

Walk in U.S., Talk on Japan



Project Overview

A group of individuals who have consistently made efforts to convey the strengths and appeal of Japan have been dispatched to the US. The members are drawn from a variety of backgrounds, including a former ambassador, a trading company employee, a female entrepreneur, and a student. The group will meet and hold discussions with local communities and various organizations working to improve Japan-U.S. relations or local community (such as the America-Japan Society, universities, commercial and industrial associations, and Rotary clubs), providing an opportunity for an honest exchange of opinions on relations with Japan.

Members



Yasuo SAITO (Group Leader)

Mr. Saito formerly served as the Ambassador of Japan to Saudi Arabia, Russia, and France, and has also served as Consul General in Atlanta and as Japanese government representative to UNESCO, giving him a deep knowledge of diplomacy, economics, and culture. He is currently an adviser to numerous private companies, and serves as executive board member of the Japanese Olympic Committee.

Discussion themes

- Revival of the Japanese economy
- Japan's message on the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII
- Prospects for the Tokyo Olympics



Hiroshi TSUKAMOTO

Mr. Tsukamoto is the former Deputy Director General for the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and has played a pivotal role in Japan's trade and energy policy.

Discussion themes

- Japan's energy strategy since the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011



Tetsuo MAMADA

Mr. Mamada is the former president of Mitsui Bussan Steel Trade Co., Ltd., with extensive business experience in North, Central and South America.

Discussion themes

- Japanese trading companies, and investment in North, Central and South America



Michiko IWANAMI

Ms. Iwanami is a think-tank researcher, conducting fact-finding on areas to support business commercialization in Japan and overseas.

Discussion themes

- Rediscovering the value of Japan: women, technology, culture



Mio IWAI

Ms. Iwai is a university student, with experience in student group activities, international conferences, and of studying abroad in the Netherlands.

Discussion themes

- Being a university student in Japan, student life and studying abroad, and study programs to Japan