

UN Tourism: Celebrating Female Founders 28
April 2025

Women's Pavilion, Japan Expo, Osaka, Japan

Master of Ceremonies: Ms. Chiaki Oya, Deputy Chief, UN Tourism Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific

12:00 – 12:15

Opening and Welcome Remarks

- Mr. Maher Nasser, Commissioner-General of the United Nations at Expo 2025
- Mr. Takeshi Nakano, Vice Commissioner, Japan Tourism Agency
- Mr. Tadashi Kaneko, Director, Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific, UN Tourism
- Mr. Antonio López de Ávila, Director, Innovation Education and Investments Department, UN Tourism

12:15 – 12:30

Keynote Speech "Empowering Innovation: Shaping the Future of Tourism"

- Mr. Antonio López de Ávila, Director, Innovation Education and Investments Department

12:30 – 13:30

Panel I: " Women Innovators: Bridging Technology and Transformative Impact"

This panel will focus on the critical role women play in the tech startup ecosystem. The discussion will explore strategies for overcoming challenges and leveraging opportunities to create a more inclusive and diverse tech industry. Panellists will share insights on promoting gender equality, the importance of mentorship, and how to harness innovation for social impact.

Moderator: Kaori Takahashi, Senior Producer, Nikkei Inc

- Ms. Kuniko Takasaki, Managing Executive Officer, JTB Group Chief DEIB Officer
- Ms. Fumiko Kato, President, WAmazing
- Ms. Megumi Minaki, Founding member and Director, Atona Impact Fund GP
- Ms. Angela Chen, SVP of International Business Development, Dossen

13:40 – 14:10 **Pitching Round:**

- Kaoru Joho, CEO, ByFood.com (Japan)
- Hyojeong Kim, CEO, NomadHer (Korea)
- Zeljana Babic, Founder & CEO, Xenios Academy (UAE)
- Emily Cheung, Founder, Shake to Win (SAR, China)
- Vanessa Karel, Foudner, Greether (USA)

14:10 – 14:20 **Closing Remarks**