



## INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM - SKILLS AND TRAINING ECOSYSTEMS FOR LOCAL REVITALISATION:

INTERNATIONAL INNOVATIONS IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) AND THE POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION FOR EMPLOYABILITY IN AN AGEING SOCIETY

**12 December 2013**

Kyoto Sangyo University Musubiwaza-kan, Kyoto City, Japan

## DRAFT AGENDA

*This symposium is hosted by Kyoto Prefectural Government, Ryukoku University, Kyoto Sangyo University and Research Centre for the Local Public Human Resources and Policy Development (LORC) within the framework of the OECD LEED project on 'Ageing Labour Markets and Local Economic Strategies' with sponsorship of the Suntory Foundation.*

*The symposium is supported by Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development, NPO Glocal Human Resources Development Center, CUANKA, and COLPU.<sup>1</sup>*

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*The workshop is supported by 9 universities (Ryukoku University, Kyoto Sangyo University, Kyoto University, Kyoto Prefectural University, Doshisha University, Kyoto Tachibana University, Bukkyo University, Kyoto Bunkyo University, Seibi University), Kyoto Prefectural Government, Kyoto City Government, Kyoto Cities Towns and Villages Promotion Association, Kyoto Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kyoto Association of Corporate Executives, Kyoto Employers' Association, Kyoto Industrial Association, Kyoto NPO Centre, Consortium of Universities in Kyoto, NPO Glocal Human Resources Development Center, Community and University Alliance for Regeneration of Northern Kyoto (CUANKA), as well as Consortium for Local Public Human Resources Development (COLPU).*

## Background

The symposium is part of the activities of the project on 'Local Economic Strategies for Shrinking and Ageing Labour Markets' conducted by the Local Economic and Employment Development (LEED) Programme.

Japan currently faces far reaching social and economic challenges resulting from an unprecedented triad of depopulation, aging population and economic stagnation. This national challenge is particularly marked in local areas where demographic and economic decline have been sharp and new approaches to economic revitalisation are needed. The challenge to maintain the vitality of specific local areas in the face of economic globalization is amplified by underlying demographic changes that concentrate place-based resources in specific areas. For example, both skill development and skill demand in Kyoto Prefecture is highly concentrated in one urban area, Kyoto City. While thirty-three universities are located within Kyoto Prefecture, 26 of them are in Kyoto City. Likewise, while the Prefecture hosts a large number of globally-competitive small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), most are located within Kyoto City. At the same time, areas outside the City, particularly the Northern Area of Kyoto Prefecture, have limited educational resources and scarce job opportunities. These under-served areas experience a vicious cycle where lack of economic opportunity decreases quality of life, which in turn feeds back to further decrease local economic prospects.

A broad array of significant policy changes is being discussed as potential components of an overall strategy to adjust institutional structures to this changing environment. The case study of Kyoto addresses one such policy area, namely, how training ecosystems can be strengthened and adapted so as to become an important driver of local revitalisation.

**For more information on the project visit** <http://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/ageinglabourmarkets.htm>

**Project WEB 2.0 platform** <https://community.oecd.org/community/demographicchange>

# Draft Agenda

## 12 December (Thu.) 2013 – DAY 1

**09:30**                      **REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS AND WELCOME COFFEE**

**10.00-10:30**            **1. OPENING REMARKS**

*Governor Keiji Yamada, Kyoto Prefectural Government, Japan*

*President Ichiro Fujioka, Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan*

*Dr. Cristina Martinez-Fernandez, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD LEED Programme*

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**10.30-12.30**            **2. CHALLENGES OF KYOTO ALLIANCE AND INNOVATIONS IN POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION FOR LOCAL REVITALISATION**

Kyoto Alliance is launching a project to encourage revitalization through better resource dispersion by developing education curriculums designed to foster abilities and interests in students aimed at solving socio-economic problems in local communities. The project also aims to establish a mechanism (a local qualification/skill system) to certify these relevant capacities. Specifically, the Kyoto Alliance project incorporates local problem solving through university and local community collaborations into education programs.

In this session, the new roles of universities will be discussed among universities, local municipalities, and communities, in light of the case of Kyoto Alliance and world trends.

The following questions will guide the discussion:

- 1. What and how should university education be reformed to meet the skill demand in shrinking areas?*
- 2. What programs are required to foster the specific human resources crucial to revitalizing shrinking area?*
- 3. What are the roles of stakeholders for developing post high school education programs that contribute to the revitalization of shrinking areas?*
- 4. What role should stakeholders play in quality assurance of the programs?*

**Chair:** *Prof. Toru Ishida*, Director of LORC, Ryukoku University

**Keynote:** *Prof. Katsutaka Shiraishi* & *Prof. Masanori Nakatani*, Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development

“Local Revitalization and the Role of Universities: The Challenges of Kyoto Alliance for Developing the Local Public Human Resources”

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**Panellists:**

*Mr. Shoji Inoue*, Mayor of Miyazu City, Kyoto, Japan

*Prof. Katsutaka Shiraishi*, Ryukoku University, Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development, Japan

*Prof. Masanori Nakatani*, Kyoto Sangyo University, Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development, Japan

*Prof. Edward Blakely*, United States Studies Centre, Sydney University, Australia

*Ms. Yukari Kose*, Supervising Director of University Policy General Planning Bureau, City of Kyoto

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**12.30-13.30****Lunch****13.30-15.00****3. TRACK A: INTERNATIONAL INNOVATION OF VET AND REVITALISATION OF LOCAL ECONOMY, LABOUR MARKET AND EMPLOYABILITY**

Despite numerous innovations in vocational education and training, youth unemployment remains a serious challenge throughout OECD countries. In Japan, a mismatch between skills production and labour demand is starkly evident. Job scarcity for higher education graduates is a visible social problem, yet, at the same time, SMEs are unable to find workers who qualify with the necessary skills. A better understanding of the evolution of employers' skill needs and how skill supply can better match demand is needed.

In this session, taking into consideration the global practices and drawing on cases of higher VET reforms already contributing to employment promotion, experts will discuss future directions for fostering global-local talent. The following questions will guide the discussion:

1. *What skills and training are needed by SMEs?*
2. *What skills relevant to employability are youth lacking, and how can intergenerational knowledge transfer help?*
3. *What role can universities and stakeholders play for inter-generational skills and knowledge transfer?*
4. *What inter-generational knowledge transfer (including VET) and innovative Higher VET can lead to reforming university education and innovating educational systems for human resource development?*

**Chair:** *Prof. Yasushi Tanaka*, Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan

**Panellists:**

*Ms. Isabelle Le Mouillour*, BIBB, Germany. "Apprentice Training System and Qualification Framework"

*Ms. Kitty Triest*, Senior Advisor (Education and Vocational Field), RegioRegisseur Haaglanden, The Netherlands "RegioRegisseur a Linking Pin between Educational Institutes, SME's, Profit and Nonprofit Organizations"

*Prof. Junko Takahata*, Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan. "The Situation on Employability of the Youth in Japan"

*Dr. Lee Euikyoo*, Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education & Training, The Republic of Korea "The Employability of the Youth in Korea and Korean Qualification Framework"

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*Mr. Masayuki Tsuchiyama*, CEO& President, Tsuchiyama Printing CO.,LTD

**Session coordinator/rapporteur:** *Prof. Masanori Nakatani*, Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development and Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan

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13.30-15.00

### **3. TRACK B: PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY TO FOSTER SKILLS AND TRAINING ECOSYSTEMS FOR LOCAL REVITALISATION**

One critical aspect of the vicious cycle that can develop with a reduced active population is "brain-drain" -- the human talent most likely to engage in entrepreneurialism and innovation moves out of shrinking areas. How to mobilize either the remaining population or the diaspora to transfer, teach and upgrade the vital skills needed in the shrinking area becomes a pressing challenge. Another key issue in the same context is that the dual nature of local vitality (economic prosperity and life quality) suggests multiple aspects may be most efficiently resolved when addressed concurrently. For example, projects fostering entrepreneurial skill and more efficient local resource use are more effective when implemented at the same time as projects for increasing the skill and knowledge base of local policy-making officials. Therefore, necessary changes relate to both stakeholder activities and the relationships between stakeholders

The Kyoto Alliance is actively developing networks of information sharing among industries, governments, academia and citizens. It is also re-focusing the education system to better address human capabilities and capacities needed for local revitalisation. This session will discuss how local collaborations between universities and local communities can create a positive feed-back cycle of increased community vitality and economic prosperity through key skills development. The key questions for discussion are:

1. *What aspects of rural life are, or could be developed to become, attractive to youth?*
2. *What (and how can) inter-generational knowledge be transferred in a way that contributes to local revitalization? What skills are needed and should be taught?*
3. *How can qualification frameworks provide a positive impact on employability?*
4. *What inter-generational knowledge transfer (including VET) and innovative Higher VET can lead to reforming university education and innovating educational systems for human resource development?*

**Chair:** *Dr.Naoko Oishi*, PD Research Fellow, Centre for Local Collaborations, Ryukoku University, Japan

**Panellists:**

*Mr. Jan Sundqvist*, Senior Analyst, Department of Swedish Public Employment Service, Sweden. "Dalarna Case with a Particular Attention to the Analysis on Demographic Change and Employment"

*Prof. Piotr Szukalski*, The University of Lodz, Poland." Depopulation and University Education"

*Associate Professor Veerle Dupont*, Katho Univesity, Belgium. " Case Study on Collaboration between University and Local Community"

*Ms. Merritt Hughes*, Ph.D. candidate at University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA "Participatory Action Research and Local Revitalization"

*Prof. John West*, Executive Director, Asian Century Institute and The University of Toronto, Canada

**Session Coordinator/rapporteur :** *Prof.Katsutaka Shiraishi*, Ryukoku University,Kyoto

15.00-15.20

Coffee break

15.20-16.50

#### 4. CONCLUDING PANEL: POLICY, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH APPROACHES FOR NEW SKILLS AND TRAINING ECOSYSTEMS

Kyoto Alliance is highly committed to developing innovative design solutions for new types of skills training and ecosystems that target local revitalisation of urban and rural areas. These skills and training ecosystems contribute not only to human resource development for the local economy, but also to the quality of life in local communities. Though the Kyoto Prefecture has already begun significant policy efforts to enhance local capacity through local networks, where partnerships forged among local stakeholders are aimed at revitalising local communities a need is recognized for integrating proposed educational reform with these activities. This panel will highlight key points from the break-out groups.

Questions to guide the discussion are:

1. *How could partnership between the universities and stakeholders be more efficient?*
2. *What policies and initiatives have been proposed by local institutions and Kyoto Prefectural Government to redesign university education?*
3. *What inter-generational knowledge transfer (including VET) and innovative Higher VET can lead to reforming university education and innovating educational systems for human resource development?*

**Chair:** *Ms Yumiko Murakami*, Head, OECD Tokyo Centre

#### **Panellists:**

*Ms. Sanae Fukuhara*, Section Director of University Policy Section at Strategy Planning Division of Department of Policy Planning, Kyoto Prefectural Government, Japan

*Prof. Katsutaka Shiraishi*, Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development and Ryukoku University, Japan

*Prof. Masanori Nakatani*, Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development and Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan

*Prof. Edward Blakely*, United States Studies Centre, Sydney University, Australia

*Prof. John West*, Executive Director, Asian Century Institute and The University of Toronto, Canada

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16.50-17.20

#### CLOSING REMARKS

*Dr. Cristina Martinez-Fernandez*, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD LEED programme

*Prof. Katsutaka Shiraishi*, Kyoto Alliance for Human Resource Development and Ryukoku University

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## Friday, 13 DECEMBER 2013 – DAY 2

10.00-12.30

### **STUDY TOUR: CASE STUDIES ON THE JOB MATCHING, EDUCATION AND TRAINING ECOSYSTEMS IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS OF KYOTO CITY (ONLY INVITEES)**

**Visit to Ohara:** The North side of Kyoto City reflects the challenges highlighted in this conference. We will visit a small village in the area, Ohara, where an intergenerational VET project is contributing to local revitalization. This project has been developed by Doshisha University Graduate School in Kyoto in collaboration with a local community. A small workshop will be held with local experts, including Mr. Ryo Fujioka (Doshisha University, Ph.D candidate ), who manages the project.

12.30-14.00

### **LUNCH and TRANSFER**

14.00-15.30

**Kyoto Job Park Visit to Kyoto Job Park:** Kyoto Job Park is a comprehensive employment support center that provides job seekers with a full range of services ranging from counseling, to matching of individual skills with employer needs, to upgrading through vocational training to achieve employability. Kyoto Job Park is closely collaborating with “Hello Work,” the Japanese government’s employment service center, functioning essentially as a one-stop service facility for the unemployed. Managed jointly by Kyoto Prefecture together with employees and employers organizations, Kyoto Job Park pioneered the concept of a collaborative approach bringing together local organizations supporting citizens actively seeking work.

15.50-17.20

### **The Consortium of Universities in Kyoto**

**Visit to Campus Plaza Kyoto:** We will learn about the functions and experiences of **the Consortium of Universities in Kyoto** that led to the development of the Kyoto Alliance. It has an exchange credit system among universities and provides lifelong study projects and internship programs to encourage social interaction to contribute to the development of higher education in Japan.