Osaka Metropolitan University | Swinburne University of Technology | Mulco project | J-PEAKS

JAPAN-AUSTRALIA INNOVATION FORUM 2026



Sustainability as a Driver of Innovation: Japan–Australia Collaboration for a Sustainable Future

Eligibility: Open to All

Registration:
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/wDFUNtnzSj

THURSDAY

December 10, 2026

10:00-17:00

(Registration: 9:30~)

Campus Map

Osaka Metropolitan University
4th Floor, Event Hall, Morinomiya Campus
(2-1-132 Morinomiya, Joto-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka)

Contact Office for Co-creation Initiatives
E-mail:gr-sngk-omu@omu.ac.jp

Osaka Asia Roundtable 2026

Japan-Australia Innovation Forum 2026

Sustainability as a Driver of Innovation: Japan–Australia Collaboration for a Sustainable Future

9:30-10:00 Registration

10:00-11:00 Opening Ceremony

Opening Remarks:
- **Fuminori Tokunaga**, *Executive Director & Vice President / Professor, Graduate School of Medicine, OMU*

Introduction to the Japan–Australia Innovation Forum:
- **Eryadi K. Masli**, *Associate Professor, Entrepreneurship and Innovation / Department of Business, Technology and Entrepreneurship, Swinburne University of Technology*

Remarks by Government Officials:
- **Margaret Bowen**, *Consul-General and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner, Australian Consulate-General, Osaka, Japan / Australian Trade and Investment Commission*
- **Masahiro Suzuki**, *Deputy Director for International Affairs, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan*
- **Hideyuki Yokoyama**, *Mayor of Osaka City* (Video Message)
- **Hiroshi Ichisaka**, *International Exchange Supervisor, Department of Civic and Cultural Affairs, Osaka Prefectural Government*

11:00-12:00 Keynote Session: Sustainability as a Driver of Innovation

- **Shoichiro Watanabe**, *Executive Vice President & CTO, Panasonic Energy Co., Ltd.*
- **Mehdi Seyedmahmoudian**, *Professor, Director, Siemens Swinburne Energy Hub*

12:00-13:15 Networking Lunch

13:15-15:15 Panel Discussion: From Sustainability Challenges to Innovation Opportunities

[Facilitator] Naoyuki Ushio, *Director, Start Up Creation & Support Center, OMU*

- Tourism
  - **Barry O'Mahony**, *Provost, Abu Dhabi University / former Dean, University of Wollongong in Dubai*
  - **Leo Nishimura**, *Senior Manager, International Business Division, Tokyu Corporation*
- Innovation: Deep-tech and Advanced Manufacturing
  - **Jerome Donovan**, *Professor, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Swinburne University of Technology*
  - **Yoshiaki Kitaya**, *Director, R&D Center for Plant Factories, OMU*
- Digital transformation and AI
  - **Rohan Bennett**, *Professor, Information System, Swinburne University of Technology*
  - **Helana Scheepers**, *Professor, Chairwoman of Swinburne Business School*
  - **Shoya Ishimaru**, *Professor, Graduate School of Informatics, OMU*
- Energy Transition
  - **Mehdi Seyedmahmoudian**, *Professor, Director, Siemens Swinburne Energy Hub*
  - **Shinichiro Ogawa**, *Lecturer, Graduate School of Engineering, OMU*

15:15-15:40 Coffee Break

15:40-16:30 Japan–Australia Innovation Showcase

[Facilitator] Yuta Hirayama, *Specially Appointed Professor, Research Advancement Organization, OMU*

- **Yoshiki Soda**, *Lecturer, Graduate School of Engineering, OMU*
- **Jerome Donovan**, *Professor, Entrepreneurship and Innovation*, Swinburne University of Technology / *Co-Founder and Director of mDetect Pty Ltd. and Sensfit Technologies Pty Ltd.*
- **Widodo**, *Rector, University of Brawijaya, Indonesia*
- **Yasuhiro Konishi**, *Professor Emeritus, Osaka Prefecture University*

16:30-16:55 Collaboration Roundtable

[Facilitator] Tadachika Nakayama, *Professor, Research Advancement Organization, OMU*

16:55-17:00 Closing Remarks

Takaaki Shigematsu, *Executive Director & Vice President / Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, OMU*