



上智大学
SOPHIA UNIVERSITY

叡智が世界をつなぐ

SDGs and Role of Academic Community

**Special Symposium for the UNU 40th Anniversary
Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

November 6, 2015

United Nations University Headquarters

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Outline

1. SDGs and Roles of Academic Institutes
 2. Development of International Higher Education
 - 1) Cultural connectivity in the context of Higher Education
 - 2) Possibility of Trans-disciplinary approach
 3. Case Study
 4. Significance of International Higher Education as cultural connectivity for the SDGs
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SDGs and Roles of Academic Institutes

- 1) Human Resource and Capacity Building
- 2) Curriculum Development
- 3) Research Development
- 4) Academic Contribution to Society

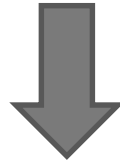


Solving Issues from
Multi-disciplinary Approach
for the SDGs

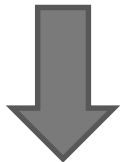


Cultural Connectivity in the context of Higher Education

- Internationalization of Higher Education(HE)
- Diversification of HE with cross-border program



mobility (students, staff, program, institution)



- Formation of Education Hub
- Formation of **Network**



Higher Education Program as Cultural Connectivity

---- a possibility of trans-disciplinary approach

- Separate Approach of Natural/Social/Human Sciences



- Trans-disciplinary approach
 - theme-based, evidence-based
 - cross-border global issues related with many countries and regions
 - necessity of cooperation in network

United Nations University

- global think tank and postgraduate program
- to contribute, through collaborative research, education and capacity building
- to efforts to **resolve the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare** that are the concern of the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States.
- **a bridge between the international academic community and the United Nations system.**

Sophia University

- Private Jesuit University celebrated 100th Anniversary in 2013
- Long history of offering English-based programs
- Annually welcomes about 1,100 international students from more than 60 countries
- 251 Partner Universities in 50 countries

----- Connecting Academic Hub with Cultural Diversity

-----”Men and Women for Others with Others”

-----“Sophia bringing the World Together”



Lecture

---The Case of Sophia ASEAN International Mobility for Students Program

- Environmental Science
- Conservation
- Sustainable Development
- Urban Ecology
- Environmental Change and Human Development
- A Critical Approach to Sustainable City
- Introduction to Trans-Disciplinary Human Development (TDHD)



Introduction to Trans-Disciplinary Human Development (TDHD) by Sophia University

	Title and content
1	Introduction
2	Science, Nature, Culture: Complexity of human society and natural environment
3	Seafood, Seascape, Shifting baseline: human-and-sea relations & technology
4	Why does global hunger persist?: Poverty and global food economy
5	What is WFP?: Tasks of World Food Programme
6	Environmental conservation: Ecological characteristics in Japan and disturbance
7	Chemical ecology: How organisms communicate with their environment
8	Water resources : Values of multi-dimensional water
9	Aquatic ecosystem: Physical processes in marine and freshwater systems
10	Impact on water environment by Urbanization: Flood risk and water quality
11	City and sustainability: Environmental and cultural sustainability of cities
12	Education for sustainability 1: Global warming through workshop
13	Education for sustainability 2
14	Workshop for summing up

Active Learning

- Providing the Asia-centric themes
 - SATOYAMA concept
 - Conservation dilemma
 - Water resources in Asian regions
 - Sustainable water use of irrigation
 - Japanese economic development and accompanied problems
 - Lessons learnt for the coming era
 - field trips
 - Rice planting (2014 spring)
 - *Sumiyaki* (2014 autumn)



Fieldwork

- **Fieldwork Seminar: Human Ecology “Rivers”**
 - ✓ Two-week intensive course for further learning of TDHD
 - ✓ the seminar focused on the ecological system of Kushiro river, Kushiro Wetland, and Akkeshi Bay in Eastern Hokkaido.



Significance of International Higher Education as cultural connectivity for the SDGs

International Higher Education's new function for cultural connectivity

- brining young leaders together beyond national boundaries
- thinking together about cross-fields issues from the multi-disciplinary approach

Preparing for an academic platform to discuss and to cooperate together

(ex) UNU and Sophia---MOU for Academic Credit Transfer