



Sustainability

Application Guideline

Deadline : **2026 05/24**(Fri) **23:59**(JST)

THIRD 
DERIVATIVE®

JETRO
Japan External Trade Organization



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Objective

To support Japanese startups in the sustainability sector in enhancing growth and global competitiveness in preparation for the future international markets.

- 1 Establish a solid business foundation
- 2 Refine your pitch materials and storytelling
- 3 Build strong partnerships and networks both in Japan and overseas

Milestone Classification

Validator

Location

Japan(Tokyo), United States (New York), and Online

Target Applicants

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Eligible Companies | Startups based in Japan |
| Stage | Seed – Series B |
| Sector | Sustainability-related fields (Cleantech, Climatetech etc.) |



2 PROGRAM STRUCTURE | Program Overview

1 Orientation



Bootcamp @ Tokyo

Short-term intensive in-person training including orientation, workshops, presentations and guest speaker lectures.

2 Acceleration



Online Group Sessions & 1-on-1 Mentoring

Weekly 1on1 mentoring with Account manager, group sessions covering customer discovery, GTM strategy, pitching, etc.

3 Onsite Program



US Immersion Week @ NY

Dedicated 1on1 conversation, planning and strategy meeting with an account manager. Attend climate-tech events in New York to network with stakeholders and investors.

4 Follow-up Support



Mentoring sessions & Showcase @ Tokyo/online

Specialized partnership building mentorships for each startup. 10-15 mentoring sessions online as well as in-person presentations for final hybrid pitch presentation.

1

Orientation| Bootcamp @Tokyo

Intensive Bootcamp in Tokyo. Through orientation and 1-on-1 meetings with account managers, participants will deepen their understanding of the course and build mutual understanding with the accelerator.

Capacity

Up to 15 companies

Dates

Jul 13 – Jul 15 ※Schedule is subject to change

Contents

- Preparation for international markets, mentor connections, workshops.
 - Group sessions – Market entry & customer discovery, business model & commercial strategy etc.
 - Guest speaker session
 - 1-on-1 meetings with account managers or mentors
 - Site visit / Networking event



2

Acceleration | Online Group Sessions & 1-on-1 Mentoring

Through group sessions and individual mentoring, participants will work on refining their business models, customer discovery, business development, GTM strategies, pitching and solving individual challenges.

Capacity Up to 15 companies

Dates July – September

Contents**Online sessions**

- Group coaching sessions – Go-To-Market & Partnerships, Fundraising & Investor Readiness etc.

One-on-one mentoring

- 1-on-1 meeting with account managers
- The sessions can also involve a specific mentor from the D3 network



3

Onsite Program | US Immersion Week @ New York

Roadshow planning with account manager will be held and throughout climate-tech events participation, happening 300+ during the week in New York, participants will aim to establish network with stakeholders and investors

Capacity Up to 15 companies

Details Sep 20 –Sep 27

Contents

Roadshow planning

- Weekly agenda tailored meeting with account manager
- Kick-off breakfast & agenda review
- Expert coaching

US immersion events participation

- each startup will have their own agenda, targeted by their Account Manager
- Pitch event
- Mentor office hour
- Climate-tech site visit



4

Follow-up Support | Mentoring, Sessions and Showcase @ Tokyo/Online

Partnership-focused coaching: specialized mentorship and group workshop for showcase

Capacity

Up to 15 companies

Dates

October – March

*In person workshop #2 Nov 2 – Nov 6 / #3 Feb 8 – Feb 12 @Tokyo

Contents

All-group session

- 10 all-group sessions – technology & scale-up, founder development & communication etc.

Individual session

- 15 individual account manager sessions including commercial-focused mentorship sessions
- Specialized partnership building mentorships for each startup

Showcase

- Final pitch presentation in hybrid style (Q1 2027)



3 SCHEDULE |



※Schedule subject to change.

THIRD ³
DERIVATIVE[®]

Third Derivative (D3)

<https://www.third-derivative.org/>

Backed by RMI, Third Derivative (D3) is the world's leading climate and sustainability tech ecosystem with significant business scale-up capabilities.

- 650+ in-house experts in every relevant sustainability sector
- Portfolio startups raised over USD 4.2B
- Strong presence and track record across APAC



Helin Cox
CTO, Climateworks



Clyde Hutchinson
General Partner, Team ABC



Charithea Charalambous
Senior Associate, Third Derivative



Bryan Guido Hassin
CEO, DEXMAT



Benjamin Mousseau
Group Manager, Global Supply
Management, Tesla



Ben Margolis
Director, Maryland Energy
Innovation Accelerator



Alex Bell
Co-Founder at Removr



Bruce Hilman
Global Marketing Director, DuPont



Virginia Emery
Partner, Gliding Ant Ventures



Glenville Lee
VC & Growth Equity Investments,
Shift4Good



Leo Chan
Vice President, Audacy Ventures



Nitin Vaish
BD, Ginkgo Bioworks

Requirements

Must meet all requirements 1-5 and agree to the terms and conditions

1. Japan-based startup.
2. Actively planning global expansion or fundraising.
3. Business-level English proficiency
4. **Technical founder or CTO must participate**
5. Agreement to [program terms](#), [online program conditions](#) and post-program surveys.
6. Applications may be submitted for up to two courses per company. Concurrent acceptance and participation in two courses are permitted only when one of the courses is the AI CTO Course. In such cases, one dedicated representative must be assigned to each course.

Notes

- Past participants of Startup City Acceleration Program or Global Startup Acceleration Program may apply.
- Data might be shared with Cabinet Office, METI, and partner accelerators.

Selection Criteria

Applications reviewed by ERA and JETRO based on submitted materials. Finalists may be invited for interviews. No status inquiries accepted.

1. Strength of the team, including expertise, network, and English proficiency
2. Growth potential and market opportunity of the product, technology, or service
3. Alignment between the program and the applicant's product or business plan
4. Strategic relevance of participation, considering involvement in other JETRO programs, application details, and the company's overseas expansion goals and current status ***See the next page for details.**

Appropriate Program Selection as an Evaluation Criterion

To help participating companies achieve maximum outcomes, we place strong emphasis on selecting the right program and having a clear purpose for participation. Continuously joining multiple accelerator programs without a clear objective does not necessarily lead to business growth and may result in a dispersion of valuable time and resources. Given that time is one of the most critical resources for startups, we encourage you to review the following points carefully before applying.

■ Basic Approach to Program Selection

We strongly recommend selecting programs based on a backward-planning approach from your company's current objectives.

Needs for overseas expansion vary by company, including:

- Validation of Product-Market Fit (PMF) in overseas markets
- Refinement of Go-To-Market strategy
- Acquisition of initial traction abroad
- Building international networks

The most suitable program will differ significantly depending on your specific goals.

■ Pre-Application Consultation Recommended

The JETRO Startup Team will support you in selecting the most appropriate program based on your business stage and strategic direction.

- If you have already been accepted into another acceleration program this fiscal year, please consult with a JETRO Startup team member prior to applying.
- Even if you have not yet been accepted into any program, please feel free to reach out if you are unsure which course is most suitable for you.

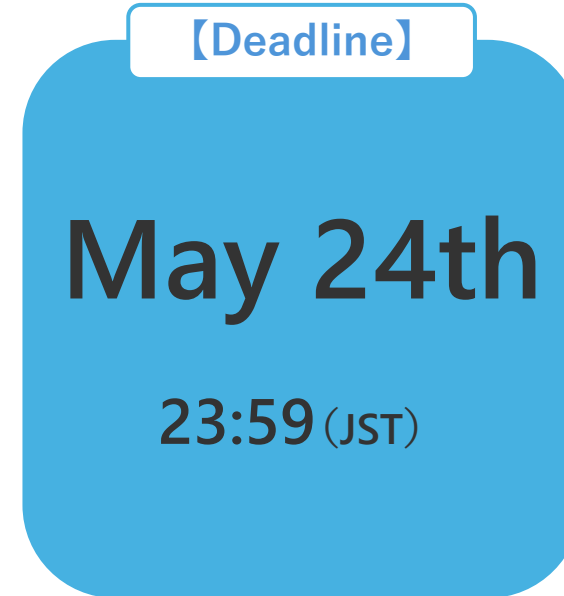
Cost borne by JETRO

- Program Participation Fee

Cost borne by the company

- Local travel, lodging, transportation in the U.S., communication, food and beverage, etc.
- Expenses related to travel to the U.S., such as ESTA, VISA, overseas insurance, etc.
- Domestic travel and lodging expenses, etc.
- Communication expenses for attending the program
- All other expenses not 「cost borne by JETRO」

The following both items must be submitted to complete your entry.



◆ English Pitch Deck (10 slides max, PDF/PPT) including:

✓ Product/service (problem solved + solution)

✓ Business model, market size, competitive advantage

✓ Past achievements and future plans

✓ Team background (include founders' LinkedIn profiles)

* Data might be shared with Cabinet Office, METI, and partner accelerators for selection and program operation

【Consultation with JETRO】

[30 Min MTG
request form](#)

For applicants uncertain about course selection or needing assistance with the application process, JETRO offers 30-minute advisory sessions. However, use of this service does not affect selection decisions and application deadlines may be adjusted based on submission volume.

CONTACT

Company JETRO startup support div

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