



## **International Conference**

### **Organization and Performance: Understanding the Diversity of Firms**

**14 & 15 November 2008**  
**Maison franco japonaise, Tokyo, Japan**

### **Call for papers**

#### **Topic**

Various contributions, using different methodologies (e.g. productivity analysis, institutional approaches, management analyses, etc.) have recently emphasized the increasing diversity of Japanese firms in terms of performance and organization. Moreover, this increasing heterogeneity concerns firms of similar size and operating in the same environment (e.g. sector). The purpose of this workshop is, beyond the Japanese case, to gather papers which contribute to the understanding of the diversity of firms' organization and performance, from both comparative and historical perspectives.

#### **Topics of Interest**

More precisely, this workshop aims at gathering various empirical and theoretical approaches, which are concerned with this general question. A non-exhaustive list of topics is:

#### **Methodology and data issues**

- Original surveys and databases
- Measures of the heterogeneity of firms' performance
- Measures of the heterogeneity of firms' organization

#### **The heterogeneity of firms and performance**

- Determinants of performance
- Correlation and causality between organization and performance
- Emerging new models of organization
- The role of institutional/regulatory environment

**Determinants of the evolution of the heterogeneity of firms**

- Measuring and assessing the evolution of the heterogeneity of firms
- Existence of convergence / divergence mechanisms
- Impact of innovation, internationalization, changing economic environment (e.g. exchange rates, taxes), deregulation and institutional reforms on the heterogeneity of firms
- Cycles and heterogeneity of firms

**Organizational diversity and institutional change**

- Diversity of organization at the firm level
- Heterogeneity of firms and diversity of capitalism
- Understanding the institutional change when organizations are diverse

Both international comparisons as well as a depth country or industry case studies are welcome. Further historical and long term studies on these topics also fit to our conference purpose.

**Organizers**

Maison Franco Japonaise (MFJ) and Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry (RIETI)

With the support of Waseda Institute for Advanced Study (WIAS) and French Embassy in Japan

**Organization Committee**

Masahisa FUJITA, RIETI

Sébastien LECHEVALIER, EHESS & MFJ

Hideaki MIYAJIMA, Waseda University & RIETI

Masahiko OZAKI, RIETI

**Invited speakers**

Eric J. BARTELSMAN, Vrije Universiteit

Giovanni DOSI, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, LEM

Richard NELSON, Columbia University, ISERP

John VAN REENEN, CEP - LSE

**Scientific Committee**

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Giovanni DOSI, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, LEM

Kyoji FUKAO, Hitotsubashi University & RIETI

Sébastien LECHEVALIER, EHESS & MFJ

Hideaki MIYAJIMA, Waseda University & RIETI

Kazuyuki MOTOHASHI, The University of Tokyo & RIETI

Richard NELSON, Columbia University, ISERP

John VAN REENEN, CEP – LSE

**How to submit a paper:**

Interested researchers are invited to submit a paper or at least an extended abstract to:  
[diversity\\_confjapan2008@mfj.gr.jp](mailto:diversity_confjapan2008@mfj.gr.jp)

**Dead line is June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008, GMT.**

**Important dates:**

July 31<sup>st</sup>: notification of acceptance

October 15th: dead line for sending the complete version of the paper

**Notice:**

For participants who are selected to present a paper, the travel expenses and the accommodation will be covered. More information is available from the organization committee. Presenters may be kindly asked to discuss another paper. Papers and further information will be made available on the conference web page:  
[http://www.mfj.gr.jp/diversity\\_confjapan2008/](http://www.mfj.gr.jp/diversity_confjapan2008/)

**Venue**

Maison Franco Japonaise (MFJ), 3-9-25, Ebisu, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, 150-0013, Japan

**Contact – Information**

For any other information, please contact to Sébastien LECHEVALIER

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