Tokyo University of Foreign Studies Campus

Location
Tokyo, Japan

Client
Landscape International, Ltd.

SWA Scope
Master Planning and Landscape Architectural Services

Size
30 acres / 10.7 hectares

Architect
Kume Sekkei Co., Ltd., Architects

NBBJ Architecture

Awards
ASLA National Merit Award
ASLA Northern California Chapter Merit Award

SWA provided master planning and landscape architecture for this 10.7-hectare site, located on an abandoned military housing base on the outskirts of Tokyo. In order to honor the cultural belief that trees embody long-enduring souls, SWA designed a careful program of tree preservation and transplanting—reusing the existing forest to create a clear, form-giving landscape that allows for phased expansion and integrates the campus into its urban context.

This flexible, functional landscape offers formal and informal outdoor gathering spaces. The design includes a series of outdoor elements to encourage social activity as well as outdoor teaching, reading, and study. The Main Entry Plaza offers seating and bicycle parking, the Central Garden accommodates major gatherings, and a series of smaller garden spaces relate to classroom buildings, serving to draw people outside.