

Yasuhiro Kobayashi

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PLACEMENT OBJECTIVE

Application for 2025 Donella Meadows Fellowship

PROFILE

Nationality: Japan

DOB: 4/4/1990

Address: 7-6-12-202 Kiraku-Haimu, Todoroki, Setagaya-Ku, Tokyo Japan 158-0082

Bio: Yasuhiro Kobayashi is a founder of Ecological Memes, a cross-disciplinary collective of regenerators and researchers in Japan. After engaging in creating a mission-driven community for social entrepreneurs at Impact HUB Tokyo, Yasuhiro has supported new business creation, purpose design, leadership cultivation and organizational transformation for companies across industries towards a co-thriving future. He also runs a community farm of regenerative agriculture in the urban area of Tokyo. Specialized in co-creative facilitation, art of hosting, vision design, and authentic leadership approach that integrates inner and outer systems, he creates regenerative flow and conditions for emergence and catalyze transformation at individual, organizational and eco-systemic level. He is a Japanese Translator of *Regenerative Leadership* (Hutchins & Storm, 2019) and a co-founder of Regenerative Leadership Japan. Father-of-one.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

DEC 2024 - Present	Regenerative Leadership Japan, Co-founder Facilitating a movement around regenerative practices in Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Translated <i>Regenerative Leadership</i> (Hutchins & Storm, 2019)- Provide programs for leaders to learn regenerative leadership integrating with Japanese ancient & indigenous wisdoms	Tokyo, Japan
SEP 2020 - Present	Ecological Memes, Founder & Director Cross-disciplinary collective of regenerators (30-50 members) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Explores inter-relationship between human and nature, going beyond dualism, together with researchers and practitioners- Provides opportunities for leaders/organizations to enhance ecological awareness and more holistic understanding of the systems- Holds global forums and facilitates a cross-disciplinary dialogues towards a co-thriving future, by interweaving wisdoms of the East and the West, and indigenous practices across countries and sectors	Tokyo, Japan
JUL 2016 - JUN 2020	BIOTOPE, Inc. , Partner / Co-creative Facilitator Co-creative Strategic Design Firm <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Supported vision & purpose design, new business creation, and organizational development for corporates across industries- Specialized in equipping individuals and groups with tools to unleash their creativity as human beings and igniting entrepreneurship within	Tokyo, Japan

JAN 2014 - JUN 2016	beBit, Inc. , Co-creative Facilitator / CX Consultant UX & CX Consultancy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UX (user experience) and CX(customer Experience) expert - Specialized in facilitating a business change in a customer centered way, integrated with a HCD(human centered design) approach. 	Tokyo, Japan
APR 2012 - MAR 2014	ImpactHubTokyo, Inc., Founding Member / Community Director Empowering Community for Social Entrepreneurs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Created a mission-driven community for social entrepreneurs - Facilitated dialogues towards systemic change across sectors 	Tokyo, Japan
NOV 2013	the 8th UNESCO Youth Forum, Japan Delegates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selected and participated in the forum at UNESCO headquarters in Paris as a Japan Delegates - Contributed to a proposal on sustainable development 	Paris, France
AUG 2011	TEARS Group Kenya, Assistant Researcher NGO for youth development in Kenya <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducted research and consulted for creating a further impact - Managed marketing in social enterprise/youth empowerment unit 	Nakuru, Kenya
JUN 2011 -MAR 2012	iLEAP(Rootspring), Program Assistant Intern NPO empowering social entrepreneurs internationally <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Program assistant of International Leadership Development Program for Young entrepreneurs - PR assistant translating English into Japanese 	Seattle, Washington
MAY 2011 -DEC 2011	Grameen America University, Program officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote microfinance among youth in Seattle - Fundraised to support microfinance activity 	Seattle, Washington

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

APR 2011 -MAR 2012	University of Washington <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business for International Professionals 	Seattle, Washington
APR 2009 -MAR	University of Tokyo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Majoring in Development Economics - Engaged in working in international NGOs 	Tokyo, Japan

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Aug 2009	VPV Orphanage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taught English to handicapped children - Assisted their rehabilitation 	Hanoi, Vietnam
Mar 2010	NPO NICE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taught English and Math to children who could not afford to go to school - Arranged their study accommodations to maximize academic outcomes 	Goa, India

ACHIEVEMENTS/MEDIA COVERAGE

LECTURES AT UNIVERSITIES:

“Regenerative Design - A non-dualistic perspective redesigning human-nature relations”
at Tama Art University (2023.06)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeVJA6jJ3_4&feature=youtu.be

“Minakata Kumagusu and Ecological Memes: Movement Against Shrine Mergers as a clue”
at Mie University, the Faculty of Sociology (2023.05)

“Sustainable Business based on AWAI perspectives”
at the University of Nagano, the Faculty of Global management

“Ecological Worldview: Exploring Creative Society”
at Keio University, the Faculty of Policy Management and the Graduate School of Media and Governance (2022.10)
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“Design in Japan: Japanese Post Human Centered Design”
at Kyushu University, School of Design and Graduate School of Design (2022.08)

ADVISERS / MENTORS:

- Mentor & Adviser of CST (Circular Startup Tokyo) program by Tokyo Metropolitan Government
- Adviser at International Budo University
- Adviser at Sustainable Business Design Lab by Harch, Inc.
- Mentor & Adviser and Mentors at Sustainable Experience Lab

ARTICLES / ACADEMIC ESSAYS:

“Exploring between human and nature beyond dualistic paradigm; connecting climate crisis, decolonization, multi-species anthropology and equity”
at Stanford Social Innovation Review Japan (2023.10)

https://ssir-j.org/book_review_05_01/

“Opening essay: How to Start Ecological & Regenerative Design in City Planning and Architecture”
at Re : Building maintenance & management 21(4)(124) (2023.01)
<https://bmmc.or.jp/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/f37fb21df83094b4bff66153c99e9570.pdf>

“New Emerging Roles of Business in the Era of Post Human-Centered Design”
at corporate magazine of ITOCHU International Inc. (2022.02)

“What It means to Be a Regenerative Leader in Japan by Yasuhiro Kobayashi”
at guest chapter of upcoming book by Giles Hutchins (TBD)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:

“Towards Sustainable Development: What It Means to Be a Regenerative Leaders in Our Times”
at WordBank Japan committee (2024.12)

“The World of AWAI; Reciprocal Relationship with Nature in Japan”
Nature, Relationships and Wellbeing Online Forum by ANFT (Association of Nature and Forest Therapy) (2024.10)
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<https://anft.earth/nature-relationships-and-wellbeing-online-forum/>

“Redesigning manufacturing and craftsmanship from animistic perspectives”

at Kyoto Design Week (2024.09)

“Invitation to Regenerative Leadership”
at Regenerative Design Collage (2024.04)

“Regenerative Design - A non-dualistic perspective redesigning human-nature relations”
at Intelligence Alliance Group (2023.11)

“Regenerative Leadership and Ecosystemic Facilitator”
at Dive Into Regeneration by One Generation (2023.06)

New emerging roles of business in the era of post human-centered design”
at corporate forum of ITOCHU International Inc. (2022.02)

“Nature and Future with Yasuhiro Kobayashi, a founder of Ecological Memes”
at Patagonia presents Nature&Future by FM Nagasaki (2021.11.)

“Becoming Post Modern; Living a life in a part of nature ecosystem”
at Wisdom 2.0 Japan 2021 “Living Wisely in the Digital Age” (2021.10)

“Towards a circular economy and a regenerative future”
at Takenaka Corporations (2021. 10)

“City as a ecosystem and regenerative design”
at a webinar by Smart City Institute-Japan (2020.06)

“Rethinking sustainability for me and the world”
at SOAR conference (2020.05)

“Redesigning a raison d'être of the business - Sustainable organization in the 21st century”
at NTT Group (2019.11)

“Human Aspect of Innovation; insights from intrapreneurship conferences”
at Panasonic Inc. (2018.10)

“Theories and Practices of Co-creative Facilitation”
at JEITA Design Committy (2018.03)

“Co-creation and Design in the era of uncertainty”
at CEATEC JAPAN 2017 / JEITA Design Forum (2017.10)

“How to accelerate change in the era of uncertainty; the importance of autonomy and co-creation”
at Fuji film Inc. (2017.09)

MEDIA COVERAGE / INTERVIEWED ARTICLES

(English)

“Interview: Why Ecological Memes thinks your authentic self will open an era of regeneration (Mr, Yasuhiro Kobayashi) “(December 16, 2020)
at zenbirds

<https://zenbird.media/why-ecological-memes-thinks-your-authentic-self-will-open-an-era-of-regeneration/>

“Regenerative Leadership: Wisdom from nature and regenerative system transformation (June 14, 2021)”

at zenbirds

<https://zenbird.media/regenerative-leadership-wisdom-from-nature-and-regenerative-system-transformation/>

(Japanesse)

“Reconnecting cities and nature; how to nurture inner nature”

at IDEAS FOR GOOD (2024.11)

“Interviews: How regenerative agriculture regenerates human beings. Mr. Yasuhiro Kobayashi a founder of Kasukabe Farm”

at greenz.jp (2023.11)

“Why is something in-between important? Insights from Ecological Memes Global Forum”

at greenz.jp (2021.4)

“Ecological Attitude connecting I, society and the earth”

at Ushino-hiroba by Chikabi, Inc. (2020.12)

“Regenerative cities: how might we create a co-thriving future with the planet.”

at think about by Net Protection, Inc. (2020.3)

“Why Design thinking matters to organizational transformation”

at Nikkei Design (2018.10)

“Rethinking sustainability for me and the world”

at Soar, Inc. (2021.10)

“Why do we need a catalyst to accelerate innovation?”

at bizzine (2017.05)

“Beyond open innovation; inter connections between change from within and outer collaborations”

at bizzine (2017.03)

WEBSITE & FORUM ARCHIVES:

Ecological Memes HP

<https://www.ecologicalmemes.me/?lang=en>

Ecological Memes Forum 2019 Restoring the In-Between (12.22.2019)

<https://youtu.be/wR57H8Aiv3Q?si=d9jnOHFeS9sqsR2l>

AWAI Global Forum 2021 “Emergence from AWAI: Regenerating Human-Nonhuman Relations” (03.18-21.2021)

<https://ecologicalmemesinf.wixsite.com/awai-forum2021>

AWAI Global Forum 2022 “Re-Encountering Animism: Arts of Relating with the Worlds of Life” (12.03-04.2022)

<https://www.forum.ecologicalmemes.me/>

AWAI Gathering vol.1 - Tao, Chaos and Shaman in Creation -

<https://youtu.be/DB4D0ruF7Fc>

AWAI Gathering vol.2 - Eastern philosophy: a world of Kukai and Toshihiko Izutsu -

<https://youtu.be/o-htK7TAPdU?si=IPDY8nuRt-wBx27q>

AWAI Gathering vol.3 Connecting to the Invisible World: Microorganisms, Planetary Health, Self-Healing Concrete
and Multi-species Anthropology

<https://youtu.be/C16d4fh5F6M>