

#### CHINA IS THE ROK'S LARGEST TRADE PARTNER Three 20% The GDP Outbound **population** of the three of the trade and three countries countries vestment is roughly 20 percent of the accounts of the three countries is percent of about 20 the global population world percent of global volume economy The economic volume of China, Japan and the ROK make up about 70 percent of 70 the Asian economy.

The foreign exchange

reserves of the three countries are about 47

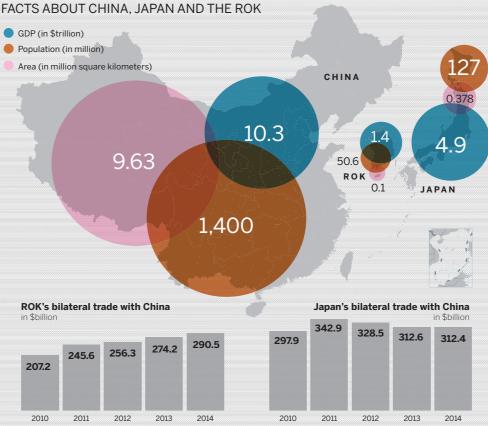
percent of the world's total

The number of visits people

from the three countries made to the other two

countries in 2014

Population (in million) 127 Area (in million square kilometers) CHINA 0.378 10.3 4.9 9.63 50.6 ROK 0.1 JAPAN 1.400 ROK's bilateral trade with China Japan's bilateral trade with China 328.5 312.6 312.4 297.9 290.5 274.2 256.3 245.6 207.2



# **TIMELINE**

#### 1999

Government heads of the three countries hold a number of discussions on the sidelines of ASEAN meetings with China, Japan and the ROK

The leaders agree to hold formal meetings annually.

### 2008

The countries agree to take turns hosting annual trilateral meetings. The first meeting is held in December 2008 in Fukuoka, Japan,

# 2009

Second trilateral meeting held in Beijing. 2010

# Third trilateral meeting held on Jeju Island, the ROK.

2011 Fourth trilateral meeting held in Tokyo in the wake of the deadly tsunami and leaders discuss

cooperation in disaster

prevention and nuclear

#### safety. 2012

Fifth trilateral meeting held in Beijing. The three governments sign a tripartite investment treaty and start free trade

# cultural bridge

Source: China Daily TIAN CHI / CHINA DAILY

creating a dreamlike atmosphere. Thanks to the dramas, Chinese youth may find it easy to live in the ROK, because what they experienced is probably what they are familiar with

Yi is positive about the Korean operas' ability to create cross-cultural communication. And, she admires the tender spirit of the TV dramas, revealed in homage to an older generation and courtesy for predecessors. In July 2014, China's State

Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television, and the ROK's ministry of culture, sports and tourism, signed a film coproduction agreement to promote closer bilateral ties.

Now the ROK side intends to develop more expertise in China by expanding on successful models.

For example, the ROK's leading film and TV series producer CJ Entertainment & Media opened a film studio park in Hebei province's Dachang county, located in the outskirts of Beijing, as

potential incubators of ideas and projects for young Chinese filmmakers

According to Cho Gunryong, general manager of strategic cooperation at CJ E&M China, the company will produce two to three films targeting Chinese filmgoers in the next few "The fast-growing film

industry in China has created a marvelous market for us," Cho said.

The cooperation is a twoway street.

For example, Seoul will present the China Film Festival, co-created by the two countries' film authorities, to screen 10 Chinese films as a step to better promote the country's cinema in the ROK.

"China and the ROK share a common Confucian culture, which helps Chinese audiences to reduce distance," director Huang Jianxin, says.

"Nevertheless, the making of Korean films and TV operas is very different from our industry. It leaves much space for two sides to have more cooperation in the future.

# What they say



We should particularly focus on confidence building. I hope the trilateral summit meeting will make progress in that direction and to get this from all the participants from the three countries, not just one or two. All of the participants should make more efforts to ensure greater cooperation under the spirit of mutual benefit, mutual cooperation and mutual respect.

**LEE KYU-HYUNG**, former ROK ambassador to China and now an adviser at Samsung Economic Research Institute



The China-Japan relationship has displayed a momentum of improvement since last November. This momentum granted some of the conditions required for preliminarily resuming the trilateral leaders' meeting, but such a momentum of improvement is not stable and cemented, and it needs tangible actions to be permanent.

YANG BOJIANG, deputy director of the Institute of Japan Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences



The three countries are expected to share aspirations, make joint contributions and boost mutual trust ... Japan, China and the ROK contribute to the world economic development and improvement of livelihoods, and they are standing at the forefront of shaping and boosting a peaceful community in the world.

KIYOYUKI SEGUCHI, research director at the Tokyo-based Canon Institute for Global Stud



The three countries should display a more open mind. We should be prepared to talk about the future. In Northeast Asia, the three countries are not just ordinary countries. We have a responsibility to lead the world.

SHIN BONG-KIL, president of the ROK Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security



When we are facing the future, peace, cooperation and development have become part of the widespread consensus, and at the current time the most important thing is to strengthen political mutual trust. It is hoped that the upcoming meeting will reinforce political trust and therefore give a boost to the mutual trust among the people of the three countries.

YUJI MIYAMOTO, former Japanese ambassador to China