



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



From  
the People  
of Japan



Office of the Science Advisor  
Prime Minister's Office



**Regional/Thematic Symposium on  
Broadening the Application of the Sustainability Science Approach  
in Support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:  
A Focus on Regional Experiences and  
Inputs for the Development of Sustainability Science Policy Guidelines**

**Berjaya Times Square Hotel  
Kuala Lumpur - Malaysia  
19 - 21 December 2016**

**PROGRAMME**

**DAY 1**

09:30

**OPENING SESSION**

Address by Professor Zakri Abdul Hamid, Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia  
Address by Mr Kazuo Akiyama, Senior Analyst for Policy Information, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Japan/MEXT)  
Address by Mr Irakli Khodeli, Programme Specialist, UNESCO Office in Jakarta

10:15

Introduction to the international UNESCO-Japan/MEXT Project on “Broadening the Application of the Sustainability Science Approach” and presentation of the objectives of the Symposium – Salvatore Aricò, UNESCO

10:30

*Coffee/tea break and photo of Symposium participants*

- 11:15 **PANEL 1: Achieving transdisciplinarity in research and education, and the role of science and knowledge in attaining sustainability: An introduction**
- An overview of sustainability science – **Kazuhiko Takeuchi**, University of Tokyo
- Inter- and trans-disciplinarity in social sciences – **Mathieu Denis**, International Social Science Council
- Transdisciplinary research for sustainability – **Jan Monteverde Haakonsen**, Research Council of Norway
- Sustainability science and transdisciplinary education – **Maik Adomssent**, Leuphana University of Lüneburg
- Plenary discussion
- 13:00 *Lunch break*
- 14:30 **PANEL 2: Sustainability in Asia and the Pacific: Conserving natural resources and promoting higher education**
- Sustainability science in action: The Malaysia experience
- **Prof Dato' Dr Nor Aieni Mokhtar**, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT)
  - **Dr Suzyrman Sibly**, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)
  - **Prof Dato' Dr Mazlin Mokhtar**, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
  - **Prof Datuk Dr Ibrahim Komoo**, Langkawi Research Center, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
  - **Datuk Dr Abdul Rashid Abdul Malik**, Pulau Banding Foundation
  - **Datuk Dr Denison Jayasooria**, Malaysia CSO Alliance on SDG
  - **Prof Dr Raha Abdul Rahim**, Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE)
- Gaps and best practices in sustainability in Asia and the Pacific – **Irakli Khodeli**, UNESCO Office in Jakarta
- Plenary discussion
- 15:30 **PANEL 3: Human development and environmental sustainability in the Arab States**
- Future of transdisciplinarity research to tackle sustainability challenges in the Arab States – **Muhammad Saidam**, International Council for Science
- Capacity needs and challenges to achieve sustainability in the Arab States – **Mohamed Saber**, Egyptian National Research Center
- Plenary discussion
- 16:30 *Coffee/tea break*
- 17:00 **PANEL 4: Transdisciplinarity and solution-oriented research for interconnected challenges in Africa**
- Sustainable urban development in Africa: Challenges and solution-oriented research approaches – **David Mungai**, Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies
- Sustainability science field research: A case study of Ghana – **Osamu Saito**, United Nations University (*remote participation*)
- Plenary discussion
- 18:00 Wrap-up of Day 1 by the Rapporteur
- 18:30 *Social reception and individual video interviews*

## **DAY 2**

09:30

### **PANEL 5: Transdisciplinary problematics and problematizing transdisciplinarity in Europe and North America**

Priorities and dilemmas for transdisciplinarity in research and education – **Luiz Oosterbeek**, International Council of Philosophy and Human Sciences

Integrated environmental humanities and social sciences as 'transformative cornerstones' of global change research design – **Steven Hartman**, Mid Sweden University, Department of Tourism and Geography and the European Tourism Research Institute (ETOUR)

Sustainability universities: The case of Leuphana University of Lüneburg – **Maik Adomssent**, Leuphana University of Lüneburg

Plenary discussion

11:00

*Coffee/tea break*

11:30

### **PANEL 6: Scientific and technological advances for sustainability in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Application of transdisciplinary research to climate change adaptation in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) – **Leonard Nurse**, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of the West Indies

Transdisciplinary research in heritage and archaeology in Latin America and the Caribbean – **Erika Robrahn-Gonzalez**, State University of Campinas

12:30

Intersessional lecture: Mapping Sustainability Science – Initiatives at RELX Group – **Anders Karlsson**, ELSEVIER

Plenary discussion

13:00

*Lunch break*

14:30

### **Breakout Groups: Principles of Sustainability Science; Guidelines for Research; Guidelines for Education**

*(Coffee break will be provided simultaneously to the groups.)*

17:00

Presentation of breakout group recommendations and Plenary discussion

18:00

Wrap-up of Day 2 by the Rapporteur

18:30

Joint meeting of the Steering Committee / Drafting Sub-Committee of the UNESCO-Japan/MEXT Project on "Broadening the Application of the Sustainability Science Approach" *(closed session)*

### **DAY 3**

- 09:30            **PLENARY SESSION**: Next steps in promoting transdisciplinarity in research and education at the regional level, and formulation of recommendations for the UNESCO Sustainability Science Policy Guidelines
- Session Co-chairs – **Mathieu Denis**, International Social Science Council and **Kazuhiko Takeuchi**, University of Tokyo
- 11:00            *Coffee/tea break*
- 11:30            **PLENARY SESSION** (ctd.)
- 12:30            Next steps related to the UNESCO-Japan/MEXT Project on “Broadening the Application of the Sustainability Science Approach in light of the Symposium conclusions and recommendations – **Salvatore Aricò**, UNESCO
- 12:40            Web Knowledge Platform of the Sustainability Science Project – **Christine A. Iskandar**, UNESCO
- 12:50            **Closing session**
- Remarks by the Host or the Host’s representative
- Remarks by the UNESCO Representative
- 13:00            *Lunch break*
- 14:30            Press Conference
- 15:00            *Cultural visits in Kuala Lumpur (optional, on an individual basis)*  
onward