

# Integrative Strategic Research Programme for the 8<sup>th</sup> Phase (ISRP8)

## FY2021 (Year 1) Business Plan

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# 1. Impacts and Outputs

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The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) continues to act as an agent of change to generate significant impacts towards sustainable and resilient society, including those for post COVID-19 (Coronavirus disease 2019) response-recover-redesign in broad areas of IGES expertise (climate change & energy, sustainable production & consumption, biodiversity & forests, and climate adaptation & water) through co-design, co-implementation, co-production and co-delivery with key stakeholders.

In the Integrative Strategic Research Programme for the 8th Phase (ISRP8), IGES will further promote an integrative and inclusive approach across sectors and disciplines at the institute by materialising the concept of the regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES) with the launch of the Integrated Sustainability Centre (ISC). Accordingly, IGES also aims to take a “whole-of-institute” approach and make its operations more integrative.

IGES will aim to report 30 impact cases each year as one of the key performance indicators specified in ISRP8. ISRP8 will also aim for greater impact cases (three large/significant impacts and seven medium) and a variety of impact types by employing effective outputs and means (communications, networking, knowledge management) for the impact-making process at IGES.

Section 1.1 presents the *Common Focus Areas* where IGES units collectively aim to generate impacts. The intended impacts and influencing strategy will be updated and revised to achieve the intended results during ISRP8. Additional actions may be also incorporated in response to the latest progress or emerging issues.

Section 1.2 presents overall planned actions for producing strategic outputs (Section 1.2.1) and academic outputs (Section 1.2.2) that should help generate intended impacts, followed by those for IGES’s strategic networking and communications.

## 1.1. Common Focus Areas

Common Focus Areas are defined as priority areas where IGES will make efforts collectively to enhance impact generation beyond each research unit. Therefore, the Common Focus Areas are expected to provide an internal framework to drive and motivate research units to co-work and collaborate to generate greater impacts in those areas in cooperation with the Strategic Management Office (SMO). SMO Knowledge and Communications (KC) and SMO Research and Publications (RP) will facilitate such collaboration among research units to mainstream impact generation and to align with the Common Focus Areas utilising various occasions attended by the management, for example, monthly thematic meetings on climate change, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and COVID-19 & the Triple-R (response, recovery, and redesign) Framework.

Common Focus Areas are identified by reviewing intended impacts during ISRP8 by each research unit and 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 (Table 1).

Common Focus Areas are composed of four parts: Focus Areas, Sub-focal Areas, Related Units, and Major Planned Activities. The Focus Areas are expected to be those target areas seeking greater impacts, i.e. (1) accelerating implementation of the SDGs (“Put SDGs on the ground”), (2) accelerating implementation of the Paris Agreement (“Net zero and Resilient society”) and (3) developing and implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework (“No biodiversity loss”). Sub-focal Areas are key components that IGES has been engaged in, with competent expertise and networks close to the target areas. In each Sub-focal Area, research units are expected to work collaboratively and also try to find synergies among the Sub-focal Areas aiming for bigger impacts. Major planned activities were selected by each relevant unit.

Since this is the first time for IGES to set this type of framework, it is expected that the Common Focus Areas will be reviewed during the coming fiscal year, as necessary.

**Table 1: Common Focus Areas**

(Includes a couple of activities as examples. Full list of activities can be found on page 19.)

<b>(1) “Put SDGs on the ground” Accelerating implementation of SDGs</b>		
<b>Sub-focal areas</b>	<b>Related units (not limited to those listed)</b>	<b>Major planned activities for FY2021</b>
a. SDGs governance and monitoring and evaluation	Integrated Sustainability Centre (ISC), SMO Research and Publications (RP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Asian Development Bank (ADB), and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) to strengthen governance of the SDGs [ISC]</li> <li>• Continue study on Voluntary Local Review (VLR) as a measure to promote SDG monitoring and evaluation at local level and on the linkage of the VLR and the Voluntary National Review (VNR) [CTY]</li> </ul>
b. Localising SDGs (i.e. Regional-CES, VLR, SEPLS (socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes))	Adaptation and Water (AW), Biodiversity and Forests (BDF), City Taskforce (CTY), Finance Taskforce (FIN), Kansai Research Centre (KRC), Kitakyushu Urban Centre (KUC), Bangkok Regional Centre (BRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with (United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) in the extension of the Satoyama initiative into its new phase [BDF]</li> <li>• Promote VLR movement as a tool to promote SDG localisation and contribute to capacity development of local governments through policy analysis of VLR and information-sharing among cities. [CTY, KUC]</li> <li>• Formulate regional research platform in Asia on CES under the collaboration framework of IGES and START International, Inc. (START) on CES [ISC, NRE, CTY, KRC-APN]</li> <li>• Work on a book project on the CES concept and its application, which will support dissemination of the CES across the world. It will also strengthen cross area collaboration on CES in IGES [ISC, AW, BF, CTY, SCP, CE, KUC]</li> <li>• Conduct research on water-energy-food nexus approach for sustainable development [ISC, AW, CE]</li> </ul>
c. Sustainable lifestyles	Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), RP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue implementation of the 1.5-Degree Lifestyles Initiatives; release future lifestyle scenarios in 5 cities; engage with 2 more cities in Japan [SCP]</li> <li>• Explore future programme on sustainable living in collaboration with partners engaged in the above, and MOEJ, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) [SCP]</li> <li>• Engage with new partners, i.e. teachers, consumer organisations, etc. through work on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) [SCP]</li> </ul>

d. Circular economy including marine plastics	SCP, IGES Centre Collaborating with UNEP on Environmental Technologies (CCET), KUC, AW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide technical assistance to national and local governments in developing policies and taking innovative actions to reduce marine plastic from land-based sources in partnership with UNEP, UNESCAP, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), World Bank, ADB, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP), IMT (Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand) etc. [SCP, CCET, KUC, CTY]</li> <li>Develop an eLearning module and training materials on Cities and Marine Plastic Pollution - Building Circular Economy with UNESCAP, UNEP, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Keio University and others [CCET, SCP, QAC, NRE, SGC, KUC]</li> </ul>
e. Improved environmental quality (i.e. pollution control including co-benefit, environmental impact assessment (EIA) enforcement)	AW, BRC, FIN, Tokyo Sustainability Forum (TSF), ISC, KRC, Beijing Office (BJG), SCP, CCET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with national and city governments to incorporate co-benefits in climate, air pollution and sectoral planning in Asia (UNEP, ADB, Korean Environment Institute (KEI), SEI) [ISC]</li> <li>Promote diffusion of appropriate technologies and regulatory measures to improve energy efficiency and environmental management from Japan to India and other countries [KRC]</li> <li>Start the JAIF PoDIWM (“Policy Dialogue and Network Building of Multi-Stakeholders on Integrated Decentralised Domestic Wastewater Management in ASEAN Countries”) second phase project for the wider-deployment of Decentralised Wastewater Treatment Systems in ASEAN countries that could also contribute in addressing marine plastic issues [AW]</li> </ul>
f. COVID-19 and Triple-R	BDF, AW, Climate and Energy (CE), SCP, CCET, CTY, BRC, RP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide technical assistance in developing Green Health Infrastructure Systems in Africa in partnership with UNEP with support from Norway and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) [CCET]</li> <li>Work with national and local governments to strengthen governance for redesigning energy, transport, waste and urban systems in Asia [ISC]</li> </ul>
<b>(2) “Net zero and resilient society” Accelerating implementation of Paris Agreement (PA)</b>		
<b>Sub-focal areas</b>	<b>Related units (not limited to those listed)</b>	<b>Major planned activities for FY2021</b>
a. Engagement in PA, G7/G20 processes	CE, AW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to negotiations on the Article 6 rule book [CE]</li> <li>Contribute to the capacity development of developing countries under the Transparency Framework [CE]</li> <li>Develop a plan to overachieve Japan’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) [CE]</li> <li>Provide business support for international climate policies [BIZ]</li> </ul>

b. Net zero at national/local level	CE, CTY, Business Taskforce (BIZ), FIN, KRC, KUC, SCP, CCET, BDF, ISC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop net zero strategies for Asia [CE]</li> <li>• Amplify forward looking business voice to catalyse shifts in Energy &amp; Climate Policies in Japan [BIZ]</li> <li>• Develop a methodology to ensure assessment is aligned with transition pathways by companies in Japan, and propose a monitoring and evaluation system to review their transition status [FIN]</li> <li>• Develop the Kanagawa 2050 net zero vision in collaboration with Kanagawa Prefecture [CE]</li> <li>• Support selected local governments and universities in designing net zero road maps through facilitating knowledge sharing and providing required tools [KRC]</li> </ul>
c. Climate adaptation implementation	AW, BRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with partner institutions to prepare long-term activity plans of capacity development programmes under Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) and implement pilot activities such as knowledge product development and mentoring activities [BRC, AW]</li> <li>• Develop a database and webpage on Nature-based Solutions on Adaptation, including good practices and lessons learned [AW, BRC]</li> <li>• Make substantive contributions to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment report (AR6) in its Asia chapter from adaptation perspective [AW]</li> </ul>
<b>(3) “No biodiversity loss” Developing and implementing Global Framework of Biodiversity</b>		
<b>Sub-focal areas</b>	<b>Related units (not limited to those listed)</b>	<b>Major planned activities for FY2021</b>
a. Post-2020 global biodiversity framework	BDF, TSF, BRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with MOEJ to collect information to develop global biodiversity standards under the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and facilitate Japan’s involvement in this process [TSF, BDF]</li> <li>• Contribute to global biodiversity processes (especially of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES)) through coordination, authorship and review of key publications; participate as observer in key meetings; provide support for Japan’s involvement in these processes through commissioned work [BDF]</li> </ul>
b. Sustainable forest management	BDF, CE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct studies on timber legality and sustainability through the supply chains in key timber producing countries in Asia, funded by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) [BDF]</li> <li>• Collect information on timber regulations and their implementations in producer and consumer countries (including Japan) to support the implementation of the Japanese Clean Wood Act and to provide inputs into its review process scheduled in 2022 [BDF]</li> </ul>

The Following gives an explanation about each Sub-focal Area:

### **SDGs progress monitoring and evaluation**

While the SDGs have been in implementation for more than five years since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015, progress is not satisfactory for some of the goals. In the Asia-Pacific region, for example, Life below water (Goal 14), Climate action (Goal 13) and Responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) have seen less progress (Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2021, UNESCAP). IGES aims to generate impacts in accelerating implementation of these goals in the Asia-Pacific region through research and programming which will combine science-based tools and methods, socially-responsive governance models and strategies, and cutting-edge policy frameworks and solutions. IGES will also accelerate the progress of SDGs implementation in Japan by engaging with the Japanese government to strengthen its governance. IGES will also forge closer collaboration with the Global Compact Network Japan (GCNJ), a pro-SDGs business group in Japan. The collaboration with GCNJ is now further extended to Keidanren (Japan Business Federation), and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development internationally.

### **Localising SDGs**

At the SDGs Summit 2019, the leaders' dialogue addressed "Localising SDGs" to transform the "Global goals" into local aspirations. Actions to localise the SDGs include integrating the goals into local development plans and budgets, and establishing a monitoring and evaluation system and coordination mechanism. IGES will generate impact in terms of localising SDGs by introducing innovative approaches and methodologies including the "Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)". This is an integrated policy approach that incorporates low-carbon society, resource circulation, and living in harmony with nature. The "Voluntary Local Review (VLR)" entails local government's voluntarily review and follow-up implementation of the SDGs with the process for sharing experiences as well as opening avenues for new partnerships. Finally, 'Satoyama' and 'Satoumi' (Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes or SEPLS) and land management practices will allow sustainable use of natural resources.

### **Sustainable lifestyles**

Examining possible future lifestyles for long-term sustainable living within the limits of one planet is a unique approach to integrate the SDGs into our own lifestyles. IGES aims to generate impacts in establishing model cases of sustainable consumption and production (SCP or SDG 12), through conceptualisation and operationalisation of long-term sustainable living. In this regard, IGES will make good use of its position as the coordination desk of the Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme of the United Nations' 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns.

### **Circular economy including marine plastic**

For practical implementation of SCP in a more integrated manner, the circular economy initiative could be an entry point. Critical in this regard is strategic analysis of policy implications of transition to circular economy in developing Asia. Current policy discussion emphasises plastic pollution and transition to a circular economy as key priorities for the sustainability agenda in the Asia-Pacific region. As such, the life cycle approach will continue to be important. It is vital for circular economy policy to be designed to stimulate technological innovations, new business models, sustainable infrastructure and associated lifestyle changes. IGES aims to generate impacts in policy formulation and implementation by strengthening its position as a knowledge centre on circular economy and resource efficiency in the Asia-Pacific region. IGES will also continue to engage in important international policy processes such as G20 resource efficiency dialogue, G7 resource efficiency alliance, and other related initiatives in the region.

## **Improved environmental quality**

According to the 6th Global Environment Outlook (GEO6) published 2019 by UNEP, the state of the environment in Asia-Pacific is characterised by widespread environmental degradation, loss of ecosystem services and generation of excessive waste due to increasing resource use, with little improvement in the efficiency of such use. Environmental quality can be degraded by inappropriate activities in implementing the SDGs and, vice versa, degraded environmental quality may limit the results of SDG implementation. IGES aims to generate impacts by focusing on solutions to prevent pollution through air pollution control, waste water treatment and waste management, together with enforcement of Environment Impact Assessment in the Asia-Pacific region. Regarding air pollution control, in particular, IGES will take a more effective, co-benefit approach, which will contribute to a reduction in both greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions and air pollutants, and improve energy efficiency.

## **COVID-19 and Triple-R**

The COVID-19 pandemic has become a major crisis, impacting not only on peoples' health but also on economies and societies in all Asia-Pacific nations and across the entire world. Immediate actions are needed as a response to on-going challenges such as proper treatment of healthcare waste. The extent to which climate change and other sustainability concerns are to be incorporated in recovery packages could be another important concern. In the long run, how to redesign supply chains and tourism, and modify our daily workstyles and lifestyles should be the focus so that a similar crisis can be avoided in the future. IGES aims to generate impacts in addressing these challenges by applying the new approach called Triple-R (response, recovery, and redesign), which could lay a basis for global discussions for improved sustainability and resilience. The On-line Platform for Redesign 2020, led by the Ministry of the Environment, supported by the United Nations, and managed by IGES, focuses on the need for redesign in the post COVID-19 era.

## **Engagement in PA process**

While international negotiations are ongoing in Article 6, the transparency framework and the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement, state and non-state actors are taking domestic and global actions to advance the Agreement. IGES aims to generate impacts in the implementation of the Paris Agreement, in particular, the implementation, evaluation and updating of NDCs, which includes research-based capacity-building, the submission of biennial transparency reports under the transparency framework, and contribution to the global stocktake. IGES will also contribute to the international process of climate adaptation issues to be discussed and agreed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), IPCC and other related bodies.

## **Net zero at national/local level**

According to the Net Zero Tracker, 59 countries accounting for 54% of global GHG emissions have communicated a net zero target as of April 2021. Japan declared its commitment to net zero emissions in October 2020, and in this regard, relevant national strategies, policies and plans, for example, the Green Growth Strategy, the Basic Energy Plan, and the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures, are under review and will be revised to align with net zero emissions. As of March 2021, more than 280 local governments in Japan declared their intentions to become net zero by 2050 at a municipal level. These municipalities cover more than 100 million people or about 80% of Japan's population. IGES aims to generate impacts by formulation of long-term zero emissions strategies and implementation of measures consistent with the long-term goals for a smooth and just transition in Japan and other Asian countries. IGES will engage with state and non-state actors to facilitate their actions to achieve a net zero society through a science-based approach. IGES will also contribute to the implementation of carbon pricing, the Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM) and other offset mechanisms to achieve net zero emissions.

## **Climate adaptation implementation**

The Climate Adaptation Summit held in February 2021 boosted momentum to connect initiatives, solutions and challenges to build back better and accelerate adaptation action. The Summit agenda focused on issues including nature-based solutions, disaster risk management, locally led adaptation, and resilient cities. IGES aims to generate impacts providing solutions, tools and capacity building to facilitate climate adaptation in the Asia-

Pacific region. One focus is nature-based solutions which could increase integration between adaptation and nature conservation. In order to deploy this approach to the region more broadly, IGES will make use of its role as secretariat to the AP-PLAT. This Platform was launched at the G20 Energy and Environment Ministerial Meeting in June 2019 and aims to provide an enabling environment for climate-risk informed decision-making and practical adaptation action through collaboration with various partners.

### Post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Discussions at the UN Biodiversity Convention meetings in 2021 aim to come to an agreement on the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Some issues addressed by the framework include biodiversity targets aligned with the SDGs, approaches to tackle the root causes of biodiversity loss, commitments on finance, capacity building and technology transfer, and social actions on biodiversity. IGES aims to generate impacts by contributing to international policy processes and their implementation by hosting and collaborating with the Technical Support Unit for the Assessment of Invasive Alien Species (TSU-IAS) of the Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), which provides policymakers with objective scientific assessments on the state of biodiversity and ecosystems as well as the tools and methods to protect and sustainably use these vital natural assets.

### Sustainable forest management

The New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF) is a voluntary and non-binding international declaration to take action to halt global deforestation which was first endorsed at the UN Climate Summit in 2014. The declaration includes ambitious targets to end natural forest loss by 2030. In addition, the declaration calls for restoring 350 million hectares of degraded and deforested lands by 2030. NYDF goals could reduce the global GHG emissions by 4.5–8.8 billion metric tons every year. IGES aims to generate impacts to advance the implementation of NYDF. IGES will focus on further expanding efforts to promote legal trade and sustainability in Asia’s timber supply chain in collaboration with ITTO. In this regard, IGES will continue to contribute to the review of Japan’s Clean Wood Act through research on legal frameworks and timber production and trade in both timber producing and timber consuming countries.

The key performance indicators for impact generation set for ISRP8 are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. ISRP8 Key Performance Indicators for Impacts**

Indicator	Baseline (ISRP7)	Annual Target	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
Total impact cases reported	25	30				
(Breakdown) Large-scale cases	-	3				
(Breakdown) Mid-scale cases	-	7				
(Breakdown) Other cases	-	20				
Indicator without Target	Baseline (ISRP7)	Indicative Reference	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
(Breakdown) International processes	-	n/a				
(Breakdown) Policy and institutional changes	-	n/a				
(Breakdown) Practical solutions	-	n/a				
(Breakdown) Media	-	n/a				
(Breakdown) Academic	-	n/a				



## 1.2. Summary of Actions for Impact Generation

### 1.2.1. Strategic Outputs

Impacts created by IGES are usually accompanied by at least one publication, and there are different types of outputs according to specific contexts in which intended impacts are to be generated. Each research unit should submit their intended impact generation cases to SMO-KC at the beginning of each fiscal year, detailing the planned outputs to be produced in the process of impact generation. SMO-KC will consolidate the information and carry out a follow-up to ensure the impact cases are materialised, as well as conducting an assessment of the results at the end of the fiscal year. The assessment will include clarification of linkages between the outputs and impact generation. The outputs for those impact cases should be double-checked with output data managed by SMO-RP.

In the 7th Phase IGES had an output target of about 100 publications annually for impact generation. For the 8th Phase, this target was raised to 150 and will include a wider range of output types (referred to as “strategic outputs”), but it excludes academic articles and equivalent books and book chapters (referred to as “academic outputs”). IGES continues to produce diverse outputs for impact generation. Different types of outputs are appropriate for different target audiences and contexts in which intended impacts are to be generated.

In FY2021, more emphasis is expected on shorter outputs which can be produced more quickly and with more streamlined review processes compared to longer and more research-intensive policy reports. These include outputs which mainly provide quick information such as issue briefs and briefing notes as well as outputs which may include recommendations such as commentaries and articles published in non-peer reviewed journals. More emphasis is also expected on documents which are directly submitted to policy processes as well as translations of important non-IGES outputs. Additionally, output downloads from the IGES website will be monitored to evaluate readership.

The Strategic Research-Flagship Fund (SRF-FS) and the Strategic Publication Fund (SPF) will continue to be used to support research and all types of publications, including publication fees for open access books and peer reviewed journal articles. Open access publishing is instrumental in increasing the number of citations, and it makes the publications more accessible to a wider audience including policymakers and practitioners. The SRF-FS also provides seed funding for research on emerging issues and to establish a sound basis for applying for external funds.

The key performance indicators for impact generation set for ISRP8 are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3. ISRP8 Key Performance Indicators for Strategic Outputs**

Indicator	ISRP7 Target	ISRP8 Target	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
Number of strategic outputs	100	150				

### 1.2.2. Academic Outputs

In ISRP8, IGES has set a target of 100 academic outputs per year. This includes not only peer reviewed journal articles, but also academic books and book chapters as well as IGES research reports and working papers. In addition, ISRP8 sets a sub-target of 20 academic outputs with an IGES researcher as first author. IGES will also monitor the number of articles published in peer reviewed journals with impact factors larger than 3, as well as the number of citations received in a calendar year by peer reviewed journal articles published within the last five years. The number of citations from the Web of Science will also be monitored.

IGES will continue to be involved in various assessment reports in FY2021. IGES is expected to take the lead role in coordinating the ASEAN State of the Environment Report in cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat. In addition, President Takeuchi will continue his service on the Future of GEO Steering Committee, supported by IGES researchers, to propose options for the future direction of UNEP’s GEO.

Sustainability Science, an internationally recognised peer-reviewed journal with a high impact factor (5.301, 2019) has been made a joint publication between IGES and the University of Tokyo. The editorial office has been relocated to IGES. The journal is expecting its impact factor to increase in 2021, which will further enhance its reputation as well as IGES as the host institution. An increased number of submissions from 800 in 2020 to about 1000 in 2021 is also expected. In order to maintain the journal’s status, IGES will employ additional part-time staff as well as encourage IGES researchers to serve as editors contributing to the review process. In addition, IGES researchers are encouraged to submit articles to the journal. All articles published in the journal (not only articles written by IGES researchers) already contain the IGES logo mark, which has increased the visibility of IGES in the field of sustainability science. The editorial office also facilitates IGES researchers to publish books in the series “Science for Sustainable Society” published by Springer.

The key performance indicators for academic impacts set for ISRP8 are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4. ISRP8 Key Performance Indicators for Academic Outputs**

Indicator	ISRP7 Target	Annual Target	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
Academic publications	30 [1]	100				
Of which first-authored academic publications	-	20				
Indicator without Target	ISRP7 Target	Indicative Reference	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
IGES flagship publications	2	3 (FY20219)				
Number of peer reviewed articles with Impact Factor over 3	-	28 (Feb. 2020-Feb. 2021)				
Number of citations received in a calendar year by peer reviewed articles published in the past 5 years	-	n/a				
Annual increase in citations of peer reviewed articles in Web of Science from previous year (February)	-	34% (Feb. 2020-Feb. 2021)				

[1] Only peer reviewed journal articles

### 1.2.3. Strategic Networking and Communications

Along with strategic and academic outputs, strategic networking and communications are indispensable elements for impact generation. IGES defines impact as tangible societal changes, as well as changes in individual behaviour, due to actions taken by IGES and its partners. In other words, the purpose of strategic networking and communications is to plan, coordinate and execute operations necessary to deliver IGES messages in a way that stimulates people’s thinking and behaviour. It is important to promote project planning and implementation with a clear view regarding their objectives and means. To this end, we should firstly clarify what kinds of changes are intended, then we should also deal with the question of ‘to whom, when, and how key messages and recommendations derived from IGES research should be delivered’ in the course of project planning and implementation.

Strategic networking allows IGES to not only build and maintain relationships with partners who share the same objectives, but also leverage the strengths of each partner to enhance joint operations and create synergies. Depending on the characteristics of the partner, there are various types of networks, including those that

contribute to the co-production of strategic and academic products and those that contribute to the creation and enhancement of opportunities to disseminate IGES messages and recommendations. These networks will form the basis for the IGES strategic operations.

The purpose of strategic communications is to use IGES communication channels to deliver key messages and recommendations from IGES' original strategic and academic publications, as well as main findings from important global assessments on the environment and sustainable development. IGES's communication channels include but are not limited to online and face-to-face events convened by IGES and its partners, press releases and announcements, websites, newsletters and social media. External media such as newspapers, TV and radio programmes, and magazines are also utilised when considered viable and effective. Strategic communications are essential for impact generation.

In FY2021, IGES will maintain and strengthen existing partnerships and networks with international organisations and their units, global and regional initiatives and programmes for impact generation. IGES will also maintain and strengthen its strategic communications, aiming to reach target audiences in a timely and effective manner. The target audience reaction may manifest in different forms; however, the number of visitors to the IGES website and the amount of media coverage roughly reflects trends in target audience interests and responses. Table 5 (below) summarises key performance indicators for strategic networking and communications, including annual targets and expected achievements.

**Table 5. ISRP8 Key Performance Indicators for Strategic Networking and Communications**

Indicator without Target	Baseline (ISRP7)	Indicative Reference	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
MOU with key international organisations	10	Maintain				
Pageviews of IGES Website	854,000	Annual increase by 20,000				
Media Coverage	250	300 (2021 target) and annual increase by 10				

## 2. Governance

Governance-related matters at IGES will be led by SMO-PM under the supervision of the management (President, Executive and Managing Directors) in line with the basic principles laid out in ISRP8 in three main components: (i) Financial management, including fundraising (Section 2.1), (ii) Human Resources (HR) management (Section 2.2) and (iii) Internal management (Section 2.3).

### 2.1. Financial Management (Budget)

In FY2021, the scale of IGES operations will remain at the same level in FY2020 in terms of the total volume of revenue from externally-funded projects. Taking into account the uncertainties related to COVID-19, a fiscal balance will be made by improving the project financial value-added (FVA)<sup>1</sup> ratios of externally-funded projects and raising funds where possible, as well as conducting continued cost-saving measures during implementation. The FY2021 budget continues to include a plan using the Deposit for Promoting Strategic Initiatives<sup>2</sup> (hereafter referred to as “Deposit”) for implementing IGES own initiatives and strengthening its capacities under the ISRP8.

An overview of the FY2021 annual plan budget is presented in Table 6.

**Table 6: Overview of FY2021 Budget**

				JPY million		
				(Reference)		
	FY2020 (Budget)	FY2021 (Budget)	FY2021-FY2020 Difference	APN	TSU	JISE
<b>【Revenue】</b>						
MOEJ and other Contribution	500	<b>500</b>	0	216	150	
Subsidies from Local Government	137	<b>133</b>	-4	19		
External fund for Projects	2,266	<b>2,264</b>	-2			3
Deposit	75	<b>75</b>				
Others	35	<b>35</b>	0			56
Total	3,013	<b>3,007</b>	-6	235	150	59
Support for office rent by Local Government	212	<b>216</b>	4	10	18	
Grand Total	3,225	<b>3,223</b>	-2	245	168	59
<b>【Expenditure】</b>						
Operation Costs for Externally Funded Project	1,160	<b>1,086</b>	-74	160	54	6
Operation Costs for Own Initiatives	145	<b>150</b>	5			
Personnel Costs	1,417	<b>1,477</b>	60	67	79	39
Administrative Costs	291	<b>294</b>	3	8	17	14
Total	3,013	<b>3,007</b>	-6	235	150	59
Office rent supported by Local Government	212	<b>216</b>	4	10	18	
Grand Total	3,225	<b>3,223</b>	-2	245	168	59
Balance	0	<b>0</b>		0	0	0
(Reference)						
Project FVA Ratio	52%	55%	+3% point			
Admin & Facilities Costs per total expenditures	9%	9%				

<sup>1</sup> See Notes to indicators [2] in the Table 10.

<sup>2</sup> Deposit for Promoting Strategic Initiatives was established and approved at the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in June 2015. The term of the Deposit will be extended until the end of ISRP8 (the end of June 2025). Note that the Deposit is set in line with the accounting law that regulates Public Interest Incorporated Foundations and the use of the Deposit is treated as an expense with matching past revenues already recorded in previous fiscal years.

### 2.1.1. Fundraising (Revenues)

The core fund from the MOEJ has been secured for FY2021 to the amount of JPY500 million<sup>3</sup>, and support from patron local governments and others are expected to be maintained at a similar level as FY2020. The total volume of project funds raised from funding agencies and other organisations (external funds) is aimed at JPY 2.2 billion (as budget-base), maintained at the same level as FY2020 budget. The ratio of overseas funds in the total revenue in FY2021 is estimated about 38%. Breakdown of external funds and their trend in the past is presented in Figure 1.

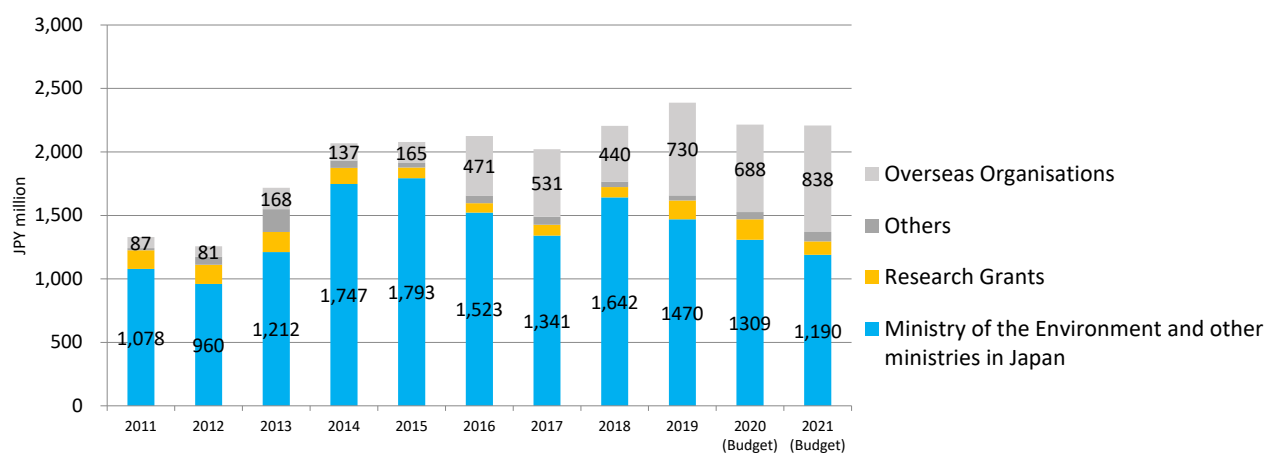


Figure 1: Funds by Sources

IGES continues to monitor the ratio of project FVA and sets the overall average target to 55% (proposed budget-based). The target will be achieved by securing the projects with a certain amount of project FVAs, incorporating a certain part of research and operation work by IGES staff members, and minimising outsourcing and other direct expenses (proposing effective virtual workshops and consultations, etc.). Each Unit will have specific fundraising goals at the beginning of the fiscal year and update their status, taking into consideration the situation related to COVID-19, to explore new funding opportunities and raise the financial base of IGES as a whole during FY2021.

### 2.1.2. Resource Utilisation (Expenditures)

The breakdown of the overall expenditures is described in the following table.

Table 7: Breakdown of Expenditures (FY2021 estimates)

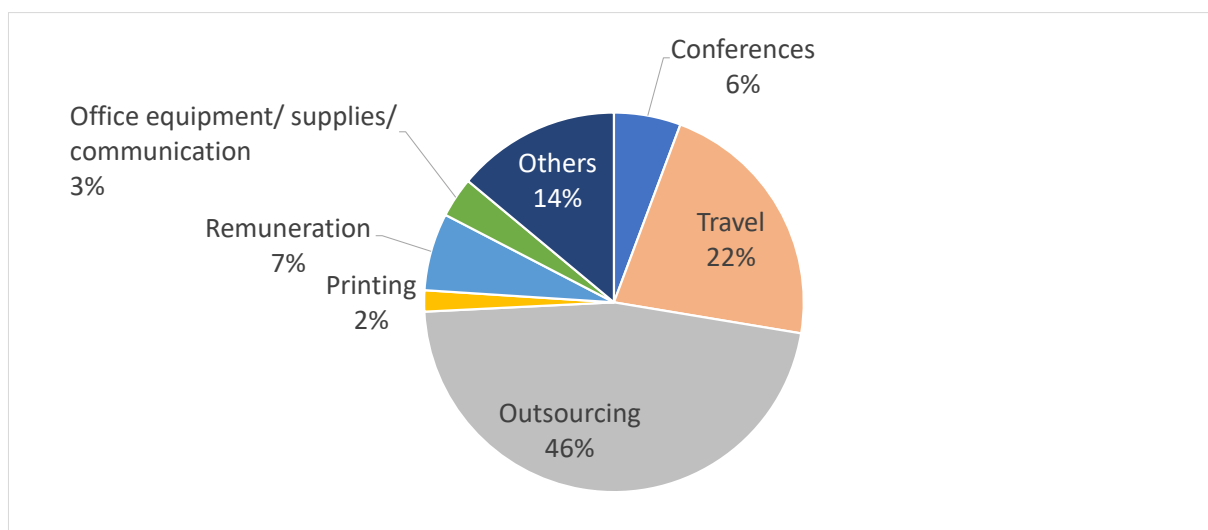
(JPY million)

	FY2020 (Budget)	FY2021 (Budget)	FY2021 (Budget)	
			Incorporated Account	Strategic Research
<b>【Expenditure】</b>				
Operation Costs for Externally Funded Project	1,160	<b>1,086</b>	0	1,086
Operation Costs for Own Initiatives	145	<b>150</b>	0	150
Personnel Costs	1,417	<b>1,477</b>	129	1,348
Administrative Costs	291	<b>294</b>	72	222
Total	3,013	<b>3,007</b>	201	2,806

<sup>3</sup> For the period of April 2021- March 2022

## (1) Externally Funded Projects

The operation costs raised by externally funded projects reflect the nature of projects such as academic research, on-site field activities, events operations, etc. The following figure shows a breakdown of the total estimated expenditures of externally funded projects.



**Figures 2: Breakdown of Operation Costs under Externally-funded Projects (FY2021 estimates)**

## (2) IGES's Own Initiatives

In FY2021, IGES continues to implement not only a number of activities based on various funded projects (domestic and overseas) but also other activities under its own initiatives:

- Strategic Research Fund (SRF), Strategic Publication Fund (SPF) and IGES flagship publications
- Networking and partnerships with key organisations and stakeholders, and Strategic Operation Fund (SOF) to support impact generation
- Communications such as website management, management of IGES digital knowledge products, and strategic translations
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) for responding to online communication and activities internally and externally
- International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (ISAP) 2021 (combination of on-site and virtual, TBD)
- Internal systems supporting strategic activities and operations including project implementation system.

Deposit will be used for SRF, SPF, ISAP and others, and also for investment to strengthen the internal systems.

**Table 8: Breakdown of IGES Own Initiatives**

(JPY million)

Major Items	FY2020 (Budget)	FY2021 (Budget)	Resourced by Deposit
Strategic Research Fund (SRF)/ Flagship Fund	25	25	25
Strategic Publication Fund (SPF)	5	5	5
Strategic Operation Fund (SOF)	20	13	
ISAP	18	12	12
Outreach	8	18	
Sustainability Science Secretariat	4	4	4
ICT*	-	10	
Other operations	31	32	
Investment (Internal Systems, etc.)	34	31	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>75</b>

\*ICT related budget was managed under the facilities and administrative budget in the 7th Phase

### (3) Administration costs

IGES continues to make efforts to maintain or reduce administration costs, the ratio targeted in the FY2021 budget is set at 9%.<sup>4</sup> The ratio of administrative staff numbers out of the total IGES staff members<sup>5</sup> is set at 9% by continued efforts to raise work efficiency through reviewing administrative procedures and introducing improved systems.

#### 2.1.3. Uncertainties in Financial Management

IGES will continue to cope with the unavoidable impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that may persist in FY2021, such as limited on-site activities/operations in Japan and overseas, and will implement activities/operations planned in the FY2021 budget flexibly in line with the following points thereby rebuilding sound operations for post-COVID-19.

- As the FVA target has been substantially increased (from 52% to 55%), extra efforts are needed to ensure that this target is achieved. Such efforts could involve clear guidance by the management to all the relevant units, substantial prior consultations with the fund managers, and much stronger commitment from the staff members concerned.
- In the case that project FVAs could not be secured as planned, more efforts on cost reduction should be made through utilising internal resources and IT/online tools, reducing any unexpected increase in expenses during project implementation, securing additional funds, and further reducing administrative costs.
- If there is an increase in external funds, priorities will be given to promote IGES own initiatives and respond to emerging issues.

<sup>4</sup> See Notes to indicators [3] in the Table 10.

<sup>5</sup> See Notes [4] in the Table 9.

## 2.2. HR Management

In FY2021, HR management will focus on the following points in an effort to make IGES more SDG-compatible and raise the capacity of staff members.

- Operate telework more efficiently to contribute to strengthening both productivity and work-life balance by updating Guidelines based on experiences in FY2020.
- Promote IGES's diversity, inclusion and work-life balance issues in the context of SDGs by setting an institutional initiative to identify issues/challenges and possible measures for improvement.
- Maintain childcare support certification (so-called Kurumin<sup>6</sup>) and women's participation promotion certification (so-called L-boshi<sup>7</sup>) by further improving/introducing necessary measures.
- Explore capacity development opportunities for staff members including training opportunities at other organisations.
- Introduce a flex-time system to those not under a discretionary working system so as to manage their working hours more efficiently and to support their work-life balance.
- Modify the Tenure/Tenure track system so that the number of Tenure/Tenure track staff members will be around 50% of total full time staff members in FY2021.
- Add a position of Administration Specialist under Professional Staff members by recognising the importance of the function to operate and manage the institute and projects more efficiently.

The number of full-time staff members planned for FY2021 is presented in Table 9.

**Table 9: IGES Full-time Staff Members (Planned)**

(Positions)

Categories	FY2020 (As of April 2021)	FY2021 (Plan, as of April 2021)
Professional Staff	133	156
Principal staff	21	27
Senior staff	49	55
Associate staff [1]	54	45
Administration Specialist [2]	-	20
Dispatched from other organisations	9	9
Assistant Staff [3]	23	7
<b>Total: IGES Full-time Staff members</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>163</b>
Number of Administrative Staff [4] (Ratio of administrative staff to total full-time staff)	17.4 (11%)	15.4 (9%)

Notes:

[1]: Previously named "Professional staff" in the 7th Phase

[2]: Newly introduced in the 8th Phase

[3]: Previously named "Operation staff" in the 7th Phase

[4]: Number of staff members at SMO Planning and Management after reflecting the actual contribution caused by concurrent appointment, etc.

<sup>6</sup> Certified by Labor Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare in Japan to the organisations that promote actions to support employees' childcare and satisfy certain standards

<sup>7</sup> Certified by Labor Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare in Japan to the organisations that promote women's participation and advancement in the workplace



## 2.3. Internal Management

In FY2021, IGES internal management will focus on the following points in an effort to make IGES operations more international, swift and transparent to support research and operations in line with ISRP8.

- PM will continue to improve efficiency for internal administrative procedures such as electronic methods for signing contracts and affixing official seals in discussion with SMO sections and an in-house legal expert. An online IGES Proposal and Project Review System (PPRS) consisting of a review and approval for fundraising proposals, a database of past proposals, and a database of IGES projects, has been developed by IGES ICT team and will be launched towards the end of FY2020. The PPRS is expected to support efficient fundraising and project information management replacing paper-based procedures. The system will be evaluated by monitoring the rate of replacing paper-based internal systems.
- PM will also look into introducing an integrative accounting system in combination with a project management system to promote efficient project implementation and management. A trial introduction will be launched in FY2021 following a thorough internal review.
- ICT team will continue to be the centre for improvement and innovation in IGES systems, tools and communications channels. This work includes continuing to update/modernise internal systems with the goal of enhanced efficiency and equal access. It also includes continuing the ongoing maintenance of existing systems (IGES website, IGES publication database, Zoom, Slack) and the introduction of new knowledge management systems and communications services and equipment in order to enhance IGES's impact generation (Section 1). IGES facility management team will also continue maintaining and upgrading IT systems/environment through upgrading IT systems equipment and internet connection.
- IGES Eco-Action 21 committee will continue improving the environmental footprint of IGES offices and maintain the environmental management certification (so called Eco-Action 21 program<sup>8</sup>) through actions such as (i) reduction of CO2 emissions from energy use at IGES offices (especially Hayama headquarters, which generates the majority of emissions) through saving energy and considering switching electricity suppliers (expansion to renewable energy use), and reducing emissions from overseas mission travel<sup>9</sup> and (ii) reduction of paper use by promoting online and paperless meetings.
- With SMO-KC and SMO-RP, PM will continue coordinating discussions with IGES units and decision making by management through hosting regular meetings such as monthly senior staff meeting (MSS), SMO executive meeting (SMO-EX)<sup>10</sup> and other cross-unit thematic meetings not only to share information but also to support their implementation from the goal setting (milestones) to monitoring/evaluation on impact generation, outputs and financial management.
- IGES internal rules (regulations and guidelines) will be updated as necessary.

The key performance indicators set for governance for ISRP8 are summarised in Table 10. The results of indicators with annual targets will be reported against targets in the business report in September. Those without annual targets will be also monitored for soundness of operation.

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<sup>8</sup> Certified by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan

<sup>9</sup> IGES online overseas mission request form requests traveling staff to report CO2 emissions from airplane use (linking to a calculator) and calls for reducing nonessential travels, combining/shortening overseas missions, or substituting with online meetings. Due to COVID-19, only two overseas mission had been recorded since March 2020.

<sup>10</sup> SMO-EX is a weekly meeting among the IGES management and SMO Directors.

**Table 10. ISRP8 Key Performance Indicators for Governance**

Indicator with Annual Target	Baseline (ISRP7)	Annual Target	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
Core fund contribution from Ministry of the Environment	JPY 500 million	JPY 500 million				
Support from the three local governments (subsidies, etc.) [1]	Around JPY 135 million	Around JPY 135 million				
Volume of external funds (other than contribution and subsidies)	USD 20-25 million	USD 22-27 million				
Ratio of international external funds	over 25%	as much as 40%				
Ratio of project financial value-added (FVA) (proposed budget-based) [2]	52% (FY2020 target)	55%				
Ratio of general administrative cost in the total expenditure [3]	9% (FY2020 target)	9%				
Ratio of administrative staff in total (Number)	11% (FY2020)	9%				
Ratio of taken annual leave	57% (FY2019)	80%				
Indicator without Target	Baseline (ISRP7)	Indicative Reference	2021 Results	2022 Results	2023 Results	2024 Results
Number of full time staff members	156 (FY2020)	160+ (plan) [4]				
Ratio of Tenure/Tenure-track staff in total	14% (FY2020)	50% [4]				
Ratio of female staff in management positions (Principal staff)	19% (FY2020)	30% [4]				
Rate of teleworking [5]	40% (FY2020)	40%				
Overtime [6]	10.5 hrs/m (Monthly overtime hours per person in FY2019)	Continue to be reduced				
CO2 emissions reduction from energy use and overseas missions [7]	417t - CO2 (HQ energy use, FY2019)	n/a				
Number of paper-based systems not yet replaced with web-based alternatives	-	No further paper-based systems [8]				
Staff Satisfaction Survey [9]	Conducted in 2019	To be conducted in 2023 (tbc)				

**Note for indicators:**

- [1] Excludes support for HQ office rent from Kanagawa Prefecture and for KRC office rent from Hyogo Prefecture.
- [2] Project FVA is calculated as: revenue less project operating expenditures such as outsourcing and travel costs. This is the amount available for personnel and other expenditures necessary for IGES strategic research and operations.
- [3] Excludes administrative costs for APN, JISE and TSU.
- [4] Largely depends on the recruitment (every four years in general) or promotion during the research phase (unscheduled). Figures are from ISRP8.
- [5] The standard level of teleworking (non COVID-19) at the individual level. The ratio will be reviewed when IGES's operation becomes stable and effective, and no-barrier in communications with satellite offices are realised.
- [6] Overtime by staff members who are not under the discretionary labour system was applied. An introduction of flexible work hours is being considered for staff members who are not under the discretionary labour system during the 8th Phase.

- [7] COVID-19 pandemic made large impacts on CO2 emissions both from office energy use and overseas missions. The target will be developed for the post COVID-19 period. The volume of CO2 emissions will be monitored and also reported to the environmental management certification audit (*EcoAction 21*).
- [8] No further paper-based systems that are not paper-based due to regulatory requirements. Additional indicators will be identified for each new system as it is planned, and these indicators will be monitored to ensure that the new systems are serving their intended purpose.
- [9] Administered by Japan Productivity Center (JPC).

## Full list of the Common Focus Areas

<b>(1) “Put SDGs on the ground” Accelerating implementation of SDGs</b>		
<b>Sub-focal areas</b>	<b>Related units (not limited to those listed)</b>	<b>Major planned activities for FY2021</b>
a. SDGs governance and monitoring and evaluation	ISC, RP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue collaboration with GCNJ, MOEJ, Asian Development Bank (ADB), and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the media/other stakeholders to share good practices, follow the latest process to promote “Decade of Action”, discuss further framework of SDGs [ISC]</li> <li>• Work with MOEJ, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), ADB, and UNESCAP to strengthen governance of the SDGs [ISC]</li> <li>• Continue study on Voluntary Local Review (VLR) as a measure to promote SDG monitoring and evaluation at local level and on the linkage of the VLR and the Voluntary National Review (VNR) [CTY]</li> </ul>
b. Localising SDGs (i.e. Regional-CES, VLR, SEPLS (socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes))	AW , BDF, CTY, FIN, KRC, KUC, BRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance knowledge and strengthen the capacity of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) policymakers and city actors to reduce land-based marine plastics pollution and enhance urban resilience via bottom-up, pragmatic approaches; particularly civic, water and food security in the context of pandemic green recovery (SDGs 3, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14) through the JAIF (Japan ASEAN Integration Fund) ASEAN SDGs Frontrunner Cities programme [BRC]</li> <li>• Conduct a Voluntary Bank Review of Shiga Bank in financing local SDGs as a potential good practice for financing the Regional Circulating and Ecological Sphere (Regional-CES) [FIN]</li> <li>• Collaboration with UNU-IAS (United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability) in the extension of the Satoyama initiative into its new phase [BDF]</li> <li>• Promote VLR movement as a tool to promote SDG localisation and contribute to capacity development of local governments through policy analysis of VLR and information-sharing among cities. [CTY, KUC]</li> <li>• Support SDG localisation actions and VLR conducted by local governments and other local stakeholders especially in Japan and ASEAN countries, which also contribute to promote CES approach at local level [CTY, KUC]</li> <li>• Formulate regional research platform in Asia on CES under the collaboration framework of IGES and START International, Inc. (START) on CES [ISC, BDF, AW, CTY, KRC-APN]</li> <li>• Facilitate city to city collaboration and knowledge sharing on different sustainable city development issues under the EU's International and Regional Urban Cooperation Project [CTY]</li> <li>• Support development of a Regional-CES model focusing on utilisation of woody biomass in Hokusetsu area in Hyogo [KRC]</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish Regional-CES book in collaboration with IGES and other stakeholders [ISC, others]</li> <li>• Work with national and local governments to strengthen governance of the vertical integration of SDGs in Asia [ISC]</li> <li>• Work on a book project on the CES concept and its application, which will support dissemination of the CES across the world [ISC, AW, BF, CTY, SCP, CE, KUC]</li> <li>• Conduct research project application of CES concept in post-COVID recovery [ISC, AW, CTY]</li> <li>• Conduct research on water-energy-food nexus approach for sustainable development [ISC, AW, CE]</li> </ul>
c. Sustainable lifestyles	SCP, RP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalise initiatives under the One-Planet Network Sustainable Lifestyles and Education Programme: Global Search for Sustainable Schools (with 50 schools in 9 countries) and 24 Trust Fund Projects; develop outputs (Reports, Policy Briefs, Academic Papers) [SCP]</li> <li>• Continue implementation of the 1.5-Degree Lifestyles Initiatives; release future lifestyle scenarios in 5 cities; engage with 2 more cities in Japan [SCP]</li> <li>• Explore future programme on sustainable living in collaboration with partners engaged in the above, and MOEJ, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) [SCP]</li> <li>• Engage with new partners, i.e. teachers, consumer organisations, etc. through work on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) [SCP]</li> </ul>
d. Circular economy including marine plastics	SCP, CCET, KUC, AW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to engage as knowledge and strategic organisation in global Resource Efficiency and Circular economy process, including G7 Resource Efficiency Alliance, G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue, G20 Marine Plastic Litter follow-up meeting, International Resource Panel (IRP), Platform for Accelerating Circular Economy (PACE) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste including development of G20 Marine Plastic Litter Report and engagement in an expert working group of OECD for developing new indicators for resource productivity and circular economy [SCP]</li> <li>• Continue to provide technical assistance to national and local governments in developing policies and taking innovative actions to reduce marine plastic from land-based sources in partnership with UNEP, UNESCAP, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), World Bank, ADB, ASEAN, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP), IMT (Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand) etc.[SCP, CCET, KUC, CTY]</li> <li>• Strengthen engagement with the private sector network. IGES took up the role of the Secretariat of the Circular Economy Partnership jointly launched by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), MOEJ, and Keidanren. For marine plastics, IGES is now an official partner of Alliance to End of Plastic Waste (AEPW). Through these engagements, IGES will strengthen its outreach to the private sector for mainstreaming the Circular Economy [SCP, CCET, KUC]</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as a regional player on data-driven policymaking for marine plastics. IGES has become a main implementing partner for Regional Knowledge Center for Marine Plastic Debris of ERIA. In collaboration with relevant organisations such as UNEP, UNESCAP and World Bank, IGES and ERIA will launch an expert working group on data-driven policymaking for marine plastics.[SCP, CCET, AW, KUC]</li> <li>• Develop an eLearning module and training materials on Cities and Marine Plastic Pollution - Building Circular Economy with UNESCAP, UNEP, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Keio University and others [CCET, SCP, QAC, AW, SGC, KUC]</li> <li>• Continue in building capacity among policymakers to address marine plastic from land-based sources through regional policy dialogue in partnership with ERIA, Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA), ASEAN, SACEP, Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth triangle (IMT-GT) [CCET, SCP, AW, KUC]</li> <li>• Seek to develop a new research project for integrated approach for circular economy and decarbonisation including food loss issues and the nexus of climate change, biodiversity and resource efficiency. Also, IGES will engage in an international comparative analysis on macro level indicators for resource productivity and circular economy as well as gap analysis on circular economy implementation at private sectors in Japan [SCP]</li> </ul>
<p>e. Improved environmental quality (i.e. pollution control including co-benefit, environmental impact assessment (EIA) enforcement)</p>	<p>AW, BRC, FIN, TSF, ISC, KRC, BJG, SCP, CCET</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with MOEJ and JICA to strengthen EIA system and its implementation in Asia [TSF]</li> <li>• Through the Biden Administration, Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN) will work closely with the US Government (the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)) to strengthen environmental laws and governance to address international sources of pollution to align with their funding goals and priorities with a particular focus on air, water and cross-border environmental waste issues. As the secretariat of AECEN, IGES will revive AECEN and strengthen partnerships for long term collaborations in environmental compliance and enforcement as well as environmental social safeguards areas with other partners (ADB, Australian Agency for International development (AusAID), Environmental Protection Administration of Taiwan (EPAT), Australasian Environmental Law Enforcement and Regulators Network (AELERT), International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE), Environmental Law Institute (ELI), Asian Research Institute for Environmental Law (ARIEL), UNEP etc.) [BRC]</li> <li>• Conduct model projects as the Integrated Coordination Platform between the governments/cities/companies of Japan and China, introducing air pollution control technologies etc. with co-benefits; outcomes will be disseminated and promoted on the markets in China and in the Asian region [BJG]</li> <li>• Work with national and city governments to incorporate co-benefits in climate, air pollution and sectoral planning in Asia (UNEP, ADB, Korean Environment Institute (KEI), SEI) [ISC]</li> <li>• Promote diffusion of appropriate technologies and regulatory measures to improve energy efficiency and environmental management from Japan to India and other countries [KRC]</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue in assisting national and local governments in improving their municipal waste management systems, policies and technologies based on 3R principles in partnership with UNEP-International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) [CCET]</li> <li>• In collaboration with partners such as Yokohama City, JICA, and UNESCAP, continue to support Da Nang City for its effort for waste segregation and marine plastic prevention [SCP]</li> <li>• Build capacity among policymakers in reducing open dumping and open burning of municipal waste through developing training modules and policy dialogue in partnership with UNEP, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) and others [CCET]</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance in developing national organic waste management strategy in Iraq with UNEP and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) [CCET]</li> <li>• Propose a practical solution to improve impact reporting system through reviewing achieved environmental benefits by green finance [FIN]</li> <li>• Promote the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) activities as its secretariat, including holding the annual meeting and an international workshop, implementing Action Programs (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar), and participating in World Water Forum (WWF) and Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWS) to showcase WEPA activities [AW]</li> <li>• Contribute to the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) project to establish an Environmental Conservation Platform on Tonle Sap Lake [AW]</li> <li>• Start the JAIF PoDIWM (“Policy Dialogue and Network Building of Multi-Stakeholders on Integrated Decentralised Domestic Wastewater Management in ASEAN Countries”) second phase project for the wider-deployment of Decentralised Wastewater Treatment Systems in ASEAN countries that could also contribute in addressing marine plastic issues [AW]</li> <li>• Conduct more extensive work on socio-hydrological approach, a new dimension of inclusive policy-oriented research work with ground implementation of the solutions for sustainable water resource management and human well-being [AW]</li> </ul>
f. COVID-19 and Triple-R	BDF, AW, CE, SCP, CCET, CTY, BRC, RP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical assistance in developing Green Health Infrastructure Systems in Africa in partnership with UNEP with support from Norway and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) [CCET]</li> <li>• Work with national and local governments to strengthen governance for redesigning energy, transport, waste and urban systems in Asia [ISC]</li> </ul>

<b>(2) “Net zero and resilient society” Accelerating implementation of Paris Agreement (PA)</b>		
<b>Sub-focal areas</b>	<b>Related units (not limited to those listed)</b>	<b>Major planned activities for FY2021</b>
a. Engagement in PA, G7/G20 processes	CE, AW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contribute to negotiations on the Article 6 rule book [CE]</li> <li>• Contribute to the capacity development of developing countries under the Transparency Framework [CE]</li> <li>• Develop a plan to overachieve Japan’s Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) [CE]</li> <li>• Monitor major international conferences/events/initiatives/platforms on adaptation, and provide policy recommendations to MOEJ [AW, BRC]</li> <li>• Provide business support for international climate policies [BIZ]</li> </ul>
b. Net zero at national/local level	CE, CTY, BIZ, FIN, KRC, KUC, SCP, CCET, BDF, ISC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build capacity among national and local governments in understanding, planning and taking actions to reduce GHGs and Short-lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs) from the waste sector and integrate them into NDCs in partnership with UNEP-IETC, CCAC, UNESCAP, SACEP and others [CCET]</li> <li>• Drive Zero Deforestation initiative by supporting New York Declaration on Forests [BDF]</li> <li>• Develop net zero strategies for Asia [CE]</li> <li>• Provide policy support and capacity development opportunities to local governments in Asian countries including Japan by facilitating knowledge-sharing among cities and developing policy support tools [CTY, KUC]</li> <li>• Develop a framework to transfer energy efficiency and renewable energy diffusion system from Tokyo to Kuala Lumpur based on city-to-city collaboration [CTY, ISC]</li> <li>• Provide promotion and support for city-to-city collaboration towards zero carbon society [CTY, KUC]</li> <li>• Amplify forward looking business voice to catalyse shifts in Energy &amp; Climate Policies in Japan [BIZ]</li> <li>• Develop a methodology to ensure assessment is aligned with transition pathways by companies in Japan, and propose a monitoring and evaluation system to review their transition status [FIN]</li> <li>• Develop the Kanagawa 2050 net zero vision in collaboration with Kanagawa Prefecture [CE]</li> <li>• Support selected local governments and universities in designing net zero road maps through facilitating knowledge sharing and providing required tools [KRC]</li> </ul>
c. Climate adaptation implementation	AW, BRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to build capacity and technical skills among targeted ASEAN governmental officials and institutions to address systematic risks/manage rapidly the changing risk profiles due t climate change and related uncertainties, with a focus on integrating climate change projections into disaster risk assessments at river-basin level through JAIF-ASEAN DRR (disaster risk reduction) CCA (climate change adaptation) project - SDG 1, 11, 13 [BRC]</li> </ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim for long-term positive impact by improving institutional mechanisms and integration of DRR and CCA into local development plans through multi-sector, multi-level cooperation, equip government with accurate planning (early warning and application of risk/hazard maps integrating future climate projections) [BRC]</li> <li>• In 2021, ASEAN adopted Guidelines on integrating climate change projection into risk assessment and mapping. Phase 2 will test its application for country and location specific conditions [BRC]</li> <li>• Collaborate with partner institutions to prepare long-term activity plans of capacity development programmes under Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) and implement pilot activities such as knowledge product development and mentoring activities [BRC, AW]</li> <li>• Start collaborative work with Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change research (APN) to contribute to the AP-PLAT capacity building programme [BRC, AW]</li> <li>• Make substantive inputs to AP-PLAT, including publishing a guidebook for the local CCA-DRR integration [AW, BRC]</li> <li>• Analyse the implications of compound risks, including COVID-19 and climate change, and develop a guidebook on how to address them at the local level [AW]</li> <li>• Develop a database and webpage on Nature-based Solutions on Adaptation, including good practices and lessons learned [AW, BRC]</li> <li>• Hold training workshops using the Participatory Watershed Land-use Management (PWLM) Guidebook and Participatory Coastal Land-use Management (PCLM) Guidebook developed in 2020 by IGES [AW]</li> <li>• Support the development of a few concept notes based on the previous research activities of IGES for the Asian countries to submit to Green Climate Fund (GCF) [AW, BRC]</li> <li>• Contribute to the activities to disseminate the results of 7th Asia-Pacific Climate Adaptation (APAN) Forum held virtually in Tokyo, March 2021 [AW]</li> <li>• Continue to promote APN Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) project [AW]</li> <li>• Start functioning as the Center of Excellence on Adaptation and DRR for Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) [AW]</li> <li>• Make substantive contributions to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment report (AR6) in its Asia chapter from adaptation perspective [AW]</li> <li>• Conduct work on trans-boundary adaptation, including playing a key role on the Adaptation Without Border Initiative [AW]</li> <li>• Issue a few policy briefs/fact sheets on adaptation and translate key international reports for the public awareness-raising [AW]</li> </ul>
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<b>(3) “No biodiversity loss” Developing and implementing Global Framework of Biodiversity</b>		
<b>Sub-focal areas</b>	<b>Related units (not limited to those listed)</b>	<b>Major planned activities for FY2021</b>
a. Post-2020 global biodiversity framework	BDF, TSF, BRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with MOEJ to collect information to develop global biodiversity standards under the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and facilitate Japan’s involvement in this process [TSF, BDF]</li> <li>• Contribute to global biodiversity processes (especially of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES)) through coordination, authorship and review of key publications; participate as observer in key meetings; provide support for Japan’s involvement in these processes through commissioned work [BDF]</li> <li>• Provide support for the recovery of ecosystems and communities in Mauritius following the wreck and oil spill of the bulk carrier Wakashio [BDF]</li> <li>• (2) Collaborate with UNU-IAS in the extension of the Satoyama initiative into its new phase [BDF]</li> <li>• Work on publications supporting and elaborating aspects of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) in terms of assessment, planning and implementation [BDF]</li> </ul>
b. Sustainable forest management	BDF,CE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct studies on timber legality and sustainability through the supply chains in key timber producing countries in Asia, funded by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) [BDF]</li> <li>• Collect information on timber regulations and their implementations in producer and consumer countries (including Japan) to support the implementation of the Japanese Clean Wood Act and to provide inputs into its review process scheduled in 2022 [BDF]</li> </ul>

# Appendix

## A1. About ISPR8 (Excerpts)

### 1. Vision, Mission and Value Proposition for ISRP8

#### Vision

Transition towards a sustainable, resilient, shared and inclusive Asia-Pacific region and the world is steadily promoted, where planetary boundaries are fully respected, 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.

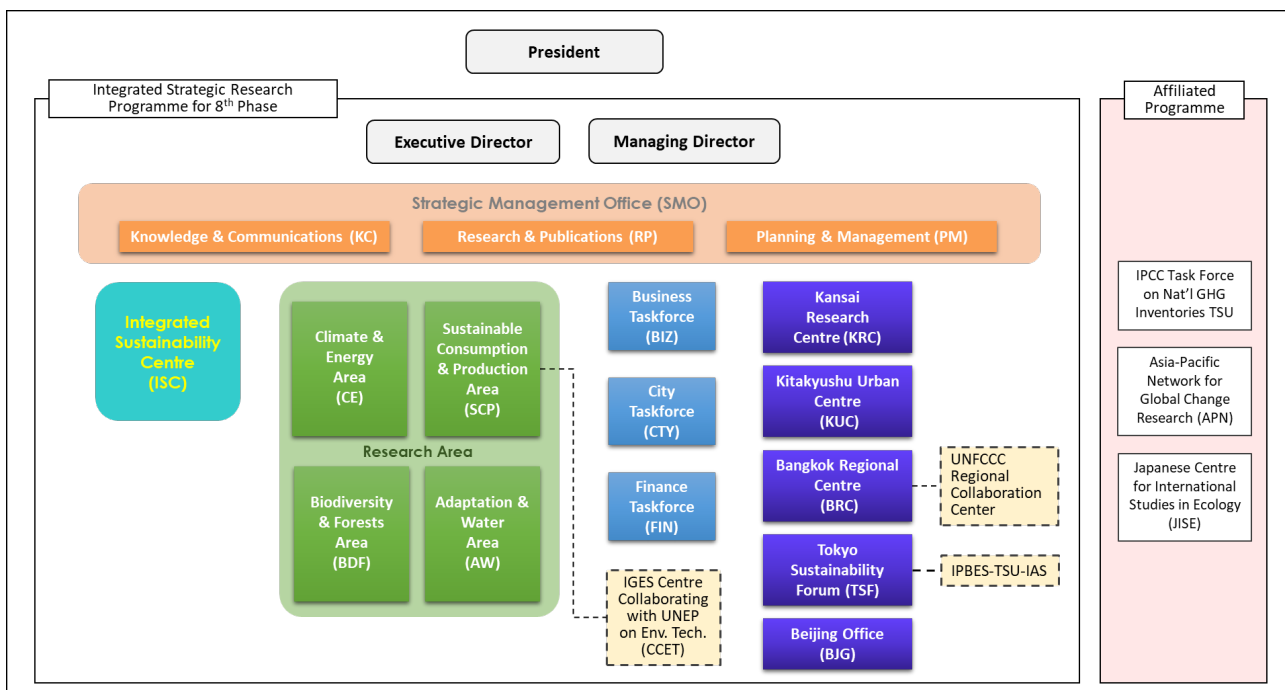
#### Mission

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

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 and civil society at various levels for strategic networking/partnership, with the aim of global transition to sustainability and resilience.

### 2. Organisational Arrangement



**Figure A1: Organisational Structure for ISRP8**

### **3. Focus for Impact Generation in ISRP8 by Unit**

#### **3.1. Integrated Sustainability Centre (ISC)**

ISC will work with stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific to accelerate progress on the SDGs and formulate an ambitious post-2030 agenda. ISC will work toward this objective by strengthening the science-policy-society interface. ISC's research and programming will combine science-based tools and methods (interlinkages analysis, scenario analysis and machine learning); socially-response governance models and strategies (polycentrism and metagovernance); and cutting-edge policy frameworks and solutions (e.g. Regional-CES, Triple-R framework, green recovery, just transition, co-benefits integrated NDC/VNR/National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), integrated local climate action/VLR/Local Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (LBSAPs)). This unique combination of tools and perspectives will be employed in concrete case studies and shared during key policymaking processes Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD)/High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)/UN General Assembly (UNGA), UN Environment Assembly (UNEA), and G7/G20), solidifying our position as a change agent on sustainability in Asia-Pacific and beyond.

#### **3.2. Climate and Energy (CE)**

CE will strive to generate impacts on (1) implementation of the Paris Agreement, in particular, the implementation, evaluation and updating of NDCs, the submission of biennial transparency report under the Transparency Framework, and contribution to Global Stocktake; (2) formulation of long-term zero emissions strategies and the implementation of short-term measures consistent with the long-term goals in Japan, and other Asian countries, including the practices of state and non-state actors toward the smooth and just transition, and (3) implementation of carbon pricing, JCM and other offset mechanisms to achieve net zero emissions.

#### **3.3. Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)**

SCP will boost IGES's standing as a vital and indispensable policy think-tank and development partner for ASEAN and ASEAN member states for circular economy, sustainable lifestyles and marine plastic issues. We want to be associated as having a publicly-recognized functional role in policy harmonization and regional integration of Asia and the Pacific region. CCET will be a strategic partner of UNEP and other UN agencies operating in the Asia-Pacific region, as an instrumental arm for capacity development of national and local governments in emerging countries.

#### **3.4. Biodiversity and Forests (BDF)**

BDF will formalise our contribution to international policy processes, including those of the CBD and the IPBES, through their official meetings and assessments. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework and New York Declaration on Forests will be key processes with which to align. BDF will also contribute to promoting sustainable forest management with guiding key legislation at the national level, as well as frameworks for assessing biodiversity and implementing subsequent measures. We will contribute to an improved understanding of how to promote sustainable socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS), and to an understanding of how communities can be assisted in responding to degradation of key habitats.

#### **3.5. Adaptation and Water (AW)**

AW will work closely with BRC for the successful full-fledged operation of AP-PLAT's capacity-building programme. For that purpose, we will keep strengthening the partnership with capacity building institutions and international initiatives in Asia and identifying the opportunities of collaborative works, promoting basic studies and developing adaptation tools and materials to lay down the foundation of the programme, and engaging in concrete capacity-building efforts, among others. AW will keep working on critical research and projects on adaptation, including monitoring and evaluation, ILK, Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA), transboundary adaptation, PWLM/PCLM, socio-hydrology, DRR-CCA integration, and compound risks. In addition, we will continue to contribute to international efforts on adaptation, including UNFCCC, IPCC, Paris Committee on Capacity-building (PCCB), PEMSEA, The Himalayan University Consortium (HUC), APAN Forum, and the Adaptation Without Borders Initiative (AWBI). AW will maintain its secretariat service for WEPA to achieve better water environmental governance in Asia. We also plan to work closely with ASEAN Secretariat and international partners to further promote a decentralised wastewater management approach in ASEAN countries

and utilise this approach to address the challenge of emerging pollutants such as microplastics. It is expected that CES will become an institution-wide programme building on efforts for Nexus among others.

### **3.6. Business Taskforce (BIZ)**

BIZ will continue activities to exert influence on Japan's Energy Mix Policy, more ambitious NDC for UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP), and to support adaption of carbon pricing in Japan. To create impact through the business sector, we will continue to work on increasing progressive companies as the Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership (JCLP) members and to expand the needs of renewable energy through growing the size of RE100<sup>11</sup>/RE Action<sup>12</sup> membership. In addition, we will support companies in its decarbonisation in areas beyond renewable energy towards achieving net zero by 2050.

### **3.7. City Taskforce (CTY)**

Aiming to encourage more cities to become carbon-neutral, resilient and sustainable, and to ensure credible policy planning and implementation of cities, we will continue to work closely with local and regional governments in Japan and overseas. It aims to provide necessary knowledge support, including methodologies in policymaking and implementation developed through scientific interpretation on the good practices of cities, especially those of Japanese local governments. To this end, CTY will work in close partnership with international organisations and city networks such as UNESCAP, UN-HABITAT, ICLEI, and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). City-to-city collaboration and mutual learning is one of the core approaches CTY will take. Cross-unit collaboration within IGES will be strengthened more in the 8<sup>th</sup> Phase to address diverse and complex sustainability challenges of cities.

CTY will keep two main topics of its activities/research from the 7<sup>th</sup> Phase, namely climate change and the SDGs. Since more cities are now aiming for carbon neutrality by 2050, we will conduct research and activities that aims to provide policy support and capacity of local governments to address climate issues. SDG localisation also continues to be a priority topic. Through promoting mutual learning on localisation mainly through VLR, we will provide necessary capacity development support with our analysis of good practices on the integration of the SDGs in existing policy frameworks and governance, partnership building, and monitoring and evaluation systems. Specific SDGs will be addressed based on the needs of cities and the availability of external funds (e.g. waste, mobility, urban planning, etc.).

### **3.8. Finance Taskforce (FIN)**

FIN intends to provide practical solutions to generate impacts in the following three areas: (1) actual environmental benefits or impacts by green and sustainable finance, (2) shifting financial flows to decarbonised efforts in Japan, and (3) mobilising finance contributing to the SDGs at the local and regional level (implemented, for example, through Regional-CES) in both Japan and the wider Asia Pacific region.

### **3.9. Kansai Research Centre (KRC)**

KRC will continue promoting technology transfer in India, Thailand and other countries where opportunities arise. Activities in India are expanding to the areas of pollution management focusing on air pollution caused by thermal power plants and energy-intensive industries, whereas the focus in Thailand is on energy saving of industries and buildings in association with the Japan Platform for Redesign: Sustainable Infrastructure (JPRSI). Collaboration with Hyogo Prefecture is expanding as well, ranging from designing a woody biomass utilisation business model in Hokusetsu region, supporting cities pledged to be carbon neutral by 2050, to designing a decarbonising road map, matching private companies with service providers of renewable energy power purchase agreement (PPA), and promoting decarbonised society development among university and high school students.

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<sup>11</sup> International business initiative committed to 100% renewable power, working to massively increase corporate demand for and delivery of renewable energy

<sup>12</sup> A new initiative in Japan for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), educational institutions, medical institutions, and local governments to declare switching to 100% renewable electricity by 2050.

### **3.10. Kitakyushu Urban Centre (KUC)**

KUC continues to bolster local actions in the area of zero-carbon, circular economy, green growth, and the SDGs. KUC will further explore ways to contribute to the institutionalisation of a sustainability concept in city policies and practices in Asia-Pacific cities; the dissemination of information on the global trend of environmental agenda to local stakeholders in Kitakyushu and Kyushu region; as well as the local coordination in transition to zero-carbon cities, circular cities, localising the SDGs as a local hub in Kitakyushu and Kyushu region in this area.

### **3.11. Bangkok Regional Centre (BRC)**

BRC intends to create the following impacts: (1) increase the capacities of ASEAN governments to develop and implement climate change adaptation policies and projects through ASEAN project on disaster risk reduction by integrating climate change projection into flood and landslide (2<sup>nd</sup> phase) and AP-PLAT, (2) adopt know-how driving clean development and mobilise resources for regional engagement in climate change activities by implementing several projects of the UNFCCC-IGES Regional Collaboration Centre (RCC), (3) improve environmental compliance and enforcement of pollution control practices in 18 Asian member countries of Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN), and (4) improve environmental quality in ASEAN cities through better long-term city planning and higher capacity to implement transformative local actions, closely linked to the SDGs by proposing and conducting ASEAN SDGs Frontrunner Cities Programme (2<sup>nd</sup> phase).

### **3.12. Tokyo Sustainability Forum (TSF)**

TSF will continue to contribute to the impact generation of IGES by providing a comfortable and safe office environment for IGES staff. In particular, TSF will strengthen its support for online meetings and remote work, which are rapidly increasing at TSF in the era of “new normal.” TSF will also support IGES Management in attending online international conferences to showcase the latest findings of IGES.

TSF will strive to improve its operations with regular feedback from IGES staff. In addition, TSF will hold seminars and workshops to enhance the collaboration between IGES and national agencies such as MOEJ, as well as non-national stakeholders including the private sector and local governments. TSF will provide necessary assistance to IPBES-TSU-IAS and ICLEI-JAPAN and conduct activities to strengthen the collaboration with them.

Furthermore, TSF will work on projects in cooperation with relevant IGES teams on Biodiversity and emerging issues that do not fall under the scope of other units. In particular, with regard to Environmental Impact Assessments, TSF will actively work on necessary surveys, development of information platform, and bilateral support to strengthen the Environmental Impact Assessment systems and implementation in Asian countries in support of the overseas business expansion of Japanese companies.

### **3.13. Beijing Office (BJG)**

As the Integrated Coordination Platform between the governments/cities/companies of Japan and China, BJG will conduct the model projects introducing air pollution control technologies etc. with co-benefits effect, whose outcomes will be disseminated and promoted on the markets in the Asian region including China. By doing so, BJG will contribute to materialising a decarbonised society, and will support environmental business between Japanese and Chinese companies.

## A2. Plans/Achievements by Other Projects for Public-interest Purposes

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

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

The activities planned for FY2021 are explained in (1) to (5) below.

#### **(1) Development, Maintenance and Improvement of IPCC Inventory Software**

The IPCC Inventory Software helps inventory compilers to estimate emissions and removals of greenhouse gases according to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (2006 IPCC Guidelines). The on-going work for the enhancement of capacities to tier 2 and 3 methods, as well as to all approaches for land representation will continue in FY2021. Other planned relevant updates of the software for FY2021 are the enhancement of capacities for the uncertainty analysis, and the key category analysis. The latest version of the IPCC Inventory Software can be downloaded from the TFI website (<https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/software/index.html>). In addition, the TSU will continue providing technical support to users.

#### **(2) Management of IPCC Emission Factor Database (EFDB)**

The IPCC EFDB is a database of emission factors and other parameters whereby national experts can find nationally appropriate values to develop national GHG inventories in accordance with the IPCC inventory guidelines. In FY2021, the TSU will continue to enhance the EFDB by improving its user-friendliness, collecting data, organising relevant expert meetings and supporting the EFDB Editorial Board as well as implementing other activities to improve the database (e.g. updating the EFDB website, streamlining types of parameters in the land sector, and producing the updated off-line version). The latest off-line version of the EFDB can be downloaded from the TFI website (<https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/EFDB/main.php>). TSU will also continue promoting the EFDB at various climate meetings.

#### **(3) Production of Reports to Supplement or Refine the IPCC Inventory Guidelines**

Based on the decision IPCC/XLIX-7 adopted at the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of IPCC in May 2019, the TSU started activities for preparatory work for the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF) following the conclusions of the expert meeting in May 2018 at World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in Geneva. In FY2021, the TSU will continue to do such preparatory work. In particular, TSU will prepare background material to support, organise and hold three expert meetings on methods for estimating SLCF emissions, and will produce reports with relevant outcomes of the expert meetings.

#### **(4) Inventory Internship Programme**

In FY2021, this programme will not be implemented.

#### **(5) Collaboration with Other Organisations**

In FY2021, the TSU will continue cooperation with other organisations on inventory-related matters. For example, the TSU will contribute to inventory-related capacity building programmes implemented by UNFCCC, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Global Forest Observations Initiative (GFOI), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) etc., remotely or by sending the head and/or programme officers as resource persons and providing inventory-related supporting materials developed by the IPCC TFI. The

TSU will also collaborate with other projects in IGES, where appropriate, on matters relating to estimation of greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

## 2. Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

APN is an intergovernmental network that is promoting collaborative research and capacity development of scientists in developing countries in areas including climate change, biodiversity and ecosystems, risk reduction and resilience. Through supporting research and capacity development, APN contributes to the formulation of policy that assists sustainable development and low-carbon societies in the Asia-Pacific region. In FY2021, APN is planning to conduct the following activities based on the Fifth Strategic Plan (2020-2024) that was developed in February, 2021; however, the contents of those activities may change according to the developments of the COVID-19 pandemic, and other issues.

### **(1) Collaborative Regional Research Programme (CRRP) Open Call (supporting international collaborative research)**

To deepen the understanding of global change and its influences in the Asia-Pacific region, and to contribute to the development of a sustainable society by providing scientific input on global change to policymaking, APN will conduct the FY2021 call for proposals on international collaborative research projects.

### **(2) Scientific Capacity Building and Enhancement for Sustainable Development in Developing Countries (CAPaBLE) Open Call**

As part of a programme that focuses on developing the scientific capacity of developing countries, APN will support the implementation of training and workshops to facilitate cooperation and sharing of information among early-career scientists and other stakeholders under the research topics of APN.

### **(3) International Forums and Workshops etc.**

Proposal Development Training Workshop (PDTW)

To enhance the capacity of early-career scientists in member countries to develop proposals and compete effectively in the call for proposals, APN has organised the Proposal Development Training Workshop (PDTW) every year. In FY2021, the PDTW will be held in South Asia.

Joint activities with Hyogo Prefecture

In collaboration with Hyogo Prefectural Government that hosts the Secretariat and provides continuous support, APN will organise and provide assistance to hold international seminars to increase the awareness of citizens on environmental matters.

### **(4) Others**

#### **i. Steering Committee Meeting and Other Meetings**

APN will organise meetings for the Intergovernmental Meeting, the Steering Committee, the Scientific Planning Group (SPG), the SPG Sub-Committee and the Capacity Development Committee in FY 2021.

#### **ii. Subregional Committee Activities**

APN will conduct necessary activities in the subregion of Temperate East Asia, Southeast Asia and South Asia to discuss common challenges and research needs at the subregional level that address policy needs of member countries.

In addition to the above activities, in FY2021, APN will organise a scoping meeting to discuss specific contents of activities of the subregional committee for the Pacific.



### 3. Japanese Center for International Studies in Ecology (JISE)

There is global concern over the severity of environmental problems, and conservation of biodiversity is gaining attention all over the world. In FY2021, the Japanese Center for International Studies in Ecology (JISE) will further strengthen and develop initiatives towards the realisation of a sustainable society that has been its objective since the Center was established. Through the development of research work and practical activities on both the regional to global levels, JISE will conduct work based on ecology, ranging from the conservation and restoration of local ecosystems, to the revitalisation and creation of the global environment.

#### **(1) Research Projects**

For international research, JISE develops international joint research to establish restoration technology in response to the decline in tropical forests and Satoyama forests that is progressing on a global scale. Specifically, JISE will promote practical projects on growth studies and restoration of tropical forests in Malaysia, Brunei, Kenya, Philippines and Lao PDR. JISE will also proceed with related international research activities in collaboration with the Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services Unit of IGES.

For domestic research, focusing on environmental protection forests planted from the 1970s using the Miyawaki-method, JISE will proceed to evaluate their structure and functions for disasters prevention such as fire protection and environmental protection based on survey data collected locally. Research is also conducted on biodiversity evaluation methods and environmental education for rural Satoyama. JISE supports the preservation of biodiversity in Kanagawa Prefecture and contributes to the Prefecture's initiatives in the field. JISE continues to promote regional forest creation and nature restoration, monitoring regenerated forests, and adaptive management in collaboration with local governments, private companies, Non Profit Organisations (NPOs), citizens and others. In addition, JISE will strive to enhance collaborative research with other educational and research institutes in terms of biodiversity conservation and forest creation.

#### **(2) Capacity Building**

To educate leaders who can offer technical support to activities such as forest creation and nature restoration, JISE will provide vegetation training based on vegetation ecology and related topics. JISE holds "Ecological training" sessions to enhance basic capacity of ecological nature cognition and understanding of environmental conservation targeting a wide audience including local citizens and representatives of businesses.

#### **(3) Interaction**

JISE will hold outreach events targeting the general public such as the IGES-JISE Environmental Forum and organises lectures and debates between researchers and other experts. JISE also promotes capacity building and dissemination activities through collaboration with Kanagawa Institute of Industrial Science and Technology (KISTEC).

#### **(4) Dissemination and Public Awareness**

JISE will post its activities such as research projects, and capacity building and exchange projects on its website or in the IGES-JISE Newsletter (3 times a year). JISE also publishes a bulletin "Eco-Habitat: JISE research" as a research magazine, and publishes full texts of the published bulletin papers on Japan Science and Technology Information Aggregator, Electronic (J-STAGE) which is a scientific dissertation retrieval and publication system available on-line. In addition, JISE will publish research reports prepared by researchers in a timely manner.