

January 27, 2025

## **Symposium on International Cooperation Held**

Toda Corporation (Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo, President: Otani Seisuke), with the cooperation of the International University of Japan (Location: Minami-Uonuma City, Niigata Prefecture, President: Utsuda Shoei), held a symposium on the theme of international cooperation at TODA BUILDING'S TODA HALL & CONFERENCE TOKYO, Hall B, on December 13, 2024.

This symposium, associated with the 70th anniversary of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) and Toda Corporation's 40th anniversary of ODA, was an opportunity to reflect on past ODA projects and discern the significance of international cooperation as well as explore the possibilities for the contribution and growth of private companies in the field of international cooperation under the theme of "Future international cooperation and the potential of private companies."

In the keynote speech of the first section, Professor Hiroshi Kato, Vice President of International University of Japan, delivered a presentation. At the beginning of his lecture, Professor Kato reviewed the 70 years of international cooperation, depicting the international situation and Japan's global position at different times. He explained the significance of international cooperation.

Furthermore, during the latter half of his speech, he expressed his views on the role of private companies in international cooperation, concluding his keynote by emphasizing the necessity of striving for new forms of co-creation through collaboration among industry, government, and academia.



Photo-1 Scene from Professor Kato's keynote speech



Photo-2 Scene from the panel discussion

During the second part of the panel discussion, in addition to Professor Kato, three of our Group General Managers participated: Fujita, Civil Engineering Business; Sonehara, Building Construction Business; and Uekusa, Strategic Business Promotion. Under the theme "Co-creation between International Cooperation and Private Companies: Exploring New Possibilities of Dialogue,"

discussions were held on the direction and significance of new forms of international cooperation, as well as the potential role of private enterprises. The discussion from our Group General Managers encompassed not just questions for Professor Kato but also included concepts regarding the future of international cooperation, introductions to the overseas projects currently being undertaken, and lively free talk focusing on co-creation with private companies

Through these discussions, the importance of revisiting the current system, including grant aid programs, to develop more effective mechanisms was highlighted. Moreover, it reaffirmed that co-creation between international cooperation and private companies can expand opportunities for new market creation and entry.



Photo-3 Scene of the symposium venue



Photo-4 Scene of exhibit booths set up in the rear of the venue

## Overview of the International University of Japan

The International University of Japan (IUJ) was established in Minamiuonuma City, Niigata Prefecture, in 1982 as a graduate university aimed at fostering professionals equipped with advanced expertise capable of contributing to the international community. By using English as the sole instructional language, students can receive graduate education in international relations and international business studies that meet global standards, drawing about 70 countries and regions from all over the world. It is a graduate university with the primary objective of nurturing individuals who possess highly specialized and interdisciplinary knowledge and can apply and utilize this knowledge practically in international forums.

International University of Japan Official Website: <a href="https://www.iuj.ac.jp/">https://www.iuj.ac.jp/</a>

International University of Japan Introduction Video: https://youtu.be/ frLiuYgKpQ

We will strive to optimize our business portfolio by promoting strategic investments in priority management businesses and intangible assets that will drive future growth, and to achieve our mid- to long-term goal of 8% ROE, as well as to further enhance corporate value.

