



26 June 2012

Press Release



The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and
UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) will co-host

The 4th International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific [ISAP2012] Steering Towards a Sustainable and Resilient Future: Beyond Rio+20

Venue: PACIFICO YOKOHAMA

Date: Tuesday and Wednesday, 24 to 25 July 2012

* A pre-event Japan-India symposium will be held on Monday 23 July at the same venue

General Information

Organizers: Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)

Collaborators: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Registration: <http://www.iges.or.jp/en/news/event/isap2012/>

- The year 2012 is set to be a turning point on the path towards sustainable development. Discussions were held at last week's UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) on ways to reduce poverty, advance social equity and ensure environmental protection on an ever-more crowded planet. The international community now has a shared responsibility to turn ideas into concrete actions. IGES and UNU-IAS are taking the first step towards that goal in late July by co-hosting the 4th International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (ISAP2012).
- ISAP2012 will be convened focusing on four timely issues as Plenary Sessions. It will examine what the green economy really means; the best ways to build communities that are resilient to disasters; the way forward for climate change policies after the UN Climate Change Conference in Durban; and as a follow up to Rio+20, how governance can be a driving force for sustainable development. Parallel Sessions will include versatile themes such as "Urban City Challenges in Asia" and the "Satoyama Initiative for Biodiversity".
- As part of the run-up to ISAP2012, IGES will also welcome a group of researchers from Europe and accompany them to Fukushima to carry out dialogue with local experts and citizens. This visit will enable the researchers, who have experienced post-Chernobyl Europe, to contribute to discussions on decontamination.
- Speakers at ISAP 2012 will include Rajendra Pachauri (Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)/Director-General, The Energy and Resources Institute), Klaus Töpfer (Executive Director, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V./Former Minister of Environment, Germany), Miranda A. Schreurs (Professor, Free University of Berlin), Bindu N. Lohani (Vice-President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank) and Hiroshi Suzuki (Professor, Fukushima University/Chair, Fukushima Prefecture Reconstruction Committee).
- As an ISAP pre-event on 23 July, IGES will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India by hosting a joint symposium with The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). This event will also be held in Yokohama at the same venue.
- This event will be conducted in English and Japanese, with simultaneous interpretation. For those unable to attend, you can access a webcast of the ISAP2012 Plenary Sessions in English at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/isap2012>. Further information is available on IGES website (<http://www.iges.or.jp/en/news/event/isap2012/>).

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