



Tanimoto Research Group  
on Social Innovation,  
Waseda University

**JOINT WORKSHOP**  
**Risks and Opportunities in Japan: Local Communities Confronting  
Demographic Change and Climate Change**

**DATE:** Thursday, November 12, 2015

**VENUE:** German Institute for Japanese Studies

The sustainability of Japanese society depends on how we deal with the risks and opportunities in the age of a declining birth rate and an aging population. Securing the future of local communities through innovative ideas and business schemes is being considered as one important strategy. Recently many distinguished social entrepreneurs have tackled and solved the social problems in respective communities with local stakeholders and achieved social change. One related area is renewable energy through its contribution to regional value added. This workshop will focus on exploring the following questions; how do social entrepreneurs start and manage their business, how do they create and diffuse social innovation, how do they build collaboration with stakeholders in communities, and how do they make an impact in the local society? How do Japanese and German communities try to exploit the potential of renewable energy for regional economic development?

The workshop will be held in English. It will take place at the DIJ. Admission is free, registration is necessary: [forum@dijtokyo.org](mailto:forum@dijtokyo.org)

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**PROGRAM:**

**10:00 – 10:10 OPENING**

Franz Waldenberger, DIJ and Kanji Tanimoto, Waseda University

**10:10 – 11:00 KEYNOTE SPEECH** Chair: Kanji Tanimoto

1. Kazue Haga, DIJ, *Entrepreneurship, new combinations and enterprises with social effects: creative responses to demographic change.*
2. Takahiro Ogasawara, AXA Insurance, Chief CSR Officer, *A role of insurance company at the age of aging society* (tentative).

**11:10 – 12:50 CASE STUDY I: Declining Birth Rate and an Aging Population,**

Chair: Kanji Tanimoto

1. Masaatsu Doi, Hosei University, *Social innovation and sick childcare in Japan: a case study of Florence.*
2. Shuji Ohira, Chiba University of Commerce, *Social Innovation for Housewives in a case of Career Mum.*
3. Nobuyoshi Ohmuro, Kyoto Sangyo University, *How to attract resources of local community and the necessity of bird eyes in social innovation: a case of FRAU.*
4. Kunio Okura, Hirosaki University, *Social innovation in home care support service for senior citizen and disabled people: a case of Care Center Yawaragi.*
5. Kimihisa Komura, Kyoto Sangyo University, *Social innovation in regional activation: a case of Salad Cosmo.*

**12:50 – 14:10 LUNCH**

**14:10 – 15:10 CASE STUDY II: Environment and Renewable Energy**

Chair: Kanji Tanimoto

1. Christian Dimmer, The University of Tokyo, *Transition Towns.*
2. Daniel Kremers, DIJ, *Risk perceptions and inter-generation relations in rural Japan – Potentials and initiatives for sustainable development in Hakusan*
3. Franz Waldenberger, DIJ, *Renewable energy as community business - The Japanese town Oki and German village St. Peter.*

**15:20 – 16:40 PLENARY SESSION,** Chair: Franz Waldenberger

Kazue Haga, Christian Dimmer, Nobuyoshi Ohmuro, Masaatsu Doi

**16:40 CLOSING**

Franz Waldenberger and Kanji Tanimoto

**17:00 RECEPTION**