



Speakers' Biography

ASEAN-Japan Insights Webinar

ASEAN-JAPAN AI COLLABORATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY, TALENT AND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Wed, 04 Mar 2026 | 15:00-16:30 JST Zoom webinar (English, Japanese)

Speakers/Panelists:

Catalyzing ASEAN-Japan AI Collaboration: Enablers and Barriers

Mr. Mark Bryan Manantan | 2025 Research Fellow, ASEAN-Japan Young Experts



Mark Bryan Manantan is the inaugural Director of Cybersecurity and Critical Technologies at the Pacific Forum in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he has established an extensive portfolio on technology and international affairs. His key initiatives include the Cyber ASEAN capacity-building project (2022-2024); U.S.-Japan and U.S.-Republic of Korea cooperation on cybersecurity and critical technologies (2021-2024); the Trilateral Security Dialogue on AI involving the United States, Japan, and Australia (2022-2024); and CONVERGE: Indo-Pacific Critical Tech Forum 2024: AI and Semiconductors (2023-2025). He is also currently a Research Fellow at La Trobe University.

Mr. Manantan is a member of UNESCO's AI Experts Without Borders and serves on the institutional advisory board of the Australian National University's Philippines Institute. He is also a Senior Advisor and Head of CI-ISAC International for the Asia Pacific, and a Non-Resident Fellow at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, National Cheng-chi University in Taiwan. Previously, he was a Visiting Fellow at Japan's National Institute for Defense Studies under the Ministry of Defense, an Asia Fellow at the Japan Foundation, and a Visiting Research Fellow at the East-West Center in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Manantan's research has been published in the Australian Journal of International Affairs, Asian Politics and Policy, Issues and Studies, The Cyber Defense Review, and East Asia Forum.

ASEAN's AI Ecosystem: Readiness Gaps, Governance, and Regional Interoperability

TBD

ASEAN-Japan Cooperation on AI: Policy Priorities and Practical Pathways

TBD

From Policy to Practice: Industry Perspectives on ASEAN-Japan AI Co-Creation

Mr. Kotaro Adachi | CEO and Co-founder, TechShake



Kotaro Adachi is a Japanese entrepreneur based in the Philippines for 20 years. He is currently involved in the management of several companies, including TechShake, AXIS Software Development PHL. INC. Also, he is co-organizer of the IGNITE Conference, which is one of the biggest innovation conferences based in the Philippines. Mr. Adachi attained his MBA from IE Business School in Spain.

Moderator

Dr. Katrina Navallo | Programme Manager, ASEAN-Japan Centre

