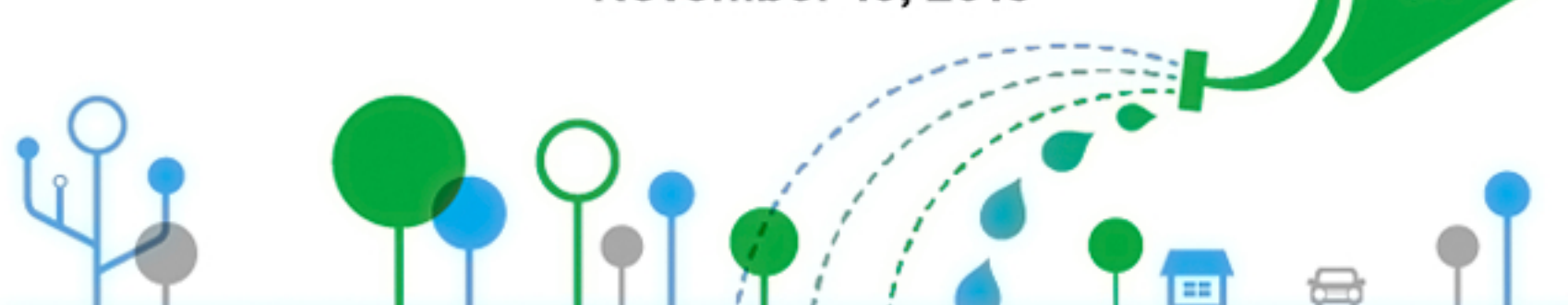




PRESENTS

Immersion into Japan's Start-Up Culture

November 10, 2015



Agenda

14:30-14:45

Introduction of IBM BlueHub

In Japan, IBM's second largest market, entrepreneurship is top of mind for the national government. The vision is for Japanese entrepreneurs to have every opportunity for innovation to make them globally competitive. IBM launched IBM BlueHub in 2014 to support this vision, leading not only the support around technology and consulting, but ultimately creating an ecosystem of partners to provide startups with everything necessary for success. Now entering its second year, IBM BlueHub continues to promote Japanese entrepreneurship with best-in-class technology and a powerful ecosystem of partners.



Catherine Solazzo
Director of Performance Marketing, IBM Japan

14:45-15:45

Panel Discussion

Immersion into Japan's Start-Up Culture

Meet Our Panel



Kentaro Sakakibara
CEO

[Samurai Incubate Inc](#)

Kentaro Sakakibara founded Samurai Incubator in 2008, hoping to embody the principles of the Japanese Samurai warrior. Now expanding their activities abroad, Kentaro and Samurai were recently featured in the Times of Israel for their incubation activities there.



Ryotaro Nakayama
CEO

[CyberAgent Crowd Funding, Inc.](#)

Ryotaro Nakayama founded "Makuake", the crowdfunding service of Japanese internet company Cyberagent, after that company sent him to work with startups in Vietnam for two and a half years. He is now back and the name of his new firm means "the curtain are raised for a new stage" in Japanese.



Yuuichi Ikoma
CEO & Founder

[TERRACE MILE.INC](#)

Yuuichi Ikoma is the CEO and founder of Terrace Mile, an IBM BlueHub supported startup based in Kyushu, southern Japan, which aims to give Japanese farmers the a tool to plan their harvesting schedule more efficiently using predictive data analysis.

15:45-16:00 Q&A and Wrap-up

This off-site excursion offers a visit to Tech Lab Paak Shibuya, which bills itself as a Confluence and Innovation Hub for IT Creators. Japanese entrepreneurs representing various stages of business formation will share their experiences and provide insights into the challenges and keys to success in Japan's start-up culture, as well as potential for U.S. connections with Japan's new businesses. IBM will also present information on its BlueHub Incubator as a key way to support start-up businesses in Japan. Participants must be prepared to depart the Cerulean for the excursion immediately following the luncheon program. We apologize that venue has limited accessibility.