



**Kobe Institute of Computing (KIC), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA),
ARUN Seed, Peloria Insights**
co-sponsored webinar series

Game-changing chemistry to create social innovation in a difficult era through "ICT x Peacebuilding x Social Investment."

Overview:

The new infectious disease Covid-19 spread worldwide in a short period since early 2020. It has continued to rage after that, and the path to its end is still hard to see. In order to fight the "invisible enemy," people are forced to curb socio-economic activities, and the effects are not only economic stagnation represented by tourism but also a wide range of adverse effects such as education and security. To secure social distance, the distance learning using information and communication technology (ICT) has spread worldwide at once. Online meeting is no longer a special item. However, the status of the digital divide is widening the gap between rich and poor. Even in peacebuilding, where dialogue between the parties is essential, the process tends to be stagnant due to the restraint of actions by infection prevention. Social investment, an integral approach to creating the most critical employment opportunities for developing countries, is entering a new phase due to the stagnation of international flow.

ICT can reduce contact opportunities with others in a situation where the fight against "invisible enemies." ICT might create job opportunities untraditional way in a distance world and reduce your business cost. Thus, the non-traditional way to utilize ICT should now be boldly tried not only in education and health but also in peacebuilding and social investment to pursue sustainable development in a difficult era.

This webinar series is originated by a group of development practitioners who share such awareness of crucial issues. The group discussed during the Japan Society for International Development (December 2020) titled "Next Generation Peacebuilding-Peacebuilding in the Age of With Corona, Utilization of Artificial Intelligence, Social Investment" (Leader: Koji Sakane), and the group received various positive feedback. With such a backdrop, this event explores how to examine the possibility of socially demonstrating and implementing the ideas through discussion between resource speakers and participants to surmount the academic framework.

Webinar Tool: Zoom (Link will be sent on registration)
Date and Time: 1st Session – June 9th, 2021 (Wed) 17:00 (Japan Standard Time)
 Onwards, every Wednesday same time. Five sessions are scheduled.
How to Join: Zoom link will be sent on your registration through LINK below
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfCbD2LWQ2qUmp5wTrVO4bLiEYDPP83V72kmUUf3JM7cb-POA/viewform>
Fee: Free
Language: Japanese and English
 (Note: While the presentation material will be shown in ENGLISH, the presenters might speak in JAPANESE depends on audience majority. Q&A can be done in ENGLISH)

Agenda:

1st Session – June 9, 2021 (Wed) 17:00~18:00 (JST)

"Game-changing Chemistry – ICT x Peacebuilding x Social Investment."

- 1 *"The background and aim of this webinar series / How ICT contributes to tackle the pandemic"*
Tomoyuki Naito (KIC)
- 2 *"Peacebuilding and the applicability of ICT and Social Investment in Sudan"*
Koji Sakane (JICA)
- 3 Q&A

2nd Session – June 16, 2021 (Wed) 17:00~18:30 (JST)

"ICT x Peacebuilding: Peach Tech"

- 1 *"Peach Tech – a game-changing wave"* Ayaka Oishi (Peloria Insights)
- 2 Presentation #2 (TBD)
- 3 Break-out session online / Q&A



3rd Session – June 23, 2021 (Wed) 17:00~18:00 (JST)

“Peacebuilding x Social Investment”

- 1 *“The state and issues of social investment under the era of pandemic”*
Satoko Kono (ARUN Seed)
- 2 *“The role of private sector in promoting the economic independence of refugees”*
Eri Nakamura (JICA)
- 3 Q&A

4th Session – June 30, 2021 (Wed) 17:00~18:00 (JST)

Interactive online panel discussion

“How to realize the game-changing chemistry: ICT x Peacebuilding x Social Investment?”

Moderator: Tomoyuki Naito (KIC)

Discussants: Koji Sakane (JICA), Ayaka Oishi (Peloria Insights), Satoko Kono (ARUN), Eri Nakamura (JICA), others (TBC)

5th Session – July 7, 2021 (Wed) 17:00~18:00 (JST)

Special Session on Palestine – “ICT x Social Investment in Palestine”

- 1 *“The state and issues of Palestine and the Japan’s ODA”* Junji Kawashima (JICA)
- 2 *“The state of Gaza and ICT startups,”* A speaker from Palestine (TBC)
- 3 Interactive discussion and Q&A

Speakers:



Tomoyuki Naito

Vice President and Professor, KIC
Prior to assume current position, served as Senior Advisor, Director for ICT at JICA. Program Manager at the World Bank. A member of *Internet for All*, WEF.



Koji Sakane

Chief Representative, JICA Sudan Office
Assigned in Sudan since last February. Previous posts includes Senior Director for Peacebuilding, and Director for Cambodia. Obtained MA on Conflict Resolution at Bradford University. Board member of Global Peace Association of Japan



Ayaka Oishi

Project Manager / Political Analyst, Peloria Insights
Previously served at IBM and PeaceTech Lab in the US Institute of Peace, her expertise lies in AI-powered conflict prediction and analysis. As a recipient of the Fulbright Fellowship from Japan, she graduated with MA in Conflict Resolution at Georgetown University.



Satoko Kono

President, ARUN LLC / ARUN Seed
Engaged in the restoration of and development aid for Cambodia, through NGO, JICA, and World Bank. Meeting with a Cambodian social entrepreneur opened her eyes to the social finance. Ms. Kono was convinced its necessity and potential, she established ARUN in 2009.



Eri Nakamura

JICA/ Graduate School of System Design and Management, Keio University
Engaged in project management in fragile areas, such as both Sudan, Somalia, and Rwanda, for 10+ years. Currently a PhD student at Keio University, Japan. Research focuses on private sector development in conflict-affected area.



Junji Kawashima

Representative, JICA Palestine Office
Previously worked in Embassy of Japan in Yemen, and Foreign Missions of Kuwait, Iraq, and Palestine in Japan. Co-authored *“The Sectarian Crisis in Yemen”* (Middle East Institute, 2015).