

Sub-group 1: Promoting Women's Active Roles in the Economy

Small-group 1: Promoting Women's Active Roles in Companies/Organizations

In Japan women often face difficulties in working while raising their children and in building up their career. The working and evaluation system which was established upon the male working style – culture of working late and the order of seniority – still hinder women from playing a role in society as actively as they wish. We must ask ourselves what measures Japanese companies and other organizations should take to create an environment where more women can get promoted to managerial and executive positions and more mothers can continue working after their children's birth. Thematic session 1 will ask this question, while encouraging participants to share the experiences and lessons in and outside Japan.

Moderator: Miki Tsusaka

Rapporteur: Ellana Lee

Kick-off speakers: Masako Mori

Kimie Iwata

Elke Ferner

Participants :

Kevin MaCann

Zia Mody

Rohana Rozhan

Deborah M. Soon

Anne Sweeney

Yoshiaki Fujimori

Mikiko Fujiwara

Nahomi Ichimiya

Keiko Kawado

Izumi Kobayash

Shinzo Maeda

Koji Suzuki

Yukako Uchinaga

Small-group 2: Women and Entrepreneurship

Japanese society has seen increase social businesses launched by female social entrepreneurs who optimize their women's perspectives, and this situation is creating important opportunities for women. Yet, it is also true that the lack of management experience and limited financial resources make it difficult for women to successfully launch and expand their business. Discussions in thematic session 2 will be on what mechanism and measures can be developed for supporting start-ups by women, with lessons and experiences in and outside Japan being shared.

Moderator: Makiko Fukui

Rapporteur: Sakie T. Fukushima

Kick-off speakers : Haruka Mera
Leonor Beleza

Participants :

Pascale Boistard	Sakie Akiyama
Ouided Bouchamaoui	Ayaka Nirei
Wasna R. Lathouras	Kaori Sasaki
Noni Sri Ayati Purnomo	Takako Suwa

Small-group 3: Infrastructure Necessary to Support Women's Active Roles in Society

In Japan, Prime Minister Abe and his team have been working on various measures to create an environment where all women can unleash their ability to the maximum extent possible. For example, we could increase nurseries and day care centers and to expand housekeeping/childcare services so that parents can raise their children or take care of their elderly while continuing their work. Furthermore, both the government and the private sector are required to provide more assistance for housewives who have work experience in re-developing their capacity and skills when they seek to find a job again. We could also consider and develop tax and social welfare systems from the perspective of facilitating women's employment. Thematic session 3 will discuss how we can enhance such social infrastructures in partnership with the private sector, while learning from other countries' experiences.

Moderator : Kathey Matsui

Rapporteur : Barbara Judge

Kick-off speakers : Fumiko Hayashi

Irene Hirano Inouye

Sheila Lirio Marcelo

Participants :

Grace Fu Yien

Naina Lal Kidwai

Mikael Palmquist

Mireya Solis

Mariko Fujii

Yasuchika Hasegawa

Yumiko Katayama

Midori Miyazaki

Atsushi Nakajima

Honami Yoshida