

2019 – Walk in U.S., Talk on Japan – Profile Sheet



Shiraishi Kazuko
(Delegation Leader)

Shiraishi Kazuko has more than 40 years of experience in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and has served mainly in the areas of treaties, economic affairs and foreign policy coordination. Her overseas postings include those in Embassy in Poland and Consulate General in New York and Atlanta. She served as Ambassador of Japan to Lithuania (2012-15), Ambassador for Women, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs (2015-16) and Ambassador in Charge of Arctic Affairs (2015-16). She is currently a Board member of SCSK, a Tokyo-based global IT service company.



Suzuki Mayumi

Due to the Great East Japan Earthquake, Suzuki Mayumi got back to her hometown, Fukushima, and joined Fukushima Prefecture Government. She contributed to develop international PR strategy for 4 years and transmit information of decommission work at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station for 2 years, and currently in charge of supporting to develop municipalities' local resilience plan.

Since her academic background is environmental law and policy, she has a long experience of environmental policy making and diplomacy, and EIA. She also extended her experience in the field of NGO management, international development cooperation and internationalization of higher education.



Maeda Minami

Maeda Minami is an active professional with track record of success in both the public and the private sector across the globe. He is currently the Chief of Staff to CEO at Rakuten Medical, Inc., a privately funded global biotech company developing an innovative treatment platform for solid tumors. Prior to his current role, he was appointed by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare in Japan as his first Secretary, and advised on strategic policies, including cancer prevention and treatment, payer reform, data driven health, and tobacco regulation. He also advised governments and corporate mainly in Asia and south and east Africa during his time at McKinsey & Company, Inc. He has a master's degree in public policy from the University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy.



Tokunari Takeo

Tokunari Takeo previously worked for a Nairobi-based environmental consulting firm for 3.5 years. He then went back to his hometown Kanazawa, aiming to bring the technologies of local Japanese SMEs to generate net social impacts in Africa. Takeo is currently working with one of such SMEs called Meiwa Co., Ltd., formulating its first pilot project in Kenya to convert unutilized biomass into drought solution. He is a Youth Ambassador of Japan appointed by UN Environment Asia-Pacific.

Takeo will be discussing the potential power of Japanese private sector to actively contribute to global social goals such as SDGs, as well as challenges to unlock such power from his firsthand experience.