



**Prof Naoko Ishii**

Director, Center for Global Commons  
Executive Vice President  
University of Tokyo

Prof Naoko Ishii is a professor and executive vice president at the University of Tokyo, where she is also the inaugural director for the Center for Global Commons, whose mission is to catalyze systems change so that humans can achieve sustainable development within planetary boundaries. She believes academia can and should play an active role in mobilizing movements towards shared goals of nurturing stewardship of the global commons. Before joining the university, Prof Ishii was CEO and chairperson of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) from 2012-2020. She formed GEF's first mid-term strategy, GEF 2020, focusing on the transformation of key economic systems. Prof Ishii entered Japan's Ministry of Finance in 1981 and served as Deputy Vice Minister of Finance from 2010-2012. She holds a B.A. in economics and a Ph.D. in international development, both from the University of Tokyo.