

The University Panel Symposium on Planetary Health for the G7 Hiroshima Summit
**“Planetary Health for a Sustainable Global Environment:
Open Up the Future by Interdisciplinary Research” Report**

[Overview]

Date: April 21, 2023 (Fri) 13:00-17:00 (JST)

Location: Phoenix International Center MIRAI CREA, Hiroshima University, Japan / ZOOM Hybrid

Organizer: The IDEC Institute, Hiroshima University, **Co-organizer:** Nagasaki University

Supporting Organizations: Health and Global Policy Institute, Planetary Health Alliance, Planetary Health Alliance Japan Hub, Friends of WHO Japan, Higashi Hiroshima City, Future Earth, Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering

[Program]

13:00 Opening session

Opening remark :

Shinji KANEKO, Executive Vice President (Global Initiatives), Hiroshima University

Junko TANAKA, Executive Vice President (Kasumi Campus, Faculty Personnel and Public Relations),
Hiroshima University,

Remarks from our honored guests :

Kiyoshi KUROKAWA, Chairman, Health and Global Policy Institute

Explanatory introduction:

Saori KASHIMA, Director/Associate Professor of Center for the Planetary Health and Innovation Science
(PHIS), The IDEC Institute, Hiroshima University

13:30 Open symposium: Planetary Health for a Sustainable Global Environment: Open Up the Future by
Interdisciplinary Research

Moderator: Fumito MARUYAMA, Professor of PHIS, The IDEC Institute, Hiroshima University

Keynote Speech: Antoni Plasència Taradach,
General Director of Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)

15:00 The University Panel Symposium on Planetary Health

Moderator: Yasuhide NAKAMURA, President of Friends of WHO Japan

Panelist:

Yasuhiko SUZUKI,

Distinguished Professor, International Institute for Zoonosis Control, Hokkaido University

Keiko NAKAMURA,

Professor, the Department of Global Health Entrepreneurship, Tokyo Medical and Dental University

Masahiro HASHIZUME,

Professor, the Department of Global Health Policy Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo
Chiho WATANABE,

Dean/Professor, Interfaculty Initiative in Planetary Health, Nagasaki University

Akimasa FUJIWARA,

Professor of PHIS, The IDEC Institute / Deputy Director of Graduate School of Advanced Science and
Engineering, Hiroshima University

16:45 Closing session

Hiroshima Planetary Health Declaration

Yasuhide NAKAMURA, President of Friends of WHO Japan

Closing remark:

Yoko SHINPUKU, Vice President (International Public Relations), Hiroshima University

[Report]



In response to the G7 Hiroshima Summit (May 18-21 2023), Hiroshima University, together with five leading planetary health universities in Japan, hosted the University Panel Symposium on Planetary Health. At the symposium, following the "The São Paulo Declaration on Planetary Health" (October 2021) which calls for researchers and educators to engage in transdisciplinary approaches, we shared existing educational systems and practical research in Planetary Health and discussed the role of universities in society.

In the first part, Dr Antoni Plasència Taradach, General Director of Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), gave a keynote speech titled "Planetary Health: an urgent global need". He introduced ISGlobal's planetary health initiatives with a strong message of "No public health without planetary health" referred to in the article in the Lancet. To solve various intertwined issues, he highlighted the necessity of multi-disciplinary research, in which questions and objectives be first shared and people from various fields or positions work together to come up with solutions.

In the second part, the university panel discussion was held moderated by Dr Yasuhide NAKAMURA the president of the Friends of WHO Japan with professors from five universities leading planetary health in Japan. All panelists share their research and education on planetary health and discussed what is needed for further inter- and trans-disciplinary research.

Specifically, Dr Sadahiko SUZUKI, Hokkaido University, introduced their education system and research on "One-health" and "Planetary health" at the graduate school striving to train zoonosis control experts who can take the lead in countermeasures against zoonoses at the scene of outbreaks. Next, Dr Keiko NAKAMURA, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, explained the planetary health education framework proposed by the Planetary Health Alliance and introduced the graduate course on Planetary Health at their university. Dr Masahiro HASHIZUME, The University of Tokyo, introduced the latest research on health effects related to climate change.

Also, global efforts following the conclusion of COP26 were introduced. Then he highlighted the necessity of the construction of "climate-resilient healthcare systems". Dr Chiho WATANABE, Nagasaki University, introduced the Planetary Health Curriculum for all new undergraduate students, the Interfaculty Initiative in Planetary Health for doctoral students, and the Planetary Health Report Card, an international student project. Finally, Dr Akimasa FUJIWARA, Hiroshima University, introduced the transdisciplinary research project "Community-oriented practice for planetary healthy ageing", in which they combine the concept of healthy ageing and planetary health that was launched in April by the PHIS of the IDEC Institute.

Then, in a panel discussion, moderator Dr Yasuhide NAKAMURA, panelists from five universities, and also Dr Taradach from ISGlobal joined and discussed 1) research, 2) human resource development, and 3) the role of Japan in more actively promoting transdisciplinary research of planetary health.

In the "Research", the following issues in transdisciplinary research were mainly discussed: Differences in viewpoints and language between researchers in each discipline are one of the major barriers to transdisciplinary research. One of the clues to tackling this issue is to first set common issues and questions, and bring together solutions from people in various disciplines or standpoints. The importance of changing from a research-oriented (from a research perspective) to a social issue-oriented (from a perspective of being with the society) was emphasized for transdisciplinary research in planetary health. By using the term "planetary health", we can find a new connection across various issues and solutions that have been set separately so far. Within these connections, new initiatives come up, and creating them is also related to the "new science".

In the "Human resource development", the following points were discussed: the young generation must participate in transdisciplinary research in a natural way. It is urged to establish a transdisciplinary education and research network to achieve the mission of Planetary Health, and it is necessary to jointly collaborate to establish those systems together.

Finally, as for the role of Japan, the following points were discussed: it is necessary to reaffirm Japan's traditional culture which is nature worship and its way of living in harmony with nature inherited, such as "Satochi", "Satoyama", "Satoumi", that is Socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes. Recognizing these traditions passed down to children and grandchildren is also one of the practical approaches to planetary health. Such local solutions exist not only in Japan but also in other countries and regions. These ways people live harmonizing with nature should share with the international community. In addition, from Japan, which has been already facing a super-ageing society, it is also important to disseminate initiatives for healthy ageing together with planetary health.

These practice research and activities in planetary health need to go with the society. This should go beyond the boundaries of interdisciplinary research within a university, and go to a transdisciplinary research that is with society. In all of these approaches, it is necessary to return to and reaffirm the spirit of seeking peace. This message should be sent from Hiroshima to the international community.

Finally, Dr Yasuhide NAKAMURA and all panelists summarize these discussions as "Hiroshima Planetary Health Declaration 2023: The Pursuit of Peace under the Great Transition: Education and Research for Planetary Health Science with Society ". Then, this declaration was issued. This declaration was printed on paper recycled from origami cranes (Orizuru) delivered to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and signed by the moderator and panelists of the panel discussion as representatives.

Total participants number: about 130 from 53 organizations in 15 countries