



Asian Productivity Organization (APO)
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Press Release

5 June 2018

Can we shape the impossible?

- *The APO Sustainable Productivity Summit will orient member countries on “the next big thing” and technologies shaping the future of productivity.*
- *The summit will be followed by a two-day APO Strategic Planning Workshop for heads of national productivity organizations in member economies.*

Tokyo: The Asian Productivity Organization (APO) is hosting the **first Sustainable Development Summit in Tokyo, 10 July 2018**, for policymakers, corporate leaders, entrepreneurs, researchers, and heads of national productivity organizations (NPOs) from 19 APO member countries. Global technology leaders will speak on innovative policy interventions to meet the challenges, opportunities, and impacts of emerging technologies on productivity in the industry, agriculture, service, and public sectors.

With technological changes affecting business performance and productivity at an unprecedented speed, business leaders must constantly update strategies, abandon long-held assumptions, and look beyond established models. Organizations need to act fast, make informed decisions, and fine-tune strategies or policies. The APO Sustainable Productivity Summit will orient member countries on “the next big thing” and technologies shaping the future of productivity while creating maximum benefits for their economies.

The summit will be followed by a two-day APO Strategic Planning Workshop (SPW) for heads of member NPOs. The SPW formulates strategies to address emerging issues and fine-tunes overall APO projects to align them with NPO needs.

Support for the APO Sustainable Productivity Summit is provided by the World Bank Group; Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry; Japan Productivity Center; Japan International Cooperation Agency; Japan External Trade Organization; Japan Foundation; Japan Association of Corporate Executives; Japan Business Federation; Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Association for Overseas Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Partnerships.

Key Speakers:

- William D. Eggers, Executive Director, Deloitte Center for Government Insights (USA);
- Ryan Janzen, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, TransPod Inc. (Canada);

- Dr. Niklas Arvidsson, Associate Professor, Department of Industrial Economics and Management, Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden);
- Andrew W. Brentano, Chief Executive Officer, Tiny Farms (USA); and
- Takeshi Arakawa, Manager, SST Management Team, CRE Business Development Group, Business Solution Division, Panasonic Corporation (Japan).

Date: 10 July 2018

Time: 9:00–17:10

Venue: Imperial Hotel, Tokyo

Note to Editors:

- For the program agenda and session topics, please click [here](#).

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About the APO (www.apo-tokyo.org)

The Asian Productivity Organization (APO) is an intergovernmental organization committed to improving productivity in the Asia-Pacific region. Established in 1961, the APO contributes to the sustainable socioeconomic development of the region through policy advisory services, acting as a think tank, and undertaking smart initiatives in the industry, agriculture, service, and public sectors. The APO is shaping the future of the region by assisting member economies in formulating national strategies for enhanced productivity and through a range of institutional capacity-building efforts, including research and centers of excellence in member countries.