



Kobe University Brussels Workshop and Brokerage Event

Jointly Organised with the Vrije Universiteit Brussel
With the Support of Waseda and Kansai Universities

'New Opportunities for EU-Japan Research & Innovation Cooperation'

21 October 2021, 8:45-12:40(CEST) / 15:45-19:40 (JST) - Online Event -

DRAFT

REV 14 September 2021

This workshop and brokerage event follows-up and complements the 11th Kobe University-VUB Annual Symposium *'Green Horizons, Sustainable Futures: EU-Japan Research for Climate-Prepared, Resilient Societies'* held the previous day. This 'hands-on' workshop is primarily addressed to European researchers and research managers from UnILLION Member Universities interested in collaborating with Japanese research organisations.

Session 1 will update participants on the latest developments in R&I between Europe and Japan, at the policy and funding levels. It will highlight opportunities for Japanese participation in Horizon Europe and introduce Japanese funding programmes for international collaboration. It will look, in particular, at 'bridges' being developed between Horizon Europe and other Japanese research programmes. It will also consider new instruments developed in the perspective of the Association of Japan to Horizon Europe and other recent initiatives. (e.g. EU-Japan Green Alliance)

In session 2, the three Japanese members of UnILLION will share their experiences and identify concrete opportunities for collaboration with Europe, especially with UnILLION member Universities. RIKEN, Japan's largest research organization will also present its programmes.

In the ensuing **discussion session** presenters from Kobe, UnILLION and industry will share their own experience on the challenges and opportunities of working with Japanese and European organisations. Participants will share, in particular, lessons learned from participating in EU and Japanese calls.

Programme (Time: CEST/JST)

8:45-8:50/15:45-15:50 Welcome by the Moderator

- Takashi Kita, Vice-President, Kobe University

8:50-9:10/15:50-16:10– Opening Remarks & Introduction

- Toshinori Kawabata, Executive Vice-President, Kobe University (by video)
- Cristina Russo, Director, International Cooperation Directorate, DG RTD

9:10-10:20/16:10-17:20 – Session 1 - Connecting with Japan: new funding opportunities in Horizon Europe and other Japanese research funding programmes

- Pierrick Fillon-Ashida, Senior Policy Officer, Head of the Japan and ASEAN Desks, DG RTD
- Daichi Harada, Counsellor for Science, Technology and Education, Mission of Japan to the EU
- Masae Sugawara, Director, JST Paris Office
- Masahiko Hayashi, Director, Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science, Bonn
- Followed by Q&A

10:20-11:30/ 17:20-18:30– Session 2 - Your partner institutions in Japan for research collaboration (with video/on demand presentations of selected Japanese researchers' projects)

- Takashi Kita, Vice-President, Kobe University:
Presentation of 7 Flagship Research Projects (30 minutes)

- Jean-Louis Moortgat, Director, Waseda University Brussels Office (10 minutes)
- Yuichi Ohya, Director, Kansai University Medical Polymer Research Center, Kansai University (10 minutes)
- Toshiyasu Ichioka, Director, Riken European Office (10 minutes)
- Representative of Japanese company in Europe, active in in EU R&I programmes **(Name TBC)** (10 minutes)

11:30- 12:30/18:30-19:30 – Discussion: Climbing the Long Road? Testimonials on the challenges and opportunities of working between EU and Japan, with special focus on funding

- Testimonial 1 - Free University of Bolzen-Bolzano, Profs. Alessandro Narduzzo and Giuseppe Cantarella, with Japanese partners from Hosei University, Tokyo
- Testimonial 2 - University for Foreigners of Siena, Prof. Gioia Vienna
- Testimonial 3 - University of Bari
- Testimonial 4 - Swedish University Alliance

Discussants: Takashi Kita, Vice-President, Kobe University

Pierrick Fillon-Ashida, Senior Policy Officer, Head of the Japan and ASEAN Desks, DG RTD

Masae Sugawara, Director, JST Paris Office

Toshiyasu Ichioka, Director, Riken European Office

Representative of Japanese company in Europe, active in in EU R&I programmes **(Name TBC)**

Moderator: Patrick Vittet-Philippe, Advisor, Kobe University Brussels European Centre

12:30-12:40 / 19:30-19:40- Closing remarks

- Hugo Thienpont, Vice-Rector for Innovation & Industry Relations, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

This event is supported by UnLiON Japanese Members Kansai and Waseda Universities and UnLiON - but does not represent an official position of UnLiON



This event follows on and complements the 11th Kobe University Brussels European Centre Symposium organized jointly with the Vrije Universiteit Brussels on 20 October 2021
'Green Horizons, Sustainable Futures: EU-Japan Research for Climate-Prepared, Resilient Societies'