp/GreenMap/service.html>

EXPO 05: Green Map Owari-Asahi  (Japanese)

The theme of this map is "Walk and Discover." The website is still under construction, but you can get a glimpse of their base map.

 <http://www.sakurasan.com/greenmap/>

Note: these links are from our [list](#) of online Green Maps -- click to explore them all!

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