

Sumiko Iwao

After earning a Ph.D. in Psychology from Yale University, Sumiko Iwao taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and was a research associate in Harvard's Laboratory of Human Development. She is currently a professor emeritus of Keio University and Tokyo City University. She has held numerous advisory positions in the Japanese government, including chair of the Gender Equality Council and member of the National Public Safety Commission. Since 2008, she has been operating microfinance projects to help poor women in Tanzania. She is working to found Sakura Girls Secondary School, which will operate in a Maasai village at the foot of Kilimanjaro. The school will provide educational opportunities to girls from underprivileged backgrounds with great potential so that they can become future women leaders of Africa. She is the author of *The Japanese Women: Traditional Image and Changing Reality* (Free Press/Harvard University Press, 1993).