

A high-angle photograph of a street scene. In the lower-left corner, a person wearing a traditional conical hat and a dark patterned shirt is walking away from the camera, carrying a large woven basket filled with golden-brown fried snacks. To the right, a lush green tree with vibrant purple flowers hangs over the asphalt road. The background shows a paved sidewalk and a drainage grate.

Annual Report

2024

July 2024–June 2025

IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

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Looking Back on FY2024

President Kazuhiko Takeuchi and Executive Director Hiroshi Ono reflect on research activities in FY2024, and look ahead to new initiatives starting in FY2025.

Looking back on FY2024, what kind of year has it been?

Takeuchi: It was a year when we saw a deepening of the triple crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and at the same time, there has been a significant shift in the international circumstances surrounding these global issues. I don't think it is an exaggeration to say that multilateralism is at a crossroads due to conflicts and geopolitical changes around the world.

Ono: I totally agree. The changing global situation seems to be affecting efforts to achieve international goals set out in the Paris Agreement, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, among others.

Takeuchi: Under these circumstances, I feel that the importance of synergy, which aims to achieve integrated solutions to various issues, has grown even greater. Promoting synergy has become an international trend, and IGES has played an important role in this regard.

For example, IGES's expertise is reflected in the second global report on synergies between climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), published in July 2024 by the UN Group of Experts in which I also participated. We are currently working with partner organisations to develop the Asia-Pacific Synergy Report. IGES also contributed to the "Nexus Assessment Report" published in December 2024 by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). This



Left: TAKEUCHI Kazuhiko, President / Right: ONO Hiroshi, Executive Director

report proposes a cross-sectoral approach to addressing issues of biodiversity, water, food, health and climate change.

Ono: At IGES, we have been working on implementing an integrated approach that encompasses environmental, social and economic issues, including the promotion of synergetic actions. At IGES's annual forum, the International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (ISAP) which had over 5,000 participants in person and online, we published a book summarising the theory and practice of this approach based on our research results, and discussed integrated solutions to address the triple crisis.

Furthermore, FY2024 was also the final year of the 8th Phase Integrative Strategic Research Programme (ISRP8). In this Annual Report, we would like to introduce in detail the research results as the culmination of ISRP8, along with impact generation cases that led to stakeholder behaviour change and societal change.

Can you tell us about the 9th Phase Integrative Strategic Research Programme (ISRP9), which begins in FY2025?

Takeuchi: The situation surrounding global issues is changing rapidly, and our world is becoming increasingly uncertain. While leveraging the expertise we have cultivated as an environmental think-tank for over quarter of a century, we are determined to fulfill our role as a sustainability think-tank that responds to global needs from a more integrated and inclusive perspective.

Ono: As a sustainability think-tank, we are introducing a research structure to effectively create synergy for solving sustainability issues. Specifically, we will set priority areas where each research unit collaborates on key sustainability issues, thus deepening integrated research activities with an emphasis on strengthening collaboration with various sectors and stakeholders. We will also appoint two new positions—Lens Facilitators to promote research collaboration, and Research Administrators to support smooth research activities. In addition, we are going to promote initiatives making use of artificial intelligence (AI) and new technologies to flexibly respond to global trends.

Takeuchi: Under ISRP9's new research structure, we want to actively disseminate messages that promote social transformation to bring about a society where the well-being of all people can be enhanced within safe and just Earth system boundaries.

Outline of IGES

What IGES Aims for

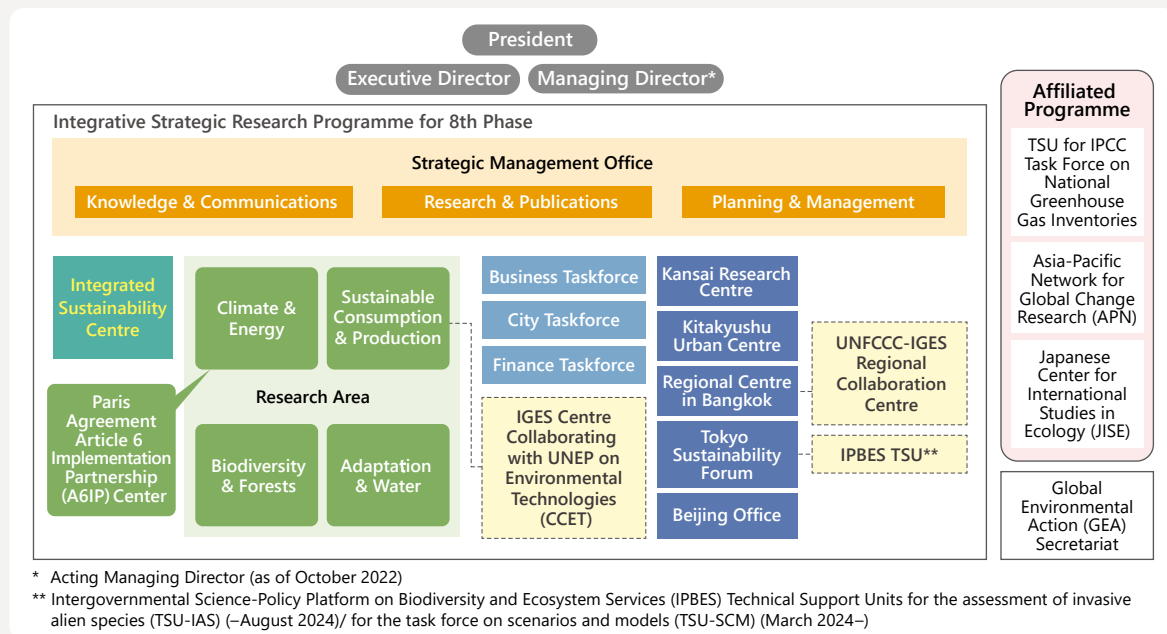
Vision IGES steadily promotes a transition towards a sustainable, resilient, shared and inclusive Asia-Pacific region and the world, where planetary boundaries are fully respected, and a green economy is substantially and flexibly implemented. Such a transition is fully aligned with zero-carbon development in line with the Paris Agreement, circular economy, resilience and biodiversity conservation, as well as improvements to the well-being of people based upon the SDGs.

Mission IGES will act as an Agent of Change, conducting strategic research and operations based upon co-design, co-implementation, co-production, and co-delivery with key stakeholders, thereby generating impacts on policies, programmes and practices of various stakeholders to move society towards a more sustainable and resilient future, especially in Asia and the Pacific.

Value Proposition IGES is a strategic research institute located in Asia, trusted by international/regional institutions and national governments concerned through timely and quality delivery of knowledge products, experienced in generating innovative ideas and disseminating practical knowledge for problem-solving by means of effective communications and other means, and appreciated by key stakeholders such as businesses, cities, civil society at various levels for strategic networking/partnership, for global transition to sustainability and resilience.

Research Activities

Based on the 8th Phase Integrative Strategic Research Programme (ISRP8, four years from July 2021), IGES is conducting strategic research in a wide range of research areas at our national and international bases. IGES established the Integrated Sustainability Centre to advance research aimed at materialising the concept of the Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere (Regional CES), a localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also endeavours to strengthen solution-oriented research activities with an emphasis on integrated approaches by introducing common focal areas in which each research unit is motivated to co-work and collaborate.



Towards Impact Generation

To realise a sustainable resilient society, IGES actively engages in impact generation in an integrated manner. In ISRP8, the common focal areas are defined as priority areas where IGES will make efforts to enhance impact generation through co-work and collaboration beyond the research unit, with the institute setting a target of 30 successful impact cases annually. In addition, the IGES President established an award to promote and share outstanding impact cases.

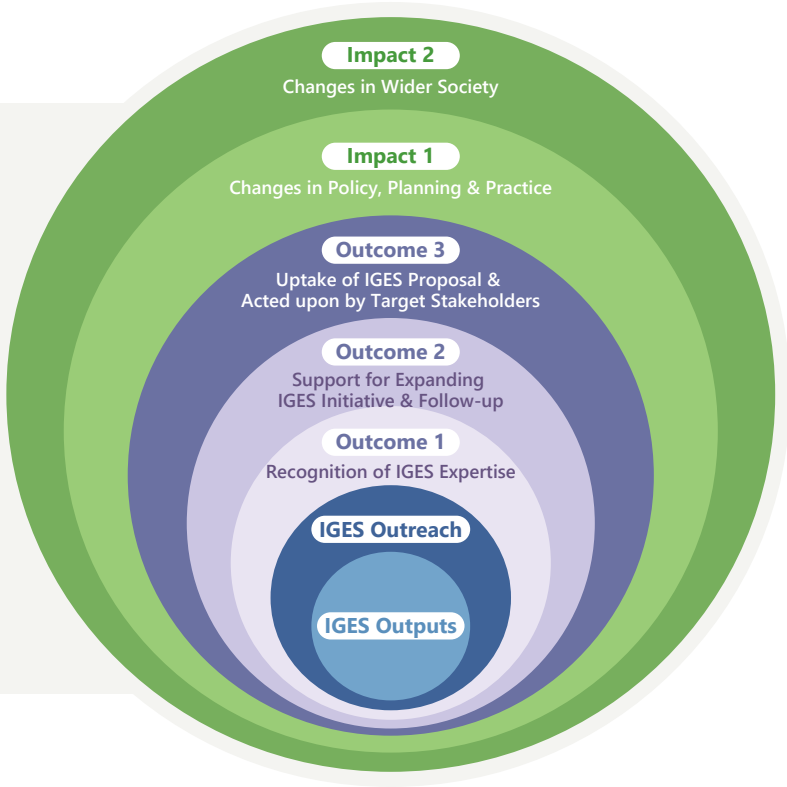
IGES Impact Generation Strategy

The generation of tangible products based on IGES strategic research (outputs) is the beginning of the results chain of the IGES impact generation strategy. Through timely and appropriate outreach coupled with relevant activities, outputs can lead to a higher level of results, namely outcomes, with wider recognition of IGES expertise and support for the expansion of its initiatives, thereby leading to the uptake of IGES proposals and positive actions taken by key stakeholders. These outcomes are considered building blocks for positive changes in the external world, such as those in policy, planning and practice (impact 1), and eventually leading to subsequent changes in the wider society (impact 2).

Specific outcomes and impacts are expected to include "international process impacts" such as contributions to negotiations, "policy/institutional change impacts", "practical solution impacts", "media impacts", and "academic impacts" including high-quality academic publications and contributions to global assessment reports. There is a possibility that these impacts will emerge in a complex manner.

What is Impact?

- Impact**
Positive changes occurred in external world, amongst others on policy, planning and and/or practice.
- Outcome**
Positive actions taken by key stakeholders in response to IGES outputs and relevant activities.
- Output**
Tangible products based on IGES strategic research.



Strategic Outputs

Policy reports, Policy briefs, Briefing notes, Commentary/ op-eds, Submission to policy processes, etc.

International process impacts Contribution to negotiations, flagging emerging issues/ approaches	Policy/institutional change impacts Regional/sub-regional/ national strategies and operations
Practical solution impacts Solutions for key stakeholders and project implementing partners	Media impacts Media coverage, contribution to media reporting, etc.

Academic Outputs

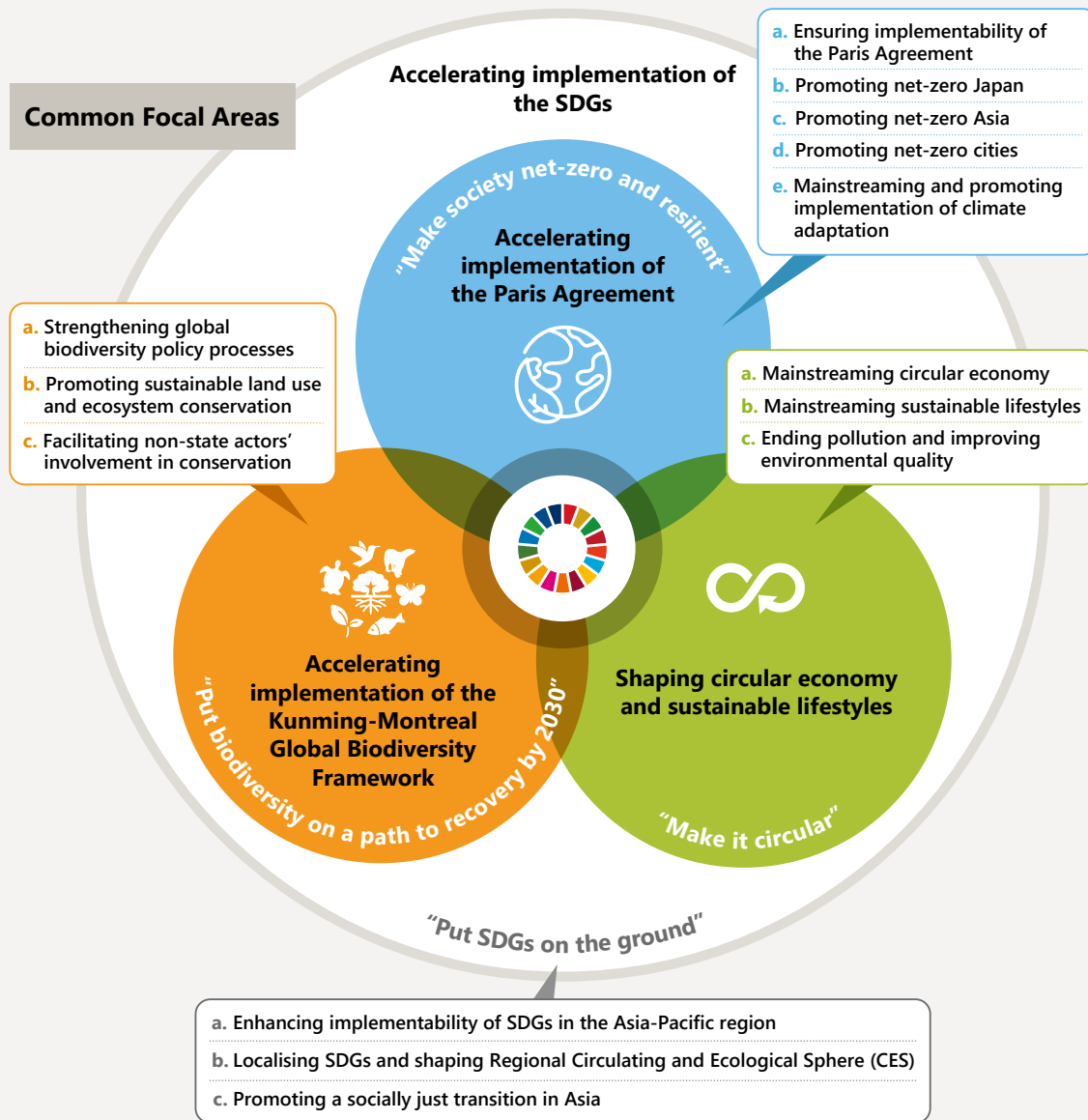
Peer-reviewed journal articles, Books and Book chapters, etc.

Academic impacts
 Quality academic publication, contribution to global assessment, etc.

**Integrated Approach:
Common Focal Areas**

ISRP8 introduces common focal areas in which each research unit works together to form a higher level of impact from research results. Common focal areas are identified by selecting key issues to be addressed, taking account of global, regional and domestic urgencies and priorities related to sustainable development as well as considering IGES' strengths. The Strategic Management Office (SMO) coordinates cross-cutting research activities and promotes the strengthening of the impact generating capacity of the organisation as a whole.

The two major components of the common focal areas are "focal areas" expecting greater impacts and synergistically engaged "sub-focal areas" utilising competent expertise and networks. In FY2024, IGES placed emphasis on research to accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement, SDGs and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as for shaping circular economy and sustainable lifestyles.



Major Impact Cases in FY2024

The following are major impact cases in FY2024 where IGES research results and policy recommendations have brought changes in stakeholder behaviour, leading to the formulation and implementation of policies and plans to promote transformation toward a sustainable society.

Promoting an Integrated Approach to Air Pollution and Climate Change in Southeast Asia

- › IGES is conducting research activities to promote co-benefits between air pollution and climate change countermeasures.
- › IGES contributed to the launch of the Second ASEAN Haze-Free Roadmap, which could save more than 10,000 lives annually by reducing exposure to air pollution. It serves as a strategic foundation for ASEAN to advance integrated measures against air pollution and climate change. IGES also played a leading role in the publication of the UNEP report "Clean Air and Climate Solutions for ASEAN", setting out recommendations for 15 priority measures. Consequently, the Philippines

has integrated air pollution co-benefits into its NDC.

- › IGES approach to assessing barriers to integrated measures has been adopted by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) and will be included in its Global Assessment Report, to be launched at World Environment Day in 2026.

Focal Areas



Impacts



Supporting the Hayama Town Global Warming Countermeasures Action Plan

- › IGES supports Hayama Town, where IGES headquarters is located, in its efforts to create a decarbonised community.
- › Participating in the Hayama Town Global Warming Countermeasures Action Plan (Area Policy Section) Formulation Support Project, IGES provided scientific estimates for forest and ocean absorption and the potential for introducing renewable energy, based on GIS analysis using satellite and drone survey data.

- › IGES's insights were incorporated into the Plan, which was finalised in June 2025 (covering 2025–2030). IGES also provided scientific basis for the revision of Hayama Town Comprehensive Environmental Plan (2022–2030). IGES plans to support the revision of the Hayama Town Green Master Plan from the perspective of GIS mapping and analysis.

Focal Areas



Impacts



Establishing a Reporting System for Integrated River Basin Management in ASEAN

- › IGES, in collaboration with the Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), implemented a project to establish a "State of River Basin (SORB)" reporting system to support integrated river basin management (IRBM) in ASEAN countries.
- › To ensure consistency in assessment methodologies, IGES developed and published a guidebook providing a standardised framework for SORB reporting. This framework enables systematic reporting and supports the collection and analysis of reliable, comparable data.

- › ASEAN countries have begun applying the SORB reporting system in the official preparation of SORB reports for seven key pilot basins, a process expected to enhance the effective implementation of IRBM across the region.

Focal Areas



Impacts



Promoting Capacity Development for ASEAN Local Governments Addressing Microplastics and Water Pollution

- › IGES has implemented a capacity development project for ASEAN countries in addressing microplastics and water pollution through a decentralised wastewater management approach.
- › As part of the project, IGES developed and introduced a harmonised protocol for monitoring and analysing microplastics in sewage treatment plants and riverine environments, helping to address this emerging pollutant and to facilitate evidence-based policymaking.
- › In addition, IGES documented and disseminated good practices from a pilot decentralised wastewater management (DWM) system constructed in Bauang Municipality, Philippines, through ASEAN regional policy dialogues, and published a practical guide along with training modules on DWM tailored for ASEAN countries. These initiatives have created opportunities for replication in four other municipalities in the Philippines.

Focal Areas



Impacts



Encouraging Citizen Participation in Building a Decarbonised and Circular Society and Reflecting Citizens' Voices in Policy

- › IGES supports the organisation of climate citizens' assemblies across Japan. These assemblies enable citizens to engage in deliberative discussions on building a decarbonised and circular society and make policy recommendations.
- › Citizens' proposals from the Zushi-Hayama Citizens' Assembly were adopted for the Hayama Town Global Warming Countermeasures Action Plan (2025–2030). Furthermore, outcomes from discussions towards 2050 at the Hyogo Environmental Future Conference were directly reflected in the Sixth Hyogo Prefecture Environmental Basic Plan, thereby contributing to citizen-participatory policymaking.
- › As one of the methods to support citizens' deliberation, IGES utilises the outcome of its 1.5°C Lifestyles research programme, which aims to achieve the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement while maintaining a prosperous life, thereby incorporating the everyday experiences of citizens into discussions.

Focal Areas



Impacts



Contributing to International Assessment on Biodiversity and Promoting Dissemination to Policy and Society

- › The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) published two important assessment reports in 2024, the Nexus Assessment and the Transformative Change Assessment.
- › IGES has been engaged in the preparation of these reports. IGES experts have made direct scientific contributions, serving as Coordinating Lead Author, Lead Author and Review Editor for the Nexus Assessment, and as a Fellow for the Transformative Change Assessment.
- › Efforts were also made to publicise the main messages of these reports in Japan. They were featured by NHK programmes and major newspapers, and also had significant impact on information disclosure documents published by Japanese companies that comply with the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD).

Focal Areas



Impacts



Research Highlights in FY2024

July 2024–June 2025

Integrated Sustainability Centre (ISC)

Integration of climate change, circular economy, biodiversity and disaster risk reduction should be fully explored under the overarching framework provided by the SDGs. In this respect, ISC has been collaborating with UNDESA and the UNFCCC to promote synergies between sustainable energy and the SDGs. This is in line with international efforts to achieve socio-economic transformation towards decarbonisation. At the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in 2019, ISC presented a set of key messages corresponding to the six entry points of the Global Sustainable Development Report. In addition, ISC has started to pay more attention to the concept of “just transition.”

Helping Japanese Business on the SDGs

ISC continued its engagement with the Global Compact Network Japan (GCNJ) by contributing to the development of guidelines that will help Japanese companies integrate sustainability issues including SDGs into their value chains. The work that ISC does with GCNJ continues to be valued and appreciated by the business community.

Promoting Just and Inclusive Transitions in Asia

ISC and other IGES teams published an article highlighting the importance of promoting just transitions under the SDGs. The article, entitled “Broadening and Deepening Support for Just Transitions under the SDGs and a Post-2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: Recommendations for Researchers, Policymakers and the Sustainability Community” also makes connections to the future sustainability agenda.

Enhancing Governance and Follow-Up and Review of the SDGs in Japan

ISC finalised a multi-year project that offered recommendations to policymakers in Japan on establishing an effective methodology for the follow-up and review process at the national and local levels. The recommendations call for making follow-up and review more responsive, embedded and interactive. It will also complement previous suggestions on how Japan can enhance its multi-stakeholder engagement process and feed into Japan’s SDG guidelines, upcoming VNR and other SDG plans. This work is also creating opportunities to recommend reforms to countries outside Japan such as Denmark.

Advancing Co-benefits in Southeast Asia and Japan

In 2024, ISC completed projects with IIASA, ADB, Clean Air Asia, Stockholm Environment Institute, NIES, and United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) on policies and projects with co-benefits. Those activities contributed to an agreement over a new Haze-Free Roadmap for ASEAN as well as a co-benefits action plan in the Philippines (that is also supporting the integration of air quality co-benefits into the country’s NDC). In addition, ISC is working with Kawasaki, Niigata and Hachinohe, Japan as well as Austin, United States and Paris, France to incorporate health co-benefits into urban climate planning as part of the project funded by the Wellcome Trust.



International project on advancing co-benefits

Joint workshop with Kawasaki, Niigata and Hachinohe, Japan (above)/shared learning and experience in Paris, France (left)

Strengthening Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Meaningful Youth Engagement

Through close collaboration with educators, ESD centres and youth stakeholders, IGES has deepened its involvement in ESD. By building regional partnerships, surveying over 60 educators and administrators, and hosting well-attended webinars, IGES has gained valuable insights into the realities of

ESD implementation in schools. These efforts have expanded our network—especially among youth and proactive teachers eager to collaborate further. IGES is also actively promoting meaningful youth engagement by supporting youth-led initiatives aligned with the SDGs and providing platforms for young people to contribute to sustainability dialogue and action.

Integrated Policymaking Using IGES' SDG Interlinkages Analysis and Tool

ISC developed the SDG Interlinkages Tool (<https://sdginterlinkages.iges.jp/visualisationtool.html>) to facilitate integrated planning by illustrating and visualising SDG interlinkages. Covering 27 countries in Asia and Africa, the tool has been accessed from more than 190 countries and has supported integrated SDG planning in several Asian countries (e.g. the development of the national action plan on sustainable consumption and production in Viet Nam). ISC developed a methodology using a systematic literature review approach, supported by Natural Language Processing techniques, to automatically map SDG interlinkages. This methodology has been used to study the interlinkages between climate action and the SDGs, between biodiversity conservation goals and the SDGs, and among the water, energy and food nexus. The knowledge and findings from these studies were published in a Nature Communications article on SDG interactions—a high-profile journal—and in a Routledge book chapter on the water–energy–food nexus, focusing on bridging resources and linking SDGs. The climate and health linkages analysis is used to develop a climate-health integrated planning (CHIP) tool that facilitates cities in G7 countries in integrating health into climate planning.

Promoting Carbon Pricing and Industrial Decarbonisation in Asia

ISC continued its work on assessing the impacts of the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) in ASEAN. An IGES policy brief on the implications of the EU's CBAM for ASEAN was published, advocating for more ambitious carbon pricing in the region. A quantitative sectoral impact assessment was also carried out, based on comprehensive data analysis.

Contribution to ADB's Flagship Report on Advancing the Green Economy Transition in ASEAN

ADB launched a flagship report project on advancing the green economy transition in ASEAN. ISC contributed a chapter on transformative green economy pathways in ASEAN, based on a quantitative scenario analysis using the Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) model. ISC also led the synthesis of five individual chapters into a final report for dissemination to policymakers.

Long-term Scenario Analysis for Cities

Using the developed long-term scenario analysis methodologies for cities, a new qualitative and quantitative methodology was developed for climate resilient development strategies to address the climate change risks in Bhutan. Based on the contributions as author and task group to the UNEP Global Environmental Outlook (GEO-7), the climate adaptation measures were a particular focus of this analysis. A new collaboration with UNESCO's category 2 centre, International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI), was also initiated to investigate methodologies for analysing and applying experience and knowledge to protect local cultures and the livelihoods of local communities from the impacts of climate change.

Advancing the Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) Approach in Asia and Pacific

IGES strengthened its collaboration with regional partners of the CES Asia Consortium and actively engaged with local stakeholders to co-develop the Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) model cases across several city-regions in Asia. ISC implemented research projects in locations such as Hachinohe and Hyogo (Japan), and Nagpur and Ajmer (India), aiming to advance locally grounded CES approaches that contribute to regional revitalisation, carbon neutrality, societal resilience and wellbeing. IGES applied co-development and co-delivery approach for developing CES-based health net zero transition in Hachinohe and Ajmer.

To scale up CES implementation across the region, IGES also strengthened its partnerships within the ASEAN region. In collaboration with Cambodia's Ministry of Environment, IGES co-organised a Regional Workshop in Phnom Penh, Cambodia (on 19–20 June 2025) titled "Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) Approach-Based Model for Local Decarbonisation and Resource Circulation: Exploring the Prospects in the ASEAN Region." The workshop brought together regional experts, international partners, national government representatives and donor agencies, providing a platform for the co-development of CES-based pathways toward local resource-based net-zero transitions in ASEAN city-regions.

The research outcomes from these efforts have been disseminated through peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, as well as a poster session at ISAP2024. Additionally, the ISC has developed the 'Agrivolt Navigator', a web-based decision support tool to assist local stakeholders in planning CES models based on agrivoltaics. To further promote knowledge sharing, a

dedicated CES webpage has been launched by the team, to serve as a hub for knowledge resources and outreach activities related to the CES approach.

Contribution to the Policy Processes

ISC made significant contributions to policy development by actively promoting the CES concept through various platforms and engagements. Key initiatives include the hosting of a plenary session at ISAP2024, co-organising the ASEAN Regional Workshop on CES, and conducting multiple co-development workshops at the local level. Additionally, ISC contributed a case study to the UN-Habitat Compendium of Inspiring Practices on Urban-Rural Linkages, highlighting the practical application of the CES approach.

Promoting the Water-Energy-Food Nexus

ISC successfully completed an international collaborative project that was implemented with partner institutions in Japan, India and Bangladesh. The outcomes of the research on the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus have been published in reputable academic journals, as book chapters, and as a research report contributing valuable insights to the regional and global discourses on integrated resource management.

Continued Its Work on SDG-related Activities

IGES researchers participated in discussions co-convened by UNDESA and UNFCCC as members of the Expert Group on Climate and SDG Synergy (2 co-leads and 15 members, including IGES President Kazuhiko Takeuchi), and contributed to the Second UN Global Synergy Report 2024. This report was launched at the UN HLPF 2024 in New York in July 2024 and discussed at the 5th Global Synergy Conference held in Rio de Janeiro in September 2024. Work is now ongoing with partner organisations to produce an Asia-Pacific edition of this report. Furthermore, ISC supported the development of Sado City's VLR Report and its launch at HLPF 2024.

Continued Work on “Decarbonization Leading Areas” in Kuala Lumpur (KL) and Japan

Since April 2019, ISC has worked toward achieving Zero Carbon Kuala Lumpur at both the city level and in the district of Wangsa Maju, in collaboration with the KL City Government, IGES City Taskforce, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG), and Saitama City (since April 2022). ISC organised a high-level seminar in KL in January 2025. An IGES researcher has served as the acting chair of the MOEJ's Evaluation Committee on “Decarbonization Leading Areas” in Japan since January 2022.



Vibhas SUKHWANI

Chief Policy Researcher
Integrated Sustainability Centre



A Civil Engineer and Urban Planner by background, I hold a PhD in Media and Governance. Since joining IGES in 2023, I have engaged in research and technical assistance projects across Asia, focusing on the circulating and ecological sphere sector for SDGs and climate action. Leveraging my academic and professional experience, I contribute to co-designing and implementing collaborative projects with strategic partners, generating evidence-based knowledge, advancing local actions through multi-stakeholder dialogues, and promoting knowledge exchange in international forums. Through these efforts, I aim to support practical pathways linking global agendas with local action and scale regional cooperation to foster inclusive, resilient communities.

Climate and Energy Area (CE)

With particular focus on the Asia-Pacific region, the Climate and Energy team (CE) is carrying out initiatives to facilitate the transition to decarbonised societies at the national and local levels. Specifically, CE looks towards strengthening climate and energy-related strategies and policies, and engages in international climate negotiations, bilateral and multilateral cooperation, carbon pricing initiatives, market-based mechanisms, and the development and maintenance of databases.

Operationalisation of the Paris Agreement

CE contributed to the finalisation of the operational rules of the Article 6 cooperation framework (Article 6.2 accounting guidance and Article 6.4 mechanism rules and modalities) under the Paris Agreement, as well as the follow-up of the 1st Global Stocktake (GST), by participating in COP29 as members of the Japanese delegation. IGES took on the role of the secretariat of the ‘Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership Center,’ which promotes the activities of the ‘Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation

Partnership (A6IP)', launched at COP27 to support capacity building with regard to the implementation of the Article 6 of the Paris Agreement in a global context. Utilising the knowledge and expertise gained through its support for international negotiations, CE continued to conduct a mutual learning programme for enhanced transparency in cooperation with the governments of Asian developing countries, focusing on reporting for Articles 6 and 13. In addition, CE/A6IP organised high level and technical level side events, including a UNFCCC official side event and Japan Pavilion Ministerial event, and also conducted several capacity building for Article 6 implementation. The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) Global Partnership Meeting was also organised for sharing the latest status and experience in implementing the JCM consistent with Article 6 rules. Furthermore, CE cooperated with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to promote inputs from the Japanese satellite community into the Paris Agreement's processes including the GST. CE also played a key role in bridging science and international policy discussions, by co-implementing a regional independent Global Stocktake (iGST) hub in Southeast Asia. As the iGST regional hub, IGES made policy recommendations and submissions of views to the UNFCCC during the GST process.

Materialisation of GHG Emission Reductions and Contribution to SDGs through Implementation of the JCM

CE contributed to implement the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) which appropriately evaluates contributions to GHG emission reductions or removals by Japan, and applies them to achieving the national emissions reduction target. CE supported the development of eight MRV (monitoring, reporting and verification) methodologies. In addition, CE published the JCM-SDG best practices.

Impacts on Political and Social Debates on Carbon Pricing in Asia

Carbon pricing policy is taking shape in Asia, such as the implementation of national emissions trading schemes in China and the Republic of Korea. CE served as Japan's focal point for hosting the ninth Forum of Carbon Pricing Mechanisms in Japan, Korea and China, and contributed to discussions on trilateral cooperation. CE conducted a timely overview and analysis of the design features and implementation progress of emissions trading schemes in China and the Republic of Korea. The latest movement on carbon pricing for the transition toward net-zero in Asia was summarised and disseminated, thereby stimulating the mutual learning of policy development.

Climate Policy Promotion by Visualisation of Current Status

CE engaged in analysis and visualisation of climate policies around the world in order to facilitate the further development of such policies. Based on the 1.5°C roadmap published in FY2023, IGES organised briefings to relevant ministries and council members, mass media events, and webinars were conducted in an effort to shape impact in the policy processes of shaping the 7th Strategic Energy Plan and a new NDC to the Paris Agreement. CE also assisted the development of the Hayama Town Global Warming Prevention Implementation Plan (2025–2030). CE conducted research on managed phase-out of coal-fired power plants in Japan in collaboration with IGES Finance Taskforce and the Glasgow Finance Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) Japan Chapter; research on technology co-innovation, to identify and propose alternative ways for strengthening technology collaboration among countries; research on critical minerals and the impact of supply and environmental spillover challenges on net-zero goals, as well as research on hydrogen economy in Asia and its related opportunities and challenges. CE also actively supported several international policy processes by contributing to the preparation of the '7th Global Environment Outlook (GEO7)' (Coordinated by UNEP), 'Ten New Insights in Climate Science' (Coordinated by Earth League, Future Earth and World Climate Research Programme), 'Policy Briefs for G20 Brazil' and G20 South Africa as member of Task Force on Climate Change and Just Transition. CE contributed to the UNEP Emissions Gap Report 2024, as well as representing Japan in Climate Transparency, an international research network for G20 countries. Likewise, CE provides the most up-to-date information through regular updating of the IGES Climate Databases on various topics. To communicate national and international trends toward decarbonisation, CE continued to conduct the IGES Climate Change Webinar Series, which started in April 2021.



Presenting the "IGES 1.5°C Roadmap" and corporate case studies at ISAP2024



Diana KHAN

Senior Programme Manager
Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership (A6IP) Center

I serve as Senior Programme Manager, leading the Global Support Package team of 10 members across seven regions. My prior work with the US government gave me experience in policy analysis, institutional coordination, and capacity building, with on the ground engagement in Afghanistan and broader work across the Middle East, Africa, and South and Central Asia. These experiences gave me insights into working directly with governments and institutions, which I now apply to advancing global climate cooperation. The A6IP Center supports 90 partner countries and works with more than 30 to help governments to develop institutional arrangements for authorization, tracking, and reporting under Article 6, while supporting mitigation activities to achieve NDCs. I also support Japan's Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) and the JCM Agency (JCMA), engaging with officials to identify needs and foster relationships for effective Article 6 implementation.

Sustainable Consumption and Production Area (SCP)

IGES conducts policy analysis from the perspective of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) including environmentally-sound waste management in cities, formation of effective recycling systems with a view of Asia as a whole, and improvement in resource productivity. Likewise, IGES makes policy recommendations to stimulate lifestyle changes.

Sustainable Lifestyles

In FY2024, IGES advanced climate action and sustainability efforts in Japan and Southeast Asia. In Kanagawa, IGES organised Climate Citizen Assembly Meetings using its 1.5°C Programme to guide local discussions on climate mitigation. Tools have also been developed to support citizen-led climate actions across various prefectures. IGES also continues on-site research in Minami-Sanriku (Miyagi Prefecture) and Osaka under the *Suishinhi S21* project, focusing on food systems transitions and sustainable consumption.

Regionally, IGES launched the second phase of the *Breaking the Plastic Habit in ASEAN* project with partners in six countries, applying behavioural insights (BIs) in schools, businesses, and public events to reduce single-use plastic

use. Building on this success, IGES and ERIA established the *ASEAN Behavioural Lab*, collaborating with five partners to promote behaviourally-informed policies across Southeast Asia. Additionally, IGES began a policymaker needs assessment in five ASEAN countries to identify gaps related to plastic use and behaviour change.



Public event on the "Breaking the Plastic Habit in ASEAN" project

Mainstreaming Circular Economy

In FY2024, IGES actively contributed to international circular economy and resource efficiency initiatives, including the G7 Resource Efficiency Alliance, G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue, the International Resource Panel (IRP), and the OECD. IGES supported efforts to mainstream the circular economy across the Asia-Pacific, particularly in ASEAN countries, and participated in several capacity-building meetings on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), aiding Thailand and Indonesia's OECD membership preparations. As a life-cycle analysis expert, IGES joined an e-waste recycling promotion project in five ASEAN countries led by Japan's MOEJ. IGES also compiled data for the G20 Marine Plastic Litter (MPL) report, contributed to the G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue portal, and organised related webinars. Domestically, IGES participated in policy discussions on circular economy standards and continued serving as the secretariat of the Japan Partnership for Circular Economy (J4CE), fostering public-private collaboration to promote circular business models.

Marine Plastics and Circular Economy

In FY2024, IGES continued to serve as a key regional think tank on plastic pollution for ASEAN+3 and beyond. In partnership with ERIA, IGES secured a project under the World Bank's Southeast Asia Regional Marine Plastic Litter Control Program (SEA-MAP) to establish and manage a *Regional Knowledge Platform and Partnership* on plastic pollution for the ASEAN Secretariat and member states. IGES also participated in an international expert meeting on plastic pollution co-hosted by Japan, the US and Taiwan. Additionally, IGES contributed to UNEP's initiatives in the Mekong River region, stressing the need for data-based approaches in plastic policy. IGES actively engaged in the International Negotiation Committee (INC) for a legally binding plastics treaty and strengthened the role of ASEAN+3 through a side event held in collaboration with ERIA, OECD and the World Bank. Contributions were also

made in developing a *Regional Plastic Outlook for ASEAN+3* with an economic and material flow modelling analysis by OECD.

IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET)

In FY2024, the IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET) strengthened its regional engagement by providing policy research and technical assistance to national and local governments in Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia (Padang City), Pakistan, Bhutan and Cambodia. These initiatives focused on integrated waste management policies that support circular economy, zero waste, and zero emissions goals. In Sri Lanka, CCET supported the development of a national plastic material flow analysis, awareness-raising materials, a national plastic management database, and the integration of plastic pollution education into school curricula.

Partnering with the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), CCET also assisted Cambodia and the Federated States of Micronesia in creating national methane reduction roadmaps, integrating this into their revised NDCs. CCET contributed to a global consortium assessing black carbon emissions from open waste burning, resulting in a regional roadmap to mitigate pollution.

Additionally, CCET collaborated with the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat to study persistent organic pollutants (POPs) in e-waste, with plans to develop a regional training programme for policymakers and businesses. CCET is also promoting a just and inclusive transition in waste management, including a UNEP-supported study on gender and informal sector roles, leading to new national training modules. Furthermore, CCET engaged in



Building capacities of officials in Sri Lanka on plastic recycling (above)/ building capacities of policymakers to manage chemicals in the waste (left)

training, capacity building, and policy dialogues with JICA, ADB and the World Bank to advance sustainable waste management financing and innovation.



Alice YAMABE

Policy Researcher
Sustainable Consumption and Production Unit



Since joining IGES in 2022, I have worked to advance sustainable transitions through behaviour and lifestyle change. In Japan, I applied the "1.5°C Lifestyles" approach in citizen-led climate assemblies and now use a similar method to co-develop locally tailored interventions for sustainable food systems. Regionally, I contribute to projects testing behaviour change strategies to reduce single-use plastics across ASEAN countries. I also engage in research on the security implications of climate change, particularly in relation to food systems. At the global level, I have supported Japan's participation in G7 and G20 sustainability dialogues. Working across scales has deepened my understanding of the diverse entry points for driving systemic change.

Biodiversity and Forests Area (BDF)

The Biodiversity and Forests team (BDF) conducts problem-solving research and implementation, with a focus on the Asia-Pacific region. BDF aligns with and supports global biodiversity processes such as those under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), and the Forest Declaration Platform.

Responsible Timber Trading

IGES has been contributing to the operation and revision of Japan's Clean Wood Act (Law Concerning the Promotion of the Distribution and Use of Legally Logged Timber). In FY2024, IGES contributed to the enforcement of the revised Clean Wood Act as a member of the Clean Wood Act committee. IGES also conducted a literature review and survey of experts analysing the

level of timber demand and supply in the Asia Pacific region and outlining groupings of countries according to demographics and timber use, illustrated by focused case studies for FAO and ITTO.

Supply Chain of Biodiversity Risk Commodities

BDF conducted a survey and analysis of supply chain structures and sustainability issues in cacao production in Ghana, coffee production in Viet Nam, fishery in Thailand and palm oil production in Indonesia, involving the industries, local traders, and smallholders. A supply chain-based approach is gaining attention as a new tool for climate change mitigation and nature-positive realisation, especially in the business sector, and IGES is preparing policy recommendations based on survey results.

Contribution to the International Process on Forests

The Forest Declaration Assessment Partners, of which IGES is a member, has published the 2024 Assessment Report, which reports on progress toward meeting global forestry goals. IGES also made a Japanese summary of the Assessment Report available and organised a seminar to enhance understanding in Japan, of the current status of the global deforestation problem. IGES also compiled a report on “Demand and Supply for Timber in Asia and The Pacific” for ITTO and FAO, to inform the proceedings of the 31st Session Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission.

Contribution to International Biodiversity Processes

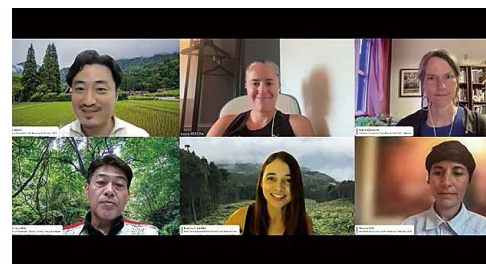
IGES supported the Japanese delegation to the IPBES Plenary at its 11th meeting, and conducted analysis and data collection to provide the basis for the negotiations. Furthermore, IGES contributed to disseminating information on the IPBES and CBD processes and outcomes to Japanese audiences, including through the publication of Japanese translations of the summary for policymakers of the IPBES thematic assessment report on the nexus between the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health; and the IPBES thematic assessment report on the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 vision for biodiversity; and through an online public symposium on biodiversity. IGES has been entrusted by the Government of Japan to host the Technical Support Unit for the IPBES Task Force on Scenarios and Models (TSU-SCM). The TSU-SCM will be providing technical support for the work of the task force on scenarios and models over a period of three years from 2024 to 2027. IGES staff supported Japan’s participation in the meeting of the G20 and G7 meetings, as well as organising and facilitating a session at ISAP2024.

JICA Technical Cooperation Project: Development of Integrated Coastal Ecosystem Management System in the Republic of Mauritius

A researcher from BDF continued to work in Mauritius as part of the project team from JICA responding to a heavy oil spill from the bulk carrier vessel, MV Wakashio in 2020. Based on the data collection survey conducted at the time of the incident, the team launched the JICA Technical Cooperation Project in January 2022, to support Mauritius in building an integrated coastal ecosystem management system to contribute to restoring the ecosystem in a resilient manner. IGES is in charge of ‘ecotourism’ and ‘ecosystem services’ components and intends to improve sustainability in the tourism sector by establishing a model village as a sustainable destination and introducing ecotourism that promotes sustainable use of the coastal ecosystems (e.g. coral plantation diving tours and mangrove kayaking). During FY2024, the IGES researcher visited Mauritius twice and lobbied relevant Ministries and agencies to implement capacity-building activities for the local community in the model village, with consultations held on building a boardwalk in the mangrove forest.

Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management in SEPLS

IGES and partners supported five more projects to demonstrate the value and potential of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS) around the world. The total number of such projects since 2013 has now grown to 68. In addition, the Satoyama Development Mechanism (SDM) project results were publicised at ISAP2024 as one of the thematic track sessions, entitled “Can Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS) Promote Sustainable Food Systems?– Linking Science and Practice”. Aside from support for the SDM, IGES staff gave presentations at side-events at CBD COP16 in Cali, Colombia about the achievements through SDM, SEPLs and about landscape approaches.



Presenting the outcomes of the SDM project at ISAP2024

Business and Biodiversity

IGES became a Forum member of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD). Relating to this, IGES worked with MOEJ and others, to promote business engagement in this process. IGES also worked with Keidanren (Japanese Business Federation) Nature Conservation Council (KNCC) to conduct a survey of Keidanren member companies on their efforts in contributing to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and TNFD. The survey clarified potential contributions of businesses in different sectors to the GBF targets and the progress of their responses to the emerging TNFD framework.

Integration of Traditional and Modern Bioproduction System for a Sustainable and Resilient Future under Climate and Ecosystem Changes (ITMoB)

The ITMoB project, a 3-year cooperative research project, aims to explore scenarios/pathways for a sustainable and resilient future under climate and ecosystem changes by assessing various ecosystem services provided by bioproduction systems under multiple future scenarios. The project focuses on integration of traditional and modern bioproduction systems such as home gardens, agroforestry, plantation, aquaculture and urban agriculture in Japan, the Philippines and Indonesia. In FY2024, the project organised an international workshop, training seminars, stakeholder meetings and field surveys.

Abandonment and Rebound: Societal Views on Landscape and Land-use Change and Their Impacts on Water and Soils (ABRESO)

The overarching goal of the ABRESO project is to develop a global transdisciplinary platform to better understand the impacts of land abandonment on sustainability of soil and water resources in USA, France, Italy, Taiwan and Japan. Land abandonment and subsequent land use or land cover change can have profound implications for water resources, as the changing fabric of the Critical Zone (CZ) dictates changes in infiltration, runoff and the delivery of sediment and nitrogen to groundwater and surface waters. In FY2024, the project worked on producing peer-reviewed articles jointly.

Development of an Integrated Assessment Model Linking Biodiversity and Socio-Economic Drivers, and Its Social Application (S-21)

The objective of this study is to develop an integrated assessment model integrating biodiversity, climate change and other socioeconomic factors for future scenario analysis, and quantitatively estimate the impacts of response options for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and biodiversity

conservation and restoration under different future scenarios. In addition, this integrated assessment model will be applied at the national and local scales. In FY2024, IGES led the organisation of domestic and international advisory board meetings, field surveys, online questionnaire surveys and stakeholder workshops at case study sites in Japan. The project produced nearly 50 peer-reviewed articles over the last two years.

Sustainable Aquatic Food Systems (WorldFish projects)

IGES partnered with WorldFish to advance two significant initiatives: (1) Developing future scenarios for the fisheries sector in Timor-Leste, and (2) Establishing AqualIndex, a novel sustainability index for aquatic food systems. The first project culminated successfully with its findings presented at the 11th Ecosystem Services Partnership conference (ESP11) in Darwin, Australia, and shared with Timor-Leste's national fisheries officers to inform policy and practice. The second project kicked off with an expert workshop in Tokyo to begin creating the AqualIndex. Additional activities included commissioning eDNA studies in India and Bangladesh and taking initial steps for creating collaborations with Tohoku University, The University of Tokyo and the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC), to ensure robust partnerships for future progress.

Adaptation and Water Area (AW)

To contribute to the realisation of a resilient and sustainable society, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, AW will promote initiatives focusing on climate change adaptation and water environment measures. For climate change adaptation, AW will actively participate in international negotiations and policy processes and make policy proposals. AW will keep abreast of global efforts on adaptation and identifying international policy needs. Based on the findings, AW will work on priority issues on adaptation, including promotion of AP-PLAT, research on the integration of adaptation measures with disaster prevention, climate mitigation measures, and biodiversity conservation, and work on locally-led adaptation (LLA), indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) systems, and transboundary adaptation. Regarding measures to conserve water environment, AW will actively promote WEPA's efforts as its secretariat to improve water environment governance in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, AW will promote the deployment and proper management of decentralised

wastewater treatment systems in the ASEAN region through a project funded by JAIF and address the issue of microplastics in rivers.

AP-PLAT Partnership

AW, with relevant organisations, led the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) partnership. Based on the “AP-PLAT Three-Year Action Plan 2024–2026” and “AP-PLAT Activity Plan FY2024” developed in FY2023, AW conducted in-person meeting and online consultation with governments and relevant organisations of the Asia-Pacific to understand the basic needs of formulation and implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs). AW also conducted a workshop for capacity development on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) using the tool JAMES in Thailand and Indonesia. AW also provided training in Bangladesh and Nepal to prepare climate finance proposals that integrate disaster management and climate change adaptation. AW also developed policy briefs on transformative adaptation in collaboration with AP-PLAT partners.

Contribution to Global Assessments

A researcher from AW worked as a lead author of the IPBES Nexus assessment report. Furthermore, AW is contributing to UNEP’s Global Environment Outlook 7 (GEO-7) with researchers serving as lead and/or coordinating lead authors for different chapters and on the Summary for Policymakers. One researcher is also now heading up the Technical Support Unit on Scenarios and Models for the IPBES Secretariat.

Contribution to International Processes

AW participated in negotiations at the UNFCCC meetings as a member of the Japanese delegation and supported MOEJ. Through following international discussions and activities on adaptation, AW made policy recommendations to MOEJ. AW has contributed to the Adaptation Without Boundaries (AWB) initiative, World Adaptation Science Program (WASP), and UNEP Global Adaptation Gap Report 2024. A researcher from AW also served as lead-author for two WASP-UNEP policy briefs on Loss and Damage, and Adaptation Effectiveness. IGES research outputs related to ILK in the Hindu-Kush region was selected for UNFCCC-UNEP publication affiliated with the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI).

Synergy between Mitigation and Adaptation towards a Resilient Net-zero ASEAN

Under the project on Synergies between Mitigation and Adaptation, AW led the sub-theme on adaptation. The research focuses on transition strategies for adaptation that harmonise with carbon neutrality, centred on renewable energy, in ASEAN countries. The research included assessing potential climate risks to renewable energy systems and analysing the adaptation co-benefits from renewable energy systems and their impact on building resilience. AW also contributed to a technical report on a resilient, net-zero ASEAN.

Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) and Traditional, Indigenous, and Local Knowledge Systems (TILK)

AW and the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN) are jointly implementing a project on LLA in Nepal, Viet Nam, and Fiji. IGES, as a regional member of the Himalaya University Consortium (HUC), has established a Thematic Working Group on TILK-LLA, which aims to facilitate the co-development of LLA solutions. IGES participated in the 2nd International Conference on Indigenous-Led Research and Education in September 2024.

Addressing Transboundary Climate Change Risks

AW’s work on transboundary climate change risks (TBRs) has been carried out under the NIES-IGES *Suishinhi* project, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science - Indian Council of Social Science Research (JSPS-ICSSR) project, as well as under IGES Strategic Research Fund (SRF) projects mainly in collaboration with the Adaptation Without Boundaries (AWB) initiative, and several national partners in South and Southeast Asia. Additionally, AW conducted a survey of 10 Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient and donor countries to identify how transboundary risks are addressed in ODA and the additional measures needed to address transboundary risks through ODA.

Climate Security in the Asia-Pacific

Under a research project on climate security in the Asia-Pacific, supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, AW is conducting policy-relevant research on climate security. Research activities are conducted through five sectoral research areas: energy security,



International workshop on climate security in Asia-Pacific

climate-induced mobilities, food security, climate change adaptation and maritime security. In the project's second year, an international workshop was held to share the results and significance of climate security with international researchers.

Water Environmental Management in Asia

AW has been the Secretariat for the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) for over two decades. This year marked the beginning of the fifth phase, with the WEPA annual meeting and the International Workshop taking place in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The event focused on watershed-wide water environmental management, facilitating the exchange of information on policies and water environment issues among partner countries. AW initiated the planning of WEPA Action Program in Thailand, focusing on the sustainable management of pollution loads in river basins, and began developing a multilateral WEPA Action Program focusing on water environmental management in enclosed water bodies. Furthermore, AW published the 'WEPA Outlook on Water Environmental Management in Asia 2024,' introducing policies and the state of the water environment in partner countries.

Integrated River Basin Management in ASEAN

AW, in partnership with PEMSEA, has been implementing a GEF/UNDP project on Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) in 6 ASEAN Member States. AW served as Technical Lead in developing and launching the Guidebook on the State of River Basin Reporting for local governments and river basin organizations in the East Asian Seas region. The Guidebook supports IRBM/IWRM efforts by providing guidance on establishing regular monitoring, evaluation, and reporting mechanisms, and explaining the rationale and importance of sustaining the State of River Basin (SORB) reporting system in ASEAN countries.

Tackling Microplastics and Water Pollution through Decentralised Domestic Wastewater

AW led a JAIF-funded initiative to address microplastic and water pollution in ASEAN through decentralised domestic wastewater management approach. Key publications from the initiative are included: (i) ASEAN's Journey Towards Sustainable Sanitation: A Practical Guide to Decentralised Wastewater Management; (ii) Decentralised Wastewater Management in ASEAN – Training Modules for the Realisation of SDG6; (iii) Recommended Harmonised Protocol for Microplastics Monitoring in Sewage Treatment Plants and Riverine Environments in ASEAN Countries.

Business Taskforce (BIZ)

BIZ has continued its activities to generate outcomes and impacts by supporting highly motivated businesses in Japan, specifically targeting the promotion of climate change and decarbonisation policies in businesses in Japan.

BIZ has been appointed as the Secretariat of Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (JCLP), a coalition of business in Japan, and has supported progressive companies to lead a positive momentum towards net zero in business and to contribute to the progress of climate policies in Japan.

Empowering Business Coalition

JCLP currently has 35 executive members, 32 associate members, and 162 supporting members, for a total of 229 members.

Decarbonisation of Business Practices

JCLP cooperated with Climate Group to support the participation of Japanese companies in RE100¹, EV100², and EP100³. Some 93 companies are committed to achieving RE100.

JCLP and IGES, together with ICLEI and Green Purchasing Network (GPN), have been running the steering committee of RE Action, an initiative for SMEs, municipalities, educational institutions and medical institutions, to declare their commitment to 100% renewable electricity by 2050.

Policy Engagement

JCLP was actively involved in policy discussions relating to the Japanese government's formulation of GHG emission reduction targets (NDCs) and the 7th Strategic Energy Plan. Meanwhile, IGES provided secretarial support for reviewing and disseminating recommendations.

Specifically, BIZ supported the decision and dissemination of recommendations by JCLP. Examples of JCLP statements include: "Policy recommendations for Japan's next GHG reduction targets and strategic energy plan (July 2024)" and "Policy recommendations calling for accelerated GHG emissions reductions

1 International business initiative committed to 100% renewable power, working to massively increase corporate demand for and delivery of renewable energy.

2 International business initiative aims to drive the transition to electro-mobility.

3 International business initiative pledged to double the energy productivity of businesses.

and increased renewable energy share to halt the climate crisis and achieve economic growth in Japan (November 2024)".

Furthermore, JCLP participated in the following meetings and committees to encourage progress in climate policy.

- “中央環境審議会 総合政策部会” at MOEJ
- “再エネ実装専門家ボードコメンター” at Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Incidentally, JCLP has incorporated as the ‘General Incorporated Association Japan Climate Leaders’ Partnership’ to further promote decarbonisation activities in companies and societies. In response to this, IGES ended its contract to provide secretariat services for the JCLP at the end of June 2025.

City Taskforce (CTY)

CTY co-creates solutions and promotes policies and strategies for low-carbon/carbon neutral, resilient and sustainable societies with stakeholders in Asian cities, including those in Japan. In collaboration with other regional and international organisations and networks, IGES facilitates the sharing of solutions and strategies among like-minded cities, and contributes to enhancing implementation capacity at the city level.

Supporting SDG Localisation through VLRs

Since FY2018, CTY has been contributing to the global movement of VLRs. The “VLR Lab,” an online platform of VLR launched in March 2019 includes 168 VLR reports, as of the end of July, 2025. IGES contributed to the VLRs of Santa Rosa City and Makati City, the Philippines in collaboration with UNESCAP and United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG-ASPAC).

Under a study on follow-up and review (FUR) of the SDGs at subnational level under the Environment Research and Technology Development Fund (ERTDF) started in FY2022, CTY explored opportunities and challenges of SDG localisation through the lens of FUR. The findings of the study were shared at a side-event at the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum and other fora. Journal articles and the State of VLR 2025 was published as outputs of research funds. CTY also contributed to the chapter of “Evaluation and Initiatives by Each Stakeholder” of the Japanese VNR published in June 2025.

Sharing Lessons and Providing Support towards Zero-carbon Cities

CTY has been supporting city-to-city collaboration projects (C3P) by Kuala Lumpur, Tokyo and Saitama, in collaboration with ISC. CTY also conducted a study of the functions of the intermediary organisations to support policy planning/implementation of local decarbonisation, especially targeted at the small and medium local governments, in collaboration with other units at IGES, such as KUC and KRC. IGES also made a contribution to the Sugunami Citizens Assembly as a part of the Secretariat. CTY also promoted knowledge sharing through a side event at the Japan Pavilion at COP29 as well as at the Japan-IIASA joint workshop and seminar in Yokohama, Japan.

CTY also contributed to the mutual learning between the EU and Japanese cities on innovation under the EU-Japan Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) Facility.



IGES President Awards for Best Impact and Best Publication

IGES President established annual awards to recognise outstanding research activities and results. The “Mountain View Award” commends impact cases where IGES recommendations have prompted stakeholder action and resulted in changes in policy, planning and implementation. And in FY2024, the best impact case went to “Integrated Solutions to Air Pollution and Climate Change Are Mainstreamed in Southeast Asia” by ISC. The “Ocean Breeze Award”, which recognises outstanding publication, was given to Osamu MIZUNO’s articles “Reconsidering National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) as a Policy Framework under the UNFCCC” (Climate Policy), “Adaptation: Is Securing Funding Really the Top Priority for COP Negotiations?” (Sustainability Science) and policy report “Beyond the Adaptation Finance Gap: Towards a More Effective Adaptation Framework”.

Finance Taskforce (FIN)

Delivering on the SDGs and commitments under the Paris Agreement requires mobilising and shifting large amounts of public and private capital. To achieve low-carbon and climate resilient sustainable development, FIN is engaged in policy research and recommendations as well as capacity building. Specific

areas of focus are sustainable finance (e.g. ESG investment), financial disclosure on sustainability, responses to business opportunities, and positive impact.

Research and Environmental Improvement for Practices of ESG Finance

FIN has been engaged in commissioned work on green bonds from MOEJ since April 2017. In FY2024, FIN carried out the following activities related to MOEJ's policies on green financial products.

- 1) Contribution to the revision of the Guidelines for Green Bonds, etc.: MOEJ has been considering revision to the "Green Bond and Sustainability-Linked Bond Guidelines" and "Green Loan and Sustainability-Linked Loan Guidelines" and established the Study Group on Green Finance to discuss revision of the Guidelines. FIN supported MOEJ in preparing materials for the Study Group and translation of related international principles which will be incorporated into the revised guidelines.
- 2) Dissemination of information through the website "Green Finance Portal": Since 2018, FIN has served as part of the secretariat of the MOEJ website "Green Finance Portal" and has disseminated information on international market trends, new principles or guidelines of the International Capital Market Association and the Loan Market Association, and good practices of overseas green financial products. In FY2024, we continued to enhance this information.

Research on the Impact of Sustainable Finance

IGES has been participating in research on sustainable financial products (research project title: Research on the Expansion and Impact of Sustainable Finance: Focusing on Climate Change and Biodiversity) since April 2024, with funding from MOEJ, "Comprehensive Promotion Fund for Environmental Research" for a period of three years. IGES is responsible for the sub-theme "Qualitative Research on Fund Mobilization, Supply, and Impact through Sustainable Financial Products" within the same research project. In FY2024, IGES primarily carried out the following activities:

- 1) FIN conducted a literature review (systematic review) focusing on academic literature related to sustainable financial products and presented our findings at the 2024 conference of the Society for Environmental Economics and Policy Studies (SEEPS). Specifically, we examined academic papers discussing the impact of sustainable financial products to identify the perspectives and themes addressed in these papers, as well as the results they yielded regarding the impact of these financial products on

environmental issues. Our findings revealed that the papers generally concluded that these financial products have a positive impact.

- 2) Based on 1) above, FIN designed and conducted interviews with Japanese issuers with high green bond issuance amounts. We plan to analyse the interview results and submit a paper based on them. We also plan to conduct interviews with major institutional investors in sustainable financial products and write a paper based on the results.

Shifting the Flow of Funds toward Decarbonisation Efforts in Japan

In order to mobilise the enormous amount of capital required to achieve climate change targets, banks, investors and other financial service providers will need to provide the capital necessary for companies to transition to decarbonisation. From this perspective, FIN has mainly engaged in the following two activities:

- 1) Transition Finance Technology Assessment Survey: This study investigated and organised various evaluation criteria and frameworks (guidance, taxonomy, pathways, roadmaps, etc.) used to identify technologies considered eligible for transition finance.
- 2) Survey on the phase-out of coal-fired power plants in Japan: This survey was conducted in collaboration with the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) with the aim of exploring business opportunities associated with the transition from coal-fired power to clean energy for owners and investors of coal-fired power plants in Japan. The study evaluated the financial feasibility of coal phaseout of coal-fired power generation and examined how such transitions could complement Japan's decarbonisation strategy. During this process, the study also engaged in discussions with Japanese policymakers, power companies, financial institutions and other stakeholders. Going forward, the study plans to advocate for the establishment of a forum within the Japanese government to discuss the phasing out of coal-fired power plants.

Business Promotion for Environmental Technologies at the City Level

As part of a project commissioned by MOEJ, Yokohama City, which has a framework for inter-city cooperation with Da Nang City in Viet Nam and the Japan Platform for Regional Sustainable Infrastructure (JPRS) have collaborated with the General Incorporated Association YOKOHAMA URBAN SOLUTION ALLIANCE to conduct research on the success factors and challenges of environmental business promotion by Japanese companies in

Da Nang City. One of the success factors identified was that technologies established in Japan require significant resources to adapt to local conditions. Furthermore, conducting on-site adjustment with local academic institutions is an effective way to efficiently achieve this.

Sayaka YANO

Senior Programme Coordinator / Research Administrator
Strategic Management Office

IGES Q
Close up

I joined IGES in 2015, the same year the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement were adopted. After gaining experience in the outreach and research/publication departments, I now serve as a Senior Programme Coordinator. My responsibilities include managing the secretariats for the Regional Zero-Carbon Working Group of the Universities Coalition (a national network) and the international scientific networks LCS-RNet and LoCARNet. I provide comprehensive support to facilitate research activities, handling a wide range of tasks from research assistance and administration to budget management.



IGES Satellite Offices

Kansai Research Centre (KRC)

The Kansai Research Centre conducts research focused on promoting the international transfer and diffusion of low-carbon and environmental technologies, and supporting the creation of a Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere (Regional CES) within Hyogo Prefecture. This is done in collaboration with businesses and other organisations that promote environmental and energy-saving measures, under the theme of "Business and the Environment." Additionally, KRC contributes to global warming countermeasures and environmental initiatives in Hyogo Prefecture through projects such as the Hyogo Prefectural Hydrogen Station Promotion Project, a joint lecture course on decarbonised society with Kobe University, and decarbonised society workshops for high school students in the prefecture.

Low-carbon/Environmental Technology Transfer in India

KRC has been promoting technology transfer of Japanese low-carbon technologies (LCTs) to Indian companies through the Japan-India Technology Matchmaking Platform (JITMAP), which was launched in 2016 with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) with support from MOEJ. From FY2021, activities have been extended to environmental technologies such as air pollution management. In FY2024, a business matching session was held at an environmental business promotion seminar aimed at Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM) held in Delhi in March 2025, and the outcomes of JITMAP activities were published in the March 2025 edition of TERI's TerraGreen magazine.

Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere (Regional-CES) Projects

The KRC has promoted Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere (Regional-CES) approach in cooperation with the Hyogo Prefectural Government by implementing the Hokusetsu Satoyama Regional-CES Project as an initiative to make effective use of regional resources and revitalise the local economy in the Hokusetsu region of Hyogo Prefecture (Takarazuka City, Kawanishi City, Inagawa Town and Sanda City). In FY2024, the activities of this project were disseminated at "Japan's Best Satoyama, Hokusetsu Satoyama Field Pavilion Pre-Event" held in Kawanishi City, Hyogo Prefecture, in December 2024.

Contribution to Environmental Policy of Hyogo Prefecture and Local Municipalities

The active participation of local governments and non-governmental actors is essential to realising a long-term decarbonised society, which requires coordinated governance at various levels. In FY2024, KRC implemented a project to promote hydrogen stations in Hyogo Prefecture and organised the Hyogo Environmental Future Conference, which was held to gather the opinions of a wide range of prefectural residents, including future generations, for the revision of the Hyogo Prefecture Basic Environmental Plan and the Hyogo Biodiversity Strategy.

Next Generation Capacity Development Projects

KRC planned, drafted and moderated the six-day 'Hyogo High School Environmental and Future Leaders Development Project' organised by Hyogo Prefecture and the Hyogo Environmental Advancement Association. A total of 25 participants from high schools in the prefecture took part in the programme, which included lectures by experts, group discussions and site visits to renewable energy projects. In the final session, each group presented its message to society on a wide range of themes, including utilisation of

abandoned bamboo forests, wood biomass utilisation and solar sharing. In addition, KRC collaborated with the Kobe University's Econo-Legal Studies (ELS) programme to a series of lectures with 12 sessions on the theme of a decarbonised society in the first semester of FY2024.

Kitakyushu Urban Centre (KUC)

The Kitakyushu Office was established in 1999 in the City of Kitakyushu, which made the transition from a city known for pollution to an environmentally-advanced city, aiming to become the world's environmental capital. Currently located in Kitakyushu City, which aims to be a frontrunner in SDGs, KUC conducts practical research and projects aimed at promoting initiatives by local governments toward the realisation of sustainable cities, targeting cities in Asia-Pacific countries, in areas such as resource circulation, decarbonised urban development, green growth, and the localisation of SDGs.

Mainstreaming Low-carbon and Resilient Policies into Urban Planning and Implementation

Kitakyushu City, recognising the intensified trend for GX (green transformation), has established the Kitakyushu GX Promotion Consortium to attract investment from the public and private sector. KUC, as a board member of this consortium, has organised the Kitakyushu GX Executive Business School since FY2023 for local company executives learning GX management and practices. Furthermore, KUC conducted basic research to design an intermediate support organisation for small-sized local governments to effectively develop and implement action plans on decarbonisation within respective municipal boundaries. In addition, considering the fact that residents must make lifestyle changes to transition to a zero-carbon city, KUC conducted awareness-raising activities for youth in Kitakyushu by holding a "1.5°C Lifestyle Workshop", developed guidelines for the workshop and provided case studies using Strategic Research Fund together with the SCP unit. KUC also participated in individual projects (i.e. collaboration projects between Banten Province and West Java Province – Kitakyushu) as part of MOEJ's "City-to-City Collaboration Project for a Zero Carbon Society". This project aims to take zero/low-carbon technologies and know-how accumulated in Japanese cities and deploy them overseas under the framework of city-to-city collaboration. A decarbonisation roadmap for the cement industry in Indonesia was also developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, Indonesia and the Bandung Institute of Technology using the Asia-Pacific Integrated Model (AIM). KUC has been playing a role

in implementing this project platform continuously since FY2013, and has contributed to maintaining momentum toward the realisation of a zero-carbon society at the city level in Japan and internationally. The Seminar on City-to-City Collaboration was organised in January 2025 in Osaka and related information was disseminated through the IGES website.

Evolving Sustainable Waste Management Practices

With the aim of building a resource-circulating society at the city level, KUC provided various activities. In Thimphu, Bhutan, KUC implemented a project to separate and collect food waste from municipal solid waste for composting in collaboration with the IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technology (CCET). Furthermore, KUC worked to improve food waste composting with the aim of improving local waste management in Surabaya, Indonesia, which is Kitakyushu's environmental sister city. KUC also participated in the JICA Grassroots Programme in Davao City to properly implement a waste disposal process in collaboration with the city and local residents in a coastal area where municipal solid waste collection, transportation and recovery are not properly carried out. In Japan, as a member of Kitakyushu Circular Economy Vision Promotion Committee, KUC participated the biomass utilisation subcommittee and explored the potential for commercialising the use of biomass resources in Wakamatsu Ward, Kitakyushu. KUC also secured a research fund from the Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency (ERCA) together with the University of Kitakyushu and Kyushu Institute for Technology to carry out a study about information-sharing on plastic recycling using digital technology.



Site visit to the municipal recycling centre (Surabaya, Indonesia)

Promoting Green Growth and Localising SDGs

KUC has been holding the "Kitakyushu SDGs Training" programme every year since 2019 to provide learning experiences in English about good examples of SDGs on the ground at the local level. In FY2024, this programme was awarded the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)'s "Project to promote fostering leaders to achieve SDGs (ESD)" and offered a programme to train international human resources who will play

a role in leading the creation of a sustainable society, targeting university students selected through open recruitment. In addition, KUC has been co-implementing a SDGs Business Verification Survey with Private Sector of JICA, “Disseminating Japanese Technologies to Extinguish Forest and Peatland Fire using Environment Friendly Soap-based Fire Fighting Foam” in Central Kalimantan Province, Indonesia” with Shabondama Soap Ltd, headquartered in Kitakyushu City. KUC also engaged with the OECD’s SDGs localisation programme, “A Territorial Approach to the SDGs,” with Kitakyushu City contributing to the development of cross-sectoral outputs for cities and regions around the world. In Japan, KUC took on the role of the secretariat for a newly established Sustainable Management Certificate Programme, in which Kitakyushu City promotes sustainable transition (SX) management, targeting local SMEs. KUC also served as a member of several local committee meetings, and provided lectures and workshops for an increasing number of schools, universities, civic organisations and private companies, covering a wide range of stakeholders in Kyushu.



Kitakyushu SDGs training programme

IGES
Close up

Junko OTA

Research Manager
Kitakyushu Urban Centre

Since 2017, I have been working at an IGES regional office, pursuing the localisation of global issues such as climate change and the SDGs. In 2024, I took a lead to organise the SDG leadership programme for youth under the Japan’s Ministry of Education. For overseas, I have been implementing projects with Shabondama Soap, to prevent forest and peatland fires in Indonesia. For international level, I have been engaging in international discussion of the Paris Agreement (COP), and also serving as a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC-AR7).



Regional Centre in Bangkok (BRC)

IGES Regional Centre in Bangkok (BRC) has served as a hub for networks and partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region since its establishment in 2011. It focuses on priority issues including climate change mitigation, adaptation, environmental safeguards and sustainable cities, and manages relevant networks for knowledge sharing, as well as implements relevant projects in close collaboration with various supporting organisations and national and sub-national governments.

Climate Change Mitigation

The UNFCCC-IGES Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC) provides multifaceted support to facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement. RCC covers 36 countries in Asia and the Pacific and organised/co-organised 23 in-person events, 28 online events, and eight hybrid events in FY2024. Additionally, RCC provided direct country support to Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Palau, and Thailand. RCC established partnerships with over 40 partners and collaborators and published eight newsletters and three knowledge products.

BRC implemented research activities on: policy and regulatory analysis on photovoltaics (PV) and electric vehicles (EV) in Indonesia with ADB,

opportunities and challenges for Article 6 in agrifood systems in Asia with FAO, contributions and collaboration on AIM model-related analysis with the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, the Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) approach in Asia and the Pacific, co-organisation of a session on net-zero at the 6th Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Environment Ministers' Meeting, the *Suishinhi* research project on ASEAN climate change, as well as promoting and supporting local-level activities for Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership Centre.

Climate Change Adaptation

BRC focused mainly on facilitating mutual co-operation between ASEAN Member States and host countries for the ASEAN Project on Disaster Risk Reduction by Integrating Climate Change Projection into Flood and Landslide Risk Assessment (ASEAN DRR-CCA) and activities supporting joint project implementation, mainly through the ASEAN Climate Change Strategic Action Plan (ACCSAP) and the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT). BRC has begun informal dialogues with regional and national universities and research institutes to explore potential areas for future collaboration — particularly in promoting bottom-up climate change adaptation actions and advancing Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in climate-related initiatives. These efforts are intended to support the longer-term goal of accelerating and mainstreaming ASEAN's climate change interventions.

Localising the SDGs in ASEAN Cities

The ASEAN SDGs Frontrunner Cities Phase 2 (SDGs-FC 2) funded by JAIF was completed in December 2024. Pilot projects featuring innovative good practices/policies to address land-based marine plastics pollution and urban resilience were implemented and documented by 11 participating cities: i) Kampot, Cambodia; ii) Kep, Cambodia; iii) Banda Aceh, Indonesia; iv) Surakarta, Indonesia; v) Xay, Lao PDR; vi) Redang Island, Malaysia; vii) Seberang Perai, Malaysia; viii) Yangon, Myanmar; ix) Paranaque, Philippines; x) Prik, Thailand; and xi) Saensuk, Thailand. The project team has captured video footage to produce showcase videos and visibility materials to promote the cities' good practices and policies to a wider audience. The final activity was the programme's 2nd Regional (Closing) Workshop, which was organised from 26-28 November 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand. The Workshop was held back-to-back with the 14th East Asia Summit (EAS) High-Level Seminar on Sustainable Cities funded by MOEJ, with the objective of presenting the programme's final outputs, achievements and results.

Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency

BRC advanced practical, on-the-ground solutions that bridge policy and implementation in the areas of circular economy, marine plastics and blue economy initiatives. A flagship achievement was leading the Zero Plastic Island project on Samet Island, Rayong, under the ADB-APAC Sustainability Seed Fund. This pilot introduced a closed-loop recycling system using URBAN RIG technology (one-tonne/day), significantly reducing marine plastic leakage, engaging local communities and tourism operators on 3R practices, and laying the groundwork for Phase 2, where the model is being replicated in other Asia-Pacific locations, including Japan.

In close collaboration with IGES Sustainable Consumption and Production unit and IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET), BRC, together with OECD and the World Bank, co-hosted a high-profile side event "Ending Plastic Pollution: Spotlight on South and Southeast Asia" at the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution (INC5). As part of the UN Ocean Conference (UNOC) 2025, BRC co-organised a second side event on the same topic, focusing on policy alignment, circular economy financing, and the role of waste-to-oil technologies in supporting coastal resilience and livelihoods.

Regionally, BRC co-organised a session on marine plastic pollution at the 6th GMS Environment Ministers' Meeting and presented Samet Island as a replicable model for island and coastal communities. BRC also engaged actively with the COBSEA Working Group on Marine Litter (WGML-6), contributing to policy dialogues and presenting actionable recommendations for scaling circular economy solutions in ASEAN. Additionally, BRC showcased its work at the Think Tank Dialogue on Green Recovery and Low Carbon Development in East Asia, highlighting regional recycling technologies and blue economy approaches.

Tokyo Sustainability Forum (TSF)

The Tokyo Sustainability Forum (TSF) aims to facilitate impact generation with various stakeholders, particularly those based in Tokyo. It hosts the IPBES Technical Support Units and is co-located with the ICLEI Japan office. The Forum also works in collaboration with the Biodiversity and Forests Area and the City Taskforce.

IPBES Technical Support Units

TSF continued to host the IPBES-TSU-IAS, and supported its work, including the development of a thematic assessment report on invasive alien species. TSF also began hosting the IPBES technical support unit for the task force on scenarios and models (IPBES-TSU-SCM) since March 2024, and supported its work.

Global Environmental Action (GEA)

TSF hosts the Secretariat of the Global Environmental Action (GEA), an NGO working toward the creation of a sustainable society. TSF supported the organisation of the GEA International Conference 2024 (23–24 October, 2024), which is held every two years, as well as GEA study sessions.

IGES Evening Forum

With the aim of promoting mutual understanding and enhancing knowledge and experience among staff from MOEJ, environmental organisations, and IGES researchers, TSF organised two Evening Forums featuring guest speakers to explore timely topics in depth. In addition, TSF hosted internal study sessions (IGES Sustainability Seminar) every two months.

Maintenance and Improvement of the Office Environment

In cooperation with Hayama Headquarters, TSF enhanced its conference functions to facilitate the smooth operation of IGES Management and Senior Fellows' activities in Tokyo, and to strengthen collaboration with external organisations.

Beijing Office (BJG)

Since its establishment in 2006, the Beijing Office (BJG) has been serving as a bridge and platform for environmental cooperation between Japan and China that is trusted by both countries, and has developed its activities with the objective and goal of promoting bilateral cooperation between Japan and China in the environmental field.

Promoting Joint Implementation of Japan-China Model Base Project for Environmental Cooperation

In September 2023, IGES and the Sino-Japan Friendship Centre for Environmental Protection signed a “MoU for the implementation of Japan-China model base project for environmental cooperation” and IGES decided to

implement the project in collaboration with the Sino-Japan Friendship Centre for Environmental Protection, which started in October of the same year. This project is funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China, and is an unprecedented Japan-China cooperation project in the environmental field, with a completely different funding source from previous projects funded by Official Development Assistance (ODA) and/or MOEJ.

The overall implementation period of the project is planned to be five years from FY2023 to FY2027. The following four major areas to be addressed by the project have been applied to the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and have been initiated, and IGES has been implementing the project with the Sino-Japan Friendship Centre for Environmental Protection.

- (1) Ozone-depleting substances and new pollutants
- (2) Construction of beautiful villages (rural environmental measures)
- (3) Construction of an environmental technology platform and environmental technology exchange with the private sector, etc.
- (4) Green and low-carbon development

Support for Study Tour in Japan in the Environmental Field through Japan-China International Solidarity Project for Afforestation and Tree Planting

With the complete end of ODA to China, exchanges between Japan and China using public funds in various fields, including the environmental field, are shrinking. At the suggestion of the Embassy of Japan in China, and through lobbying the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China, a youth exchange programme in the environmental field was implemented by utilising the fund from the Japan-China international solidarity project for afforestation and tree planting¹, which was under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Training at Kitakyushu Environment Museum

¹ The Japan-China international solidarity project for afforestation and tree planting refers to a project in which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs allocated nine billion yen in FY2015 supplementary budget to implement (1) afforestation and tree planting projects in China, (2) youth exchange programme combined with tree planting in Japan, and (3) afforestation and tree planting projects in third countries through Japan-China Friendship Center. This project was implemented under the framework of (2).

Following the first study tour in FY2023, in FY2024 too, the Sino-Japan Friendship Centre for Environmental Protection was appointed to be the focal point in China for coordination, and 29 young governmental officers and researchers from the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China and Sino-Japan Friendship Center for Environmental Protection were invited to Japan. IGES was in charge of substantial planning, and Japan-China Friendship Center was in charge of logistics including fund management.

The theme of the study tour respected the Chinese sides' strong interest in "green and low carbon development" and, continuing from FY2023, focused on training related to Japan's environmental conservation efforts, particularly those related to the climate change response. The program was conducted in Tokyo and its surrounding areas, as well as in Kitakyushu region. In introducing efforts related to climate change responses, the program emphasized Japan's latest initiatives, specifically those latest policy trends and pioneering initiatives related to the decarbonization and low-carbonization for achieving 2030 and 2050 goals. The aim was to provide reference for formulation and implementation of policies and measures to achieve China's 2030 peak-out and 2060 carbon neutrality goals ("double carbon target"). Additionally, in Kitakyushu region, detailed introductions were provided on resource circulation initiatives.



Commemorative tree planting at the National Institute for Environmental Studies

Affiliated Programmes

Technical Support Unit (TSU) for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) - Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI)

The TSU for IPCC TFI provides scientific, technical and organisational support to the TFI under the supervision of the TFI Bureau (TFB) to fulfil the following two objectives.

- To develop and refine an internationally-agreed methodology and software for the calculation and reporting of national GHG emissions and removals;
- To encourage the widespread use of this methodology by countries participating in the IPCC and by signatories of the UNFCCC.

Support for the IPCC TFI Co-chair

The IPCC TFI Co-Chairs for the IPCC Seventh Assessment Cycle are Takeshi Enoki and Mazhar Hayat of Pakistan. The TSU role is to support the work of the Co-Chairs.

Production of Reports to Supplement or Refine the IPCC Inventory Guidelines

In the IPCC AR7 cycle, the TFI has been commissioned to produce two IPCC Methodology Reports by the end of 2027: one on Short-Lived Climate Forcers and one on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies, Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage.

Work on the Short-Lived Climate Forcers Methodology Report commenced with the First Lead Author Meeting involving over 100 authors in March 2025 in Bilbao, Spain. The Coordinating Lead Authors and Lead Authors at this meeting began developing the report based on the outline agreed by the Panel during its 61st Session held in Sofia, Bulgaria in July 2024. The second Lead Author Meeting is scheduled for October 2025.

Work on the Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies, Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage Methodology Report commenced with an Expert Meeting held in Vienna, Austria, in July 2024 followed by an IPCC Scoping Meeting held in Copenhagen, Denmark in October 2024.

The IPCC, at IPCC-62 in China in March 2025, made preliminary deliberations on the final scope of this Report but has not yet agreed on the Report's outline. This issue will be taken up again at the next IPCC plenary, in Peru, in October 2025. The TFI Bureau, at TFB38, held in Spain in March 2025, subsequently affirmed the importance of the original timeline for completion of the Report by 2027.

Dissemination of the IPCC Inventory Software

The IPCC Inventory Software

The IPCC Inventory Software¹ helps inventory compilers to estimate emissions and removals of GHGs according to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (2006 IPCC Guidelines).

New analysis has shown that two-thirds of countries reporting under the Paris Agreement for the first time have voluntarily used the IPCC Inventory Software in some capacity and that 46 countries used the IPCC inventory software to submit data under the Paris Agreement BTR reporting process. This outcome was beyond expectations.

Over the long term, the success of the IPCC's work in underpinning future emissions reporting under the Paris Agreement will depend on the ongoing, proper functioning of the IPCC Inventory Software.

The funding of the maintenance of the IPCC Inventory Software is partially financed by a small IPCC Trust Fund component while the development costs until now have been funded by generous voluntary contributions from the US and Japanese governments as well as by the UNFCCC.

Workshops, Seminars and Webinars

The TSU has promoted the dissemination of IPCC TFI products to targeted audiences, including through: renewal of the TFI website (partly funded by the IPCC Trust Fund); establishment of an on-line Inventory Software User Community; and TFI and TSU technical advice and participation in UNFCCC and other UN body workshops and international conference events including the UNFCCC Regional workshop for Africa (Namibia); the UNFCCC-GIR-CASTT workshop (Republic of Korea); WGIA21 (Malaysia); UNOSD (Kazakhstan); UNFCCC COP (Azerbaijan); CEOS Sit40 (Japan).

In addition, the IPCC TFI staged an IPCC Inventory Software Workshop, in Baku, Azerbaijan, in October 2024, and an Expert Meeting on Reconciling Land Emissions in Ispra, Italy in July 2024, which had the twin aims of improving understanding of TFI products and the needs of climate modellers.

Management of IPCC Emission Factor Database (EFDB)

The IPCC EFDB² is a database of emission factors and other parameters. In FY2024, the performance of the EFDB was reviewed by the Management Group of the EFDB and its recommendations will be implemented in FY2025, including to re-emphasise the EFDB primary objective of providing transparency and traceability of default EFs reported in existing Methodology Reports of the IPCC TFI, as well as a basis for testing the accuracy/stability of IPCC default EFs over time, space and other characteristics.

Collaboration with Other Organisations

In FY2024, TSU continued cooperation with other organisations on inventory-related matters such as the Committee for Earth Observations (CEOS); NIES and FAO. TSU has also explored collaboration opportunities with other projects in IGES and with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), where possible, on matters relating to estimation of GHGs emissions and removals.

¹ <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/software/>

² <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/EFDB/main.php>

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

APN is an intergovernmental network that aims to promote collaborative research and to develop the capacity of scientists, practitioners and others, especially in developing countries, in the following areas: climate; biodiversity and ecosystems; air, land, coasts and oceans; food, water and energy; risk and resilience; and human dimensions. Through research, capacity development, science-policy interactions and stakeholder engagement, APN contributes towards a dynamic and responsive Asia-Pacific community effectively addressing global change and sustainability through innovative and transdisciplinary research and capacity development activities.

Collaborative Regional Research Programme (CRRP)

To contribute to the development of policy options that respond to global change from the scientific perspective in the Asia-Pacific region, the 58th Steering Committee Meeting of APN approved funding to support eight regional research proposals under the Collaborative Regional Research Programme (CRRP). These were selected from the APN FY2024 Call for Proposals for support in FY2025.



58th Steering Committee Meeting

Scientific Capacity Development Programme (CAPaBLE)

To build the scientific capacity in research on global change and sustainability in developing countries, the 58th Steering Committee Meeting of APN approved funding to support seven proposals under the Scientific Capacity Development Programme (CAPaBLE). These were selected from the APN FY2024 Call for Proposals for support in FY2025.

Direction and Activities of APN

Subregional Committee Meetings and Proposal Development Training Workshops

Subregional committees (Temperate East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia and the Pacific) have been established to discuss challenges, as well as research and capacity development needs common to the subregion. In August 2024, APN, in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific (USP), conducted the First Pacific Subregional Committee Meeting in conjunction with the Pacific Proposal Development Training Workshop (PDTW). In addition, in June 2025, APN conducted the Temperate East Asia PDTW in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea and the Korea Environment Institute.



First Pacific Proposal Development Training Workshop (PDTW)

Enhancing Strategic Relationships with Relevant Organisations

The Memorandum of Understanding between APN and USP played a pivotal role in deepening engagement with regional stakeholders in the Pacific. Through this partnership, ten trainees from the Sustainable Sea Transport Initiative (SSTI) at USP participated in the Pacific PDTW. SSTI also provided financial support for the closing networking event of the workshop, fostering opportunities for collaboration and exchange among participants.

In parallel, under the collaborative framework between APN and the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), PICES provided financial support for the participation of one early career professional in the Pacific PDTW and two early career professionals in the Temperate East Asia PDTW. Coordination is also underway to co-organise a capacity development workshop at the PICES 2025 Annual Meeting in November 2025, furthering joint efforts in developing the capacity of early career professionals and enhancing knowledge exchange.

Collaborative Projects with IGES

With APN funding, a joint APN-IGES project on locally led adaptation is nearing completion, with activities being conducted in Nepal, Vietnam and Fiji. This project is now engaging AP-PLAT to see how its ClimoCAST tool can be incorporated into the local activities in each of the study countries. Discussions are underway to have the final workshop back-to-back with the 9th APAN Forum in September 2025 and to organise a regional stakeholders' meeting.

At ISAP2024, APN, in collaboration with Future Earth Japan and IGES, convened a parallel session titled "Partnership for Sustainability" to highlight how partnerships can address global change challenges and advance sustainability goals. The session featured presentations on innovative approaches, including socio-hydrological methods for sustainable water management, the integration of indigenous knowledge into national adaptation strategies, and the role of regional cooperation and risk insurance in building climate resilience. A panel discussion and interactive session further emphasised the importance of trust, shared goals, and financial resources in fostering effective partnerships, while underscoring inclusiveness, knowledge co-creation, and improved communication as critical drivers of transformative change across the Asia-Pacific region. Over 40 participants attended the session in person and 135 participants online.

Strengthening Strategic Relationships with Member Countries

APN is working on strengthening its membership and is in the process of

creating engagement portfolios for each of its 22 member countries. In FY2024, 17 portfolios of APN Engagement were produced for the governments of the member countries. This includes the Pacific Island countries, South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka), Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam) and Temperate East Asia (China, Mongolia, Russian Federation). This batch completes the set of 22 portfolios of engagements, following the portfolios developed in FY2023 for Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand and the United States of America.

Contribution at Environmental Forums

Contribution at International Science-Policy Forums

In FY2024, APN collaborated with various institutions and contributed to international science-policy forums as session organisers, presenters and participants, focusing on climate adaptation, integrated resource management and early career professional support. Key partners include the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT), Center of Research for Environment, Energy and Water (CREEW), Future Earth, IGES, International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), NIES, PICES, Pacific Climate Change Center (PCCC), South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE), UNESCO-United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, UNFCCC-COP, USP and World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).

As part of these engagements, in December 2024, APN organised a session at the DevNet Conference 2024 titled “Integrated Approaches to Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Sustainability in the Pacific Region”. The session featured APN projects focused on community resilience, traditional knowledge, marine plastics and climate adaptation, and reinforced transdisciplinary research and regional collaboration. Discussions explored innovative approaches such as cashless adaptation, micro-mobility solutions and equitable climate finance, with a strong emphasis on inclusivity and the role of indigenous knowledge. The event affirmed the continued commitment of APN to advancing climate resilience, sustainability and capacity building in the Pacific region.

Joint Activities with the Hyogo Prefectural Government

APN and the Hyogo Prefectural Government, which hosts the Secretariat and provides operational support to APN, jointly organise annual forums to raise

awareness of environmental issues among residents of Hyogo Prefecture. In FY2024, APN and the Hyogo Prefectural Government jointly organised a forum titled “*New Developments in Disaster Prevention and Reconstruction in the Age of a Climate Crisis – From the Perspective of Disaster Waste*”, held in Kobe in December 2024. In addition, APN hosted a hybrid-style forum titled “*The Future of Climate Change and the Marine Environment – Towards Sustainable Oceans*,” held at HAT Kobe in March 2025, as an endorsed event of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

Japanese Center for International Studies in Ecology (JISE)

Aiming to realise a society that is sustainable and in line with biodiversity conservation through ecology, and as part of IGES’ efforts to achieve SDGs, the Japanese Center for International Studies in Ecology (JISE) conducts practical research and studies in collaborative ways ranging from the conservation and restoration of local ecosystems, to the revitalisation and creation of the global environment. In FY2024, JISE provided training related to ecology and nature restoration, as well as collecting and providing information on the natural environment.

Research Projects

For international research, JISE developed international joint research to establish restoration technology in response to the decline in tropical forests and Satoyama forests so as to contribute to achieving the 30by30 target. Specifically, JISE promoted practical projects on growth studies and restoration of tropical forests in Malaysia, Kenya and Taiwan. JISE also proceeded with related international research activities in Lao PDR and other countries in collaboration with the Biodiversity and Forests Area of IGES.

For domestic research, focusing on environmental protection forests planted from the 1970s using the Miyawaki-method, JISE proceeded to evaluate their structure and functions for disasters prevention. JISE worked with local governments, private companies, NPOs, citizens and others to promote community reforestation, natural regeneration, monitoring of regenerated forests, and adaptive management at the Natural Symbiosis Sites (OECM sites). Research is also conducted on biodiversity evaluation and environmental education for rural Satoyama. JISE continued to study vegetation in various areas to determine potential natural vegetation as a basis for reforestation. In addition, JISE made every effort to enhance collaborative research activities

with other institutes in terms of environmental education and biodiversity conservation, as well as forest creation, aiming to contribute to Kanagawa Prefecture and local benefits.

Capacity Building

To educate leaders who can offer technical support to activities such as forest creation and nature restoration, JISE provided vegetation training based on vegetation ecology and related topics, targeting government officials, company staff, representatives of organisations, as well as citizens and students. JISE held “Ecological training” sessions to enhance basic capacity of ecological nature cognition and understanding of environmental conservation targeting a wide audience including local citizens. JISE carried out further enhancement of nature observation sessions in collaboration with the Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History and other prefectural institutions

Interaction

JISE continued to make phytosociological vegetation systems, which are essential basic data for environmental planning and nature restoration, available on the website, contributing to their use by administrators and researchers. JISE held outreach events targeting the general public such as the IGES-JISE Environmental Forum on the theme: “Post-Disaster Vegetation Recovery – Learning from History to Restore War-Damaged Trees and Vegetation in Affected Area” and organised lectures and debates between researchers and other experts. JISE also promoted capacity building and dissemination activities through collaboration with Kanagawa Institute of Industrial Science and Technology (KISTEC).

Dissemination and Public Awareness

JISE posted its activities such as research projects, and capacity building and exchange projects on its website or in the IGES-JISE Newsletter (issued in October 2024, January and May 2025). JISE also published its annual research bulletin “Eco-Habitat: JISE Research (Volume 31).” In addition, JISE published the “Research and Survey Report: JISE Report”, a series initiated in fiscal year 2018 by its researchers and affiliated members.

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Technical Support Unit for the Assessment of Invasive Alien Species (TSU-IAS)

IGES hosted the technical support unit for the IPBES assessment of invasive alien species and their control (IPBES-TSU-IAS) from February 2019 at TSF. The TSU successfully completed its work and was closed on 31 August 2024. Funding for TSU operations in FY2024 was provided by MOEJ.

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Technical Support Unit for the Task Force on Scenarios and Models (TSU-SCM)

IGES has been hosting the IPBES technical support unit for the task force on scenarios and models (IPBES-TSU-SCM) at TSF since March 2024. The TSU functions as an extension of the IPBES secretariat that is headquartered at Bonn, Germany. The TSU is responsible for supporting the task force, a group of experts that undertakes programmes and provides advice on scenarios and models related to biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The scenarios and model task force consists of 19 experts selected from the five UN regions. The task force facilitates development and use of scenarios and models for biodiversity and ecosystem services, and provides advice and support for various IPBES assessments. In particular, the task force is focusing on promoting the use of the Nature Futures Framework (NFF), a tool for developing nature-centric future scenarios.

IPBES-TSU-SCM is responsible for overall coordination of the activities of the task force, providing technical support including planning of the timeline, organising task force meetings, collecting and managing relevant literature and data. In FY2024, the TSU organised the Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) and scenarios workshop from 23 to 26 May 2025 in Subic Bay, the Philippines, to explore how Indigenous peoples and local communities conceptualise the future, including their scenario building and future thinking. In addition, the TSU supported various activities by the task force, including a) organisation of regular task force calls, b) compilation of knowledge gaps on scenarios and models, c) collection of examples utilising the NFF and preparing a synthesis report, d) revision of the methodological guidance for the NFF, e) submission of comments to ongoing IPBES assessments, and f) dissemination of the knowledge on nature-centric scenarios and models to communities of practice.

Funding for TSU operations is provided by the UNEP Trust Fund, matched by contributions from MOEJ.



Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) and scenarios workshop

FY2024 List of Major Publications

Flagship/Priority Publications

- Book "Integrated Approaches towards a Sustainable Society" (in Japanese)
- Policy Brief "Japan's Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions in Light of the Global Stocktake"
- Policy Brief "Towards a More Coordinated Approach of Adaptation and Loss and Damage Policies and Projects"
- Policy Report "Beyond the Adaptation Finance Gap: Towards a More Effective Adaptation Framework"
- Research Report "State of the Voluntary Local Reviews 2024: Strengthening the Local Implementation of the 2030 Agenda"

Timely Publications

- Policy Brief "Implications of the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) for ASEAN"
- Policy Brief "Strengthening Local-Level Follow-up and Review for SDG Implementation"

- T7 Policy Brief "Securing the Future: Climate Change and Energy Security Risks and the G7's Role"
- T20 Policy Brief "Brazil Presidency Must Lead G20 to Mitigate Environmental and Social Spillovers of the Energy Transition"
- T20 Policy Brief "Strengthening Engagement with Non-State Actors to Bridge the Climate Governance Gap"
- Briefing Note "Why the Second Trump Administration Could Struggle to Undermine Domestic Climate Policies"

Contributions to Reports by International Organisations and Other International Collaborative Efforts

- "Synergy Solutions for Climate and SDG Action: Bridging the Ambition Gap for the Future We Want" (UNDESA and UNFCCC)
- "Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Status Report" (Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership)
- "Clean Air and Climate Solutions for ASEAN" (UNEP)
- "Ten New Insights in Climate Science 2024/2025" (Future Earth, Earth League, World Climate Research Programme)
- "Integrating Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Climate Change Policy: A Strategic Contribution to Strengthening Sri Lanka's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0)" (SWITCH-Asia)

Peer-reviewed Articles

- "Potential of Agrivoltaics in ASEAN Considering a Scenario Where Agroforestry Expansion Is Also Pursued" (Resources Conservation and Recycling)
- "Integration Versus Prioritization in the Sustainable Development Goals" (Sustainable Development)
- "Reconsidering National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) as a Policy Framework under the UNFCCC" (Climate Policy)
- "Adaptation: Is Securing Funding Really the Top Priority for COP Negotiations?" (Sustainability Science)
- "Revisiting the Sustainability Science Research Agenda" (Sustainability Science)

- “Mapping the Evolving Research Landscape of Sustainability Science from 2006 to 2023: Unveiling its Transformation” (Sustainability Science)
- “Localizing Visions of Desirable Futures: Applying the Nature Futures Framework to the Baroro Watershed in the Philippines” (Sustainability Science)
- “Insights from Agenda 21 for Enhancing the Implementation of the SDGs and Shaping the Post-2030 Sustainable Development Agenda” (Earth System Governance)

Submission to Policy Process

- Recommendation regarding Japan’s Voluntary National Review (VNR) for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (in Japanese)

Contribution to Major Assessment Reports

- “Thematic Assessment Report on the Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”
- “Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”

Japanese Translations

- UN “Global Sustainable Development Report” (full report translation)
- UN “Synergy Solutions for Climate and SDG Action: Bridging the Ambition Gap for the Future We Want” (abridged translation)
- UNEP “Adaptation Gap Report” (executive summary)
- UNEP “Emissions Gap Report” (executive summary)
- UNESCAP “Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report”

For more details on IGES publications, please visit:
<https://www.iges.or.jp/en/pub>

Contributions to Local Communities

IGES introduced its research activities at lectures and seminars held for members of the local community and provided easy-to-understand commentary on global environmental issues such as climate change, decarbonisation and SDGs. IGES also dispatched speakers to local elementary and senior high schools, and organised observation study sessions and workshops to provide support for integrated environmental studies and higher education in the local community.

Main Lecture Activities by IGES Researchers

Date	Organiser	Activity
8 and 11 July	Isshiki Elementary School	Lecture on the Global Environment (for 5th and 6th grade students)
20 and 21 July	IGES-JISE, Hayama Shiosai Museum	Observation Study Session “Mysterious world seen through a microscope”
From 20 July to 13 January	IGES Kitakyushu Urban Centre	The 6th Kitakyushu SDGs Training Programme
29 July, 6 and 10 August	IGES Kitakyushu Urban Centre, Kitakyushu City Youth Station	The 4th 1.5°C Lifestyle Workshop in Kitakyushu - Want to try a practical cooking class that helps mitigate global warming?
3 and 4 August	IGES-JISE, Yokosuka City Museum	Observation Study Session “Mysterious world seen through a microscope”
7 August	Kanagawa Climate Change Adaptation Center	Lecture and Training Programme for School Teachers “Climate change study course: How to teach climate change impacts and countermeasures”
10 September	KANAGAWA-KEN EMPLOYER’S ASSOCIATION	Environmental Lecture: “IGES 1.5°C Roadmap and Action Plan” -Toward a Decarbonised Society: What should business sectors do to achieve the 1.5°C target?
28 September, 4, 23 and 24 November, 21 December and 26 January	Hyogo Prefecture, Hyogo Environmental Advancement Association	Hyogo High School Environmental and Future Leaders Development Project (lecture/orientation/group work)

6 October	IGES Kitakyushu Urban Centre, Community Development Course Miwa Seminar, Faculty of Contemporary Business, Kyushu International University	Let's build with LEGO and create a story
12 October	IGES-JISE, Ushikubo Park Conservation Society, Yokohama National University Satoyama ESD base	Bio-modelling and craft workshop "Wonders of living creatures: Make and fly a model of a spinning and falling plant seed"
19 October	IGES-JISE, Saiwai Community Development Research Group, Shin-Kawasaki Fureai Park Management and Operation Council	Environmental Study Programme "Wonders of living creatures: Explore the Satoyama created in the town"
24 November	Yokohama City University	Advanced Urban Environmental Data Analysis
1 December	Nishikamakurayama Autonomous District · Forest Guardians Association	Instructor for Nature Education Activities
18 January	IGES, Kanagawa Prefecture	Webinar: "Let us consider global environmental issues together with the younger generation who will shape Kanagawa's future"
28 January	Japan Environmental Sanitation Center	Lecture on "Training Programme for Promoting the Overseas Expansion of Japan's Recycling Industry in Fiscal Year 2024"
18 February	Kanagawa Prefecture	On-line meeting: "The Potential of the Circular Economy"
25 February	Isshiki Elementary School	Lecture on the Global Environment (for 6th grade students)
28 February	Tateno Elementary School	Lecture: "Global Warming and Our Daily Lives" (for 6th grade students)
1 March	Kanagawa Prefectural Hayama Park	Nature and History of Hayama and Zushi, Part 2: Learning from the creatures of Sangaokayama—nature's bounty and cultural arts/ Visit to Yamaguchi Hoshun Memorial Museum
4 March	Tateno Elementary School	Lecture: "Global Warming and Our Daily Lives" (for 5th grade students)

5 April	Kanagawa Prefectural Hayama Park	Nature and History of Hayama and Zushi, Part 3: Learning from Ikego Forest—the richness of bioculture and daily life
28 May	IGES Kitakyushu Urban Centre	"SDGs×Circular Economy Workshop" (for students of Nagasaki University and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM))
19 June	IGES-JISE	IGES-JISE Citizen Environmental Forum: "Post-Disaster Vegetation Recovery: Learning from History—War-Damaged Trees and Vegetation Restoration in Disaster-Affected Areas"

List of Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank	MOEJ	Ministry of the Environment, Japan
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
COP	Conference of the Parties	NIES	National Institute for Environmental Studies
ERIA	Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
FAO	The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
GEF	Global Environment Facility	UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
GHG	Greenhouse Gas	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
HLPF	High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IIASA	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis	UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
ISAP	International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization	VLR	Voluntary Local Review
JAIF	Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund	VNR	Voluntary National Review
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency		



Appendix

Financial Statements (FY2024)

Balance Sheet (Summary)

Unit: 1,000yen

ASSETS	5,197,215	LIABILITIES	1,531,041
CURRENT ASSETS	1,782,293	CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,032,927
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	3,414,922	NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	498,114
(ASSETS FOR BASIC FUNDS)	(250,000)	NET ASSETS	3,666,174
(RESTRICTED ASSETS)	(2,945,297)	RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	2,404,382
(OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS)	(219,625)	UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	1,261,792

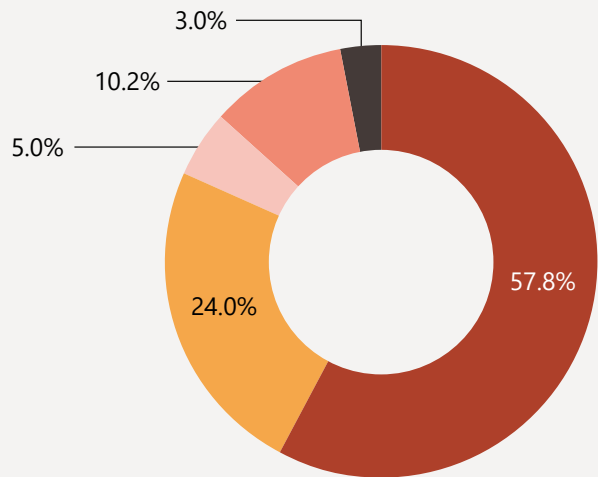
Statement of Activities (All IGES)

Unit: 1,000yen

		Accounting for Project for public interest purpose				Incorporated accounts	FY2024 Total	FY2023 Total
		Strategic Research*1	IPCC/TSU	APN	JISE			
I Changes in unrestricted net assets								
Operating activities	Revenues and gains	3,140,351	374,328	217,689	76,194	284,423	4,078,466*2	3,492,964
	Expenses and losses	3,185,634	351,355	300,521	76,194	284,423	4,183,608*2	3,601,722
Non-operating activities	Revenues from non-operating	861	0	0	0	0	861	289
	Expenses and losses from non-operating	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,037
II Changes in restricted net assets								
Total changes in restricted net assets		△42,225	△20,490	28,955	△60,639	0	△94,399	5,855
Net assets at end of year		1,027,191	237,953	259,951	2,061,795	79,284	3,666,174	3,864,855

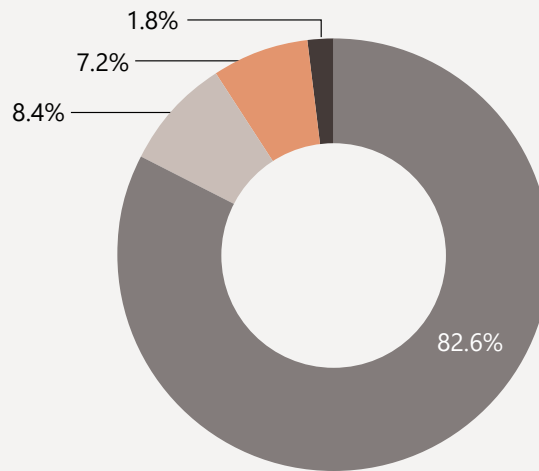
*1 For IGES research activities and dissemination of research outcomes *2 Including internal transactions

Contents of revenues and gain



	Unit: 1,000 Yen
Contract revenue	2,356,820
Contribution	976,698
Grants	204,210
Subsidies for office lease	416,633
Income and others	124,105
Total	4,078,466

Expenses and losses



	Unit: 1,000 Yen
Strategic research*	3,470,057
IPCC/TSU	351,355
APN	300,521
JISE	76,194
<Internal transactions>	△14,519
Total	4,183,608

* Including incorporated accounts

List of Funding Sources

Contribution	Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan
Grants from Local Government	Hyogo Prefecture, Kanagawa Prefecture, Kitakyushu City
Research Grants	ESPEC Foundation for Global Environment Research and Technology, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Contracts and Grants	
Major Domestic Organisations	Major Overseas Organisations
Environmental Restoration and Conservation Agency	adelphi consult GmbH
EX Research Institute Ltd.	Asian Development Bank
Fast Retailing Foundation	Asian Institute of Technology
Global Environmental Action	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
Global Environmental Forum	Climate Bonds Initiative
Hyogo Prefecture	ClimateWorks Foundation
International EMECS Center	Eunomia Research & Consulting Limited
ishi Planning & Design Co.	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency	German Agency for International Cooperation
Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership	IDOM Consulting, Engineering, Architecture, S.A.U.
Japan International Cooperation Agency	The International Tropical Timber Organization
Japan Science and Technology Agency	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Japan Waste Research Foundation	United Nations Environment Programme
Kawasaki City	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
Keio University	United Nations Office for Project Services
Kitakyushu City	UNU Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.	Wellcome Trust
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan	
Ministry of the Environment Government of Japan	
Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.	
Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting Co., Ltd.	
National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan	
Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan	
Rating and Investment Information, Inc.	
Sado City	
Shabondama Soap Co., Ltd.	
The Japan Research Institute, Limited	
The University of Kitakyushu	
The University of Tokyo	

(in alphabetical order, as of 30 June 2025)

Contributors (organisations)

We would like to express our deepest gratitude for your warm support. All contributions will be used for various activities to realise sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region.

THE SHIZUOKA CHUO BANK, LTD.
Fuyo Zero Carbon City Support Program
RICOH LEASING COMPANY, LTD.

(In order of receipt)

Affiliate Memberships

Foundations/Companies

AGBIOTECH Co., Ltd.
Asahi Research Center Co., Ltd.
ATGREEN Co., Ltd.
Best Selection Inc.
Biso Co. Ltd.
DOWA ECO-SYSTEM Co., Ltd.
Fujitsu Limited
Kawasaki City
NTT DATA INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT CONSULTING, Inc.
Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center (OECC)
SHIMIZU CORPORATION
Sompo Japan Insurance Inc.
TOKYO GAS CO., LTD

NGOs

International Climate Development Institute (ICDI)
Japan Environmental Technology Association (JETA)
Japan Sustainable Investment Forum (JSIF)

(in alphabetical order, as of 30 June 2025)

About IGES

Background

- January 1995:** Establishment of IGES recommended by the Japanese Prime Minister's Advisory Group on the Global Environment in the Twenty-First Century.
- April 1996:** Final report on the proposed functions, organisational structure and other aspects of IGES issued by the Discussion Group on Comprehensive Environmental Studies and Education, former Environment Agency of Japan.
- March 1998:** Establishment of IGES
- April 2012:** Transition to a public-interest incorporated foundation

Personnel (As of 30 June 2025)	Number of Staff	Non-Japanese Staff*
Strategic Research	165	51
Projects for Public Interest other than Strategic Research	28	11
General Administration	26	0
Total	219	62

*Out of total staff for each category

IGES Headquarters and Offices

Headquarters

2108-11, Kamiyamaguchi, Hayama, Kanagawa, 240-0115, Japan
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Kitakyushu Urban Centre

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Japanese Center for International Studies in Ecology (JISE)
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Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Technical Support Unit (TSU)
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Mr. YASUDA Hiroyuki	Certified public accountant

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Mr. Achim Steiner	Former Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme

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Dr. Monthip Sriratana Tabucanon	Senior Advisor, Climate Change Research Center, National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT)

(in alphabetical order)

Signatory Organisations and Institutions of the Charter for the Establishment of IGES Total: 48

National Administrative Organisations (16)

Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (Australia)
Ministry of Environment (Cambodia)
Environment Canada (Canada)

Ministry of Environmental Protection (China)
Ministry of Environment and Forests (India)
State Ministry of Environment (Indonesia)
Ministry of the Environment (Japan)
Ministry of Environment (Korea)
Water Resources and Environment Administration (Lao P.D.R.)
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Malaysia)
Ministry of Nature and the Environment (Mongolia)
Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (Nepal)
Ministry for the Environment (New Zealand)
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (The Philippines)
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Thailand)
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Viet Nam)

International Organisations (6)

International Tropical Timber Organization
United Nations Centre for Regional Development
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Institute for Training and Research
United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability

Research and Academic Institutions (26)

Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (Singapore)
Center for International Environmental Law (USA)
Earth Council (Costa Rica)
Global Industrial and Social Progress Research Institute (Japan)
Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (India)
Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex (UK)
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (Singapore)
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (Malaysia)
International Academy of the Environment (Switzerland)
International Global Change Institute, Waikato University (New Zealand)
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (Austria)
International Institute for Environment and Development (UK)
International Institute for Sustainable Development (Canada)
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Korea Environment Institute (Korea)
National Institute for Environmental Studies (Japan)
Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (Germany)
Sino-Japan Friendship Center for Environmental Protection (China)
Stockholm Environment Institute (Sweden)
Thailand Development Research Institute Foundation (Thailand)
Thailand Environment Institute (Thailand)
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