## Osaka has been selected as a "Global Startup City"



On July 14<sup>th</sup>, the Japanese Government selected four urban areas centered around Osaka, Tokyo, Nagoya and Fukuoka as "Global Startup Cities" based on the "Strategies for the Creation of a Startup Ecosystem." Osaka City applied as the Keihanshin area which is a metropolitan area made up of Osaka City, Kyoto City as well as Kobe City in Hyogo Prefecture.

"Global Startup Cities" are selected based on plans for creating a startup city, drawn up by the consortiums formed by the local governments, universities and economic organizations of the cities where many startups and supporters are located. Osaka Prefectural Government, Osaka City, Sakai City, economic organizations and Osaka Business Development Agency established the "Osaka Startup Ecosystem Consortium" last October and has been contributing to Osaka's strategies for building a startup city.

On July 6th, before the startup cities were selected, Mr. Takemoto Naokazu, the Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, visited Osaka and had



a meeting with the relevant parties. Chairman of Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), Mr. Ozaki introduced OCCI's Startup Support Project and said that "Through the cooperation between the chambers of commerce and industry of Keihanshin area, we would like to achieve synergistic effects so that 1+1+1 becomes more than 3."



Osaka is going to enhance the startup city in various ways, such as providing startup development programs, promoting foreign investments, and accelerating the use of the startup support budget.