

## ISAP2020

International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific: ISAP

Just Transitions Toward Sustainable Societies in Asia and the Pacific: Building Forward Better for Our Future Beyond COVID-19

2020

11.9 – 13

Thematic Tracks

11.30

Plenary Sessions

\* Online participation and on-demand broadcast



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Professional affiliations and titles are correct at the time of the forum.

## **Event Outline**

The International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (ISAP) is held annually to share information and facilitate diverse discussions on sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, with the participation of front-line experts and diverse stakeholders from international organisations, governments, business and NGOs. ISAP began in 2009 as an initiative of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and has been organised in collaboration with the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) (co-organiser from 2011 to 2019), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), and many other partners over the years. ISAP has been a venue for up-to-date discussions with experts and diverse stakeholders, and knowledge/information sharing with a wide range of practitioners.

ISAP2020 held Thematic Tracks from 9 to 13 November to discuss the latest global trends and IGES research findings in themes such as 'Climate Change', 'SDGs', 'Biodiversity' and 'Waste Management'. On 30 November, Plenary Sessions were held to discuss how to integrate the resolution of these issues and the redesign of socioeconomic systems to realise a sustainable and resilient world after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Date	9-13, 30 November 2020
Participating	Online participation and on-demand broadcast
Organiser	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
Supporters	Ministry of the Environment, Japan / Kanagawa Prefectural Government / Hyogo Prefectural Government / City of Yokohama / City of Kitakyushu / Kawasaki City / National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) / Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) / ICLEI Japan Office, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability / Global Environmental Action (GEA) / KEIDANREN

## Opening

#### **Welcome Remarks from the Organiser**

Takeuchi Kazuhiko, President of IGES, began his remarks by expressing his deep concern over the fact that people's lives have been greatly affected by the global novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. He then emphasised that, to recover socially and economically from the severe damage brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is necessary to work on transformation for sustainable development, rather than restoring the world to the way it was. In this context, he spoke about the increasing importance and urgency for IGES activities and introduced IGES' "Triple R Framework", which is composed of Response to urgent concerns, Recovery from crises, and the Redesign of socioeconomic systems to realise a sustainable and resilient world. He stated that, even as the world prioritises rapid "Response" and "Recovery", the question is how to, going forward, truly recover better by considering "Redesign". In addition, to achieve a better recovery, he stressed the importance of coordinated response in cooperation with the partner organisations participating in ISAP2020 and various other actors.



#### **Guest Remarks**

Koizumi Shinjiro, Minister of the Environment of Japan, commented on the theme of this year's ISAP, "Building Forward Better for Our Future Beyond COVID-19". He stressed that, at this turning point, we must not return to the pre-COVID-19 economy, but redesign it to be more sustainable and resilient. To achieve this, he stressed the need for accelerating the "three transitions": a "transition to a decarbonised society," a "transition to a circular economy," and a "transition to a decentralised society". Regarding the last transition of "decarbonisation", he highlighted that the number of "zero-carbon cities," in which local governments in Japan have declared to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, is rapidly increasing, and corporate efforts for decarbonised management are also making steady progress. He stressed national developments, namely that Prime Minister Suga Yoshihide's announcement in his policy speech in October 2020 that Japan would aim to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. In this context, he expressed his hope that actions toward decarbonisation led by the central government, local governments, and businesses in the midst of COVID-19 recovery will gain momentum in Japan and abroad.



Kuroiwa Yuji, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, explained the initiatives of Kanagawa Prefecture as the host prefecture governor. Firstly, he presented two key phrases, "Shining Life" and "Mibyo (pre-symptomatic)", in response to the prefecture's rapidly aging society. For the former, he explained that the prefecture is working to achieve longevity and good health by linking "life" with diet, exercise, and social participation. For the latter, he mentioned the potential of combining approaches to improve "Mibyo" with cutting-edge medical care and technologies such as regenerative cell medicine, robotics, Al, and big data. He emphasised that these efforts are the very embodiment of the SDGs, highlighting that Kanagawa Prefecture has been selected as one of the most advanced prefectures for the SDGs. He also mentioned that the prefecture is also focusing on climate change and disaster response by referring to the "Kanagawa Climate Emergency Declaration" and the "Realisation of a 'Decarbonised Society' by 2050". He concluded his remarks by stating that, in the midst of the turbulence of accelerated aging, climate change, and disasters, the ultimate goal that Kanagawa Prefecture envisions is a society, world, and planet where people lead "shining lives" or live vivaciously, even at the age of 100.



### **Plenary Session 1**

# Dialogue with IGES President and Guests-1 (Synergy among Biodiversity, Climate, and SDGs)



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/pl1.html

#### **Speakers**



Armida Salsiah Alsjahbana Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP



Elizabeth Maruma Mrema Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity



Bambang Susantono Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB)



Richard Florizone President and CEO, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

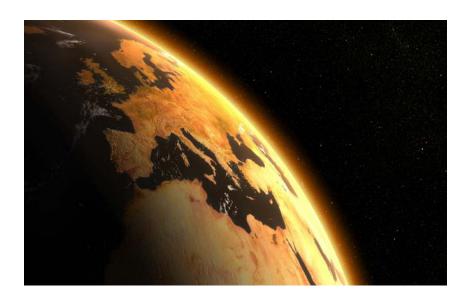
#### Moderator



Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES

## **Summary**

This session invited representatives from IGES'partner organisations, and asked them to introduce their efforts in response to COVID-19. Discussions then featured how to tackle COVID-19 in the face of priority issues such as climate change, SDGs and biodiversity, as well as what is necessary to re-design our society with a longer term perspective. The speakers all emphasised that a post-COVID society must be greener and more resilient, with the 3Rs as a sound framework going forward. Consolidated action must be taken on a global scale, with the Asia Pacific region moving forward with inclusive development to ensure a sustainable economic recovery, reaching the most vulnerable. Stimulus packages must be sustainable and ensure rapid action on the ground, including investments in adaptation measures. In addition, with biodiversity serving as the basis for sustainable development, the pandemic has highlighted risks and challenges that must be overcome for a shared vision of living in harmony with nature. National Adaptation Plans and nature-based solutions can bring about transformative changes, but it is people that must be at the centre of participatory action plans, whether in cities or elsewhere.













- The international community must work together in solidarity to build resilience and visualise a plan for response, recovery and redesign.
- Biodiversity underpins many of the SDGs, and adaptation is essential to achieve a sustainable society.
- People-centered plans will benefit the whole of society.

### **Plenary Session 2**

## Dialogue with IGES President and Guests-2 (Perspectives from Asia)



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/pl2.html

#### Speakers



**Dechen Tsering**Regional Director and
Representative for Asia and the
Pacific, UNEP



Kung Phoak Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community



Dingding Tang
Co-Secretary General for
International Finance Forum (IFF)
Adjunct Professor, Institute of
Climate Change and Sustainable
Development, Tsinghua
University Senior environment
Consultant for AIIB and the New
Development Bank



Ajay Mathur Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

#### Moderator



Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES

## **Summary**

In this session, representatives from IGES partner organisations discussed the impact of COVID-19 in Asia, which is a centre for global growth. Discussants highlighted that COVID-19 has increased socioeconomic inequality and considered how to mitigate this trend and promote the redesign toward a sustainable and resilient Asia. In addition, it was pointed out that multilateralism can lead to a whole-of-society approach and coordinated responses. There also needs to be partnership between financial institutions and biodiversity groups for technological innovations. It is necessary to restart the economy and create sustainable jobs, while building capacity and skills and breaking away from dependency on fossil fuels. An ASEAN framework that looks at health, security, trade and digital transformation may pave the way for a sustainable future.

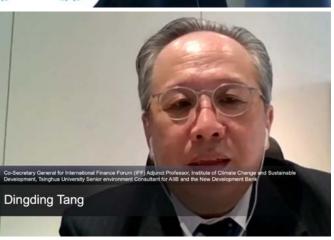
Given that vulnerable populations in developing countries will be disproportionately affected, the need to further strengthen measures to address this issue was stressed.

With the aim of contributing to the creation of a resilient and sustainable world and to help minimise pandemic risks in the future, IGES will continue to lead research on the implications of COVID-19.





Kung Phoak





ASEAN SECRETARIAT

## **Key Messages**

Dechen Tsering

- Multilateralism can lead to whole-of-society approaches and a coordinated response.
- We must restart the economy and create sustainable jobs, building capacity and skills, and breaking away from dependency on fossil fuels. An ASEAN framework that looks at health, security, trade and digital transformation may pave the way for a sustainable future.
- IGES has already started and will continue to lead research on the implications of COVID-19.

### **Plenary Session 3**

## IPCC & IPBES: Bridging International Science, Policy and Implementation

https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/pl3.html

#### Speakers



Youba Sokona Vice Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



Youngbae Suh Vice-Chair from Asian-Pacific States, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)



Yasuo Takahashi Research Manager, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES



Rajarshi Dasgupta Senior Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES



Pankaj Kumar Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES



Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES

#### Moderator



André Mader
Programme Director, Natural
Resources and Ecosystem
Services, IGES; Adviser, IPBES
Technical Support Unit for the
Assessment of Invasive Alien
Species (IPBES-TSU)

## **Summary**

Session 3 of the ISAP Plenary addressed the interface between science, policy, and implementation in two fields of sustainability: climate change and biodiversity conservation. This was done from the perspective of the two international organis ations that are probably best known for focusing on the science-policy interface-the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for climate change; and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) for biodiversity. Youba Sokona, one of the IPCC vice-chairs, explained how the IPCC bridges this interface, while Youngbae Suh, IPBES vice-chair for Asia Pacific, did the same for IPBES. They were joined by four IGES authors of IPCC and/or IPBES reports: Rajarshi Dasgupta, Mikiko Kainuma, Pankaj Kumar, and Yasuo Takahashi. Guided by questions from moderator Andre Mader, who also has extensive experience with IPBES, this panel discussed obstacles to the science-policy-interface, as well as the subject of compiling IPCC and IPBES reports.

















- It was generally agreed that the structure of IPCC and IPBES helps to bridge especially the science-policy interface. That, in turn, facilitates implementation.
- A common challenge in compiling IPCC and IPBES reports is having to sift through the vast amounts of available literature and select the most important and relevant information.
- The IPCC/IPBES reports seem to be having an impact. For example, the Japanese Prime Minister declared net zero emissions by 2050. Such political changes were not seen before the publication of the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.

### **Plenary Session 4**

## How Can Business Strengthen SDG Actions in the COVID-19 Era?



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/pl4.html

#### **Speakers**



FUTAMIYA Masaya Chair, Committee on Responsible Business Conduct & SDGs Promotion, Keidanren Director – Chairman, Sompo Japan Insurance Inc.



Michael Salvatico Head of Asia Pacific ESG Business Development, Trucost, part of S&P Global



Filippo Veglio Managing Director & Senior Management Team, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

#### Moderator



Nobue Amanuma Research Manager, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

## **Summary**

The session touched on the following discussion topics:

- In what way does COVID-19 represent a challenge and an opportunity for companies aiming to contribute to the SDGs?
- How can governments and researchers help companies turn that challenge into an opportunity?
- How might companies apply the "Triple R Framework" to organise to make their decisions more sustainable in the era of COVID-19?

The moderator, AMANUMA Nobue, presented IGES' "Triple R Framework" consisting of response, recovery and redesign measures and emphasised the importance of aligning short- to medium-term response and recovery efforts with long-term redesign of socioeconomic systems to build back better.

FUTAMIYA Masaya emphasised the importance of making capitalism sustainable by creating society 5.0, where digitalis ation helps identify social challenges and create values by combining the imagination and creativity of a diverse collection of people.

Filippo VEGLIO emphasised that it is now time to look beyond incremental changes to transformation. He stressed that science clearly suggests that we face climate, biodiversity and inequality crises and that not addressing them will cause additional debilitating systemic crises.

Michael SALVATICO said the SDGs represent a new growth opportunity for businesses, unlocking USD 12 trillion in opportunities and 380 million jobs a year by 2030, including the 1.2 billion jobs globally that rely on reliable environmental processes such as agriculture. To that end, he presented the Trucost SDG Evaluation Tool that can help businesses understand how SDG alignment can have a positive financial impact. Using this tool, his company S&P Global is thus able to map the positive impact alignment of major corporations on the SDGs.



- The science is clear we are facing multiple environmental, climate, health and inequality crises, and it is now time to look beyond incremental changes to a deeper transformation. The COVID-19 pandemic presents us with the last opportunity to change the current unsustainable path and build the human-centric sustainable world envisioned by the SDGs. All stakeholders need to be involved in rethinking and rebuilding a better society. In this process, companies can contribute to solving problems and creating values by integrating sustainability principles into their businesses and work with other stakeholders.
- The success of businesses is increasingly aligned with how well they contribute to society at large. Companies can improve their competitiveness if they incorporate guiding principles on human rights into operations and throughout their value chains by collaborating with other companies and stakeholders. Instruments are available to help businesses evaluate their contributions to the 2030 Agenda. Such tools are useful for the business sector to generate positive impacts.

### **Plenary Session 5**

## Debate on "Just Transitions Towards Sustainable Societies in Asia and the Pacific"



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/pl5.html

**Framing Presentation** 



Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES

Speakers



**Eric Zusman** Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES



Nobue Amanuma Senior Policy Researcher, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES



**Yatsuka Kataoka** Joint-Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES



Yasuo Takahashi Research Manager, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES



Premakumara Jagath Dickella Gamaralalage Deputy Director, The IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (IGES/ CCET), Japan



Pham Ngoc Bao Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES



Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES

## **Summary**

This session, moderated by Executive Director TAKAHASHI Yasuo as four discussion rounds, invited moderators from previous ISAP2020 sessions to further explore how to achieve sustainable, resilient, inclusive societies. The framing presentation synthesised key messages from this year's Plenary sessions and reflected on Thematic Track sessions through the lens of the "Triple R Framework (Response, Recovery, Redesign)".

During the first round on major takeaways regarding the "redesign" concept, the importance of redesigning infrastructure, institutional frameworks, and knowledge systems was stressed. Businesses share this vision for 'redesign' and understand the need to shift mindsets toward sustainability. The roles of local governments, who have been on the forefront of COVID-19 response, and the scientific community (including those with traditional knowledge) in building resilience were also highlighted.

During the second round on opportunities to further greening COVID-19 response and recovery, the pandemic in Asia has revealed the urgency for sound waste management systems and the need to move toward resource efficiency, not simply by using technologies, but through whole-of-society approaches. COVID-19 has also shown the importance of access to clean water and sanitation and revealed an opportunity for monitoring pathogens in wastewater. Regarding decarbonisation, co-benefits are necessary. Untapped opportunities mentioned include digital transformation, teleworking, and investments in prosperity of local communities.

During the third round, the panelists discussed their views on questions from the audience, which addressed topics such as the role of stakeholders in achieving just transitions, the timing for actions toward fundamental change, and the prevention of 'greenwashing' of stimulus packages.

In the final round, discussants shared their visions of a "sustainable, resilient, and inclusive society beyond COVID-19". Panelists highlighted restructuring systems to achieve decarbonisation, including vulnerable groups in decision-making, making use of both coherent, integrated approaches and creative local solutions, and collaborating online and offline with diverse stakeholders.



Satoshi Kojima Principal Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, IGES



Kentaro Tamura Programme Director/ Principal Researcher, Climate and Energy Area, IGES



Atsushi Watabe Programme Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), IGES



André Mader Programme Director, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES; Adviser, IPBES Technical Support Unit for the Assessment of Invasive Alien Species (IPBES-TSU)



Xin Zhou Research Leader, Strategic and Quantitative Analysis Centre, IGES



**Junichi Fujino** Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES





Takashi Otsuka Joint-Director of Knowledge and Communications, IGES

Moderator



Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES









- Although redesigning systems and institutions requires a long-term perspective and takes time, the time to start is now.
- Stakeholders such as businesses and local governments, in addition to national governments, play critical roles for realising the future we want.
- To realise decarbonised, sustainable societies, values, customs, and social institutions must change. To enable this, it is necessary to transform not only individual behaviours (including consumption patterns), but also economic and technological systems.



## **ISAP2020**

- > Thematic Tracks
- > 3D Virtual Venue

## Strengthening Linkage of Voluntary Local Review (VLR) and Voluntary National Review (VNR)



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt1.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Amson Sibanda

Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch Division for the Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

#### Edgardo Bilsky

Director of Research and Intelligence United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

#### Xin Zhou

Research Leader, Strategic and Quantitative Analysis Centre, IGES

#### Sami Pirkkala

Counsellor / Chief Specialist on Sustainable Development at the Prime Minister's Office in

#### Eric Zusman

Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

#### MORITA Atsushi

Deputy Director, Global Issues Cooperation Division, International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

#### Samiuddin Ahmed

Regional Sustainable Development Consultant, Environment and Development Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

#### Moderators

#### Yatsuka Kataoka

Joint-Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES Junichi Fujino

Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES

## **Summary**

Between 2016 and 2020, a total of 168 countries presented their voluntary national reviews (VNR), and despite the COVID-19 pandemic, commitment to the 2030 Agenda remains strong. An increase in sub-national reviews, called Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) is also apparent. VLRs help in spreading awareness about the SDGs among local stakeholders and monitoring their implementation. In fact, accelerated local SDG action can often have the most positive and wide-ranging impact on fulfilling the 2030 Agenda.

Since the SDGs were agreed upon in 2015, the importance of vertical government-level integration of policies for budgeting and planning began at the international level and then trickled down to the national and local levels. Simultaneously, horizontal integration within different government agencies was also recognised, in addition to the engagement by stakeholders outside of the government.

Cases introduced at the session showed that national financial support can serve as an effective incentive for cities to plan for and implement the SDGs at the local level. An example is Finland, where a mutual learning sphere between the national and local governments has been effective in reviewing the SDGs. Beyond this, "co-benefits" and the "Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)" were suggested as possible tools for bringing different stakeholders together to work on SDG implementation and monitoring.

- Responding to the increase in VLRs, international and regional guidelines for VLRs have been prepared by different organisations. The VLRs are helping to spread awareness about the SDGs and monitor their implementation at the grassroots level. Integration or effective linkage between VLRs and VNRs is one of the points for future discussions.
- VLRs might rely on: a mutual learning process between different spheres; a national institutional environment that enables local innovation, and; a multilevel governance system.
- Where national grants are not available, "co-benefits" and the "Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)" are suggested as possible tools for working across different spheres and stakeholders.

## Connecting Local and Global: Bolstering Green and Zero Carbon Cities



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt2.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES

#### Heidi Hiltunen

1st counsellor, EU Delegation to Japan

#### Yunus Arikan

ICLEI Director of Global Advocacy and LGMA Focal Point to the UNFCCC

#### WADA Tokuya

Director-General for Environmental Policy, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)

#### Eriko Yakushiji

Director General of Climate Change Policy Headquarters, City of Yokohama

#### Vera Rodenhoff

Head of Division in the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation Building and Nuclear Safety

#### Leo Christensen

Member of City Council in Lolland Municipality, Denmark

#### Junko Akagi

Research Manager, Kitakyushu Urban Centre, IGES Xuemei Bai

Professor of Urban Environment and Human Ecology, Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University

#### Moderator

**Junichi Fujino** Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES

## **Summary**

The Race to Zero campaign aims to accelerate the efforts of non-government actors in reaching carbon neutrality. This session served as part of the Strategic Partnership of the Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA) between the European Union and Japan. There is an urgent need to recover from the aftermath of the recent COVID-19 pandemic in a sustainable manner.

Cities are at the frontline of worldwide decarbonisation efforts. Indeed, just by implementing current technologies cities would be able to cut as much as 90% of their current  $\rm CO_2$  emissions. In Japan, 170 local and prefectural governments have already joined the Race to Zero Campaign, pledging to be carbon neutral by 2050. But these efforts need to extend to encompass overall sustainable development, including social, economic and environmental aspects. The "Local Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)", in line with the "Circulating and Ecological Economy", can provide guiding principles to achieve this aspiration by simultaneously articulating a decarbonised, circular and decentralised society.

In Europe, the Green Deal aims to bring about a modern, resource efficient and net zero society by 2050 accompanied by economic growth. Although the European Union has already decoupled economic growth and  $CO_2$  emissions, the Green Deal will mobilise all stakeholders in creating a clean and circular economy that creates jobs and addresses social inequalities.

- The Race to Zero campaign is accelerating efforts towards carbon neutrality by non-government actors as well as other levels of governments. Already, 170 Japanese local and prefectural governments have joined this initiative.
- The "Circulating and Ecological Economy" concept and several practices of "Local Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)" can support local governments'efforts by conceptually envisaging a decarbonised, circular and decentralised society.
- The European Union launched the Green Deal to guide the transition to carbon neutrality of all member states while also sustaining economic growth and addressing inequalities. EU cities are already taking practical actions towards achieving zero carbon.

## Can Co-innovation Accelerate Japanese Technology Transfer to Asia?



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt3.html

#### **Speakers**

Hideyuki Mori Special Policy Advisor, IGES

#### Eric Zusman

Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

#### Arunabha Ghosh

CEO and Founder, Council on Energy, Environment and Water

#### Michiko Enomoto

Head of Office Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

#### Girish Sethi

Senior Director, Energy Program, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

#### Nandakumar Janardhanan

Research Manager - Climate and Energy; Regional Coordinator - South Asia, IGES

#### Peush Jaitly

General Manager - Country Head (India Operations), TLV India

#### Virender Kumar Duggal

Principal Climate Change Specialist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)

#### Moderator

#### Kentaro Tamura

Programme Director / Principal Researcher, Climate and Energy Area, IGES

## **Summary**

Clean technologies unlock immense opportunities for achieving the sustainable development goals in developing countries. Traditionally, technology transfer has been the main mode of facilitating movement of advanced equipment and machinery as well as knowhow between developed / source countries and developing / recipient countries. However, lack of affordability, coupled with weak implementation of intellectual property, limit the adaptability and integration of transferred technologies in recipient countries. Moreover, many innovative technologies lose their commercial viability due to the long gestation period in effectively transferring and implementing technology in a recipient country.

Technology collaboration needs to be built on a strong foundation that provides opportunities beyond the conventional approach to transferring knowhow and facilitating co-innovation-joint innovation, production, and scaling up of technologies. Weaving co-innovation into the design, right from the inception of technology collaboration initiatives, can enhance the desired result of contributing to sustainable development. Integrating co-innovation into technology transfer approaches will also offer enormous benefits for partner countries in terms of lowering costs, popularising technologies, and speeding absorption. The speakers reiterated that Japan could make a significant contribution to the sustainable development goals in developing countries, and a co-innovation approach could strengthen Japan's technology collaboration.

- Presently, the long gestation period required by technology commercialisation creates a "valley of death" for several innovative technologies. To be sustainable, technology transfer must take place as a wider part of technology capacity building in the developing countries.
- Efficient national innovation strategies with long term vision on collaboration and scaling up can help bring wider market opportunities for Japanese technologies, while catering to the needs of developing economies.
- Co-innovation gives thrust to the local context and can help develop technologies that offer economic as well as environmental benefits to collaborating partners.

# Understanding SDG synergies and trade-offs for sustainable, resilient and inclusive development



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt4.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Fabrice Renaud

Professor of Environmental Risk, Community Resilience, University of Glasgow, School of Interdisciplinary Studies

#### Xin Zhou

Research Leader, Strategic and Quantitative Analysis Centre, IGES

#### Albert Mutia Salamanca

Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute, Asia Center

#### Jack O'Connor

Senior Scientist, United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) Environmental Vulnerability & Ecosystem Services (EVES)

#### Eric Zusman

Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

#### Moderator

Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES

## **Summary**

The SDGs are an indivisible system covering 17 broad development areas with 169 specific targets. Through intrinsic interlinkages, achieving one goal or one target may impact the attainment of other goals or targets. Such impacts can go beyond sectoral and spatial boundaries. This Thematic Track Session, included five top experts from Europe and Asia. The session consisted of presentations and active panel discussions around the issues of synergies among the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and trade-offs at both national and sub-national levels. More importantly, with this understanding it explored ways to address them in the real world, based on scientific evidence, analytical tools, and practical case studies in China's Luanhe River Basin and the South and Southeast Asian river deltas. The session concluded that achieving the SDGs as a whole, rather than addressing them partially, is important to ensuring sustainable, inclusive and resilient development for all. Effective management of synergies and trade-offs is also an imperative task for policy integrity and coherence, and a prerequisite for achieving the SDGs.

- Achieving one SDG goal or target may impact the attainment of other goals or targets.
- Aachieving the SDGs as a whole is important to ensuring sustainable, inclusive and resilient development for all.
- Effective management of synergies and trade-offs is an imperative task for policy integrity and coherence, and a prerequisite for achieving the SDGs.

# Collaborative Learning & Co-creation of Sustainable Living: Responding to the Crisis and Reshaping the Way Forward



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt5.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Atsushi Watabe

Programme Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), IGES

#### Denise Conselheiro

Education Manager, Akatu Institute

#### Bridget Ringdahl

Environmental Education Project Manager, African Conservation Trust

#### Robert J. Didham

Associate Professor & Centre Director, Centre for Collaborative Learning for Sustainable Development, Faculty of Education, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences

#### Dwayne Appleby

Programme Manager, Sustainable Consumption and Production, IGES

#### Gohar Khojayan

Communication Specialist, Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE) NGO

#### Socorro Leonardo Patindol

President/ Coordinator for GSSS Philippines, PCEAS Inc.

#### Lylian Rodriguez Jiménez

Director, Foundation for Sustainable Tropical Agricultural Production, University of Tropical Agriculture (UTA) Colombia

#### Mike Ward

Director, Creating Sustainable Value (Pty) Ltd and a Senior Sustainability Consultant to the Climate Investment Funds

#### AMAKO Naoki

Deputy Director, International Strategy Division, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan

## **Summary**

The UN One-Planet Network's Sustainable Lifestyles and Education (SLE) Programme, co-led by the Governments of Japan and Sweden since 2014, supports the implementation of on-the-ground innovations to promote sustainable living. To this end, the SLE Programme has initiated and supported projects that foster responsible lifestyles, reduce environmental impacts, and support people living through adversity, including 20+ initiatives engaging local stakeholders, and the Global Search for Sustainable Schools (GSSS) initiative working with 50+ schools in nine countries.

This session brought together ESD experts, ground-level project implementers from Armenia and Colombia, as well as implementers working on GSSS- South Africa, Brazil, and the Philippines.

The importance of whole-system thinking was higlighted with a presentation on the latest concepts and practices on Education for Sustainable Living.

Five project implementers shared videos highlighting their activities addressing locally-specific opportunities for sustainable lifestyles; impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and their responses to recover collaborative learning. These underscored the diverse contexts of unsustainable living and different approaches to more sustainable living. Project implementers, in collaboration with local actors, reviewed their needs for desired living conditions and their capacities, influenced by the project, to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Project implementers and international experts pointed out that sustainable lifestyles are not achieved simply by transferring engineering or external technical knowledge, but through collaboration to translate the knowledge into practical skills at the local level. These comments accentuate the necessity of context-specific ESD campaigns. The session closed with a reminder that fostering collaborative learning and co-creation among stakeholders is key to promoting sustainable lifestyles.

- SDG 4 (Quality Education) indicates that Education with emphasis on Whole-System Thinking;
   Interconnectedness; Cooperation, and; Critical Analysis and Reflection provides an avenue to support all SDGs.
- Collaborative learning and co-creation are the main drivers for achieving sustainable ways of living, which is
  comprised of responsible living (mitigation of negative consequences), and reliable livelihoods (capacity to live
  through shocks and stresses).
- The COVID-19 pandemic posed a severe challenge to local societies and ground-level initiatives dedicated to sustainable living. However, ground-level projects have included creative responses to recover collaborative learning and co-creation, enabling them to gain a more robust basis for fostering sustainable societies with local partners.

# RE-DESIGNING LOCAL for transformative change: Demonstration of Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)

https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt6.html

#### **Speakers**

Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES

WATANABE Ryugo Mayor of Sado City

Yatsuka Kataoka

Joint-Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES

Jon Padgham Executive Director, START

SASAKI Shinjiro

Director, Office for Policy Planning and Coordination, Environmental Strategy Division/Deputy Director, Office for Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere/Deputy Director, Biodiversity Policy Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)

#### NAKAJIMA Eri

Director, Office of Global Environment and Decarbonizing Innovation Research, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)

#### Sameer Deshkar

Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture and Planning, Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology

#### SEKIGUCHI Masayuki

Manager, Co-Governance and Creation Division, Policy Bureau, City of Yokohama

#### Taeko Yanabe

Assistant manager, Environmental Policy Division, Kumamoto Prefecture

#### Bijon Kumer Mitra

Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES

#### Wijitbusaba Ann Marome

Head of Thammasat University Research Unit in Urban Futures and Policy

## **Summary**

This session discussed the Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES), a novel integrative approach to sustainable development. It combines approaches to decarbonisation, resource circulation and living in harmony in nature through new urban-rural linkages. The CES is particularly relevant for implementing the "Triple R Framework - Response, Recovery, and Redesign-" to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The session first focused on a dialogue between Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President of IGES and Ryugo Watanabe, Mayor of Sado City. Sado City has demonstrated the CES approach by integrating its agricultural industry and restoring habitat of the crested ibis. Using integrated policies, Sado aims to become a frontrunner in finding solutions to the problems associated with rapid depopulation.

In addition, the session highlighted how Japanese regional and local governments are reconceptualising their sustainable development policies based on the CES, using the cases of Yokohama City and Kumamoto Prefecture. Then, the session introduced the IGES-START collaboration which disseminates the CES concept in other Asian countries. Finally, the Ministry of the Environment, Japan shared their initiatives to support local demonstration of the CES approach in Japan.

- The Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) is instrumental to implement the "Triple R Framework (Response, Recovery, Redesign)" for building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Sado's approach to combining policies for sustainable agriculture, local economic promotion and restoration of the habitat of living creatures serve as a demonstration of CES. An integrated approach like this also contributes to conservation of local tradition and culture. This aspect of culture is also one of the most important elements of sustainable development at the local level.
- Examples in Japan and across Asia are showcasing how the CES can yield integrative approaches to sustainable regional and local development.

# Waste Management in Response to COVID-19: Exploring Ways of Response and Recovery



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt7.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Kazunobu Onogawa

Director, The IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (IGES/ CCET), Japan

#### Enri Damanhuri

Professor, Institute of Technology Bandung, Indonesia

#### Shunichi Honda

Programme Officer, International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC), UNEP, Japan

#### Premakumara Jagath Dickella Gamaralalage

Deputy Director, The IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (IGES/ CCET), Japan

#### KAMIYA Yoichi

Director, Waste Control Division, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEI)

#### Mahesh Nakarmi

Executive Director, Health Environment and Climate Action Foundation (HECAF360)

## Summary

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated an unprecedented impact on our society, and waste management is no exception. Developing countries, which usually lack better waste management practices, have had to face additional challenges with an increased amount of potentially infected waste, and that requires careful handling and treatment processes. This specific session focused on the management of healthcare waste during the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on the key findings of a recently published report by IGES and UNEP on this topic, panelists discussed policies and practices applied by developing countries to manage healthcare waste from the coronavirus pandemic and identified positive actions for quick recovery and building-back-better, according to the specific local context.

The session invited speakers from governments, academia, and international agencies. First, a representative from UNEP-IETC shared the global status of waste management and underlined the importance of redesigning the current waste management systems taking into consideration available resources, particularly in developing countries. The Ministry of Environment, Japan (MOEJ) shared experience of Japan, a country with advanced policy and technology in the waste sector, and which shows how countries can quickly adapt to sudden situations if they have adequate capacities and resources. However, a well-designed education and awareness programme is required to ensure cooperation from all stakeholders.

Next, two representatives from Indonesia and Nepal shared their countries' experience in managing waste under the COVID-19 pandemic, and providing some suggestions based on current practices and learnings. In addition , CCET-IGES shared the basic findings from the recent policy report on COVID-19 and waste management and that provided the framework for the panel discussion.

- Developing countries that already lack adequate waste management practices due to technical, practical, and/or
  financial constraints are largely vulnerable to waste management difficulties during the pandemic. Waste management
  systems are further disrupted due to shortages of workers (contracting the virus and entire teams of workers needing
  to self-isolate), lack of safety at work, safe handling of household waste in locations where citizens fell ill with the
  coronavirus, handling of increased quantities of healthcare waste, and securing safe management of waste from
  collection points to recycling or treatment facilities and disposal, as well as securing the livelihood of waste workers
  and those handling waste in the informal sector.
- It is also necessary to have a contingency plan that will promote safe, proper, and practical options for handling waste in a timely and appropriate manner, and based on local capacities and resources. The plan needs to include immediate and alternative measures, as well as political decisions, to secure waste separation, collection, and proper disposal. It is also important for contingency plans to educate waste generators and waste management workers, particularly in the informal sector, and to secure their livelihoods.
- However, the success of the post-COVID-19 scenario depends on whether national and local governments can act
  wisely in the use of natural resources, enhance the management of chemicals and wastes, increase their resilience
  against COVID-19, and improve capacity through integrated policies. For this, developing countries need to redesign
  their healthcare waste management system in the longer term, based on those national and global policies that aim to
  achieve a more safe and sound waste management system.

## COVID-19 Recovery Measures and Sustainable Transition: Redesign Towards a More Resilient and Sustainable Society



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt8.html

#### **Speakers**

Kazuo Matsushita Strategic Management Office, Senior Fellow, IGES

So-Young Lee Research Manager, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

Ivetta Gerasimchuk

Lead, Sustainable Energy Supplies International Institute for Sustainable Development

Satoshi Kojima Principal Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, IGES

## **Summary**

In this session, speakers from IISD and IGES discussed the challenges and opportunities to accelerate the transition to a sustainable society by making appropriate use of measures against COVID-19. IISD introduced its Energy Policy Tracker initiative, which shows that more public funding is currently being committed to fossil fuels than clean energy. IGES introduced the Redesign 2020 initiative, which showcases national responses to overcome COVID-19, and discussed the major findings based on questionnaire responses from 62 countries and the European Commission. The session also introduced the Korean Green New Deal in the COVID-19 era. In Korea, the national government acted in response to pressure from local governments and the private sector to pave the way to achieve net-zero emissions in 2050. Korea's experience offers a lesson for policy makers that participatory processes based on bottom-up approaches are important. The discussion also highlighted the importance of long-term visions to achieve sustainable transitions, as such visions can allow stakeholders to identify synergies and trade-offs between policies for a sustainable transition and COVID-19 response. It was highlighted that, when promoting a technology-based transition, there is a need to consider community resilience to ensure that the transition is just and equitable.

- COVID-19 aggravates the problems of current systems such as inequality and unbalanced labour distribution, and revealed some untapped opportunities, such as digital transformation.
- COVID-19 recovery enables large investments in the form of stimulus packages that can be used to promote sustainable transitions.
- Embedding elements of sustainability in stimulus packages through applying conditions will allow the COVID-19 stimulus to facilitate or accelerate a sustainable transition.

## Decentralised Wastewater Management Approach for Environmental Sustainability in the Post COVID-19



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt9.html

#### **Speakers**

Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES

Pham Ngoc Bao

Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES

Thammarat Koottatep

Professor, Environmental Engineering and Management, Asian Institute of Technology

**Eric Zusman** Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

Maria Antonia Tanchuling

Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, University of the Philippines

Rieko Kubota

Researcher / Senior Environmental Engineer, National Institute for Environmental Studies / World Bank

Adriana Gomez-Sanabria

Research Scholar, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

#### Moderator

Osamu Mizuno Principal Fellow, Strategic Management Office, IGES

## **Summary**

The session highlighted the need to adequately address the long-standing challenge of poor wastewater and sanitation management in many developing countries in Asia by strengthening regional cooperation to minimise microbial risk and protect human health in the event of an infectious disease outbreak, especially in relation to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Centralised wastewater treatment systems have successfully been utilised to solve water pollution problems caused by domestic wastewater discharge in many developed countries. However, many developing Asian countries have not been able to address such issues because of the large initial investment required to build these centralised facilities and sewage collection networks. The decentralised wastewater treatment and management approach, on the other hand, has great potential and is seen as a promising and sustainable way forward, in terms of cost, flexibility, modularity, resource recovery, and the potential to minimise microbial risk. In addition, through case studies from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand, this session provided evidence of this approach's efficacy in enhancing the sustainability of the local environment during the COVID-19 crisis and addressing emerging challenges such as SARS-CoV-2 infection and microplastics contamination.

- COVID-19 has demonstrated the need to ensure universal access to safe and reliable water and wastewater services to minimise microbial risk and protect human health. To do so, innovative solutions like decentralised wastewater management, especially in developing Asian countries, are necessary.
- Decentralised wastewater treatment and management approaches have great potential to address not only traditional water governance challenges, such as sanitation and hygiene, but also emerging challenges, such as SARS-CoV-2 infection and microplastics pollution.
- One key strategy to scale up deployment of this decentralised approach is the establishment of a multistakeholder platform to enhance regional collaboration, share good practices and build local government capacity. Such platforms can also raise awareness of SARS-CoV-2 detection and monitoring, and effective use of decentralised wastewater management approaches to address local water pollution.

## Transforming Asia: Challenges and Opportunities for Green Recovery Toward Net-zero Emissions



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt10.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Kentaro Tamura Programme Director / Principal Researcher, Climate and Energy Area, IGES

#### Kejun Jiang Senior Researcher, Energy Research Institute (ERI)

Navros Kersi Dubash Professor, Centre for Policy Research

#### Rizaldi Boer

Executive Director, Center for Climate Risk and Opportunity Management in Southeast Asia and Pacific (CCROM SEAP), IPB University

#### Moderator

Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES

## **Summary**

This session discussed the challenges and opportunities for green recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, toward net-zero emissions in Asia. IGES showed that a significant improvement in energy intensity and a rapid decarbonisation of energy are needed to achieve net-zero emissions, and that COVID-19 recovery packages can be designed to catalyse transformative change. Meanwhile, it is vital to link climate mitigation policies to developmental objectives, as ambition and implementation gaps tend to exist. This is because short- and/ or medium-term actions are not necessarily being informed by long-term visions. Presenters from China and India further emphasis ed that development co-benefits are more likely to drive shifts in energy policy and long-term strategy, and that it is important to ensure that energy investments are in line with low-carbon targets in the long run. Given the geopolitical possibility of reverting to self-reliance in the future, IGES stressed the significance of regional collaboration strategies for net-zero emissions in areas such as energy interconnection, decentralised renewable energy systems, decarbonisation of industry, and sustainable land-use. The discussion highlighted that, for a functional regional electricity grid, tensions between countries in the region must be reduced to foster deeper trust. Moreover, the case study of Indonesia showed that forestry policy involving the private sector could accelerate the transformation of agricultural and forestry practices in the region.

- Greater integration of climate mitigation policies and development goals is needed to yield further policy change, rather than abstract net-zero targets.
- Collaboration between countries in Asia is crucial to achieve a green recovery. Regional strategies may include such components as 1) low-carbon technology; 2) urbanisation, including renewable energy deployment or 21st century green cities; and 3) air pollution.
- To foster the transformation of agricultural and forestry systems in Asia , good practices include standards on agriculture production systems and social forestry.

## The Satoyama Initiative, Transformative Change, and Societies in Harmony with Nature



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt11.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Yasuo Takahashi

Research Manager, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES

#### Shinobu Yamaguchi

Director, United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

#### Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES

#### Kien Dang

Researcher, Program Manager, Community Entrepreneur Development Institute (CENDI)

#### Leni Diamante Camacho

Professor, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Department of Social Forestry & Forest Governance, College of Forestry & Natural Resources

#### Maiko Nishi

United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) Research Fellow, International Satoyama Initiative

#### William Dunbar

Senior Communications Coordinator, United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

#### **TORII Toshio**

Director General of Nature Conservation Bureau at the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)

## **Summary**

COVID-19 is associated with unsustainable human-nature interactions exacerbated by the increased movement of people and products in our globalised world, which have exposed humanity to greater risks. To counter these risks and to re-establish a harmonious human-nature relationship, society-wide transformative change is needed.

This session discussed the role of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS), as promoted under the Satoyama Initiative, in societies facing COVID-19 and its implications to transformative change. Socio-ecological resilience-building through mixed-species forest restoration in Vietnam was presented, and local communities and governments' collective efforts for participatory mangrove management in the Philippines. Lessons from the upcoming sixth volume of the "Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review" publication series on transformative change in the context of SEPLS were shared. A panel discussion, attended by the four presenters and online participants, identified key points to re-establish harmonious human-nature relationships. In closing remarks, support for the Satoyama Initiative was expressed by the Government of Japan.

- Under the COVID-19 crisis, SEPLS provide safety nets on which people rely for their livelihoods and health. Traditional knowledge on land and resources enabled these provisions.
- However, ongoing degradation threatens these safety nets. Limitations on face-to-face communication due to COVID-19 may pose a challenge to building trust and consensus.
- Landscape management for diversity and resilience is vital to prevent and respond to future pandemics. Such actions and technologies such as IT can leverage changing people's sense of space and time, although it is necessary to address digital divide and communication gaps to build a future in which no one is left behind.

# From Responding to Redesigning: Using an Integrated, Coherent Approach to Building Back Better from COVID-19 and Beyond



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt12.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Eric Zusman

Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre. IGES

#### Atsushi Watabe

Programme Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), IGES

#### Carina Lindberg

Policy Advisor, Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Unit, OECD

#### Erin C. Kawazu

Programme Coordinator, Strategic Management Office. IGES

#### Satoshi Kojima

Principal Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, IGES

#### Julia Leininger

Chair of Research Program "Transformation of Political (Dis-) Order", German Development Institute

#### Emani Kumar

Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI – Global and Executive Director, ICLEI – South Asia

## **Summary**

This session used the technical paper being developed at IGES on the "Triple R Framework (for a sustainable response, recovery, and redesign in the face of COVID-19)" to initiate a discussion over how major crises can pave the way for transformative change. The paper suggests that a coherent and forward-looking policymaking framework is critical for achieving that change. While generally agreeing with that assertion, panelists offered a range of views on how such changes could gain momentum. For some panelists, there was a need to focus not only on policy coherence (as is done in the IGES technical paper) but also social cohesion. Other panelists noted that it is important to keep track of government spending and to encourage visioning of a sustainable future. It was also underlined that social inclusion and a just transition would help lead to significant and sustainable changes. In this context, it was stressed that the "redesign" in the "Triple R Framework" should apply to redesigning societies.

- Because COVID-19 interacts with several environmental concerns, policymakers could leverage these
  interrelationships to address the climate emergency and other planetary crises. However, these windows of
  opportunity are most likely short-lived.
- One way to keep the window open is a coherent policymaking framework that aligns the three Rs:response, recovery and redesign.
- The "redesign" of policymaking institutions and transport, energy and other systems are particularly important to achieving significant and sustainable changes.
- Social coherence and social inclusion are also important drivers of sustainable and transformative change.

# The Pathway Towards Decarbonisation – Message from Scientists Towards Green Recovery



https://isap.iges.or.jp/2020/en/tt13.html

#### **Speakers**

#### Toshihiko Masui

Head of Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies

#### Jean-Charles Hourcade

Emeritus Research Director, CNRS / Former Director, CIRED

#### Stefan Lechtenböhmer

Director, Future Energy and Industry Systems, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy

#### Gabriele Zanini

Research Director, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA)

#### **Robert Gross**

Director, UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC)

#### Moderator

Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES

## **Summary**

The session focused on the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and climate change, such as transitions in industry, employment and finance. Scientists explored options for a transition to a decarbonised society, emphasising the need for a green recovery and resilience for a sustainable future. The European Green Deal shows that presenting a direction and time-frame for climate neutrality can boost large-scale investment and innovation, leading to technological advancement and digitalisation.

Meanwhile, promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency as endorsed by long-term strategies can contribute to job creation, along with building infrastructure and capacity. The pandemic also gave rise to a finance-climate nexus. Traditional drivers of value have been shaken, creating space for the emergence of new ones. There is therefore a potential to reduce the gap between what the markets value and what people value.

The panel discussion focused on timely and appropriate responses to the crisis, and the role of science in the redesign of societies long-term. Regarding the issue of increased energy demand due to digitalisation, panelists discussed that the pandemic has led to notable changes in energy consumption. Researchers in the energy and climate field can provide evidence to support investments and innovation in decarbonisation.

- The role of scientists is to paint a balanced picture and suggest pathways for net-zero emissions based on scientific knowledge that consider economic, environmental and social factors. Policymakers and other stakeholders ultimately decide the course of action.
- The time for talk is over: we need faster and more extensive action toward a decarbonised society. Climate agreements without sanctions and incentives must be changed.
- Society has acknowledged the importance of science and facts. Scientists are responsible for continuing to highlight the importance of following decarbonisation pathways.
- Despite uncertainties in climate science, the crisis is real. COVID-19 has shown that when every actor takes the situation seriously, ambitious action is possible.

## 3D Virtual Venue



This year, for the first time, we had a 3D Virtual Venue for ISAP. The 3D virtual exhibition space included exhibition booths of sponsoring organisations and booths for the sessions. Visitors were able to walk around the 3D virtual exhibition hall and visit booths to view exhibition panels, videos and publications. Visitors were also able to set up their own avatars and communicate online with other visitors

During this unprecedented time, the ISAP Virtual Venue was our attempt to make use of some of the latest digital technologies to recreate elements of the traditional in-person ISAP and ultimately further facilitate discussions between stakeholders.



List of Virtual Exhibition Booths
\*In alphabetical order

City of Kitakyushu City of Yokohama ICLEI Japan Office Hyogo Prefectural Government Kanagawa Prefectural Government Kawasaki City KEIDANREN
Ministry of the Environment, Japan
Toyama City
Toyota City
Saitama City
Y-PORT Center

URL

ISAP 2020 3D Virtual Venue: https://hub.link/Fcaud4M

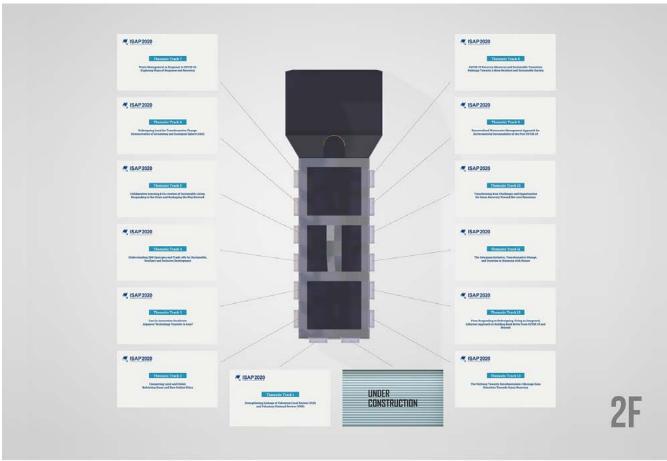








## **Booth Map**





## Closing

#### **Closing Remarks**

Nobutoshi Miyoshi, IGES Managing Director, expressed his gratitude to the speakers and the participants for engaging in valuable discussions, and sharing their knowledge and experiences at ISAP2020 on the theme of "Just Transitions Toward Sustainable Societies in Asia and the Pacific: Building Forward Better for Our Future Beyond COVID-19".

Given that the world's societies, economies, lifestyles and values have been dramatically altered due to the COVID-19 pandemic, he explained that this year's ISAP also needed to move entirely online, with new undertakings such as the use of interactive tools and the creation of a 3D venue with booths called "Virtual ISAP".



He also highlighted that, through analysing the video views for the Thematic Tracks on 9-13 November, it was found that there were more viewers for the English videos than those viewing the Japanese videos, and that there were more viewers watching the archives than there were during the live-stream. Conducting ISAP online, therefore, was an opportunity to learn about our audience in a new way.

In conclusion, Miyoshi thanked partner organisations and promised to continue cooperation and collaboration. He expressed the institute's zeal to take even more initiative in using the "Triple R Framework (comprising of Response, Recovery and Redesign)" to address the pandemic and its far-reaching impacts, and ultimately transform socioeconomic systems toward realising a sustainable and resilient world.





## **Programme**

## Plenary Session

30th 1	November	(GMT+09:00)
10:30	Opening Ceremony	
	[Welcome Remarks] Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES	
	[Guest Remarks]  KOIZUMI Shinjiro Minister of the Environment of Japan	
10:50	Yuji Kuroiwa Governor, Kanagawa Prefectural Government	
11:00	Keynote Speech (Video message)	
11:15	Achim Steiner Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	
11:15	Plenary Session 1	
	Dialogue with IGES President and Guests – 1 (Synergy among Biodiversity, Climate, and SDGs)	
	[Speakers] Armida Salsiah Alsjahbana Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP Elizabeth Maruma Mrema Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity Bambang Susantono Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank (ADB) Richard Florizone President and CEO, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)	
12:30	[Moderator]  Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES	
13:00	Plenary Session 2	
	Dialogue with IGES President and Guests – 2 (Perspectives from Asia)	
	[Speakers]  Dechen Tsering Regional Director and Representative for Asia and the Pacific, UNEP  Kung Phoak Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community  Dingding Tang Co-Secretary General for International Finance Forum (IFF) Adjunct Professor, Institute of Climate Change and  Sustainable Development, Tsinghua University Senior environment Consultant for AIIB and the New Development Bank  Ajay Mathur Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)  [Moderator]	
14:00	Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES	
14:15	Plenary Session 3	
	IPCC & IPBES: Bridging International Science, Policy and Implementation	
	[Speakers] Youba Sokona Vice Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Youngbae Suh Vice-Chair from Asian-Pacific States, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Yasuo Takahashi Research Manager, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES Rajarshi Dasgupta Senior Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES Pankaj Kumar Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES	
	[Moderator]  André Mader Programme Director, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES; Adviser, IPBES Technical Support Unit for the Assessment of In Alien Species (IPBES-TSU)	nvasive
15:00		
15:00	Plenary Session 4	
	How Can Business Strengthen SDG Actions in the COVID-19 Era?	
	[Speakers]  FUTAMIYA Masaya Chair, Committee on Responsible Business Conduct & SDGs Promotion, Keidanren Director – Chairman, Sompo Japan Insur Michael Salvatico Head of Asia Pacific ESG Business Development, Trucost, part of S&P Global  Filippo Veglio Managing Director & Senior Management Team, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)	ance Inc.
	[Moderator]  Nobue Amanuma Research Manager, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES	
15:45		

16:00 **Plenary Session 5** Debate on "Just Transitions Towards Sustainable Societies in Asia and the Pacific" [Framing Presentation] Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES [Speakers] Eric Zusman Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES Nobue Amanuma Senior Policy Researcher, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES Yatsuka Kataoka Joint-Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES Yasuo Takahashi Research Manager, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES Premakumara Jagath Dickella Gamaralalage Deputy Director, The IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (IGES/CCET), Japan Pham Ngoc Bao Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES Satoshi Kojima Principal Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, IGES Kentaro Tamura Programme Director/Principal Researcher, Climate and Energy Area, IGES Atsushi Watabe Programme Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), IGES André Mader Programme Director, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES; Adviser, IPBES Technical Support Unit for the Assessment of Invasive Alien Species (IPBES-TSU) Xin Zhou Research Leader, Strategic and Quantitative Analysis Centre, IGES Junichi Fujino Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES [SAP2020 Secretariat] Takashi Otsuka Joint-Director of Knowledge and Communications, IGES [Moderator] Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES 17:30 17:30 Closing [Closing Remarks] Nobutoshi Miyoshi Managing Director, IGES

#### **Thematic Tracks**

9th N	ovember	(GMT+09:00)
14:30	Thematic Track 1	
	Strengthening Linkage of Voluntary Local Review (VLR) and Voluntary National Review (VNR)	
	[Speakers]  Amson Sibanda Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch Division for the Sustainable Development Goals,	
16:00		
16:30	Thematic Track 2	
	Connecting Local and Global: Bolstering Green and Zero Carbon Cities	
	[Speakers]  Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES  Heidi Hiltunen 1st counsellor, EU Delegation to Japan  Yunus Arikan ICLEI Director of Global Advocacy and LGMA Focal Point to the UNFCCC  WADA Tokuya Director-General for Environmental Policy, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)  Eriko Yakushiji Director General of Climate Change Policy Headquarters, City of Yokohama  Vera Rodenhoff Head of Division in the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation Building and Nuclear Safety  Leo Christensen Member of City Council in Lolland Municipality, Denmark  Junko Akagi Research Manager, Kitakyushu Urban Centre, IGES  Xuemei Bai Professor of Urban Environment and Human Ecology, Fenner School of Environment and Society, Australian National University	
	[Moderator]  Junichi Fujino Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES	

#### 10th November 14:30 **Thematic Track 3** Can Co-innovation Accelerate Japanese Technology Transfer to Asia? [Speakers] Hideyuki Mori Special Policy Advisor, IGES Eric Zusman Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES Arunabha Ghosh CEO and Founder, Council on Energy, Environment and Water Michiko Enomoto Head of Office Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Girish Sethi Senior Director, Energy Program, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) Nandakumar Janardhanan Research Manager - Climate and Energy; Regional Coordinator - South Asia, IGES Peush Jaitly General Manager - Country Head (India Operations), TLV India [Moderator] Kentaro Tamura Programme Director / Principal Researcher, Climate and Energy Area, IGES 16:00 16:30 **Thematic Track 4** Understanding SDG Synergies and Trade-offs for Sustainable, Resilient and Inclusive Development [Speakers] Fabrice Renaud Professor of Environmental Risk, Community Resilience, University of Glasgow, School of Interdisciplinary Studies Xin Zhou Research Leader, Strategic and Quantitative Analysis Centre, IGES Albert Mutia Salamanca Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute, Asia Center Jack O'Connor Senior Scientist, United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) Environmental Vulnerability & Ecosystem Services (EVES) Eric Zusman Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES [Moderator] Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES 18:00 18:30 **Thematic Track 5** Collaborative Learning & Co-creation of Sustainable Living: Responding to the Crisis and Reshaping the Way Forward [Speakers] Atsushi Watabe Programme Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), IGES Denise Conselheiro Education Manager, Akatu Institute Bridget Ringdahl Environmental Education Project Manager, African Conservation Trust Robert J. Didham Associate Professor & Centre Director, Centre for Collaborative Learning for Sustainable Development, Faculty of Education, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences Dwayne Appleby Programme Manager, Sustainable Consumption and Production, IGES Gohar Khojayan Communication Specialist, Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE) NGO Socorro Leonardo Patindol President/ Coordinator for GSSS Philippines, PCEAS Inc. Lylian Rodriguez Jiménez Director Foundation for Sustainable Tropical Agricultural Production, University of Tropical Agriculture (UTA) Colombia Mike Ward Director Creating Sustainable Value (Pty) Ltd and a Senior Sustainability Consultant to the Climate Investment Funds AMAKO Naoki Deputy Director, International Strategy Division, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan 20:00 11th November 12:30 **Thematic Track 6** Redesigning Local for Transformative Change: Demonstration of Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) [Speakers] Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES WATANABE Ryugo Mayor of Sado City Yatsuka Kataoka Joint-Programme Director, City Taskforce, IGES Jon Padgham Executive Director, START SASAKI Shinjiro Director, Office for Policy Planning and Coordination, Environmental Strategy Division/Deputy Director, Office for Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere/Deputy Director, Biodiversity Policy Division, Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) NAKAJIMA Eri Director, Office of Global Environment and Decarbonizing Innovation Research, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) Sameer Deshkar Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture and Planning, Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology SEKIGUCHI Masayuki Manager, Co-Governance and Creation Division, Policy Bureau, City of Yokohama Taeko Yanabe Assistant manager, Environmental Policy Division, Kumamoto Prefecture Bijon Kumer Mitra Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES Wijitbusaba Ann Marome Head of Thammasat University Research Unit in Urban Futures and Policy 14:00

#### 14:30 | Thematic Track 7

#### Waste Management in Response to COVID-19: Exploring Ways of Response and Recovery

[Speakers]

Kazunobu Onogawa Director, The IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (IGES/CCET), Japan

Enri Damanhuri Professor, Institute of Technology Bandung, Indonesia

Shunichi Honda Programme Officer, International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC), UNEP, Japan

Premakumara Jagath Dickella Gamaralalage Deputy Director, The IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (IGES/CCET), Japan

KAMIYA Yoichi Director, Waste Control Division, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)

Mahesh Nakarmi Executive Director, Health Environment and Climate Action Foundation (HECAF360)

16:00

#### 16:30 Thematic Track 8

#### COVID-19 Recovery Measures and Sustainable Transition: Redesign Towards a More Resilient and Sustainable Society

[Speakers]

Kazuo Matsushita Strategic Management Office, Senior Fellow, IGES

So-Young Lee Research Manager, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

Ivetta Gerasimchuk Lead, Sustainable Energy Supplies International Institute for Sustainable Development

Satoshi Kojima Principal Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, IGES

18:00

12th November (GMT+09:01

#### 12:30 Thematic Track 9

#### Decentralised Wastewater Management Approach for Environmental Sustainability in the Post COVID-19

[Speakers]

Yasuo Takahashi Executive Director, IGES

Pham Ngoc Bao Senior Policy Researcher, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES

Thammarat Koottatep Professor, Environmental Engineering and Management, Asian Institute of Technology

Eric Zusman Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES

Maria Antonia Tanchuling Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, University of the Philippines

Rieko Kubota Researcher / Senior Environmental Engineer, National Institute for Environmental Studies / World Bank

Adriana Gomez-Sanabria Research Scholar, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

[Moderator]

14:00 Osamu Mizuno Principal Fellow, Strategic Management Office, IGES

#### 14:30 Thematic Track 10

#### Transforming Asia: Challenges and Opportunities for Green Recovery Toward Net-zero Emissions

[Speakers]

Kentaro Tamura Programme Director / Principal Researcher, Climate and Energy Area, IGES

Kejun Jiang Senior Researcher, Energy Research Institute (ERI)

Navros Kersi Dubash Professor, Centre for Policy Research

Rizaldi Boer Executive Director, Center for Climate Risk and Opportunity Management in Southeast Asia and Pacific (CCROM SEAP), IPB University

[Moderator]

Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES

16:00

#### 16:30 Thematic Track 11

#### The Satoyama Initiative, Transformative Change, and Societies in Harmony with Nature

[Speakers]

Yasuo Takahashi Research Manager, Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services, IGES

Shinobu Yamaguchi Director, United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) Kazuhiko Takeuchi President, IGES

Kien Dang Researcher, Program Manager, Community Entrepreneur Development Institute (CENDI)

Leni Diamante Camacho Professor, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Department of Social Forestry & Forest Governance,

College of Forestry & Natural Resources

Maiko Nishi United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) Research Fellow, International Satoyama Initiative William Dunbar Senior Communications Coordinator, United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

TORII Toshio Director General of Nature Conservation Bureau at the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ)

18:00

#### 13th November 14:30 **Thematic Track 12** From Responding to Redesigning: Using an Integrated, Coherent Approach to Building Back Better from COVID-19 and Beyond [Speakers] Eric Zusman Research Leader, Sustainability Governance Centre, IGES Atsushi Watabe Programme Director, Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), IGES Carina Lindberg Policy Advisor, Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development Unit, OECD Erin C. Kawazu Programme Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, IGES Satoshi Kojima Principal Coordinator, Strategic Management Office, IGES Julia Leininger Chair of Research Program "Transformation of Political (Dis-) Order", German Development Institute Emani Kumar Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI – Global and Executive Director, ICLEI – South Asia 16:00 16:30 **Thematic Track 13** The Pathway Towards Decarbonisation—Message from Scientists Towards Green Recovery [Speakers] Toshihiko Masui Head of Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research, National Institute for Environmental Studies Jean-Charles Hourcade Emeritus Research Director, CNRS / Former Director, CIRED Stefan Lechtenböhmer Director, Future Energy and Industry Systems, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy Gabriele Zanini Research Director, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA) Robert Gross Director, UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC) [Moderator] Mikiko Kainuma Senior Research Advisor, IGES 18:00

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