
Global Tourism Investment Forum: Co-creating Cultures for the Future
29 April 2025

United Nations Pavilion, Japan Expo, Osaka, Japan

Master of Ceremonies: Peter Janech, Coordinator, Investments, UN Tourism

10:00 – 10:10

Opening and Welcome Remarks

- Maher Nasser, Commissioner-General of the United Nations at Expo 2025
- Takashi Watanabe, Director, Japan Tourism Agency
- Antonio Lopez de Avila, Director, Innovation, Education and Investments, UN Tourism

10:10 – 10:20

Keynote Speeches: The Role of Investment in Transforming Global Tourism

- Antonio Lopez de Avila, Director, Innovation, Education and Investments, UN Tourism

10:20 – 10:30

Keynote Speech: Asia's Tourism Investment Landscape: Leveraging Growth for Global Impact

- Tadashi Kaneko, Director, UN Tourism Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific

10:30 – 11:00

Fire Side Chat: Local Voices, Global Visions: Rethinking Investment for Cultural and Community Impact

Moderator: Kaori Takahashi, Senior Producer, Nikkei Inc

- Kou Sundberg, CEO and President, Kiraku Inc.
- Martin David, International Relations Expo Lead for Vanuatu & representative for Volcano Run Project

11:00 – 11:45

High-Level Dialogue: Investing for Impact: Driving Sustainable and Inclusive Growth in the Tourism Sector

Moderator: Naohiro Fukawa, Senior Media Strategist, Travel Voice Japan

- Eijiro Yamakita, President & CEO, JTB Corp.
- James Kaplan, CEO, Destination Capital
- Hayato Shingu, Deputy Chief Commercial Officer Aeronautical, Kansai Airports
- Sam Sakamura, Vice President at Hyatt, Japan and Micronesia
- Phillip Vincent, Managing Partner, Plug and Play APAC and CEO of Plug and Play Japan

11:45

Closing remarks
