

## Study area: sites and issues

The principal issues that will be brought up during this activity are related to the environmental concerns, cultural heritage, everyday environment quality, urban landscape identity as well as sustainable development. Along with representatives of the City of Kobe and participating Japanese universities, the landscape management issues have been identified and six specific sites have been selected in order to elaborate the urban design projects for the development of Kobe. The issues related to each site have also been identified in order to direct the interventions.



### Old Minato River



#### Urban Characterization:

Commercial urban axis, major traffic axis, river canalised urban interface, pipeline assets.

#### Issues

- Decline of the shopping center;
- Enhancement of a historical area (old river and ancient urban center of Kobe);
- Recognition of the past and its interface with the southern district (Nishide, Higashide District) and mountain;
- Reinventing an urban landscape that contributes to Kobe urban identity.



### Hyogo's Canal



#### Urban Characterization:

Industrial space conversion, vestiges, canals estimated as heritage (important role in the development of the port of Kobe), historical district, changing urban spaces.

#### Issues

- Revitalizing areas surrounding canals (public spaces and development) and its use (water activities);
- Cityscape creation using the environment along canals the enhancement and development opportunities;
- Using historical resources and canals;
- Responding to the conversion of land use;
- Mixed-using between residential environments and industry.



### Nishide, Higashide District



#### Urban Characterization:

Urban history, typical urban morphology of the architectural history of Kobe, residential space, neighbourhood identity, harbour interface (area of ship repair).

#### Issues

- Improvement of urban densely built-up residential area;
- Development of an urban landscape identity;
- Community design using regional resources.



### Downtown Waterfront

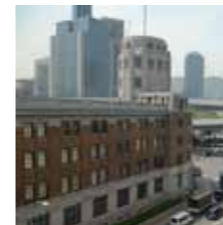


#### Urban Characterization:

Abandoned port area, historic waterfront of the City of Kobe, coastline of the former foreign concession.

#### Issues

- Conversion from harbour use to urban use;
- Making use of historical buildings;
- Improvement of wandering of the city center and waterfront;
- Creating a harborscape unique to Kobe.



### The Foot of Mt. Rokko



#### Urban Characterization:

City / mountain interface, hills of Mount Rokko, iconic landscape of the City of Kobe, walking trails on the hillside, public park (water reservoir), sacred space (cemeteries and temples).

#### Issues

- Improving the mountain-foot urban area;
- Preserving and developing the observatory landscape;
- Promoting an environment of green spaces to enjoy the landscape.



### Ikuta River Valley



#### Urban Characterization:

Important urban traffic axis for the City of Kobe, urban park (linear public space), reappropriation of the river, entrance to town (railway station), urban interface with the hills of the Rokko mountains system.

#### Issues

- Creating a City Gate;
- Creating a river axis scenery.



*Making landscape architecture brings back the project and the process of invention and reinvention of areas, as if we were looking for new meanings and seeking for constant updates of our sights.*

(P. Poullaouec-Gonidec, Les cultures du paysage in Traité de la culture, Ed. IQRC, 2002, Canada)