



EUROPEAN UNION
Delegation to Japan



“Enhancing STI Collaboration between the EU and Japan: Opportunities and Challenges”

**Organised by
the Delegation of the European Union to Japan
in collaboration with Tohoku University**

Wednesday, 25 January 2023

15:20-18:00

[Link to join](#)

Collaboration in science, technology and innovation (STI) plays an increasingly important role in the overall EU-Japan relations. Cooperation in research and innovation (R&I) is based on the bilateral Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement concluded in 2011, the EU-Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement adopted in 2019 and the Letter of Intent on Strengthening Cooperation in STI between the European Commission and the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan exchanged in May 2020. In addition, cooperation on STI with Japan underpins the different ongoing sectoral dialogues, in particular the Digital Partnership, the Green Alliance and Connectivity Partnership.

In line with the Global Approach, the EU’s strategy on international cooperation on research and innovation, the EU has offered to Japan the possibility of becoming associated to the EU’s Framework Programme for Research and Innovation ‘Horizon Europe’ (2021-2027). Association offers the closest form of R&I cooperation between an EU and a non-EU country.

Building on this political momentum, the two sides announced at the EU-Japan Summit in May 2022 that they had started exploratory talks on a possible association of Japan to Horizon Europe.

Horizon Europe, with its EUR 95.5 billion of EU contribution topped up by contributions from Associated Countries (currently 16 countries are associated), is the world’s largest and most internationally open civilian R&I programme of its kind. Inspired by a cross-sectoral and mission-oriented approach, Horizon Europe presents similarities and possible synergies with Japanese R&I programmes and actions.

While discussions are ongoing on how to bring the cooperation with Japan to the next level, Horizon Europe is already open to participation of Japan.

This seminar will provide an opportunity for European and Japanese policymakers, academics and other STI stakeholders to discuss about enhancing their collaboration, exploring synergies and building linkages. New collaboration opportunities under the Horizon Europe Work Programmes 2023-2024, adopted on 6 December 2022, will be presented, as well as some inspiring testimonies and success stories of past cooperation under the EU Framework Programmes.



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Agenda

Programme in English without interpretation

15:20-15:30

Welcome remarks

- H.E. Mr Jean-Eric Paquet, Ambassador of the European Union to Japan
- H.E. Mr Shigeki Ito, Deputy Director-General / Deputy Assistant Minister (Ambassador), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

15:30-16:00

Keynote addresses

- Ms Signe Ratso, Acting Director-General for Research and Innovation and Chief Negotiator for Association to Horizon Europe, European Commission
- Dr Shuichi Sakamoto, Deputy Secretary General for Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, Cabinet Office
- Mr Koji Kitayama, Deputy Director-General, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
- Professor Motoko Kotani, Executive Vice President for Research, Tohoku University

16:00-17:00

Collaboration Opportunities in the Horizon Europe Work Programmes 2023-2024

- Ms Maria Cristina Russo, Director, Global Approach and International Partnerships, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission - General introduction on international participation in Horizon Europe
- Ms Mirela Atanasiu, Head of Operations and Communication Unit, Clean Hydrogen Partnership - Opportunities for Japan under the EU Clean Hydrogen Partnership
- Dr Maria Georgiadou, Senior Expert, Renewable Energy R&I Policy, Clean Planet - Clean Energy Transition Unit, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission - Horizon Europe call for international cooperation under Mission Innovation on advanced biofuels (Cluster 5)
- Ms Henriette Van Eijl, Head of Unit, Prosperity - Economic and Social Transitions, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission - Cluster 1 on Health



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Delegation to Japan



- Dr Stefan Kramer, First Counsellor, Science, Innovation, Digital, and Other EU Policies Section, EU Delegation to Japan - Cluster 4 with a focus on Digital Technologies
- Mr Andrea De Candido, Policy Officer, Clean Planet - Future Urban and Mobility Systems Unit, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission - Connected, Cooperative and Automated Mobility (CCAM) topics: new opportunities for collaboration between the EU and Japan (Cluster 5)
- Ms Annette Scheegans, Head of Sector, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission - R&I Opportunities under the Horizon Europe Mission “A Soil Deal for Europe”

17:00-17:10 **Q&A**

17:10-17:40 **Testimonies and success stories from Japanese and European participants in the EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation**

- Ms Kristin Danielsen, Acting Executive Director-Internationalisation and the research system, Research Council of Norway - Norway’s participation in the Framework Programme as an Associated Country
- Professor Yasuyuki Taki, Tohoku University - Horizon 2020 e-VITA project on ICT for healthy ageing
- Dr Fabrice Stassin, Director Government Affairs Electromobility Projects, Coordinator for Asian Affairs, UMICORE (Belgium) - UMICORE’s participation in the EU R&I Framework Programme
- Professor Teruoki Tago, Tokyo Institute of Technology - Horizon 2020 LAURELIN project on advanced biofuels

17:40-17:50 **Q&A**

17:50-18:00 **Closing remarks**

- Ms Signe Ratso, Acting Director-General for Research and Innovation and Chief Negotiator for Association to Horizon Europe, European Commission
- Mr Shigeo Morimoto, Vice President, Japan Science and Technology Agency

