

**JIC and Transpose hold event to support startups in Japan  
“Tokyo Founder’s Day – The Success Formula behind Early Stage Startups”**

- Sharing cutting-edge knowledge on global startup support
- Introducing best practices of global startup founders
- Inviting domestic founders to participate in global accelerator program

**Tokyo, December 23, 2024** – Japan Investment Corporation (“JIC”), in collaboration with Transpose Platform Management, LLC (“Transpose”), a fund of funds established in the United States that invests in VC funds and has supported the creation of numerous unicorns and decacorns through the funds in which it invests, held “Tokyo Founder’s Day - The Success Formula behind Early Stage Startups” (“the event”) for the purpose of supporting startups in Japan. Transpose invests in funds managed by Y Combinator (“YC”), one of the world’s leading accelerators; given this close working relationship, YC CEO Garry Tan spoke in the event. JIC announced in June 2024 that it would be making an LP investment in a fund managed by Transpose\*.

**■ About the event**

Transpose founder Alex Bangash and YC CEO Tan as well as startup founders who are YC’s accelerator program alumni made presentation that shed light on the strengths of the program, which has helped many startups succeed. A candid discussion on how to address the challenges faced by startups and how to develop strategic partnerships with investors to realize sustainable startup growth was also made. Approximately 120 participants including founders of early stage startups, foreigners who started business in Japan, and students who are interested in being an entrepreneur shared knowledge regarding the development and strengthening of the domestic startup ecosystem and mingled to build relationships.



YC CEO Garry Tan’s Keynote Presentation



Fireside chat of Tan and JIC Senior Managing Director, Head of Fund Investments Yuka Hata

Tan and Yuka Hata, JIC Senior Managing Director, Head of Fund Investments exchanged opinions on topics such as YC’s strategy for supporting startups. They agreed on the importance of founders deepening their understanding of their own business and market environment, etc., referring to the YC’s accelerator program selection process. They also discussed on the outlook for startups using AI-related technology, which is attracting attention both in Japan and overseas.

Saying that “We would like to continue to play a role trying to build all the ecosystem in the world,” Tan expressed his expectations for Japanese startups and encouraged domestic founders participating in the event to consider applying for YC accelerator program.

### ■ About JIC initiatives

JIC’s mission is to create a virtuous cycle of risk capital that supports Japan's next-generation industries. JIC promotes private investment and develops professionals for investment by providing funds that allow companies to grow and strengthen their competitiveness through open innovation.

To develop Japan’s startup ecosystem, JIC is pursuing “Go Global” as one of its priority investment areas ; as part of this effort, JIC is investing in overseas VCs with the aim of strengthening collaboration between domestic VCs and startups and overseas VCs. In addition to holding events to increase opportunities for domestic startups and VCs to learn knowledge for creating unicorns and global practices from global accelerators, JIC supports domestic VCs to extend network with overseas VCs, which will allow them to receive feedback from the overseas VCs. JIC is also working to promote investment in domestic startups from overseas VCs, expecting that enabling high-quality early-stage startups aiming for global expansion to raise funds from global investors will lead to the creation of global unicorns from Japan.

### Event Details

|                          |   |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Name                     | Tokyo Founder's Day - The Success Formula behind Early Stage Startups   |  |
| Date and Time            | December 17, 2024 1 PM-5 PM   |  |
| Organizers/Co-organizers | JIC, Transpose Platform Management, LLC, IVS  |  |
| Main Program             | Keynote Presentation  | Garry Tan (Y Combinator CEO)   |
|                          | Keynote Fireside Chat   | Garry Tan (Y Combinator CEO)<br>Yuka Hata (JIC Senior Managing Director, Head of Fund Investments) |
|                          | Founder’s Panel   | Taro Fukuyama (Rice Capital & Fond Founder )<br>James Tan (Transpose Platform Partner)             |
|                          | Presentation  | Alex Bangash (Transpose Platform Co-Founder)   |
|                          | Presentation  | Towaki Takikawa (Outerport Co-Founder & CEO)   |
| Participants             | Approximately 120 participants (domestic startups and students who are interested in being an entrepreneur, etc.) |  |

\*JIC makes LP investment in Transpose Platform BOV II, L.P. (June 25, 2024)  
[https://www.j-ic.co.jp/en/news/assets/E\\_JIC\\_PressRelease\\_20240625.pdf](https://www.j-ic.co.jp/en/news/assets/E_JIC_PressRelease_20240625.pdf)

### **About Japan Investment Corporation (JIC)**

Japan Investment Corporation (“JIC”) was established on September 25, 2018 under the Industrial Competitiveness Enhancement Act. JIC’s investment focus areas are driving the creation of new businesses for Society 5.0, creating "unicorn startups", leveraging promising untapped regional technologies and promoting business consolidation across industries and organizations. JIC provides risk capital to these areas through funds independently established by JIC and LP investment in private funds to promote open innovation and contribute to strengthening the competitiveness of Japanese industries and expanding the investment ecosystem.

URL: <https://www.j-ic.co.jp/en/>

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