The United Nations University and Shimadzu Corporation cordially invite you to attend a signing ceremony, which will include a question and answer session and photo opportunity, on 12 November at UNU Headquarters in Tokyo.

UNU Rector Konrad Osterwalder and Shimadzu Corp. President and CEO Akira Nakamoto will sign an agreement to continue for another three years the project on Environmental Monitoring and Governance in the Asian Coastal Hydrosphere, a UNU-led effort that Shimadzu has been supporting since 1996. This public and private-sector partnership is aimed at enhancing the chemical analysis capabilities of participating institutes through hands-on training and monitoring activities with analytical instruments provided to project partners by Shimadzu.

The new agreement is for the project’s sixth phase (2012–2015), which will target the monitoring of perfluorochemicals (PFCs) in environmental samples. PFCs are a group of synthetic chemicals that are persistent in the environment and can accumulate in humans and wildlife, leading to adverse health consequences.

This sixth phase of the project will strengthen the PFC analytical capacities of the project partners. Shimadzu will provide the partners with liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry equipment for research analysis.

It is expected that the analytical capacities developed through this phase will spread to other Asian countries as well as to developing countries that now lack such capacities.

To confirm your attendance at the signing ceremony, or for more information about this project, please contact Eiko Takashita, UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace (takashita@unu.edu).

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