



Centre for
Japanese Studies

Fostering Innovation through Diversity: Japan's demographic dynamics

Speakers



Haruaki Deguchi

President at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

Haruaki Deguchi is the president of Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Beppu, Oita Prefecture. A popular lecturer and author of more than 40 books, he founded Lifenet Insurance in 2008 after a career spanning nearly 35 years at Nippon Life Insurance Co.



Chris Changwe Nshimbi

Director & Research Fellow at University of Pretoria Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation

Christopher Changwe Nshimbi is Director of the Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation (GovInn) and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Political Sciences, University of Pretoria. His research focuses on migration, borders, regional integration, the informal economy and water governance.

Concept

By 2050 more than two-thirds of the world's population is projected to be living in urban areas. This rapid increase will take place mainly in developing countries. Africa and Asia—both still less urbanised than other regions—will have the fastest urban growth rates (UNDP). The regional revitalisation initiative aims to reverse the concentration of the country's population in the urban area and reinvigorate the economies in rural parts of the country facing long-term depopulation. In these rapidly changing and unpredictable times, it's now more crucial than ever that we are agile enough to adapt to new social trends.

Objectives of the Webinar:

- As a global university in a regional area of Japan, what role has Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University played in regional revitalisation?
- As the coronavirus pandemic spreads across the globe, people are also moving in response to the threat of the virus. What does this mean for regional revitalisation?
- How can innovation and diversity address these issues? What can Japan and South Africa learn from each other with regards to innovation and diversity?

「多様性と革新-日本の人口動態と地域経済-」

日本では天災やコロナ禍の中で、通信技術の発達や人々の豊かさの定義の変化もあり、都市から地方への動きが見られるようになった。立命館アジア太平洋大学（APU）の出口学長の講演では、地方にあるグローバルな大学の取り組みの一つとして、また、現日本政府の指針としての地方創生の視点から、人口動態の変化による経済的ダイナミズムについて概観する。

さらに日本よりも多様性に富んだ社会である南アフリカから、APUでも学んだプレトリア大学のンシンビ氏が、アフリカにおける人口移動や移住とそれによる経済変革についてコメント。多様性と革新について日本と南アフリカの双方の視点から議論する。

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