In April 2016, The Nippon Foundation developed an accessibility map application called Bmaps (which is available on iOS, Android and the Website). Bmaps’ aim is to promote accessibility and for people to live in a fully inclusive barrier free world. Bmaps data entry already exceeds 30,500 data and it has become one of the richest accessibility map applications in the world.

On 15 October, our Chairman, Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, delivered a speech during the opening of the UN DESA High Level Forum on Disability Inclusion and Accessible Urban Development, about the importance of inclusion and the need to ensure vulnerable people were involved in all discussions about planning the New Urban Agenda and disaster risk reduction. Later in the same forum, John Honney, (Special Advisor of The Nippon Foundation), made two presentations about Bmaps and a concept the Nippon Foundation is working on regarding the training of architects in universal design and accessibility.

On 19 October, The Nippon Foundation will make further presentations about Bmaps at one of the official Habitat III side events (Urban Future at the UN Pavilion). Mr. Yasunobu Ishii, (Senior Program Director of The Nippon Foundation), Mr. Toshiya
Kakiuchi (CEO - Mirairo Inc.) and Mr. Jonathan Viera (Ministry of Urban Development and Housing) will discuss Bmaps and how it can work to benefit the city of Quito by sharing accessibility data. Later on the same day, Mr. Kakiuchi will be a panel member on the Persons with Disability Roundtable discussion taking place at the National library, Case de la Cultura.

The Nippon Foundation is also delighted to announce that they will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Quito Municipality, to help create a more inclusive urban development through the use of Bmaps, with the combined aim to make Quito a barrier free and accessible city.

<Habitat III Side Event Urban Future>
(1) Date: Oct 19th (Wed) 12:00～12:45
(2) Location: One UN Pavilion, Urban Future (Quito, Ecuador)
(3) Participants: Ministry of Urban Development and Housing Mr. Jonathan Viera
Mirairo Inc. CEO Mr. Toshiya Kakiuchi
The Nippon Foundation, Senior Program Director Yasunobu Ishii
(4) Program: Opening
Functions of Bmaps
Bmaps in Quito
Comments from the developer
Closing

<Habitat III Persons with Disabilities Roundtable Discussion>
(1) Date: Oct 19th (Wed) 4:30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.
(2) Location: National Library, Casa de la Cultura (Quito, Ecuador)
(3) Participants: Mirairo Inc. CEO Mr. Toshiya Kakiuchi

<Signing Ceremony with Quito Municipality>
(1) Date: Oct 17th (Mon) 18:00～19:00
(2) Location: The Eugenio Espejo Convention Center (Quito, Ecuador)
(3) Participants: Mayor of Quito Dr. Mauricio Rodas Espinel
The Nippon Foundation Chairman Mr. Yohei Sasakawa

(4) Program: Opening
Signing
Brief Comments from the signers
Closing

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Habitat III official side event (Urban Future)

Bmaps, An Innovative Accessibility Guide provided by A Smartphone Application and A Website Using an Internet Browser

Organization Name:

Title:

Name:

Address