## THE AUSTRALIA-JAPAN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP



















## Australia-Japan Innovation Alliance, 2023

Unlocking Potential | Shaping the Future

6 October 2023, Melbourne, Australia

# How can we take Australia-Japan innovation exchange and co-operation to the next level? What's next for our Innovation Alliance?

Following on from our highly successful inaugural event in Tokyo in October 2022, welcome to the second Innovation Alliance Forum. Join a community of leaders from industry, government, startups, and the university sector for a day of learning and discussion around research and innovation between our two nations.

Hear from experts and thought leaders as they share real-world success stories and challenges in both the Japanese and Australian contexts. Join the conversation about how we can help foster dynamic knowledge exchange, innovation and growth – innovation bridges – between Australia and Japan.

Date:	Friday, 6 October
Time:	09:00-18:00 (AEST)
Venue:	Investment Centre Victoria Level 46, 55 Collins Street Melbourne
Language:	English

**2022** 年 **10** 月に東京で開催された第 **1** 回イベントに続き、第 **2** 回イノベーション アライアンス フォーラムへょうこ そ。

産業界、政府機関、新興企業、教育界のリーダーと共に、日豪間の研究とイノベーションについて、ディスカッションなどを通して、より理解を深められるプログラムに参加してみませんか。

また、専門家や業界を牽引するリーダーが日本とオーストラリアの両方の実際の成功事例や課題を共有し、貴重な話し を聞ける機会となっております。日豪間でのダイナミックな知識交換や成長について、「イノベーションの架け橋」を どのように促進できるか、共に模索してみませんか?

日付:	2022年10月6日(金)
時間:	09:00-18:00 (AEST)
会場:	Investment Centre Victoria Level 46, 55 Collins Street Melbourne
言語:	英語



### LOOKING TO THE NEXT SIXTY YEARS

#### **PROGRAM**

09:00 **Registration Open** WELCOME and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY 09:30-9:45 Richard Andrews | CEO, AJBCC 9:45-10:30 **SESSION 1: AUSTRALIA-JAPAN INNOVATION** Moderator: Dr Amanda Caples | Victoria's Lead Scientist Speakers: Adam Cunneen | Victoria's Commissioner to North Asia Richard Samuels | General Manager of the International Science and Resources Branch, Department of Industry, Science and Resources Takeshi Wada | Senior Director for Industrial Science and Technology Policy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) [online] **SESSION 2:** ACCELERATING THE ALLIANCE 10:45-11:45 Moderator: Jane O'Dwyer | CEO, Cooperative Research Australia Panellists: Professor Nobuyuki Ozaki | Nagoya University Dr Amanda Caples | Victoria's Lead Scientist Professor Calum Drummond AO | Vice President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation, RMIT University Professor Jenny Corbett | Emeritus Distinguished Professor Australian National University, Board Member, Foundation for Australia-Japan Studies (FAJS) Paul Harris | Executive Director, Innovative Research Universities 11:45-13:00 **Buffet Networking Lunch** 13:00-13:15 **Presentation** Mr. Susumu Kataoka | President, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) 13:15-14:30 **SESSION 3: CORPORATE INNOVATION** Moderator: Kath Blackham | Cremorne Digital Hub, Versa Agency Panellists: Takashi Muraoka | Managing Partner, IGPI

### 14:30-15:30

#### SESSION 4: PERSPECTIVES FROM VCs AND THE STARTUP COMMUNITY

Takahiro lino | Managing Director, MUFG Australia and Oceania

Paul Jones | VP, Japan Computer Vision (Softbank) Beyond Al/ Station Al/ Matsuo Labs

**Moderator:** Kerri Lee Sinclair | Invest Victoria Advisory Board Member **Panellists:** 

Ayala Domani | VP, Technology and Innovation, NEC

- Simon Wright | Managing Partner, InterValley Ventures
- Gabrielle Munzer | Partner, Main Sequence Ventures
- Shinichi Nikkuni | Managing Partner, Nordic Ninja [online]
- Joshua Flannery | Founder, Innovation Dojo Japan [online]

#### 15:30-16:30

#### SESSION 5: STARTUPS: LESSONS FROM FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE

Moderator: Hideaki Yoshimura | APAC Director, HIVERY Panellists:

- Kirsten Mann | CPO, Prospection
- Tim York | CEO, v2food
- Tim Doyle | Founder, Eucalyptus
- Vinod Tiwari | Global Head of Business Development & Partnerships, Powerledger [online]

16:30 Summary and Thanks

16:45-18:00 SESSION 5: NETWORKING EVENT

## THE AUSTRALIA-JAPAN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP



LOOKING TO THE NEXT SIXTY YEARS

### **PARTICIPATING SPEAKERS (Listed alphabetically)**



RICHARD ANDREWS was appointed CEO of the AJBCC in March 2021 following a career of more than 30 years as an Australia, culminating in his posting as the Australian Ambassador to Ireland from 2016 to 2020. A fluent Japanese speaker with an honours degree from the University of Sydney in Japanese studies, he was posted twice in senior positions in the Australian Embassy in Tokyo (1996-1999 and 2008-2012). On secondment to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet he led development of the successful stakeholder engagement program around Australia's hosting of the G20 summit in Brisbane in late 2014.



With a fervour for digital, a mind for innovation, and a firm commitment to enhancing mental health in the workplace, KATH BLACKHAM has led remarkable teams at the forefront of digital transformation for over 20 years. Kath owns and runs two renowned businesses, VERSA Connects and VERSA Agency and is -on the board of the Cremorne Digital Hub, which is dedicated to building tech capability and encouraging big tech investment in Victoria. Kath is continually innovating in the workplace and is regularly found presenting on the future of work. She has been recognised with a number of leadership awards including being one of the finalists for CEO Executive of the Year Award and the winner of CEO Media Executive of the Year, ARN's Women in ICT Awards – Entrepreneur 2020 and B&T's Woman of the Year 2020, Executive Leader of the Year 2020, Mentor of the Year 2020 and Women Leading Tech Awards - Leading Entrepreneur/Founder 2020.



DR AMANDA CAPLES is Victoria's Lead Scientist, a role that aligns and connects Victoria's science, technology and innovation capability with business needs and with government's economic development activities. Amanda is a founding Non-Executive Director of Breakthrough Victoria Pty Ltd, a \$2 billion commitment to invest across the biotechnology; agrifood, clean economy; advanced manufacturing and digital sectors. Amanda is Chair of mRNA Victoria's Scientific Advisory Group accelerating the development of a mRNA innovation ecosystem for research, industry and public health purposes. She is also Chair of the Victorian Quantum Technology Network to advance teaching and research in quantum technologies.

Amanda has led the development of industry and science and innovation policy in Victoria since joining the Victorian Public Service in 2002 as the inaugural Director of Biotechnology. During this time, she has delivered major policy reforms, a range of programs and global partnerships, and landmark initiatives. Amanda is experienced in clinical trials, regulatory affairs, business development and licensing through prior roles with international pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.



PROFESSOR JENNY CORBETT has held executive leadership and educational positions including Distinguished Professor of Economics, Director of the Japan Institute and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training) at the Australian National University and Fellow of the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies at Oxford University. Until recently she was the inaugural Tokyo-based Rio Tinto Fellow established under the established under the Foundation for Australia-Japan Studies (FAJS) In 2014 Jenny was awarded the "Order of the Rising Sun Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon" for services to the Australia-Japan relationship.



ADAM CUNNEEN is Victoria's Commissioner to North Asia. Following 18 years with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade including three postings to Japan covering economic, trade and strategic areas, Adam served with Austrade as Trade Commissioner in Tokyo for 2 consecutive appointments.

He has also served as Country Head of the Japan subsidiary of an Australian multinational manufacturing and IT/gaming company, and more recently, has been Director of the Northern Territory Government's International Investment Attraction Program for minerals and energy, focusing on the key markets of Japan, Korea and China since April 2010. Adam was appointed as Victoria's Commissioner to Japan in February 2012.



AYALA DOMANI Ayala Domani commenced at NEC in June 2023 as Vice President - Technology & Innovation. An established executive leader and innovator, Ayala has a wealth of global experience and a strategic mindset. Ayala has held senior roles across growth and innovation, corporate venturing and product management at some of the nation's biggest organisations including Telstra and AGL Energy and is experienced in creating growth by leveraging technology, talent, new business models and go-to-market approaches. As a purpose and impact-oriented driver, she is passionate about people, culture, diversity and empowering high-performing teams.

Ayala started her career working in tech startups across technical and customer success roles in international markets before immigrating to Australia in 2003. Having started her career in startups and with a passion for innovation and growth, she is still an active supporter and mentor in the startup community. Ayala has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Communications from Haifa University and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).



TIM DOYLE is the CEO and co-founder of Eucalyptus (the company responsible for the brands Pilot, Juniper, Kin and Software). His experience spans across political campaigns, mattresses and now healthcare. Before Eucalyptus, Tim was the Head of Marketing at Koala, where he helped the company launch into Japan.



PROFESSOR CALUM DRUMMOND is Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC) Research and Innovation and Vice President at Melbourne's RMIT University, Professor Drummond has a leadership role in the development of discovery and practice-based research and in building and enhancing capability in research and innovation across the University. In particular, he has a role in educating and training the next generation of researchers and innovators. He has a strong interest and passion for the commercialisation of research outcomes.



JOSHUA FLANNERY is Founder and CEO of Innovation Dojo. He is also an Official Startup Recommender, J-Startup for METI and the Senior Advisor to GEN Japan, the Global Entrepreneurship Network with active members and programs across 180 countries. Joshua helped to establish European innovation firm, Rainmaking in Japan, as its inaugural Japan CEO, worked closely with 7 large Japanese corporations on their open innovation and startup engagement strategies, overlooking over 20 proof of concept projects with foreign startups. Joshua was directly trained under Steve Blank at UC Berkeley and holds an MBA (Technology) from AGSM and a Bachelor of Arts (Communications) from Western Sydney University.



PAUL HARRIS commenced as Executive Director of the Innovative Research Universities network in September 2021. Prior to this, Paul worked for over seven years in diplomatic positions in Australia's Embassies in the United States and Japan. From 2017-2021 he was the Director of the Australian National University's North American Liaison Office in the Australian Embassy in Washington DC. During this time, he was also appointed an Adjunct Fellow at Georgetown University's Center for Security and Emerging Technology. From 2014-2017 he was the Counsellor (Education and Science) in the Australian Embassy in Tokyo.

From 2010-2013 Paul worked at the Australian National University (ANU), creating innovative programs to support new collaboration between researchers and policy-makers. He was the Deputy Director of the Australian National Institute for Public Policy and the HC Coombs Policy Forum at ANU. He was also seconded to be Acting General Manager, Science Policy, in the Australian Government Department of Innovation, Industry, Science, Research and Tertiary Education.

Paul worked for seven years at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia's national science agency, where he was General Manager of Government and International Relations. He was the Australian representative to the OECD Global Science Forum expert panel on the role and responsibilities of scientists in policy-making. He has also worked for Senate Committees in the Australian Parliament and in publishing and journalism, as well as serving on the selection panel for the Fulbright International Science and Technology Award. Paul holds a Master's degree in international affairs from ANU.



TAKAHIRO IINO is the Managing Director, Head of Oceania at MUFG Bank, overseeing operations in Australia and New Zealand across 4 offices - Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and Auckland. Taka is also responsible for the management and development of the Japanese Corporate Banking business in the Oceania region.

Taka has held several positions since he began his career with the Bank in 1996. Most recently, Taka spent 9 years in Human Resources division in Tokyo and New York in senior roles. Prior to this, he spent 8 years in Global Corporate & Investment Banking business in Tokyo and New York.

Taka is currently serving as the President of the Japanese Society of Sydney, a Board member of the Japan Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Sydney / Sydney Japanese International School and Auditor of Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Melbourne / Japanese Society of Melbourne / Japanese School of Melbourne.

Taka graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan and an MBA from Krannert School of Management at Purdue University in West Lafayette, USA.

PAUL JONES Paul is the currently a VP at SoftBank JCV. JCV is the SoftBank Computer Vision business unit. Originally from Melbourne and having studied at RMIT University he pursued a career in both institutional and private equity Asset Management with both Goldman Sachs and Sorros from 2002-11. He then entered the world of building Marketing platforms from 2012 - establishing the following agencies in Japan & Korea - ASL Global, CIP Marketing and HH Global all of which formed strategic partnerships Dentsu, Dai Nippon and Publicis.

In 2021 joined the SoftBank Group as a VP of Japan Computer Vision - a full subsidiary, start up and cross border partnership created on the back of a significant investment made by the SoftBank Fund in 2017. JCV has enjoyed success providing Computer Vision solutions with a focus on Access | Identity | AR to currently over 5,000 clients in Japan and Korea.



SUSUMU KATAOKA joined the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (currently the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) in 1991, later serving as Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan in France, and Counsellor of the Cabinet Secretariat for Revitalization of Japanese Economy,

as well as Director General of JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization) Paris office. In 2020, served as Director General for Policy Coordination and Making at the Consumer Affairs Agency. In October 2023, he was appointed as President of JETRO.



KIRSTEN MANN has been recognised as one of the top 5 product leaders in Australia. With over 27 years in the tech industry, she is currently Chief Product Officer at Prospection and holds prominent board roles at PaperCut and The Executive Connection (TEC). Her transformative experience spans the disciplines of product management, user experience, and development, having led product in global giants like Oracle and MYOB. A standout achievement was her product leadership role at Aconex, an Australian success story which was acquired by Oracle for 1.6b.

In her role at Prospection, Kirsten is spearheading cutting-edge AI technology in collaboration with pharma companies.



GABRIELLE MUNZER is a partner at Main Sequence where she is deeply involved in a number of deep technology company creations and investments. With a strong focus on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles, Gabrielle specifically seeks investments in startups with the ambition to have massive impact in the world.

Gabrielle has more than 20 years of financial markets experience, having worked at Challenger in Australia and Morgan Stanley and ABN AMRO in London previously. Gabrielle earned her Bachelor of Science in International Securities, Investment and Banking from the University of Reading and received a Master of Business Administration from INSEAD. In between earning her Bachelor's and MBA, she also completed a fellowship program for Leadership in Sustainable Development from LEAD.



TAKASHI MUROAKA is a highly sought after C-suite advisor who has led numerous cases on business revitalization, M&A and growth strategy formulation and implementation in Japan, China and other Asian markets for prominent Japanese Corporations. He is an outside director of Shin Nippon Koki Co., Ltd., Ikegai Corporation, and INCJ, Ltd. and a former Senior Adviser of Japanese Government's Financial Services Agency (FSA). Previously, he was the Managing Director of a USD 100bn sovereign wealth fund focusing on turn-around projects in Japan known as the Industrial Revitalization Corporation of Japan (IRCJ) and led prominent turnaround cases such as Mitsui Mining, Misawa Homes, Sankei and Daiei. Prior to IRCJ, he dealt with M&A and project finance transactions at Sanwa Bank (currently MUFG Bank, Ltd.) and covered the telecom industry at Morgan Stanley. He holds an MBA degree from UCLA and lives in Tokyo, Japan.



SHINICHI NIKKUNI is a co-founder of NordicNinja VC and serves as a Managing Partner, as well as a Partner at Industrial Growth Platform Inc. (IGPI), which is one of the initial promotors of NordicNinja. Previously he worked at McKinsey in Tokyo/Frankfurt and co-founded H2GO Power, a hydrogen storage climate tech company spun off from the University of Cambridge and is an advisor to the Japanese Data Center for Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation. His passion is supporting deeptech and healthtech entrepreneurs.



JANE O'DWYER is the CEO of Cooperative Research Australia, the industry body for cooperative research in Australia, strengthening and promoting the transformative potential of collaborative, industry-led research through knowledge exchange, professional development, and advocacy. Prior to her role as CEO of CRA, Jane was Vice-President (Engagement and Global Relations) at The Australian National University, where she was a trusted advisor to three consecutive ANU Vice-Chancellors across media and public affairs, policy, international relations and global engagement. Her career has spanned Australia, Japan and the United States, in roles including policy advisory and not for profit advocacy. Jane lived in Tokyo 2001-2005, where after completing an exchange at Sophia University and working on public diplomacy projects at the Australian Embassy, Jane worked for the Yomiuri Shimbun as a staff writer on the Daily Yomiuri. She has maintained an interest and connection to Japan since that time.



NOBUYUKI OZAKI is a professor at Nagoya University and also honorary principal fellow of University of Melbourne. He joined Nagoya University from April 2020. Before then, he had been working for Toshiba Corporation more than 30 years and his last position was a Senior Fellow focusing on promoting new technology into ITS-related new business based on his computer vision expertise. His current interest is broader than before such as expanding to mobility services from the point of liveable community.

Since 2016 he had been conducting research activity with University of Melbourne under AIMES. The project was called "connected trams". He has many experiences in POC, or proof of concept, internationally.

He is also actively working for several ITS organizations both in Japan and internationally. He is actively leading two committees as chair at ITS JAPAN, a NPO entity to promote ITS technology in Japan. At IEEE, the world's largest technical professional organization, especially for Intelligent Transportation Systems Society, he is serving as vice president of Technical Activities from 2023 January after serving four years as VP for Standards.



RICHARD SAMUELS is the General Manager of the International Science and Resources Branch in the Department of Industry, Science and Resources. He has extensive experience in the public service, having most recently been the Assistant Coordinator-General at the National Emergency Management Agency and Senior Adviser at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, where he led the delivery of Australia's first Blueprint for Critical Technologies Action Plan.

Prior to this, Richard spent a cumulative 12 years working at the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, leading and contributing to various policy matters, including Australian consumer law reforms and quantum computing, which respectively earned him Team Departmental Australia Day Awards in 2008 and 2018. Richard was the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science's Counsellor based at the Australian Embassy in New Delhi, where he worked to strengthen the Australia-India relationship in the industry, innovation, science, resources and energy sectors. He has a Bachelor's degree in Laws (Honours) and a Master's degree in Industry Strategy.



KERRI LEE SINCLAIR has spent over 20 years working across the Australian high-growth ecosystem as an entrepreneur, executive and investor. She co-founded her own start-up, which sold to Microsoft, and then worked across some of Australia's leading tech businesses in executive roles across Asian expansion and M&A. Currently Kerri Lee leads the technology investment and venture capital for select family offices with \$110m under her management, and has joined the boards of several private high-growth global companies. She also sits on the Investment Committees of the State Government of Victoria's Alice Anderson Sidecar Fund; Invest Victoria's Advisory Board and its FDI-focused Equity Attraction Investment Fund; and the CoAct Venture Fund.



Based in Perth, VINOD TIWARI leads Powerledger's global business expansion team, establishing partnerships to leverage its blockchain technology for transactive grid including spinning up local marketplaces for energy trading, grid flexibility trading and environment commodities trading. Vinod is a thought leader and an energy sector specialist with over two decades of experience in strategy, policy, commercial & business development across the supply chain, and a focus on orderly decarbonisation and transformation of energy markets through the integration of Distributed Energy Resources and new technology. Vinod is also a fellow of International Blockchain Climate Institute and has presented extensively on democratisation of energy around the world including Capitol Hill and UN events in the past.



TAKASHI WADA is Senior Director for Industrial Science and Technology Policy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

Bio: Mr. Takashi Wada is Senior Director for Industrial Science and Technology Policy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). He is responsible for international affairs and bi/multilateral cooperation in science and technology policy area. After serving as the executive director at New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) from 2021, Oct, he takes current position from October, 2023.



SIMON WRIGHT, originally from the UK is Managing Partner of Intervalley Ventures. Following two decades experience with the Virgin Group in roles as CEO of Virgin Entertainment Group, and CFO of the global Group previously, Simon is now leading his own Venture Capital fund alongside other business investments. Intervalley Ventures has uniquely raised money in Japan to invest in primarily Australian Early Stage companies having raised its first fund in 2019. Simon has had long experience of doing business in Japan both during his time at Virgin and subsequently.



TIM YORK is the Chief Executive Officer at v2food, the No 1 plant based company in Australia. He is a 30 year veteran of the FMCG industry and was previously the CEO at Darrell Lea Confectionery, and has held senior roles at Coca-Cola, Unistraw, Ernst & Young, Amcor and Honeywell. Tim joined v2food in 2021 due to his interests in both sustainability and nutrition and has a passion for product development and building high growth companies.



HIDEAKI 'Hidi' YOSHIMURA is an Australian-born Japanese national and is HIVERY'S APAC Director based in Sydney. He spent 15 years in Tokyo in consulting and investment banking, bridging Japan with international markets. In 2015, Hidi founded his own advisory company Global Value Partners and supported HIVERY's entry into the Japanese market, leading to the establishment of its Japanese subsidiary HIVERY Japan K.K. in 2018. He is passionate about helping Australian innovators unlock new opportunities in Japan and helping them navigate the challenges. He graduated from Monash University and holds an MBA from Melbourne Business School.