Roundtable on
Building Educations and Research Capacity in Africa
How to Support Young Researchers for Sustainable Development

May 26 (Tue), 2015
12:45 - 15:00

Venue: Ascot Hall I, Hotel Okura
Tokyo South Wing, B2F

Language: English

As a side event of the Global Research Council Meeting 2015, the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability will organize, jointly with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and the National Research Foundation, South Africa, a roundtable discussion on challenges and opportunities for supporting young researchers engaged in education and research for sustainable development, especially in Africa. This roundtable aims at providing an open and informal platform for exchanging views on issues of critical concern to the GRC – that is, how to promote capacity building of young researchers.

Following a short video depicting sustainable development concerns in Africa, the meeting will hear issue-raising presentations by two young researchers engaged in education and research for sustainable development, especially in Africa, and then engage in an open discussion.

**PROGRAMME**

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| 12:45-13:00 | PART1| Opening remarks
Dr. Makoto Asashima, Executive Director, JSPS
Dr. Gansen Pillay, Deputy CEO: RISA, NRF
Dr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, Director, UNU-IAS |
| 13:00-13:10 | PART2| Introductory Video: “World River Story According to Next Generation”               |
| 13:10-14:10 | PART3| Issues and challenges for building young researchers’ capacity for sustainable development
Presentations for issue-raising:
1. Dr. Divine Fuh, Lecturer, University of Cape Town (South Africa)
2. Dr. Orleans Mfune, Lecturer, University of Zambia (Zambia)
3. Dr. Eino Mvula, CEO, NCRST (Namibia)
4. Dr. Julia Tagüeña Parga, Deputy Director General for Scientific Development CONACYT (Mexico)
Moderator: Prof. Masafumi Nagao (UNU-IAS) |
| 14:10-15:00 | PART4| Opportunities for supporting capacity building of young researchers
- Presentation of a review of Japan-South Africa collaborative research activities under the joint JSPS-NRF support scheme for research
- Roundtable discussion
Moderator: Dr. Aldo Stroebel (NRF, South Africa) |

Organized by
United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
National Research Foundation, South Africa

Supported by Embassy of the Republic of South Africa in Japan
**SPEAKER PROFILES**

**PRESENTERS**

**Dr. Divine Fuh**  
Lecturer, University of Cape Town, South Africa  
Dr. Divine Fuh is a lecturer in Social Anthropology at the University of Cape Town. He received a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Basel, Switzerland, MA in Development Studies from the University of Botswana, and B.Sc.(Hons) in Journalism, Mass Communications and Political Science from the University of Buea, Cameroon. Before joining UCT, he was Senior Researcher/Lecturer at the Chair for Research & Methodology in the Institute for Sociology, University of Basel, Switzerland. He previously taught at the Universities of Cape Town, Western Cape, and Stellenbosch, and has been visiting research fellow at the Centre for Modern Oriental Studies (ZMO) Berlin, Germany, guest at the African Studies Centre in Leiden, Netherlands, visiting fellow at the University of Brasilia, Brazil, visiting instructor at the University of Tokyo, and a visiting lecturer at the University of Basel. His new project entitled “Fixing the City: African Cities within the Rural-Urban Continuum” examines questions related to precarity, sustainability in Africa (with thematic focus on water scarcity, housing, youth entrepreneurship); especially how people seek ways of smiling in the midst of suffering. Fuh has written on how urban African youth imagine alternative possibilities and seek to establish stable futures in the midst of uncertainty. Fuh is a member of the Next Generation Researchers. He was Founding Managing Editor of Langaa Research & Publishing CIG; is currently Editor of SpearsMedia Publishing & Design House.

**Dr. Orleans Mfune**  
Lecturer, University of Zambia, Zambia  
Dr. Orleans Mfune is a Lecturer in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Zambia. He is also the Assistant Dean (Research) for the School of Natural Sciences. Orleans Mfune holds a PhD in Geography from the University of Glasgow (Scotland), a Master of Human Ecology and a Postgraduate Diploma in Human Ecology from Vrije Universities Brussels (VUB) in Belgium. His current research interests include environmental governance in Africa, land use and tenure in Southern Africa, links between conservation and sustainable development and urbanization and environmental pressures in city peripheries. Orleans Mfune has published in areas such as energy poverty and rural development, agriculture sustainability, common-pool resources management and participatory conservation.

**Dr. Julia Tagüeña Parga**  
Deputy Director General for Scientific Development CONACYT, Mexico  
Dr. Julia Tagüeña is Deputy Director General for Scientific Development at the Mexican National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT). For over 25 years, she has been a research professor at the Energy Research Center of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), of which she also served as Director. She studied physics at UNAM and obtained a PhD at Oxford University. Her main fields of research are solid-state physics and renewable energies, and she has also worked extensively on science communication. She is a member of the Mexico’s National Research System, with the highest rank, and of different societies such the Mexican Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Physics of the United Kingdom.

**Dr. Eino Mvula**  
CEO, NCRST, Namibia  
Dr. Eino Mvula is the founding Chief Executive Officer of the NCRST. He holds a Bachelor of Science Cum Laude majoring in Chemistry and Mathematics from the University of Namibia (UNAM), a Bachelor of Science Honours (BSc.hons) and Master of Science (MSc) in Chemistry from the University of Cape Town. Dr. Mvula completed a PhD-Doctoral research programme at the Max-Planck Institute for Bioinorganic Chemistry, in Muelheim der Ruhr, Germany in Collaboration. He also holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from the University of South Africa (UNISA) and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from the University of Cape Town, Graduate School of Business. Prior to joining the NCRST, Dr. Mvula worked at the Namibian Standards Institution (NSI) as the General Manager: Regulatory and Consumer Protection responsible for testing, inspection, and metrology services. He also served in a position of acting Director of the Sam Nujoma Marine and Coastal Resources Research Centre at UNAM and as Senior Lecturer at the University of Namibia. Dr. Mvula has published extensively in numerous peer reviewed international journals. He is a Commissioner of the National Planning Commission, and also serves on the Board of the Multidisciplinary Research Centre (MRC) of UNAM and on the Natural Science Advisory Board of the School of Health and Applied Sciences at the Polytechnic of Namibia.

**PROF. MASAFUMI NAGAO**  
Coordinator, UNU-IAS  
Masafumi Nagao is Visiting Professor and Programme Adviser at the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. He serves as Coordinator of UNU-IAS Project on Education for Sustainable Development in Africa (ESDA), which supports graduate level capacity development programmes in sustainable development conducted by 8 leading African universities in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Zambia. Following graduate education in economic policy at Hitotsubashi University (Tokyo), he worked in research/teaching positions at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Hiroshima University, International Christian University, and the University of Tokyo. His current research interest lies in programme and policy evaluation for sustainable development.

**RAPPORTEUR**

**Dr. Aldo Stroebel**  
National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa  
Aldo Stroebel is Executive Director of International Relations and Cooperation at the National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa. Previously, he held various teaching and international affairs-related positions at the University of Pretoria and the University of the Free State, South Africa. His research focus is agricultural education and training, smallholder livestock development and sustainable agriculture. In 2011, he was elected as one of 20 Founding Members of the South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS), under auspices of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf). He researched for his PhD in Sustainable Agriculture at the UFS and Cornell University, USA, and completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at Wageningen University and Research Centre, The Netherlands.

**Dr. Emmanuel Mutsiya**  
Project Researcher at the University of Tokyo  
Emmanuel Mutsiya is Assistant Professor at the University of Tokyo’s Graduate Program in Sustainability Science, Global Leadership Initiative and a Visiting Researcher at the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. He holds an MSc in Mathematics from Karlstad University in Sweden, an MA in Public Administration from International Christian University in Japan and a PhD in Sustainability Science from the University of Tokyo. He has worked as the ESDA Associate Coordinator with UNU-IAS and coordinates ESDA’s Next Generation Researchers Project. His research interests include sustainability science, higher education, urban development, rural-urban linkage, climate change, renewable energy, environmental assessment and impact evaluation.