



EU Japan Sustainable Finance Webinar

**The Next Chapter of Sustainable Finance in the EU and Japan:  
Key Implications for Financial Market Actors and Industry**

16 September 2021 (Thurs): 16:00 – 18:30 (JST)

Language: English & Japanese (simultaneous translation provided)

Organizer: Delegation of the European Union to Japan

Co-Organizer: Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

The EU and Japan have both recently made important progress in enacting key sustainable finance policies. The European Commission (EC) adopted a comprehensive package of measures in April 2021 to facilitate the flow of investments towards sustainable activities, which include the EU Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act, a Proposal for a Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), and Amending Delegated Acts on sustainability preferences, sustainability amendments of rules on fiduciary duties, and product governance. The EC also adopted the renewed sustainable finance strategy, ‘Strategy for financing the transition to a sustainable economy’ in July 2021. In Japan, the Basic Guidelines on Transition Finance was published in May 2021 and the Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance delivered the “Report by the Expert Panel on Sustainable Finance,” laying out recommendations for policy actions needed to promote sustainable activities in Japan.

This webinar will address the practical implications of these policy developments on financial institutions and the wider industry in the EU and Japan. Questions to be addressed include:

- What are the changes and challenges that we see as a result of these policies?
- How will the financial sector practically implement sustainability risk disclosures?
- What are the costs of getting to net-zero and the way ahead in the process of low-carbon transition?

Discussions at the event will focus on how policy makers, industry actors and the financial sector can work together to encourage sustainable investments and drive demand for financial products and services that promote sustainable outcomes. This webinar will bring together key players from the EU and Japan policy makers, banks and investors in the EU and Japan.

## Programme

\* Please note programme and speakers are subject to change without prior notice. Speakers will be updated as they are confirmed.

16:00-16:20	<p><b>Welcoming and Opening Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Marcel Haag</b> (Director of Horizontal Policies, European Commission’s Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union)  <b>Satoshi Ikeda</b> (Chief Sustainable Finance Officer, Financial Services Agency)</p>
16:20-17:20	<p><b>Panel Discussion 1</b>  <u><b>Developments in Disclosure related policies and ESG Data Analysis Challenges:</b></u></p> <p>Moderator:  <b>Mari Yoshitaka</b> (Principal Sustainability Strategist, Deputy General Manager of Corporate Planning Dept. Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting Co., Ltd.)</p> <p>Speakers:  <b>Thomas Harding</b> (Regulatory Solutions Product Lead, ISS ESG)  <b>Natsuho Torii</b> (Manager, Sustainability Department, Japan Exchange Group)  <b>Seiji Kawazoe</b> (Senior Stewardship Officer, Stewardship Development Department, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Asset Management)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How will the latest sustainable policies (e.g. SFDR, CSRD, NFRD, Corporate Governance Code and Guidelines for Investor and Company Engagement) practically impact company reporting and availability of data?</li> <li>- To what extent have ESG disclosure standards and frameworks enhanced the credibility and comparability of ESG data?</li> <li>- How effectively have the disclosed data been incorporated into investment &amp; engagement decisions?</li> <li>- How are investors (preparing to) approaching potential discrepancies in data availability between EU and non-EU companies?</li> <li>- How has disclosure related policy evolved in Japan? What are the implications of global (including that of EU) developments in disclosure related initiatives and regulation?</li> </ul>
17:20-18:20	<p><b>Panel Discussion 2</b>  <u><b>Financing Transition and Net Zero Investment Frameworks in the EU and Japan: opportunities and pitfalls for investors and financial institutions</b></u></p> <p>Moderator:  <b>Yukari Takamura</b> (Professor, The University of Tokyo Institute for Future Initiatives)</p> <p>Speakers:  <b>Miyuki Zeniya</b> (Head of Sustainable Finance, The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Ltd. / Deputy Head of Global Sustainability, Dai-ichi Life Holdings, Inc.)  <b>Midori Yanase</b> (Manager, Corporate Finance Team, Finance Group, NYK Line)  <b>Nate Aden</b> (Senior Fellow, World Resource Institute / Financial Sector Lead, Science Based Targets initiative)</p>

	<p><b>Aldo Romani</b> (Head of Sustainability Funding, European Investment Bank)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What does net zero mean in the EU/Japan and what is the cost of getting there?</li> <li>- How attractive are sustainable products to investors in this low-interest environment and what policies are needed to mobilize more capital?</li> <li>- What are the differences and similarities between transition finance frameworks in the EU and Japan?</li> <li>- How are the latest sustainable finance policies related to transition being understood and/or being utilized by investment strategies to achieve Net Zero?</li> <li>- Where are the sustainable investment opportunities and what are the challenges to tap into them?</li> <li>- How can market actors synergize their efforts to accelerate investments towards Net Zero?</li> </ul>
18:20-18:30	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Yasuo Takahashi</b> (Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Executive Director)</p>

Supported by:



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