

Major General Sugai Hiroyuki
Japan Air Self-Defense Force

Born in the city of Sumoto in the province of Hyogo, Major General Sugai graduated from the National Defense Academy in March 1996 with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering and commenced training as a fighter wing maintenance officer at the 3rd Air Wing, Air Defense Command, Misawa Air Base.

In August 2000, he was assigned to the logistics planning section of the Air Materiel Command in Tokyo, before transferring in August 2003 to the 7th Air Wing at Hyakuri Air Base. In April 2006, he began studying at the Air Staff College before beginning service in March 2007 as an A-4 staff member of the Air Staff Office in Tokyo.

Major General Sugai has also served as an A-5 staff member of the Defense Policies and Program Division's Air Staff Office, where he was notably involved in the design and establishment of the Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency (ATLA).

In March 2012, he was assigned to the 8th Air Wing at Tsuiki Air Base before returning in August 2013 to the Defense Policies and Program Division of the Air Staff Office.

In September 2015, Major General Sugai joined the Brookings Institution as an International Security Fellow and conducted research on the future of Japan's defense equipment policy. He also served as a liaison officer to the Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force, where he discussed strategic challenges in the Chief of Staff of the Air Force's (CSAF) Strategic Studies Group.

In December 2017, he returned to the Logistics Department of the Air Staff Office in Tokyo, before becoming in August 2018 the Deputy Director of Defense Plans at the Defense Policies and Program Division. In August 2019, he was assigned to the Operations and Intelligence Department of the Air Staff Office.

In August 2020, Major General Sugai began his current assignment as Defense and Air Attaché at the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C., where he leads the Defense Section staffed by assistant defense attachés from the Air, Ground, and Maritime Self-Defense Forces.