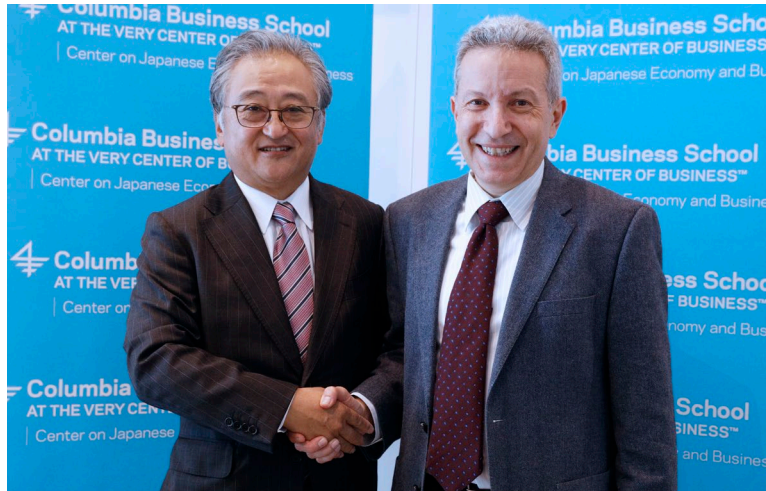


The Current Status of Japanese Companies as They Aim for Carbon Neutrality and the Role of Finance

October 11, 2022

Room 570, Geffen Hall, Columbia Business School



Featuring:

Yasushi Kinoshita, Chairman, Development Bank of Japan Inc.

Moderator:

David E. Weinstein, Director, CJEB; Carl S. Shoup Professor of the Japanese Economy, Columbia University

In October 2020, the Japanese government declared its intention to become carbon neutral by 2050. In 2021, Development Bank of Japan Inc. (DBJ) conducted top-level interviews with 31 large Japanese companies and venture companies. While all companies stressed the need to reach "carbon neutrality by 2050," none had concrete prospects for achieving it. According to DBJ's Survey on Planned Capital Spending 2022, while 27% of the companies chose 2046 or later as the target year of achievement and 60.5% were unsure, only 7.4% of the companies chose 2030 or earlier as the target. This is an industrial revolution. Various difficulties can be expected in the process. Many companies will be forced to change their operations. As a result, many will cease to exist, some will be reshaped, and many new ones will be created. This is also a great opportunity for Japanese companies and society to undergo a major transformation. During this exclusive event, Mr. Kinoshita discussed how Japanese companies are trying to respond. He provided an overview of the Survey on Planned Capital Spending 2022 released by DBJ this August and examined the roles and challenges of financial institutions in achieving decarbonization, especially as risk money (capital funds) providers. Mr. Kinoshita gave his presentation in Japanese and the in-person event was only for individuals with an active Columbia University ID.