



2020 TOMODACHI-MITSUI & CO. LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

"Leadership, Innovation and Sustainability"

OVERVIEW

The TOMODACHI Initiative is a public-private partnership between the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, with support from the Government of Japan. Born out of support for Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake, TOMODACHI invests in the next generation of Japanese and American leaders through educational and cultural exchanges as well as leadership programs. The initiative seeks to foster a "TOMODACHI Generation" of young American and Japanese leaders.

Generously funded by Mitsui & Co., Ltd., and entering its eighth year, the TOMODACHI-Mitsui & Co. Leadership Program contributes to the building of a "TOMODACHI Generation" of creative thinkers and driven achievers.

Selected through a competitive process, young American and Japanese leaders who are professional, geographic, and gender diverse will visit each other's countries, meeting influential individuals and prominent leaders. Post program, participants are expected to contribute to further strengthening U.S.-Japan relations as next generation leaders who understand and appreciate cultural differences and possess critical globally-oriented skills and mindsets.



GOALS

- Create a professional network among rising leaders in Japan and the United States that could lead to new, innovative partnerships and businesses.
- Motivate young American and Japanese leaders to engage in and contribute to furthering U.S.-Japan relations.
- Raise awareness of important policies and issues relevant to the United States and Japan among next generation leaders in both countries.



CONCEPT

Ten (10) American and ten (10) Japanese young professionals will travel to each other's country for one week to engage as a group and meet with established and up-and-coming leaders from business and government.

The American delegation will travel to Iwate Prefecture and Tokyo, and the Japanese delegation will travel to Dallas, Texas and Washington, D.C.

Guided by the 2020 program theme, "Leadership, Innovation and Sustainability," the delegations will explore innovation, new technology, and industrial development in the context of U.S.-Japan relations.

Business executives, government officials, academics, and non-profit leaders will share their experiences and insights during the program. Through interactive and engaging sessions, participants will discuss issues, formulate new ideas together, and nurture lifelong friendships. The trip also enables delegates to gain greater understanding of multicultural America and the unique qualities of Japanese society, further strengthening the bridge between these two cultures.



SCHEDULE (all dates for 2020)

- Orientation (attendance is mandatory)
American delegation: July 17-18, New York
Japanese delegation: September 10-12, Tokyo
 - Official Trip (dates inclusive of travel)
American delegation: September 4-12, Iwate Prefecture and Tokyo
Japanese delegation: October 4-12, Dallas, Texas and Washington, D.C.
- Transportation, hotel, and group meals will all be provided.
 - Delegates are required to attend all meetings and events during the trip.
 - As a rule, spouses, family members, and friends are not permitted to accompany delegates during the official trip.

As time/schedules permit, participants from both delegations will meet during their respective trips to the other country and may also join other TOMODACHI Initiative activities in progress. Selected individuals may participate as speakers or attendees at U.S.-Japan Council or Mitsui & Co., Ltd. events.

Following their participation in this program, delegates will join the growing network of alumni united in their commitment to the prosperity and economic vitality of the U.S.-Japan relationship



WHY IWATE PREFECTURE

The road to recovery and revitalization from Japan's largest tsunami is long however, the unwavering spirit of the people of Iwate Prefecture and Tohoku is very much alive and it is important to continue caring about the region. Nine plus years after the disaster, with a goal to implement a "Sustainable Society" through revitalization and innovative businesses, the progress made in this region is best shared across Japan and with peoples of the world.

Figure 1. Map of Tohoku, Japan and epicentre of the 11 March 2011 earthquake



ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

- Demonstrated leadership potential
- Professional accomplishments in career field
- Connection to U.S.-Japan activities (preferably including through profession)
- Young professional (up to target age 40)
- English proficiency for Japanese applicants
- Commitment or experience supporting sustainability development goals (SDGs) is a plus

Candidates who do not meet all of the above criteria may still be considered if they demonstrate outstanding qualifications. The U.S.-Japan Council will make final selection of a diverse set of delegates, taking into consideration applications and recommendations made by various government, private and corporate advisors.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

AMERICAN DELEGATION: THURSDAY, May 7
JAPANESE DELEGATION: THURSDAY, May 21

For further information about the TOMODACHI-Mitsui & Co. Leadership Program or questions about the application process, please contact either Noriko Litwin at nlitwin@wls2.com or Wes Stockstill at wstockstill@wls2.com.

OVERVIEW OF ORGANIZER AND SPONSOR



Mitsui (Mitsui & Co., Ltd.) is one of the most diversified and comprehensive trading, investment, and service enterprises in the world, with 135 offices in 66 countries/regions as of November 2019. Utilizing our global operating locations, network and information resources, we are multilaterally pursuing business that ranges from product sales, worldwide logistics and financing, through to the development of major international infrastructure and other projects in the following fields: Iron & Steel Products, Mineral & Metal Resources, Infrastructure Projects, Mobility, Chemicals, Energy, Food, Food &

Retail Management, Healthcare & Service, IT & Communication Business, Corporate Development Business. For more information, visit www.mitsui.com



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The U.S.-Japan Council develops and connects global leaders to create a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship. It is an organization whose members believe people-to-people relationships are a powerful way to bring together leaders in the U.S. and Japan to address and create solutions to mutual concerns. The Council is a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational organization that was founded in 2008 and is headquartered in Washington, DC with staff in California, Hawaii and Tokyo. In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of the TOMODACHI Initiative, and in 2013, it became a Public Interest Corporation (koeki zaidan hojin). The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) maintains an office in Tokyo, Japan. For more information about the U.S.-Japan Council, visit www.usjapancouncil.org

ALUMNI REFLECTIONS:



This program broadened my world and horizons. I learned that I should get out of my comfort zone, take risks, and fail well to improve myself. Through this trip to the States, I met different kind of role models with passion and clear vision in business fields and politics. I felt they had common attitudes towards building trust, struggling with challenges, and contributing to others. I also learned great various types of leadership styles from other delegates who participated in this program. We discussed what we learned from each session, and it helped me to think about what I can do in my daily life specifically. I really appreciate this opportunity and I want to contribute to

the U.S.- Japan long-term relationship throughout my life.

Yukina Setogawa – Toyama (2019)



My family and I would like to return to Japan in the next 5-7 years. To ensure that I am prepared for this move, one of my goals is to learn more about the Japanese business context to learn how I can leverage my past experiences and my perspective to create a positive impact after the move. I feel that the TOMODACHI- Mitsui & Co. Leadership program helped me take a giant leap towards a successful transition to Japan. Getting the opportunity to meet energetic entrepreneurs in Fukushima and Tokyo, young Japanese professionals from all over the country, and American expatriates who have all built successful careers in Japan has helped me develop a network of friends and mentors that I can look to in the future.

Additionally, getting the chance to make friends with the other American delegates and the organizers of the program has helped me widen my network in the US. The friendships that I have developed through the program will help me in my personal and professional development and to make a positive impact in the future relationship between our two countries.

Juan Carlos Torres – Boston (2019)