

## HASEKURA2.0 MISSION ON SMART COMMUNITIES

Spain, 16-21/11/2015

### PARTICIPANTS PROFILES

#### Mr. Taichi GOTO



**Founder and President, Region Works LLC**

**Visiting Professor, Kyushu University**

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Mr. Taichi Goto is an accomplished consultant in urban and regional development. His specialities include city and regional planning, creative economy, area marketing, localization and regionalization of business models, urban design, project development and management, and public relations.

Having worked as an urban planner with a Japanese general contractor Kajima in Tokyo, and at Growth Management Department of the regional government Metro in Portland, US, he moved to Fukuoka in 2003. He is a registered architect of Japan and Regional Commissioner Asia of International Urban Development Association (INTA).

#### **Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:**

While this will be my 6<sup>th</sup> visit to Barcelona, which has a MOU of economic cooperation with Fukuoka City, I'm very much looking forward to experiencing two cities in Basque — Bilbao and Saint Sebastian. Besides my work in the home town of Fukuoka, I've been consulting to clients in cities at a variety of scale – from the most vibrant central district of Tokyo to a global town of Kamiyama, where population is 6,000 and decreasing. My major interest is in the strategic role of culture, food and art in particular, in urban and regional development. I expect the exchange with Spanish and other Japanese participants would provide me of a lot of insights.

## **Ms. Sachiko HOSHIMOTO**



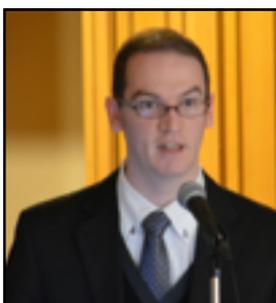
**International Officer  
International Affairs Planning Division,  
Kobe University**

Ms Hoshimoto received her Master's degree of Arts from Kobe University, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies in 2010 and also Master in Current Democracies: Nationalism, Federalism and Multiculturalism from Pompeu Fabra University, Department of Political and Social Sciences in 2015. She has been working for International Affairs Planning Division, Kobe University since 2010. As the International Officer, she has been working for arrangement of international conferences and symposia, and supporting for the Office of the Americas and Center for EU Studies, Kobe University. Since 2013, Kobe University has been a consortium member of Japan-EU Partnership in Innovation, Science and Technology (JEUISTE) project and she is the administrative contact person of Kobe University on JEUISTE since August of 2015.

### **Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:**

Since Kobe University is promoting academic collaborations and is keen to strengthen the relationship with institutions in Europe, I would like to learn about the cutting-edge studies on smart city in Spain during this mission and introduce them to the researchers in Kobe University after the trip. In the term of cooperation among government, industry and academia, I would be grateful if I could know about how Spanish universities and research institutions are involved in city projects and working with governmental agencies.

## **Mr Stijn LAMBRECHT**



**Project manager, JEUISTE; Eu-Japan Center for  
Industrial Cooperation, Japan**

Stijn Lambrecht has been involved in EU-Japan renewable energy and ICT project, first in Brussels at European Institute for Asian Studies and subsequently in Tokyo at the EU-Japan Centre for Industrial Cooperation. He works at the Centre as National Contact Point (NCP) for Horizon 2020 and manages the JEUISTE project

which is a EU funded project for the promotion, enhancement and development of Europe-Japan cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation.

### **Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:**

I see myself more as an observer, though of course, my foremost wish is that this mission will help fostering new bonds between the EU and Japan that could lead to new STI and/or Horizon2020 projects.

## **Prof. Zhiwei LUO**



### **Professor, Graduate School of Engineering, Kobe University**

Prof Luo received his Ph.D. from Nagoya University, Graduate School of Engineering in 1992, the first and still the only one in Japan to obtain his Dr. Degree in one year. From 1992 to 1994, he was Assistant Professor at Toyohashi University of Technology. In 1994 moved to the Bio-mimetic Control Center (BMC), The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN) as a Frontier Researcher to study motor control functions of biological systems and applications in robot's environmental interactive manipulations as well as locomotion. In 1999 started working as an associate professor at Yamagata University, and since 2001, he served as Laboratory Head of BMC, RIKEN, studying environmental adaptive robotic systems. He lead the development of RI-MAN, a human interactive robot which was selected by TIME as the best invention of 2006. In 2006, he become professor at Kobe University, where he is promoting integrative researches on health engineering for the aged society.

#### **Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:**

Aging has become a worldwide problem. Based on the point of view of modern society's values, the increase of aging population will mean a decrease of social working power as well as an increased burden to the social security system , social cost of medical care as well as care tasks, which will lead to a serious decrease in economic activity. What I would like to understand is, in the context of an aged society, whether it will be possible to create a new vision and new values which may lead to new chances for the social economy.

What kind of technologies will be accepted by people that can help their health as well as the community? I would like to know how, from different cultural backgrounds and social systems in different countries, we can share common knowledge between each other, specifically in how the robotic technology can help solve these problems.

## Mr Hiroyuki MAEOMICHI



**Engineer (Information Engineering / Comprehensive Technical Management). IEICE member**

**NTT Network Innovation Laboratories**

After obtaining his B.S. and M.S. from Okayama University, Mr Maeomichi joined Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation in 1995. He has been engaged in research and development on Network Management Systems, Middleware for QoS/QoE improvement and HomeICT, in which Home gateway accommodates service providers' application.

From 2008 to 2011, he led a R&D group on HomeICT application in NTT Comware Corporation. Since 2011 he has been engaged in research on protection and use of personal data in NTT Network Innovation Laboratories. He is also involved in standardization activities in OSGi Alliance and Broadband Forum, and IoT research projects iCore(2011-2014) and ClouT(2013-ongoing, a EU-Japan ICT project which leverages Cloud Computing to bridge the Internet of Things with Internet of People via Internet of Services, to help cities become make smarter).

Mr. Maeomichi has lead a field trial in Mitaka city in 2014 using IoT to nurture an active lifestyle and community building to reduce the number of elderly people who need continuous nursing care.

### **Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:**

Japan has to deal with a fast aging society and high concentration of population in big cities. People in working age come to metropolitan areas and form nuclear families away from their hometown. Once their parents require nursing care, this becomes a big burden for them.

Looking at Europe, some tendencies are similar to those of Japan, but some other aspects are different. Based on my impression during my visits to some European cities, the elderly live an active life and, for example, wear clothes with vivid colors, visit busy area of town, etc. Through the Hasekura Mission I expect that we could share problems and get a hint for solutions by exchanging our situations, experiences, and ideas.

I believe that one of the key ideas for handling an aging society is the *Power of Community*, that could motivate people to be active and provide mutual help. In San Sebastian, one of the cities we will be visiting during the Hasekura Mission, there are very unique local communities, called *Sociedad Gastronomica*. I am interesting in these communities.

## **Prof Changqin QUAN**



**Associate Professor,  
Graduate School of Engineering,  
Kobe University**

She received a Ph.D. from Tokushima University, Department of Information Science and Intelligent Systems in 2011. From 2005 to 2011, she was Assistant Professor and Lecturer in Central China Normal University and then become Professor at Hefei University of Technology, The School of Computer Science and Information. Since 2014, she is associate professor at Kobe University. Her research field includes Human Computer Interface, Natural Language Processing, and Affective Computing. She was the Publicity Chair of the 10th International Conference on Natural Language Processing and Knowledge Engineering, and the Track Chair of the 5th International Conference on Computing Communication and Networking. She has published more than 60 papers and won Wu Wenjun Artificial Intelligence Science and Technology Award in 2012.

### **Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:**

Firstly, I would like to understand what are the real problems of an aging society from the macro level point of view. I also want to understand the relation between individual's health and everyday life (micro level) and the problematics this can generate at the social (macro) level. It seems that the creation of a sense of community is an important tool for solving some of the aging society's problems, especially, for what refers to the health of the elderlies. From an IT point of view, Social Networks and Social Media may help constructing communities and community activities. Human friendly interface as well as fast big data processing are important. However, how can these technologies really be grounded to the social strata may also depend on a society's culture and medical- health systems. With my participation in the HASEKURA2.0 mission, I wish to clarify my understanding of these issues and try to make my contribution to the creation of an international cooperative network on smart communities.

## Mr Keiichirou SAKO



### **Sako Architects**

<http://www.sako.co.jp/main/en/sako-profile.html>

Born in Fukuoka, graduated from Tokyo Institute of Technology, Master Degree from the Tokyo Institute of Technology, Visiting Scholar at Columbia University. In 2004 established SAKO Architects, the first Japanese architecture firm to open its offices in China.

Currently, Mr. Sako has offices in Beijing, Tokyo and Fukuoka, and has undertaken more than 90 projects in China, Japan, South Korea, Mongolia, and Spain. He is also gaining attention for his wide-ranging activities that cross the traditional boundaries of architecture, including urban planning, interior design, and providing general direction in corporate branding and design strategies.

### **Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:**

## Prof. Katsuhiko TOMITA



### **Professor, Office of Strategic Research Management, Kobe University**

After completing Kobe University's Graduate School and receiving a Master's degree of System's Engineering, Prof Tomita worked for more than 30 years for Panasonic Corporation where he worked on the security of electric home appliances connected to the

internet. He was appointed Chair of the Committee established by the Japanese Ministry of Trade and Industry to deal with the problems of hardware security of electric home appliances connected to the internet, and a member of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications' Committee dealing with problems of cyber attacks against electric home appliances connected to the internet.

After leaving Panasonic Corporation, he moved to the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) as assistant to the Chief Information Security Officer. In 2012 he received a Ph.D. from Osaka City University, Graduate School for Creative Cities and become professor of Strategic Research Management at Kobe University. Currently, he is in charge of the internationalization and the creation of large-scale research projects at Kobe University . He is also involved in a Smart City collaborative project between Kobe City and Kobe University and plans to extend this collaboration to European Research Institution.

## Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:

I have 3 main expectations from this mission:

- ① I hope to find suitable EU research partners (Institution or Researcher) in order to internationalize the Smart City Project of Kobe City and Kobe University.
- ② I would like to learn best practices of Smart Cities around Barcelona .
- ③ I would like to build up a human network with people that are contributing to Smart City projects in Spain.

## Prof Yasuo UTSUMI



**Professor and Vice President, NIT National Institute of Technology, Sendai Campus**, task leader of NIT's collaborative projects with other organizations.

He works on innovation and recovery from the seismic disaster that affected Tohoku in March 2011. Prof Utsumi is also vice president of NPOs HOPE and JASFA, Japan, the co-chairperson of policy evaluation of Miyagi prefecture, the organizer of ISO TC163/SC1/WG10, and was the sub-task leader of IEA,

SHC34/Annex43.

## Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:

For small and medium size towns and cities in the context of an increasingly ageing society, the collaboration among all involved stakeholders as well as the use of ICT to support the care of the elderly are key elements for a sustainable development in the near future.

By discussing and actually seeing the general status of smart communities in each country, how new technologies are being applied, what are the challenges and opportunities for an ageing society, the Hasekura Mission on Smart Communities will give us the opportunity to share different, innovative experiences and foster our mutual understanding. I hope that this, in turn, will generate new collaborative projects especially between Universities/ Companies/ Institutions in Europe and Japan and promote internship programs for students in European/Japanese regional companies. Personally I also hope to learn more about Spanish institutions-led "machidikuri" models, as well as examples of successful European Public-Private Partnerships.

## Mr Jun YAMADERA



### Founder and CEO EYES JAPAN CO.LTD

<http://www.nowhere.co.jp/>

<http://fukushimawheel.org>

Jun Yamadera found EYES JAPAN CO. LTD. in 1995, the first IT startup from the University of Aizu, Fukushima. In the past 20 years, he has been working on various cutting edge projects such as exporting Fukushima rice via web back in 1995, making world 1st virtual pottery system, making CG of historical archives of national treasure of Japanese castle, temple, buddhist statues and traditional dance and medical motions using motion capture. He was a pioneer in Augmented Reality wearable technologies, Medical x IT and organized Japan's 1st medical hackathon in 2012. After the earthquake and nuclear disaster of March 11th 2011, he decided to open an office in Kobe to learn from the city about its experience in disaster recovery and resilience. He is the initiator of the bike sharing IoT platform project "FUKUSHIMA Wheel" for smart cities which he has presented in various conferences nationally and internationally.

### Reasons for application and expectations about this mission:

## Mr Yuji Yoshimura



### Co-founder of laboratory urban DECODE, MIT SENSEable City Lab Research Affiliate, and PhD candidate in computer sciences at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra.

He has worked at UNESCO Chair of Sustainability, the Barcelona Contemporary Culture Center (CCCB), Barcelona Urban Ecology Agency and Centre for Innovation in Transport. An architect and urban planner, he has specialized in the mobility and human behaviour analysis. Currently, he is collaborating with the Louvre Museum (Paris) to analyse the Big Data of visitors' behaviours collected by Bluetooth sensors (<http://senseable.mit.edu/louvre/>). He has received various international awards and his researches and projects are worldwide recognized. Moreover he is an influential blogger (<http://blog.archiphoto.info>), with over half a million page view per a month. A recent book, which he published as co-author, "*Architects working abroad-the world is filled with opportunity*", contains updated information about Barcelona as a smart city (<http://www.amazon.co.jp/dp/476152605X>).

**(Mr Yoshimura will only join the mission in Barcelona)**