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Constructing a Theoretical Framework of International Student Support

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In recent years, Japanese universities have been trying to increase their number of international students. This has been driven by the Japanese Ministry of Education's goal of increasing the number of international students in Japan to three hundred thousand. This has led many Japanese universities to set numerical targets as part of their mid-term goals and has made a priority of increasing the number of international students.

Along with increasing the number of international students, there has been an awareness of the necessity to improve the quality of services offered to these international students. This paper is part of a Japanese Ministry of Education research grant that looked into ways of improving support for international students. This research examined support services in universities in other countries, specifically England, Canada, Australia as well as in Japan. This paper is based on research interviews that were carried out at universities in the above countries in 2010, 2011 and 2012. This work was supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 22530844.