



Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Japan
FY2023 UNESCO Future Co-Creation Platform Project

UNESCO Week 2024 International Symposium:

Building a Sustainable Future Together

Concept Note and Programme

1. Background

Over the past few decades, there has been much discourse and debate concerning the kind of future we wish to pass down to upcoming generations. The concept of sustainable development, which has gained much prominence in recent years, originated in the 1987 Brundtland Report, commonly referred to as Our Common Future. This report advocates for the overarching goal of maintaining a sustainable environment for future generations. It recognises that concerted efforts within the public sphere encompassing non-governmental organisations, educational institutions, and the scientific community are fundamental in achieving sustainable development. The report thereby highlights a need for solidarity in changing existing social values, attitudes and behaviours while identifying common goals and courses of action.

In 2020, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Japan launched an initiative entitled the UNESCO Future Co-Creation Platform project, which seeks to promote multi-faceted sustainability on an inter-generational, inter-regional, and inter-organisational scale through UNESCO activities. To this end, the project adopts an international, collaborative approach, facilitating cooperation between various sectors and countries while engaging stakeholders and experts from a wide range of academic and practical fields. In building a network of like-minded stakeholders from Japan and abroad and concurrently providing a platform for sharing and discussions, UNESCO activities at the grassroots level may be strategically improved and developed, thus hopefully contributing to a better and brighter future for all. In the spirit of working towards 'Our Common Future', the international symposium for UNESCO Week 2024 shall be themed 'Building a Sustainable Future Together' and it seeks to highlight the importance of collaboration and cooperation in creating a sustainable future.

2. Objectives

In accordance with the aforementioned theme, the symposium endeavours to encourage individuals to broadly explore effective cross-sectoral initiatives. Through presenting both local and global case studies, this international symposium shall be a platform for the sharing and discussion of how diverse stakeholders can work together to promote sustainable initiatives and development.

3. Date, Time and Venue:

Date and Time: 19 January 2024 (Friday) 18:00-19:30

Venue: Hybrid

Onsite: National Olympics Memorial Youth Center

Yoyogi Kamizono-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0052

Online: Zoom link to be sent to registrants at a later date.

4. Target Audience

This international symposium is open to participants from diverse personal and professional backgrounds. Individuals of varying ages (especially youth) and nationalities based in different parts of the world are welcome to join, especially individuals and organisations that are

- involved in UNESCO activities on a professional and/or private basis,
- have an interest in, or are passionate about UNESCO or activities related to UNESCO's sectors of education, science, culture, etc.
- have an interest in, or are passionate about the development of sustainable societies or activities and efforts related to the development of sustainable societies.

5. Languages: English and Japanese (Simultaneous interpretation)

*Do note that there is a limited number of translation FM wireless receivers. Please register early should you wish to use them during the event.

6. Details regarding registration and participation

Fee: Attendance is free.

Registration Period: To be determined

How to Register: To be determined

***Maximum Capacity of Venue:** 100

7. Programme

Time	Details	MC/Moderator/Speaker(s)
17:30-18:00	Reception/ Participants to enter the event hall	
18:00-18:10	Opening Ceremony	
	Opening Remarks	Mr. Masami Watanabe Director-General for International Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)

		Mr. Kiichi Oyasu Director, Education Cooperation Department, Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)
18:10- 18:30	Keynote Speech: <i>Building a Sustainable Future Together - Lessons from the Pandemic</i>	Mr. Dzulkifli Bin Abdul Razak Rector, International Islamic University Malaysia
18:30- 18:45	Presentation of Case Study (Domestic): <i>From UNESCO Activities in the Private Sector to Building Collaborative Societies for the Future: The case study of Okayama, Japan</i>	Mr. Mitsuyuki Ikeda President, Okayama UNESCO Association
18:45- 19:00	Presentation of Case Study (International): <i>Rural revitalisation through cultural preservation and green tourism: The case study of Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark</i>	Ms. Chan Yu Nam Senior Geopark Officer, Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark
19:00- 19:20	Panel Discussion	Moderator: Ms. Maki Katsuno- Hayashikawa Director, UNESCO Jakarta Panellists (in alphabetical order): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Chan Yu Nam • Mr. Dzulkifli Bin Abdul Razak • Mr. Mitsuyuki Ikeda
19:20- 19:30	Closing Ceremony	
	Closing Remarks	Moderator: Ms. Maki Katsuno- Hayashikawa Director, UNESCO Jakarta
	Wrap-up and Way Forward	Mr. Kiichi Oyasu Director, Education Cooperation Department, Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)

※ Participants are free to engage in 1-to-1 discussions with the moderator and panellists for 15 minutes after the closing ceremony.

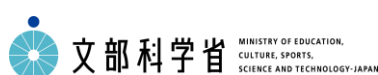
8. Event Organisers

【Main Organisers】

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)

Japanese National Commission for UNESCO (JNCU)

Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU)



【Co-organiser】

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (*To be finalised*)



【Collaborative Partners】

The National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ)

Japanese Geoparks Network (JGN)

9. For inquiries, please contact:

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