

### <Speaker's Profile>

Dr. Ayako Honda is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at Sophia University. In the last 12 years, she has undertaken extensively research on health systems in Africa and Asia. She previously worked in the Health Economics Unit at the University of Cape Town and collaborated with African and Asian researchers in research to address a range of health systems issues in LMIC settings. She holds a PhD in health economics from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

She is interested in exploring how different groups of actors respond to the implementation of policy options, particularly health care financing policy that aims to achieve progress toward universal coverage. She is currently undertaking research on the purchasing function of health care financing, focusing on how organizational structures and institutional arrangements affect the behavior of actor groups involved in purchasing. She is also interested in the use of discrete choice experimentation (DCE) in LMIC settings as a method to understand the needs, preferences and values of people working in health systems in order to reflect people's opinions in policy discussion. She has research experience in applying this method.