GPAI Tokyo Innovation Workshop 2025: Results Summary

GPAI Tokyo Expert Support Center

1. Establishment of GPAI Tokyo Expert Support Center

The Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) is an integrated partnership that brings together OECD members and GPAI countries to advance an ambitious agenda for implementing human-centric, safe, secure, and trustworthy artificial intelligence (AI) embodied in the principles of the OECD Recommendation on AI.

GPAI was launched in June 2020, following the G7 Summit declarations in 2019 and 2020. Japan has participated since its inception and hosted the GPAI Summit in Tokyo in November 2022. Furthermore, in October 2023, G7 leaders issued the G7 Leaders' Statement on the Hiroshima AI Process, welcoming the Hiroshima Process International Guiding Principles for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems and the Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems. They also called on relevant ministers to further strengthen project-based cooperation with GPAI and other organizations.

In response, the Japanese government proposed at the GPAI Ministerial Council in India (December 2023) to establish the third GPAI Expert Support Center in Tokyo, following Paris (France) and Montreal (Canada), to support research aligned with these international principles and codes of conduct, and to promote projects that provide evidence for policy development on generative AI. This proposal was approved, and the GPAI Tokyo Expert Support Center (hereinafter "Tokyo Center") was established within the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) on July 1, 2024.

2. Background of the Tokyo Innovation Workshop

GPAI develops an annual work plan defining its activities for the year. In the 2025 plan, the "Tokyo Innovation Workshop" (Tokyo IW) was designated as a GPAI-associated project to be organized by the Tokyo Center in collaboration with two other centers.

The "Innovation Workshop" (IW) series has been held annually since 2023 (Canada, 2023; France, 2024) to foster synergy and innovation among multi-stakeholders. Its goals are to enable direct exchanges between global AI experts and GPAI member governments, identify key challenges in AI development, and explore potential solutions.

The Tokyo IW was held on May 28-29, 2025, at the NICT Innovation Center (Nihonbashi). Based on pre-event surveys of experts and stakeholders, the themes were set as "AI Utilization in the Global South and Strengthening of Domestic and Global AI Ecosystems," "Interoperability of International AI Governance Frameworks," "Multilingual and Multicultural AI," and "Open Source AI." The workshop sought to facilitate comprehensive and forward-looking discussions on future project formation and the broader future of AI.

3. Preparation for the Tokyo IW

The Tokyo IW was co-hosted by NICT, CEIMIA, and Inria, with support from the OECD. As the first GPAI-associated project organized by the Tokyo Center, preparation was carried out in close collaboration with CEIMIA and Inria, which had hosted previous innovation workshops.

The event was also supported by Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), which leads national AI policy, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which supports AI strategy development in emerging countries.

The Tokyo IW was successfully held with participation from a wide range of multi-stakeholders, including government agencies and AI researchers from both GPAI and non-GPAI member countries.

4. Results of the Tokyo IW

(1) Meeting Overview

The workshop brought together over 170 participants from 41 countries. This diverse gathering included GPAI and OECD experts, as well as representatives from government agencies, international organizations, academia, the private sector, and non-profit organizations. There was significant participation from both GPAI member and non-member countries. Of these, 137 participants from 36 countries attended in person. Participants were most numerous from Asia (41%), followed by Europe (26%), North America (13%), and Africa (12%). By affiliation, government agencies (44%) formed the largest group, but there was balanced participation from academia, international organizations, private companies, and non-profit organizations.

(2) Program

Opening Ceremony (May 28)

Following the opening declaration by GPAI Tokyo Center Secretary-General, Yuko Harayama, host remarks were delivered by NICT President Hideyuki Tokuda, and guest remarks by Takuo Imagawa, Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination at the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. This was followed by a keynote speech by Hiroaki Kitano (Technology Fellow, Sony Group Chief) and panel discussions moderated on the four themes.

Group Discussions (May 28)

The discussions were organized around four themes: "AI

Figure 1: NICT President Hideyuki Tokuda delivering host remarks

Figure 2: Panel Discussion

Utilization in the Global South and Strengthening of Domestic and Global AI Ecosystems," "Interoperability of International AI Governance Frameworks," "Multilingual and Multicultural AI," and "Open Source AI". Participants were divided into 12 groups across these themes, and each group presented a summary of its findings.

Reception (May 28)

On behalf of the Japanese government, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Masashi Adachi delivered guest remarks. Exhibitions and presentations were also held by Japanese AI-related private companies, including Amazon Web Services Japan G.K., Fujitsu, KADOKAWA ASCII Research Labs, KDDI, Konica Minolta, Microsoft Japan, and TOPPAN Digital.

Theme-based Discussions (May 29)

Discussions were held by theme to consolidate opinions, after which all participants gathered for final reports by theme.

Wrap-up and Closing Ceremony (May 29)

A panel discussion titled "The Future of GPAI" was held, featuring GPAI Co-Chair Uroš Poluga; Karine Perset, Acting Head of the OECD AI and Emerging Digital Technologies Division; Albina Ovcearenco, Head of the Digital Development Unit at the Council of Europe; and Lydia Lamisi Akanvariba, Minister of State of Ghana (APNIG: African Parliamentary Internet Governance Network Committee).

Following this, representatives from the three centers reported the results of the group discussions. The three center directors, joined by OECD Acting Head of Division Karine Perset, then presented the key takeaways from the workshop. Finally, NICT President Hideyuki Tokuda concluded the Tokyo IW with closing remarks.

(3) Key Points from Group Discussion Results

The results of group discussions, summarized below, were reported at the GPAI Plenary held in June this year. They are expected to be reflected in future GPAI activities and policy recommendations.

"AI Utilization in the Global South and Strengthening of Domestic and Global AI Ecosystems" Group

This project proposed the establishment of "AI Living Labs for Impact" (laboratories for demonstrating AI with social impact).

As AI technology development has largely advanced in developed countries, inequality in AI usage is widening, leading to discussions about the need to strengthen AI ecosystems in Global South countries. The result was the proposal to establish AI Living Labs to collect and share good practices in data, use cases, and observation methods, enabling all stakeholders to participate and learn.

"Interoperability of International AI Governance Frameworks" Group

As a result of discussions, the development of "Dynamic Mapping of AI Governance Frameworks" and "Building Interoperability among Policy Frameworks to Promote Data and Input/Output Utilization for AI Innovation" were proposed.

Regarding the former, numerous working maps have been developed based on high-level frameworks such as OECD principles, the US NIST AI Risk Management Framework (RMF), ISO/IEC standards, EU Codes of Practice, and the Hiroshima AI Process. However, field practitioners still face

challenges in identifying commonalities and differences among multiple frameworks, and in preventing conflicts between them. Against this background, to coordinate domestic and international AI policy frameworks, cross-mapping of detailed activity items and measures included in existing frameworks was proposed. Specifically, it advocated for ontology-based comparison and visualization, while consolidating insights from small and medium enterprises, the private sector, and policymakers.

The project's deliverables were envisioned to extend beyond mapping alone, to include activities such as tabletop exercises to verify how users can actually utilize frameworks, policy consultations, and capacity building.

Regarding the latter, the purpose was to enhance interoperability of international policy frameworks to promote data utilization essential for AI development.

Mechanisms to facilitate cross-border data sharing and support AI model localization were also proposed.

As part of this, voluntary technical standards, governance tools, and contractual terms were proposed, with practical verification through international sandboxes.

"Multilingual and Multicultural AI" Group

As a result of discussions, the establishment of a "Multicultural AI Consortium" was proposed.

Modern mainstream AI systems such as large language models (LLMs) are concentrated in languages with abundant data and cannot adequately reflect the world's diverse cultures and values. This could lead to cultural exclusion and discrimination.

This project proposed the establishment of a "Multicultural AI Consortium" as a framework for incorporating cultural diversity into AI. The proposed consortium would utilize the UN's "Endangered Languages" list to develop datasets for undervalued languages and aim to develop benchmarks and indices for evaluating cultural safety.

Project partners would include not only international organizations, governments, universities, and research institutions, but also local communities, cultural experts, and traditional knowledge holders. Comprehensive and collaborative efforts are required to ensure AI is developed in ways that protect cultural dignity and respect diversity.

"Open Source AI" Group

This project presented on "Making Open Source AI Tools More Accessible."

While open source AI is valued for transparency, collaboration, and innovation, frameworks and tools to ensure safety and responsible use are still under development. To address this challenge, the group agreed to first conduct a gap analysis of existing governance tools and, based on the results, build a taxonomy covering the entire AI lifecycle.

Subsequently, plans were made to develop practical mechanisms through public consultations, hackathons, and skill development. Stakeholders would include diverse players, such as major open source companies including hyperscalers (large-scale data center and AI companies), standardization bodies, alliances, universities, governments, and NGOs.

Figure 3: Group Discussion

(4) Participant Opinions

Following the Tokyo IW, surveys were conducted among participants, yielding valuable feedback that will contribute to the future activities of GPAI and its centers. Below are some selected responses:

"AI Utilization in the Global South and Strengthening of Domestic and Global AI Ecosystems" Group

- My sub-group had dynamic and respectful discussions in a good atmosphere where participants felt free to challenge each other's assumptions. It was not an "easy" discussion, but this is why it felt productive and meaningful. Through this discussion, I gained concrete understanding of the unique or amplified challenges in the Global South related to data, talent, and compute resources.
- While I had previously understood intellectually the problem of structural exclusion of minority and marginalized voices from AI training data, hearing others' lived experiences made the implications feel more tangible and urgent. Through this workshop, I felt a renewed responsibility to think critically about how we can ensure cultural and epistemic diversity in AI development and how we might build more equitable and inclusive systems.

"Interoperability of International AI Governance Frameworks" Group

- Through group discussions, I gained several key insights that deepened my understanding of challenges and opportunities regarding AI governance frameworks. One of the most valuable takeaways was recognizing that although many AI governance frameworks exist globally, there is a significant lack of interoperability, both in terms of structure and underlying principles.
- This discussion was very fruitful, with several important considerations on the levels of interoperability (principles, standards, regulatory frameworks) and the importance of clear and transparent terminology.

"Multilingual and Multicultural AI" Group

- Some participants expressed strong urgency about the need to mitigate risks (under-representation of minority languages and cultures) in using generative AI tools.
- I gained new perspectives on which language technologies are already being developed around the world, and it was impressive that many technologies were introduced during the discussion.
- I learned more about NICT's natural language processing (NLP) efforts.

"Open Source AI" Group

- There was discussion about open source AI challenges regarding tools (safety handling, compliance, etc.).
- The open source aspects of AI, existing AI tool catalogs compiled by OECD, and different country priorities regarding open source were also addressed.

5. Conclusion

The approximately 10-month preparation period from the establishment of the Tokyo Center in July 2024 to the holding of the Tokyo IW was a challenging journey, as this was the first time the secretariat organized a GPAI international conference. Under the leadership of Secretary-General Harayama, the secretariat worked as a unified team, collaborating closely with the other two centers, the OECD, MIC, and JICA, to deliver the most substantial workshop to date. This coordinated effort resulted in a highly successful international conference at the NICT Innovation Center, achieving record attendance, with participants representing numerous countries and diverse stakeholders.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the successful organization of the Tokyo IW.

Figure 4: Group photo of all participants