上智大学
SOPHIA UNIVERSITY

SDGs & Sustainability Report 2020
-English edition-

Sophia School Corporation
Office of Sophia Sustainability Promotion

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Sophia University SDGs & Sustainability
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/aboutsophia/overview/sophiaSDGs/index.html

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VEGETABLE OIL INK

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT G☉ALS

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Message from the President

Yoshiaki Terumichi
President, Sophia University

Guided by a mission rooted in the firm founding spirit and educational philosophy of a Catholic Jesuit university, Sophia University has evolved as a highly global university. Our name "Sophia" comes from a Greek word that means "divine wisdom that elevates a person to an ideal human." An "ideal human" is a person who is fair, supports and walks with the marginalized, and addresses global issues with a sense of ownership and mission.

Our fruits of success in fostering humans who live "for Others, with Others" can be witnessed in the many alumni who are giving back to society harnessing their individual abilities to be leaders in diverse fields, including international organizations such as the United Nations, the business world, NGOs, and education. This is evidence that as students, our alumni not only nurtured expertise, educated knowledge and language skills, but also fostered the spirit embedded in our name, and that they are acting and living by it in society.

It is widely understood that the SDGs, which approach the various issues challenging the world today, such as poverty, food access, environment, education, and ethics, are goals that all humans living on Earth should be conscious of for the achievement a sustainable world. We are proud that our tradition since our founding to engage in research, education, and social action guided by our determination to contribute to fairness, the common good, and international public benefits resonate with the SDGs. We must also humbly acknowledge that amid the rapid globalization of society and dramatic advancements towards a highly information-based society, we cannot address these challenges alone.

With a view to the focus on the SDGs and the various actions taken by different organizations, we seek to continue to be committed to achieving a world where no one is left behind and harmony between the global environment and human society. To this end, we will value our connections and partnerships with various organizations and individuals in Japan and overseas and never cease to explore what we can do. Here, we will introduce the diverse efforts that Sophia University has earnestly made in the hope that readers will share our strong dedication to actions for the SDGs.

Message from Director of Office of Sustainability Promotion

Augustine Sali
Trustee for General Affairs Director,
Office of Sophia Sustainability Promotion

Sophia School Corporation engages in social action while pursuing research and education activities based on its founding philosophy and educational spirit. As a Jesuit educational institution, we have included contributing to solving social issues related to "poverty, environment, education and ethics" that threaten "human dignity" as a guiding principle of our medium-to long-term plan "Grand Layout 2.1"

Sophia School Corporation will further promote its efforts to fulfill its social responsibility in line with global efforts create a better world. To this end, we have decided to build a framework for the active promotion of the four issues that the Society of Jesus will address with priority during the next decade (UAPs: Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus) and the globally pursued SDGs (17 sustainable development goals).

By establishing Office of Sophia Sustainability Promotion, we have been able to identify as our achievements, the research and education, as well as social action by each institution of Sophia School Corporation that are relevant to promoting sustainability goals, including the SDGs. Therefore, we are increasingly expected to strongly communicate our efforts to society. At the same time, this has allowed us to monitor progress and organize a reporting line. We are determined to further accelerate the development of campus settings for the promotion of diversity and the achievement of inclusive society.

Thank you for your continued support for the collaborative efforts by students, faculty and staff.

UAPs
The Society of Jesus, which established Sophia School Corporation, set out at the General Congregation 32 in 1975 set out the "promotion of faith" as a service of faith. Then, the Jesuit General Congregation 35 in 2008 focused on environmental destruction, as well as refugee and migrant issues, which had emerged as an aspect of the shadows of globalization.
As a result, it stressed the importance and urgency of "reconciliation," and highlighted "reconciliation with God," "reconciliation with one another," and "reconciliation with creation." In 2019, apostolic priorities were outlined in the Universal Apostolic Preferences of the Society of Jesus (UAP):
A. To show the way to God through the Spiritual Exercises and discernment;
B. To walk with the poor, the outcasts of the world, those whose dignity has been violated, in a mission of reconciliation and justice;
C. To accompany young people in the creation of a hope-filled future;
D. To collaborate in the care of our Common Home.

These preferences are consistent with Sophia School Corporation's promotion of sustainability, as well as with the SDGs.

Encyclical Laudato Si' and Sophia
SACRU (The Strategic Alliance of Catholic Research Universities)

When Pope Francis visited Sophia University in 2019, His Holiness referred to his encyclical on the environment Laudato Si' published in 2015 and said,
"This university should be a center not only of intellectual formation, but also a place where a better society and a more hope-filled future can take shape. In the spirit of I would add that love for nature, so typical of Asian cultures, should here find expression in a sapient and foresighted concern for the protection of the earth, our common home."
Sophia University is determined to follow this spirit and draw on its Catholic and Jesuit networks to proactively engage in actions to protect the environment. Some of our engagement are introduced herein:

SACRU collaborative research on Laudato Si' in Action

Maria Manzon, Associate Professor
Faculty of Human Sciences,
Department of Education

【Abstract】 Laudato Si' in Higher Education
The Strategic Alliance of Catholic Research Universities (SACRU) is a network of universities dedicated to research and teaching excellence, engagement and global collaboration informed by Catholic social teaching. Sophia University is ne of eight Catholic universities from across the world participating in SACRU.

The SACRU Working Group 2 (WG2) has been tasked with understanding how SACRU member universities have responded to the Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical Laudato Si': On Care For Our Common Home. Laudato Si' (LS) describes the roots of our ecological crises, invites all people into a dialogue about how we are shaping our collective future, and calls for a renewal of humans' relationship with nature through ecological conversion.
SACRU WG2 is conducting a survey as the first stage in its mission to promote Laudato Si' principles in the heart of SACRU universities from the perspectives of research, teaching, service, and campus life.

【Future prospects】 This collaborative research will:
1) Create evidence on how LS is integrated in the campus life of SACRU members,
2) Strengthen the role of SACRU universities in research and public engagement thus promoting LS principles outside the university, and
3) Establish a dialogue with secular universities.
https://www.sacru-alliance.net/
https://www.sacru-alliance.net/working-group-2-catholic-identity-and-laudato-si-the-common-home-and-social-justice/
https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

The United Nations and SDGs activities of Sophia University

Sophia University United Nations Weeks

As an institution of higher education participating in the United Nations Academic Impact initiative, Sophia University organizes "Sophia University United Nations Weeks," which started in Academic Year 2014, every year in early June and late October, around United Nations Day (October 24).

With the concept "To consider our world and the future through U.N activities," various events and projects are held including international symposia, lectures, photo exhibitions and movie shows.

These events and projects are opened to our students as well as to the public and every time we have a large audience of working people and high school students. Since Academic Year 2016, we have put great efforts into holding lectures and symposia on SDGs.

https://www.sophia.ac.jp/jpn/global/program/UNWeeks.html (in Japanese)

United Nations Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact (hereafter UNGC) was announced by then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in an address to the World Economic Forum in 1999, and was officially launched at UN Headquarters in New York City on 26 July 2000. It is an international framework under which business sectors and non-business organizations are expected to take responsible and creative leads for the society toward the sustainable development.

At present more than 13800 entities in 161 countries and regions have signed up for UNGC and conducting the Ten Principles in the areas of human rights, labor, the environment and anti-corruption, and striving after the SDGs.

Sophia University became a signatory member of UNGC in May 2015 and also affiliated with the Global Comact Network Japan (GCNJ), the local area network. Since then Sophia has been jointly hosting a series of symposiums with GCNJ during the UN Weeks in collaboration with the member companies and UN organizations.

Human Rights	Principle 1	Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights
	Principle 2	make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses
Labour	Principle 3	Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining
	Principle 4	the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour
	Principle 5	the effective abolition of child labour
	Principle 6	the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation
Environment	Principle 7	Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges
	Principle 8	undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility
	Principle 9	encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies
Anti-Corruption	Principle 10	Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery

United Nations Global Compact   https://www.unglobalcompact.org/
Global Compact Network Japan (in Japanese)   http://www.ungcjn.org/

Sophia University joined UNU SDG–Universities Platform

About SDG–UP : This new academic platform was established by UNU-IAS in 2020. It engages Japanese universities to collaborate and exchange dialogue on opportunities and challenges in promoting the SDGs. SDG–UP is designed to contribute to the sustainable development of Japan and the world through collaboration between United Nations University and Japanese universities. The project activities aim to take the lead in transforming the individual behavior of stakeholders involved in the higher education sector, aiming to contribute towards realising a more resilient society, and supporting individuals to take actions to ensure a more sustainable future for all.
https://ias.unu.edu/en/sdg-up

Sophia University hosted a special lecture by UN Secretary-General António Guteress and his Dialogue with Students

Sophia University in Tokyo hosted a special lecture by UN Secretary-General António Guterres on 14 December 2017 during his first visit to Japan as the Secretary-General. The title of the lecture was "Global Challenges: The Role of Human Security." The event was supported by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Information Center in Tokyo. After the lecture, Sophia University also hosted a dialogue between the Secretary-General and 30 students from Japanese universities linked with the UN Academic Impact program.
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/news/2017/0117news.html

Visit of Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of UN General Assembly, to Sophia University on 31 August 2018

Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, who was inaugurated as president of the UN General Assembly on 17 September 2018, came to Japan in August 2018 and visited Sophia University in Tokyo to have a dialogue with students and professors.
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/news/2018/news1119PUNGA.html

United Nation's Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)

Sophia School Corporation signed the United Nation's Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) in November 2015 in order to implement the principles of UN Global Compact in our investment management practice. PRI's mission is that all investors incorporate ESG issues into investment analysis and decision-making processes for realization of a sustainable society. By signing the PRI, we incorporate ESG issues into our investment policy consistent with Sophia University's founding philosophy. As a school corporation and a responsible asset owner, we are committing to contribution towards the global sustainability issues all of us face through ESG investment.
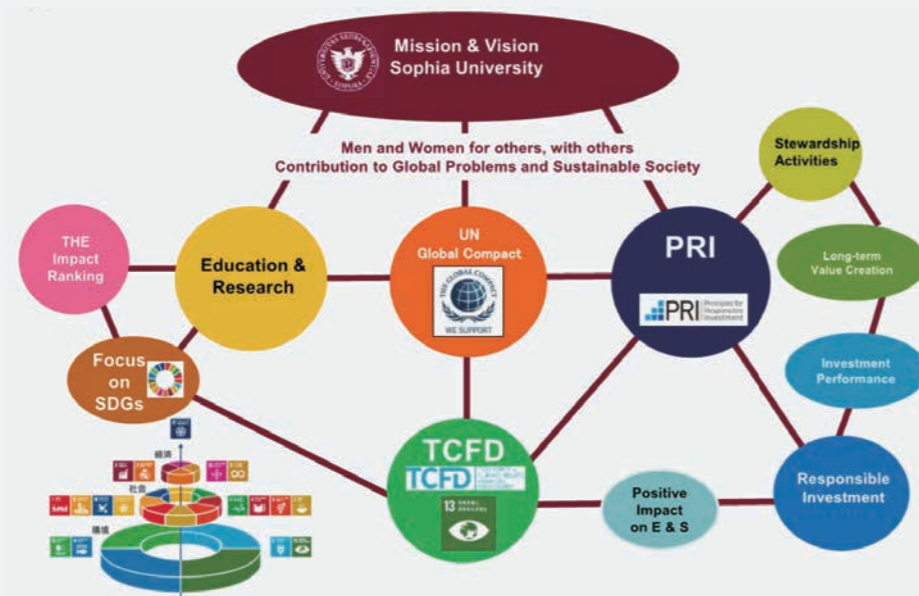https://www.sophia-sc.jp/en/esg.html

Sophia School Corporation's ESG Initiatives

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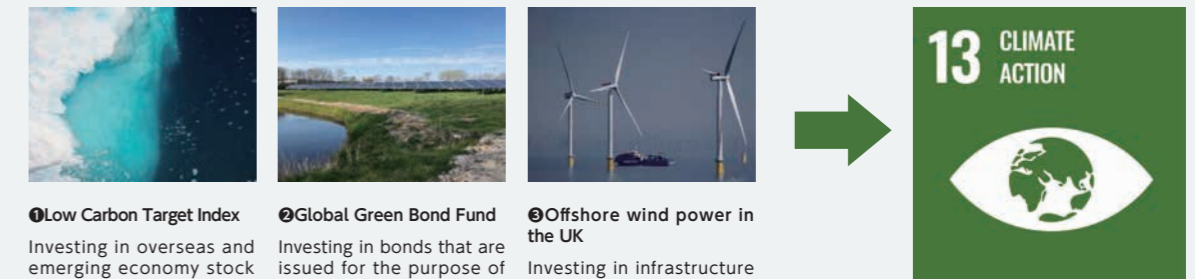
https://www.sophia-sc.jp/en/esg.html

Contents of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and main practices of Sophia University

●Carefully explore and adopt high-quality investment products that embody ESG investment
→Principle 1: We will incorporate ESG issues into investment analysis and decision-making processes. (integration)
●Reflect ESG investment policies upon investment guidelines and voting rights policy
→Principle 2: We will be active owners and incorporate ESG issues into our ownership policies and practices. (engagement)
●Conduct interviews and monitoring with contractors on how they incorporate ESG elements into decision-making.
→Principle 3: We will seek appropriate disclosure on ESG issues by the entities in which we invest; Principle 4: We will promote acceptance and implementation of the Principles within the investment industry.
●Disclose and report the progress made in the abovementioned to the PRI Secretariat.
→Principle 6: We will each report on our activities and progress towards implementing the Principles.
●Collaborate with domestic and overseas signatories by harnessing the PRI Japan network.
→Principle 5: We will work together to enhance our effectiveness in implementing the Principles.
●Offer courses addressing ESG and the SDGs and provide students, who will be leaders of the next generation, with the opportunity to learn about the social impact and accountability imposed by finance and investment.

Challenges of Sustainable Investing

❶Low Carbon Target Index
Investing in overseas and emerging economy stock that are linked to market indices, while reducing carbon exposure of investment portfolio

❷Global Green Bond Fund
Investing in bonds that are issued for the purpose of procuring funds for projects that address global climate change issues

❸Offshore wind power in the UK
Investing in infrastructure that will contribute to the global transition to renewable energy

❹Microfinance Fund
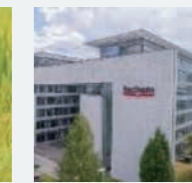Investing that creates socially and environmentally positive impact on low-income groups

❺Venture Capital Fund
Social impact investing with clear aims for life quality improvements in poverty-stricken areas.

❻JICA bonds
Investment supporting projects that contribute to solving social issues (poverty eradication, sustainable economic growth) in developing regions

❼African Development Bank bonds
Investing that supports the financing of projects that improve access to water and sanitation, enhance healthcare systems, develop human resources, and create employment

❽Global Sustainability Fund
Investing in global equity that create value though long-term investment with an innovative approach to sustainability

❾SDGs impact investing
SDG impact-aligned investment in private assets that that also pursue economic returns by harnessing global platforms

Challenges of Sustainable Investing – understanding the climate change-induced risks that will challenge investing and university management as we seek a decarbonized society

●Why do we need portfolio climate risk analysis?
○Asset owners are responsible for the GHG emissions of investment destinations through the funds that they provide (asset owners' role driving responsible investment through manager relationships)
　・Enhance corporate incentive towards GHG reductions ➡ social return on investment
　・Deepen engagement between investors and companies based on climate risk analysis ⇒ collaboration toward zero-carbon management strategies ➡ social return on investment
○Carbon emissions and carbon intensity of investment destinations are critical factors that affect future corporate value (risk and return)
　・Fossil fuel reserves will undermine future corporate value (stranded assets)
　・By introducing carbon pricing measures, the progress made in the decarbonization of operations will have a direct impact on a company's competitiveness
○Global investors will accelerate divestment and portfolio decarbonization ➡ selling-pressure upon companies with high carbon exposure

Term	Climate change-induced risk on university management
Short-term	Impact on educational facilities (hardware), impact on research and education activities due to the suspension of infrastructure functions, increased economic support for students, damage to investment target assets (companies)
Medium-term	Economic vitality will lead to reduced student fees and poor investment performance, resulting in vulnerable financial foundations
Long-term	Risk of poor educational performance due to weaker financial foundations

University-wide Initiatives

SPSF (Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures)

Based on our initiative for the Top Global University Project, Sophia University is currently developing the "Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures (SPSF)," a new English-based undergraduate program was launched in the autumn semester of 2020.

As Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the UN, a wide range of global level issues related to war and conflicts, economic disparity, poverty, environment, education and more are required to be tackled by international communities. Against the backdrop of today's rapidly globalizing world, society is witnessing an eruption of such global issues transcending nations and regions and complex, difficult issues where diverse value systems collide. SPSF aims to establish curricula to work on finding solutions to these new issues and foster students' abilities to overcome them.
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/program/undergraduate_c/spsf/index.html

Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies

The school was established in 2005 to focus specifically on the environmental problems that constitute one of the greatest challenges we face today. The curriculum combines social and natural sciences, in recognition of the fact that effective environmental study spans a number of scholastic discipline, including law, policy, administration, economics, population, energy, and chemistry.
The school is devoted to create graduates equipped to serve effectively as business persons, specialists, or scholars in the area of environmental protection.
https://www.genv.sophia.ac.jp/english/

Sophia University Human Resources Center For International Cooperation

The Sophia University Human Resources Center For International Cooperation was established in July 2015 with the aim of fostering next-generation human resources who will lead international cooperation guided by Sophia University's educational spirit "Men and Women for Others, with Others"

In its long history extending across more than 100 years, Sophia University has graduated many outstanding human resources who lead international organizations and international cooperation. The center seeks to follow this Sophian tradition to support each student so that we may continue to send excellent leaders into the world.

Sophia University Human Resources Center For International Cooperation
https://dept.sophia.ac.jp/is/shric/

Sophia University Efforts for SDGs

SDGs activities of Sophia University Soccer Club SDGs Team (P.19) : Soccer clinic, waterfront cleanup, blood donation

GOAL 1 NO POVERTY

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Eradicating poverty in all its forms remains one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. While the number of people living in extreme poverty dropped by more than half between 1990 and 2015, too many are still struggling for the most basic human needs.
As of 2015, about 736 million people still lived on less than US$1.90 a day; many lack food, clean drinking water and sanitation. Rapid growth in countries such as China and India has lifted millions out of poverty, but progress has been uneven. Women are more likely to be poor than men because they have less paid work, education, and own less property.
Progress has also been limited in other regions, such as South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, which account for 80 percent of those living in extreme poverty. New threats brought on by climate change, conflict and food insecurity, mean even more work is needed to bring people out of poverty.
The SDGs are a bold commitment to finish what we started, and end poverty in all forms and dimensions by 2030. This involves targeting the most vulnerable, increasing basic resources and services, and supporting communities affected by conflict and climate-related disasters.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Sophia Research Branding Project

The Sophia Institute for Human Security (SIHS) considers poverty, environment, health care, immigrants and refugees, and peacebuilding as the five important human security issues for an international society.

The SIHS will work on the realization of human security through academic research by becoming an international center of excellence using social science research methods to design effective policies for institutions to solve these issues. The SIHS considers the following two basic policies as essential for the realization of human security:
1) To tackle the realization of human security through social science research results and 2) To promote research based on local circumstances and problems while collaborating with local researchers.

https://dept.sophia.ac.jp/is/sihs/eng/

Dominic Richardson, Esuna Dugarova, Daryl Higgins, Keiko Hirao, Despina Karamperidou, Zitha Mokomane, Mihaela Robila. 2019. Families, Family Policy and the Sustainable Development Goals. UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti

Hirao Keiko, Professor
Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies,
Master's (Doctoral) Program in Global Environmental Studies

【Abstract】
Governments worldwide are increasingly enacting family policies, which include cash transfers, child allowances, maternity / parental leave, and preschool education and care policies. It is because they recognize the role of families as an elementary unit of society. How do family policies affect different social progress goals defined in the SDGs in different parts of the world? Which family attributes at household impact the effectiveness of the previously identified family interventions?

This report tries to answer these questions by reviewing the literature on policy assessment on poverty reduction (SDG 1), improvements in health (SDG 3), inclusiveness in education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), youth employment (SDG 8), and reduction in violence (SDG 16). The findings show that family-focused interventions are most often positively evaluated. This may reflect, to some degree, a publication bias towards significant results. This research also found complementarities and trade-offs between individual family policies aligned to specific SDGs.

https://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/1092-families-family-policy-and-the-sustainable-development-goals.html
https://www.unicef-irc.org/article/1815-could-families-be-the-key-to-achieving-the-sdgs.html
https://www.unicef-irc.org/article/1998-families-key-for-fairer-future.html

Reflecting on the experiences of UN University Volunteers from Japan

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) program and Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU) in Japan launched a pilot initiative under the UN Youth Volunteer category in June 2013. During 2013-2014, 24 UN Youth Volunteers were deployed to UN entities worldwide. Since 2015, the program has expanded, with 17 university students selected annually from nine partner universities to serve as UN University Volunteers for 5-month assignments.

UNV partners with nine universities, who fund UN University Volunteer deployment under the KGU Program. These include: Kwansei Gakuin University, Osaka University, Akita International University, Sophia University, Tsukuba University, Toyo University, Meiji University, Meiji Gakuin University and Rikkyo University.

https://www.unv.org/Success-stories/reflecting-experiences-un-university-volunteers-japan

Student Organization "Sophia Refugee Support Group (SRSG)"

Sophia Refugee Support Group (SRSG) is a student led volunteer group based at Sophia University and founded in 2017. The group was established from a research project called Refugee Voices Japan from Professor David H. Slater's Digital Oral Narratives course at Sophia University. In the class, students conducted a total of over 200 hours' worth of interviews with refugees to hear their stories and relay them on a website*.

From those interviews, students recognized that refugees in Japan are not only intangible but are also commonly misrepresented despite the capabilities they possess that could contribute to Japan.

SRSG's mission is to provide direct support to refugees in Japan and spread awareness of the situation throughout Japanese society. To do so, SRSG organizes events to gather students and refugees and create an environment where both parties can interact and learn from each other, such as visiting the Shinagawa detention center to provide material and emotional support, delivery of food packages in partnership with Second Harvest Japan, shipping of personal hygiene packages, assistance in Japanese language instruction necessary for daily living, translation and research support for refugee application documents, as well as conducting fundraising events.

SRSG also aims to spread awareness about the refugee issue by planning workshops with organizations such as Amnesty International or the Japan Association for Refugees, as well as doing presentations in high schools nationwide to generate discussion among students. SRSG intends to promote recognition/learning of the reality of refugees here in Japan as well as gathering support from the general public for the refugees.

Web : https://refugeevoicesjapannet.wordpress.com/

Twitter : https://twitter.com/sophia_srsg

Facebook : https://www.facebook.com/sophiasrsg/

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/sophia.srsg/

GOAL 2 ZERO HUNGER
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Eradicating poverty in all its forms remains one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. While the number of people living in extreme poverty dropped by more than half between 1990 and 2015, too many are still struggling for the most basic human needs.
As of 2015, about 736 million people still lived on less than US$1.90 a day; many lack food, clean drinking water and sanitation. Rapid growth in countries such as China and India has lifted millions out of poverty, but progress has been uneven. Women are more likely to be poor than men because they have less paid work, education, and own less property.
Progress has also been limited in other regions, such as South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, which account for 80 percent of those living in extreme poverty. New threats brought on by climate change, conflict and food insecurity, mean even more work is needed to bring people out of poverty.
The SDGs are a bold commitment to finish what we started, and end poverty in all forms and dimensions by 2030. This involves targeting the most vulnerable, increasing basic resources and services, and supporting communities affected by conflict and climate-related disasters.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

NPO "TABLE FOR TWO Sophia University Branch"

The Sophia University branch of TABLE FOR TWO, (TFT) a Japanese NPO, aims to improve imbalances in food supplies between developing and developed countries. Today, the rates of starvation in developing countries and obesity in developed countries are both increasing, indicating that imbalance in global food supplies is a serious issue. The organization has created and caters healthy menus at five cafeterias in Sophia

University. For every meal from their menus sold at the cafeteria, 20 yen will be donated to a developing country through TFT, which can provide one school lunch for children. This not only helps children in developing countries with a healthy diet, but also contributes to eradicating global starvation, leading to achievement of the 2nd goal of the SDGs.
Due to the spread of the novel coronavirus, The TFT menu had to be temporally suspended in the school cafeteria. However, during the summer, the "TFT Home Project" was organized by SNS requesting to post pictures of specially made home-cooked dishes, followed by another project "Onigiri Action" for World Food Day on October 16, intending to deliver more school lunches to children around the world during the month of October by posting photos of onigiri (Japanese rice-balls) on SNS.
Through various activities as such TFT, Sophia aims to provide solutions for this issue.

Facebook : https://www.facebook.com/tablefor2sophia/

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/tftsophia/

Novel soil restoration strategy: Development of plant parasitic nematodes repelling system using repellent derived from the cellular slime mould

Saito Tamao, Professor
Faculty of Science and Technology,
Department of Materials and Life Sciences

【Abstract】
The cellular slime moulds live in the soil. Since many micro-organisms live in the soil, there are active interspecies chemical communications. It has long been expected that cellular slime moulds and nematodes would be closely related, as they live in the same soil and, share a common food source.
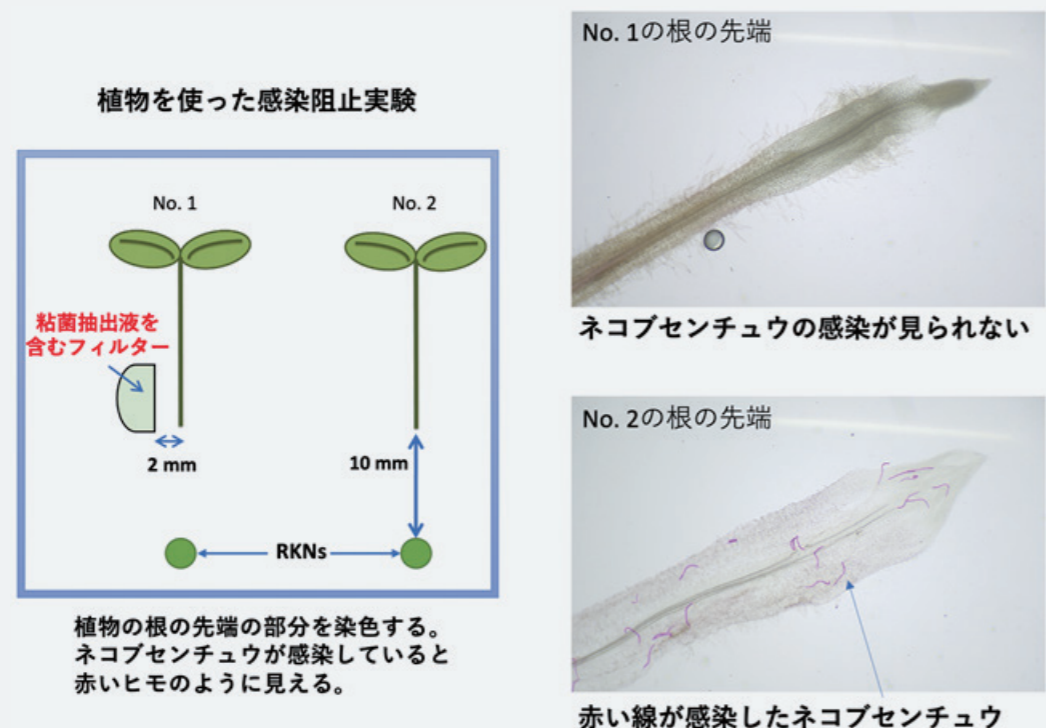We found that the cellular slime moulds repel plant-parasitic nematodes. This repellent activity is due to the chemical compound(s) released from cellular slime moulds. We would like to find a way to use this repellent activity to protect crops from plant-parasitic nematodes, which are difficult to control, and thus we hope to establish a method of plant-parasitic nematodes control that has a low environmental impact.

【Future prospects】
We would like to develop a novel soil restoration technology based on a nematode repellent system. At present, nematodes in the soil are killed by toxic pesticides, but the damage of crops caused by the explosive growth of the remaining nematodes in the soil is repeated. Therefore, we would like to develop a novel technology to reduce the density of plant-parasitic nematodes by continuously suppressing nematode infection in crops. This reduces the use of pesticides and improves the condition of the soil.
http://www.mls.sophia.ac.jp/~dicty/index.html
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/jpn/news/research/saitaku20201028.html

植物を使った感染阻止実験

No. 1
No. 2
粘菌抽出液を含むフィルター
2 mm
10 mm
RKNs
植物の根の先端の部分を染色する。ネコブセンチュウが感染していると赤いヒモのように見える。

No. 1の根の先端
ネコブセンチュウの感染が見られない

No. 2の根の先端
赤い線が感染したネコブセンチュウ

GOAL 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

We have made great progress against several leading causes of death and disease. Life expectancy has increased dramatically; infant and maternal mortality rates have declined, we've turned the tide on HIV and malaria deaths have halved.
Good health is essential to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda reflects the complexity and interconnectedness of the two. It takes into account widening economic and social inequalities, rapid urbanization, threats to the climate and the environment, the continuing burden of HIV and other infectious diseases, and emerging challenges such as noncommunicable diseases. Universal health coverage will be integral to achieving SDG 3, ending poverty and reducing inequalities. Emerging global health priorities not explicitly included in the SDGs, including antimicrobial resistance, also demand action.
But the world is off-track to achieve the health-related SDGs. Progress has been uneven, both between and within countries. There's a 31-year gap between the countries with the shortest and longest life expectancies. And while some countries have made impressive gains, national averages hide that many are being left behind. Multisectoral, rights -based and gender-sensitive approaches are essential to address inequalities and to build good health for all.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Health Center

The Health Center supports students so that they can lead a healthy student life, both mentally and physically. Doctors and nurses provide health consultations, first aid, and hospital referrals. Hospital referrals are issued based on the results of a medical examination or when it is deemed necessary for the student's study.
Feel free to visit us if you have any concerns or questions about your health.
Please note that we do not prescribe medicines or provide insurance treatment.

【Usage Guidance】
Note: Interviews with doctors are by appointment only. Make appointments at the Health Center or by phone.
Location: Health Center (Hoffmann Hall, 2nd Floor)
Office hour : Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30, 12:30-17:00 ※First-aid is available during the lunch break.
Phone: 03-3238-3394   Language: Japanese and English   Cost: Free

【Examples of a Consultation】
"I'm feeling overwhelmed. Should I visit a medical institution? If so, I'd like a referral to a hospital."
"I would like to be referred to a clinic around the university."
"I don't know which department I should go to for medical consultation."
"I would like to consult about women's specific health issues."
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/studentlife/support/HealthCenter/index.html

Physiological psychology on brain mechanisms of memory

Takashi Okada, Professor
Faculty of Human Sciences, Department of Psycology

【Abstract】
The hippocampus is regarded as one of the essential brain regions for memory function. We examined factors and processes that regulate long-term potentiation (LTP) in hippocampal synaptic transmission, and mechanisms of circadian rhythm in memory performance. Electrophysiological experiments using rodent hippocampal slice preparations and behavioral experiments using animals revealed that (1) Kv7/M potassium ion channels are involved in acetylcholine receptor activation-induced promotion of hippocampal CA1 LTP, (2) inhibition of CA1 LTP in the presence of pineal hormone melatonin is via the postsynaptic NO signaling pathway, and (3) circadian variation of spatial memory performance depends on the melatonin level.
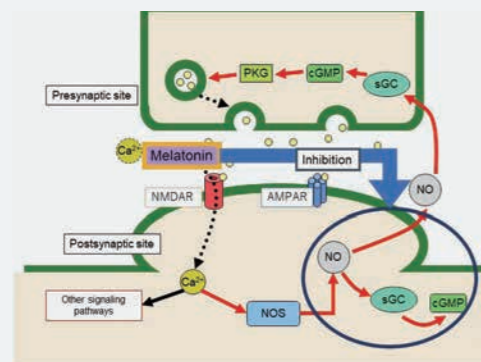
【Future prospects】
We propose that the elucidation of memory function in physiological psychology facilitates the understanding of essential mental processes in human adaptive behaviors and will lead to the development of effective support for memory disorders.

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1460-9568.2012.08127.x
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0168010210028038
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0166432813005378
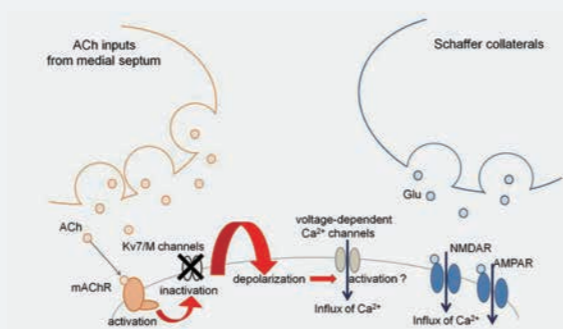

Proposed mechanisms of the inhibition of CA1 LTP in the presence of melatonin
(Neuro2010, reported by Yoshiyuki Takahashi & Takashi Okada)

Involvement of inactivation of Kv7/M channels in the enhancement of CA1 LTP by the activation of mAChRs
(Neuro2011, reported by Etsuko Suzuki & Takashi Okada)

Sophia Olympics & Paralympics Project

The "Sophia Olympics & Paralympics Project" was established in April 2016 by members of the staff, faculty, and students of Sophia University, based on the educational spirit of "Men and Women for Others, with Others." The goal of the project is to not only work towards the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic games but to increase opportunities for all that will lead to creating a borderless society.

The Paralympic Games recognize diversity and provide a fair opportunity for everyone to demonstrate their individuality and ability, and play an active role in society. It is an important event that will provide valuable clues to influence progress towards realizing an inclusive society.

So far, we have dispatched research teams to Rio de Janeiro, PyeongChang Winter Paralympic Games, among others. We have invited former President of the International Paralympic Committee, Philippe Craven for a guest lecture, conducted surveys on the barrier-free environment in public transportation, trained interpreters and language service volunteers, and held classes on inclusion and an inclusive society, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games. In addition, we have organized events to introduce current and former athletes.

https://dept.sophia.ac.jp/pj/beyond2020sopp/

Vocal-Tract Models to Visualize the Airstream of Human Breath and Droplets While Producing Speech
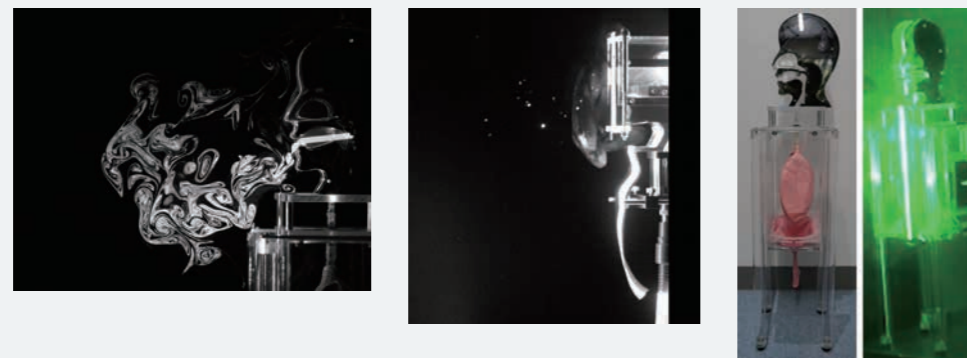
Takayuki Arai, Professor
Faculty of Science and Technology,
Department of Information and Communication Sciences

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, visualizing the airstream of human breath during speech production has become extremely important from the viewpoint of preventing infection. In addition, visualizing droplets and the larger drops expelled when we speak consonantal sounds may help for the same reason. One visualization technique is to pass a laser sheet through the droplet cloud produced by a human speaker. However, the laser poses certain health risks for human beings.

Therefore, we developed an alternative method to passing a laser against a human body in which we utilize physical models of the human vocal tract. First, we tested a head-shaped model with a lung model from our previous study to visualize the exhaled breath during vowel production (with and without a mask). Then, we implemented an extended version of the anatomical-type vocal-tract model introduced in our previous study. With this newly developed model, lips are made of the same flexible material that was used to form the tongue part in the previous model.

We also attached these lips to another previous model for producing sounds including /b/. Finally, the lip models were tested to visualize the droplet cloud including expelled drops present while producing a bilabial plosive sound.

Arai Laboratory: https://splab.net/
https://doi.org/10.21437/Interspeech.2021-449
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/news/2016/0530001.html

Sophia University Soccer Club SDGs Team

It's not only match results that matter for the SDG team at the Sophia University Soccer Club. The team intends to contribute to society through sports, inspired by SDG activities that are permeated at Sophia University. Its activities include cleaning along riverbanks and providing "soccer clinics" for local residents with opportunities to exercise and become familiar with soccer. In spring, team members volunteered in the activities of "Mizu-kan," the waterfront environmental group, with the aim of scenic community development for the Edogawa River, and participated in cleaning of the Shinkawa River waterfront.
Through those activities, not only was awareness being raised for current topics such as environmental conservation or degradation, but the team shared the key mindset of sustainability in "just do it, even for a little change."

Web : https://sophia-soccer.com/2021/
Twitter : https://twitter.com/sophia_soccer
Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/sophia_soccer_club/
YouTube : https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMZUJ5QOgxB2EHJqt04maqA
note : https://note.com/sophia_soccer/

GOAL 4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Since 2000, there has been enormous progress in achieving the target of universal primary education. The total enrollment rate in developing regions reached 91 percent in 2015, and the worldwide number of children out of school has dropped by almost half. There has also been a dramatic increase in literacy rates, and many more girls are in school than ever before. These are all remarkable successes.

Progress has also been tough in some developing regions due to high levels of poverty, armed conflicts and other emergencies. In Western Asia and North Africa, ongoing armed conflict has seen an increase in the number of children out of school. This is a worrying trend. While Sub-Saharan Africa made the greatest progress in primary school enrollment among all developing regions – from 52 percent in 1990, up to 78 percent in 2012 – large disparities still remain. Children from the poorest households are up to four times more likely to be out of school than those of the richest households. Disparities between rural and urban areas also remain high.

Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development. This goal ensures that all girls and boys complete free primary and secondary schooling by 2030. It also aims to provide equal access to affordable vocational training, to eliminate gender and wealth disparities, and achieve universal access to a quality higher education.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Student Organization "Meguko"

-Supporting education for children in India and the Philippines -
Meguko's predecessor, "Megumarenai-Kodomotachi-ni-Ai-no-Te-wo," was created in 1975 to support children in India who were unable to receive primary education. Decades later, it continues to provide educational support to children. Specific activities include fundraising for scholarships for children in India and the Philippines, research on the use of funds for local aid and facilities, and various educational activities such as on-site classes at Japanese junior and senior high schools for those children. While collecting donations in-person has been made difficult because of the coronavirus pandemic, the group is engaged in fundraising activities through crowdfunding on SNS and its websites. During the summer, a highly acclaimed online event was held for high school students and people interested in working for international cooperation to learn about Meguko's activities in relation to the SDGs, inviting professors at Sophia University to talk about current state of education around the world, as well as holding discussions by outside organizations that support children's education.
Web: http://meguko.net/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/meguko.sophia/
Twitter: https://twitter.com/meguko_sophia
YouTube: https://youtu.be/yJTK0lU0xMo
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/meguko.sophia/

Multicultural education for the dominant group in a diverse society: Multiple perspectives

Mitsuyo Sakamoto, Professor, Faculty of Foreign Studies, Department of English Studies
Miki Sugimura, Professor, Faculty of Human Sciences, Department of Education
Makiko Deguchi, Professor, Faculty of Foreign Studies, Department of English Studies
Megumi Shibuya, Professor, Faculty of Psychology, Department of Education and Child Development, Meiji Gakuin University
Sachie Miyazaki, Professor, Department of English Language, Sophia University Junior College Division
Rika Tamura, Professor, Faculty of Foreign Studies, Department of Luso-Brazilian Studies

【Abstract】
Respect towards diversity and how it is understood by the members of dominant groups is the theme of this study, exploring diversity and fairness advocated in SDGs, within the context of Japanese society. Traditional multicultural education research in North America and Europe has largely imposed changes be made on the part of minorities for acculturation. This study questions and challenges this, believing that true multiculturalism will be realized not by enforcing changes only on the oppressed, but also by changing the consciousness and attitudes of the majority.
Specifically, we developed Japanese Privilege Scale (JPS), which measures the level of presence of privilege on the part of the Japanese (defined as the racially and ethnically dominant group in Japan, and documented details pertaining to its development. In addition, a case study that actually used JPS (providing a micro perspective), as well as macro studies that explored multiculturalism, globalism and diversity from socio-political perspectives, are also included in our forthcoming volume, Rethinking Diversity: Multicultural Education for the Majority which is scheduled to be released from Sophia University Press in December 2021. In celebrating its publication, a symposium, co-hosted with Sophia University Research Institute for Languages and Information (SOLIFIC), will be held on Saturday, December 18, 2021 with Dr. Ryuko Kubota of the University of British Columbia as our plenary speaker.

【Future prospects】
By developing the Japanese Privilege Scale (JPS), we hoped to contribute to the development of similar questionnaires in the future for other domains of privilege. The new Immigration Control Act was enacted in December 2018, and a new residence status called "specified skills" came into effect in April 2019. As a result, many people have begun to come to Japan from abroad for the purpose of permanent residency. In response to this situation, realizing a multicultural society has become an urgent issue in Japan, yet it is difficult to say to what extent the Japanese people really understand what this entails in actualizing a multicultural society and engaging with diversity. Creating a cohesive community with people who do not speak Japanese and are not familiar with Japanese culture can create a number of challenges that we have never encountered before. We wish to address these issues and suggest possible approaches in dealing with them.
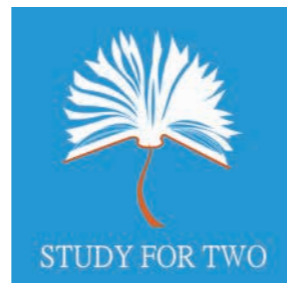
Student Organization "STUDY FOR TWO Sophia University Branch"

STUDY FOR TWO Sophia University Branch is a student organization that contributes to ensuring equal educational opportunities by circulating textbooks, and aiming for a world where all children who want to study can study. Therefore, they ask university students to donate used textbooks and resell them at half price, with profits used to support education for children in developing countries. For example, buying a used textbook for 1,000 yen through STUDY FOR TWO will generate enough profit for a monthly education scholarship for a child in Laos.

These activities are contributing to Goal 4 "QUALITY EDUCATION," Goal 10 "REDUCED INEQUALITIES," Goal 12 "RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION," and Goal 17 "PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS." They are contributing to No. 4 and No. 10 by providing affordable textbooks to university students and providing educational support to children in developing countries. They are also contributing to Goal 12 by providing a system that allows students to use used textbooks, and they provide a system for connecting children in developing countries and university students and for working in cooperation with other organizations and educational institutions to achieve their ideals, which contributes to Goal 17.

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/sftsophia/

Twitter : https://twitter.com/STUDYFORTWO6

E-Mail : yoko.fushimi@studyfortwo.org

Web : https://studyfortwo.org

Collaboration with Jesuit-based higher learning institutions in Myanmar and Thailand

In recent years, two Jesuit schools have been established in Myanmar and Thailand to offer higher learning to minority students belonging to diverse ethnic, linguistic and religious groups. These schools are located in areas that are challenged by poverty, income disparity, inter-ethnic coexistence and lack of educational access, the key issues of sustainable development addressed by Jesuit education. Sophia University recently began collaborating with these two institutions to tackle these issues.

On February 5-6, 2018, Taro Komatsu, director of the Center for Global Education and Discovery and a professor in the Department of Education at Sophia University, visited the St Aloysius Gonzaga (SAG) Institute of Higher Studies in Taunggyi, a hilltop town located in the State of Shan, Myanmar. At the request of the SAG Institute, Professor Komatsu delivered a lecture on "education and peace" for some 120 students enrolled at the institute, and later discussed issues pertaining to education with a group of minority students.

On March 2-3, 2018, Yasushi Hirosato, a professor of the Faculty of Global Studies at Sophia University, visited Xavier Learning Community (XLC) in northern Thailand with a group of Sophia students. The visit was planned as part of a study tour that aimed to enhance students' understanding of social and economic changes occurring in the regions along the Mekong River.

https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/news/Global/0328_en_news.html

GOAL 5 GENDER EQUALITY
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Ending all discrimination against women and girls is not only a basic human right, it's crucial for sustainable future; it's proven that empowering women and girls helps economic growth and development.

UNDP has made gender equality central to its work and we've seen remarkable progress in the past 20 years. There are more girls in school now compared to 15 years ago, and most regions have reached gender parity in primary education.

But although there are more women than ever in the labour market, there are still large inequalities in some regions, with women systematically denied the same work rights as men. Sexual violence and exploitation, the unequal division of unpaid care and domestic work, and discrimination in public office all remain huge barriers. Climate change and disasters continue to have a disproportionate effect on women and children, as do conflict and migration.

It is vital to give women equal rights land and property, sexual and reproductive health, and to technology and the internet. Today there are more women in public office than ever before, but encouraging more women leaders will help achieve greater gender equality.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Student Organization "Speak Up Sophia"

Speak Up Sophia is a student organization that speaks out to achieve gender equality and to make sexual consent a culture.

To create a society in which every one of us values ourselves, they distribute "Sexual Consent Handbooks" inside and outside of Sophia University and hold workshops. They also participate in events in collaboration with other organizations, and study sessions and book clubs are held regularly within the club.

They also lobby universities to spread knowledge about sexual consent to students.

The SDGs they are contributing to are Goal 5 "GENDER EQUALITY," and Goal 10 "REDUCED INEQUALITIES."

As for Goal 5, they are contributing by speaking out about the unfair treatment of women. They contribute to the detailed target of 5-5, "Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life," by encouraging women members to become leaders of the club. They are also contributing to Goal 10 by speaking out against discrimination against not only Japanese women but also people of all nationalities, races, and ages.

Instagram : https://instagram.com/speakupsophia/

Twitter : https://twitter.com/speakupsophia

Studies of Claude Cahun (Photographer, Writer)

Nagai Atsuko, Professor
Faculty of Humanities, Department of French Literature

【Abstract】
Claude Cahun (Nantes, France, 1894-Jersey, England, 1954), photographer and writer, came from a wealthy Jewish family of Nantes, and had a female artist as her lifelong partner. Cahun's body of work was an attempt to be liberated from the moral and material restrictions imposed by her family, her education, and the social mores of her time. From an analysis of her photographs (self-portraits and collages) and writings (short stories and essays) a variety of perspectives emerge with relevance for today's gender and feminism studies.
To understand the impact of her efforts to express her self-understanding and be freed from the pressures of gender norms through an ambiguous femininity, I explore the historical and philosophical significance of her art in the context of the views of sociologists and sexologists of her time, as well as the views (some hostile, some sympathetic) of her contemporary surrealist artists.

【Future prospects】
Gender is not only a private but also a public issue. It is in this context, the public aspect of her work, that I analyze English cultural and social representations which appear frequently in the photographs and writings of Cahun. For example, in a series of self-portraits she mocks the appropriation of sport by the English state for nationalistic and militaristic reasons by replacing the masculine image with an image of her exaggerated femininity. Another example of Cahun's engagement on a public level is when she wrote about the absurdity of the criminalization (1918) of the London performance of Oscar Wild's Salomé. Thus to fully understand the public aspect of Cahun's work, as well as the private, we have to understand the social and cultural meanings of these English issues, and how she used them to be liberated from gender's pressures.

—Atsuko Nagaï, Claude Cahun (published in Japanese), Tokyo, Suiseisha, 2010, 275p.
—Atsuko Nagaï, «Claude Cahun's self portraits -small photographs-» (published in Japanese), Masanori Tsukamoto, Shashin to bungaku, Tokyo, Heibonsha, 2013, p.177-192.
—Atsuko Nagaï, «Claude Cahun and England» (published in Japanese), Chika Amano, Kindai no soukoku, 3. Paris II, Chikurinsha, 2015, p.327-345.

Office for the Promotion of Diversity, Sophia School Corporation

We work on the following 4 issues for our students and faculty and staff members to contribute to the global community.
Promoting Gender Equality / Work Life Balance / Minority support / Diversity Mind
Sophia University declared "Sophia Gender Equality Statement" in January 2011 and has been promoting the importance of Gender Equality and engaging in a wide range of initiatives and actions to transform the mindset of University members. Office for the Gender Equality was established in January 2012 and on April 1, 2017 Sophia reorganized it to the Office for the Promotion of Diversity.
http://danjokyodo-sophia.jp/en/index.html

GOAL 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Water scarcity affects more than 40 percent of people, an alarming figure that is projected to rise as temperatures do. Although 2.1 billion people have improved water sanitation since 1990, dwindling drinking water supplies are affecting every continent.
More and more countries are experiencing water stress, and increasing drought and desertification is already worsening these trends. By 2050, it is projected that at least one in four people will suffer recurring water shortages.
Safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030 requires we invest in adequate infrastructure, provide sanitation facilities, and encourage hygiene. Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems is essential.
Ensuring universal safe and affordable drinking water involves reaching over 800 million people who lack basic services and improving accessibility and safety of services for over two billion.
In 2015, 4.5 billion people lacked safely managed sanitation services (with adequately disposed or treated excreta) and 2.3 billion lacked even basic sanitation.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Water Dispenser

Sophia University has installed water dispensers in order to contribute to the reduction of plastic waste and equal use of water resources. In order to further promote this water dispenser, Office of Sophia Sustainability Promotion asked the student staff to create posters with universal design in mind.

In addition, considering the international nature of Sophia University, we created both Japanese and English versions of all posters.

When creating the posters, we were particularly conscious of reducing the number of words as much as possible and displaying large non-verbal arrows and figures so that directions and locations could be intuitively understood.

GOAL 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Between 2000 and 2018, the number of people with electricity increased from 78 to 90 percent, and the numbers without electricity dipped to 789 million.

Yet as the population continues to grow, so will the demand for cheap energy, and an economy reliant on fossil fuels is creating drastic changes to our climate.

Investing in solar, wind and thermal power, improving energy productivity, and ensuring energy for all is vital if we are to achieve SDG 7 by 2030.

Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology to provide clean and more efficient energy in all countries will encourage growth and help the environment.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

100% renewable energy for the electric power used at Sophia University Yotsuya Campus

Sophia School Corporation (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo/Chancellor: Tsutomu Sakuma), which runs Sophia University and other institutions, will subscribe to the Premium Zero Plan offered by Idemitsu Green Power from June 1, 2020 as a part of its efforts to achieve the UN SDGs. This will allow Sophia University to procure renewable power for 20 million kWh per year, or 95% of the electric power used at Yotsuya Campus. This will lead to significant reductions of CO_2 emissions.

Promoting the use of renewable energy promotion has become an important solution globally for the reduction of environmental burden and the achievement of a decarbonized society. Sophia University has actively pursued energy conservation by reducing power consumption through the use of high frequency fluorescent lighting and LED fluorescent lighting, as well as the renewal of equipment to high-efficiency HVACs.

Furthermore, in November 2015, Sophia University became the first Japanese higher education institution to become a signatory to the UN-backed Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI). Promoting ESG investment, such as investment in infrastructure that will contribute to the promotion of offshore wind power and to improvements in social issues including climate change. We have been awarded an A+ rating, the highest possible score for two consecutive years.

Sophia University will continue to contribute to the achievement of a sustainable society through promoting energy conservation activities, renewable energy procurement and ESG investing.

https://www.sophia.ac.jp/jpn/news/PR/press0528renewable-energy.html

Research on Perovskite Solar Cells

Takeoka Yuko, Professor
Faculty of Science and Technology,
Department of Materials and Life Sciences

【Abstract】
The growing urgency of environmental and energy problems has drawn attention to fossil fuel replacing energy sources including high hopes for solar cell technology. Current installations primarily use expensive silicon-based solar cells, generating interest in inexpensive and highly stable alternatives. Over the past ten years perovskite solar cells have rapidly improved achieving a maximum power conversion efficiency (PCE) of over 25% and cheaper production as high quality manufacturing has become more convenient making perovskite solar cells a strong contender for the next generation of solar cells.
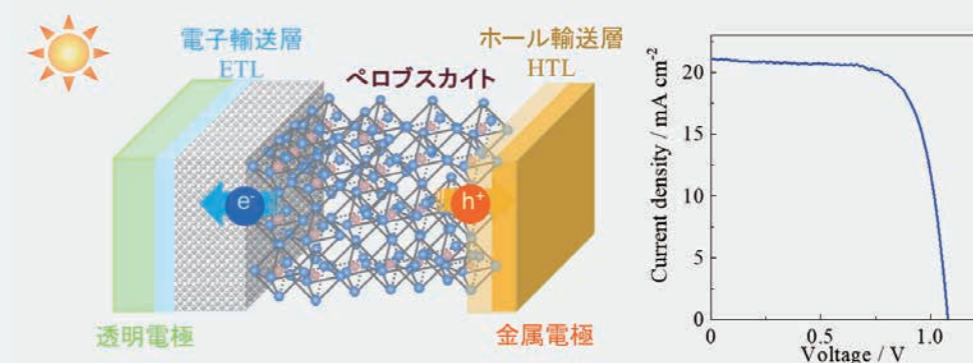
In terms of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, higher power generation rates and reduced costs contribute to Goal Number 7 ("Affordable and Clean Energy") and the carbon emission impact of the technology contributes to Goal Number 13 ("Climate Action"). In this research we seek to improve the reliability and safety of perovskite solar cells through studying designs and compositions of various perovskite compounds.

【Future prospects】
As power generation efficiency improves, practical applications will increase for perovskite solar cells. Perovskite solar cells can be fabricated on flexible substrate and have a broad array of use cases. Issues that remain to be solved include low stability and their lead content. Overcoming these obstacles will result in a wider market for perovskite solar cells. In addition to solar cells, the photoluminescent characteristics of perovskite shows promise in optical applications.

http://www.mls.sophia.ac.jp/~polymer/

ペロブスカイト太陽電池に関する図

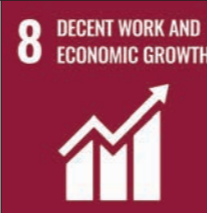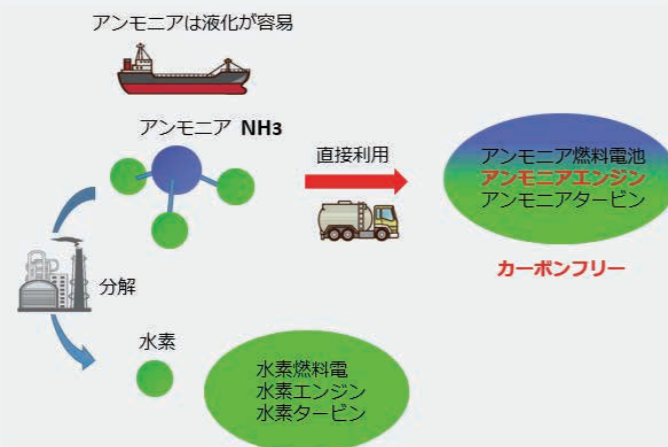## Development of a carbon-free engine using ammonia as a fuel

Suzuki Takashi, Professor
Faculty of Science and Technology, Department of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Ichiyanagi Mitsuhisa, Associate Professor
Faculty of Science and Technology, Department of Engineering and Applied Sciences

【Abstract】
The purpose of this project is to develop engines that do not emit carbon dioxide (CO_2) as a way to help reduce the environmental impact and energy policy set forth in the SDGs. Ammonia (NH_3) plays an important role as one of the basic raw materials for making a wide variety of chemical products around us, and is widely used in home appliances, construction materials, medical supplies, etc., as well as nylon and automobile parts. In recent years, ammonia has been attracting attention as a storage and transportation medium (energy carrier) for hydrogen energy, which is used to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. On the other hand, since ammonia is a carbon-free fuel that does not emit carbon dioxide when burned, there is an urgent need to develop ammonia engines. However, ammonia is difficult to burn because of its low combustion performance (high ignition temperature, narrow flame holding range, slow combustion speed), nitrogen oxide emissions, and corrosiveness, therefore research is being conducted from the aspects of thermal engineering, environmental chemistry, materials science, and precision engineering. We have developed a prototype engine with a high compression ratio equipped with a sub-combustion chamber, glow plugs, and spark plugs, and are conducting demonstration tests to ensure environmental performance and reliability.

【Future prospects】
Japan currently relies on fossil fuels for 93% of its primary energy supply, and in order to achieve an 80% reduction in CO_2 emissions by 2050, Japan will need to import large quantities of hydrogen and ammonia from overseas. In order to achieve an 80% reduction in CO_2 emissions by 2050, we need to import large amounts of hydrogen and ammonia from overseas, and we believe that the technology to burn the imported ammonia has great social significance and ripple effects. For example, by combining a carbon-free engine with a power generation device, we expect to develop a small-scale power generation system. In addition, ammonia, which liquefies easily at 8.5 atmospheres at room temperature, is easy to transport and manage, and is expected to be used in power generation projects in developing countries and for reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

GOAL 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Over the past 25 years the number of workers living in extreme poverty has declined dramatically, despite the lasting impact of the 2008 economic crisis and global recession. In developing countries, the middle class now makes up more than 34 percent of total employment – a number that has almost tripled between 1991 and 2015.

However, as the global economy continues to recover we are seeing slower growth, widening inequalities, and not enough jobs to keep up with a growing labour force. According to the International Labour Organization, more than 204 million people were unemployed in 2015.

The SDGs promote sustained economic growth, higher levels of productivity and technological innovation. Encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation are key to this, as are effective measures to eradicate forced labour, slavery and human trafficking. With these targets in mind, the goal is to achieve full and productive employment, and decent work, for all women and men by 2030.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

About Student Staff (学生職員)

Office of Sophia Sustainability Promotion employs student staff in order to encourage faculty, staff, and students to share ideas across disciplines and create new value from them. Student staff members are divided into three teams: Campus Team, the Planning Team, and the Communications Team, and they actively participate in sustainable campus related projects, event/ project planning, and communications through web articles and social media posts. They are involved in the work of Office of Sophia Sustainability Promotion by utilizing their young, flexible and creative minds.

Communications

The main role of the Communications Team is to publicize news and information about SDG-related activities at Sophia University.

In addition to editing the "SDGs & Sustainability" page on the Sophia University official website, we are planning to open an Instagram account to reach out to a young audience. Currently, as part of creating content for the official website, we are interviewing student organizations about their SDG initiatives, and writing articles about SDG-related research and academic events held at the university.

We are also conducting a survey on the activities of Sophia University in response to the THE (Times Higher Education) Impact Ranking, and researching SDG activities at other universities and overseas.

https://www.sophia.ac.jp/jpn/aboutsophia/approach/SDGs/Sophia_SDGs_about.html

Campus

The Campus Team is promoting the universal design of Sophia University's Yotsuya Campus with the goal of creating a safe and comfortable campus for all users.

First of all, we focused on the lack of signage and lack of uniformity on campus, which is a concern of many students. We conducted a fieldwork survey in September with the participation of general students in order to understand what kind of signage would be ideal. Based on the results of the survey, we will create a signage plan (manual/guideline) that covers various sustainability areas including D&I, and strive to improve the three barriers of environment, information, and awareness.

We are also planning to promote the use of personal containers in school cafeterias and kitchen cars, and thorough labeling of allergies, in cooperation with related departments. Our goal is to create a campus that is full of discussions on how to create a sustainable society by making people more aware of this issue in their daily lives.

Planning

The Planning Team was established to launch and manage projects on the theme of SDGs and sustainability, with student staff working with various people from companies and the community.

Specifically, we are planning to hold an event called "Let's Learn from Yoshio Kojima" on the anniversary of our founding on November 1. We are in charge of creating slogans, brochure design, and preparations for the day of the event.

In addition, we are also planning to conduct collaborative projects between companies and student staff, and lectures for junior and senior high school students, making use of the unique perspective of students.

GOAL 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Investment in infrastructure and innovation are crucial drivers of economic growth and development. With over half the world population now living in cities, mass transport and renewable energy are becoming ever more important, as are the growth of new industries and information and communication technologies.

Technological progress is also key to finding lasting solutions to both economic and environmental challenges, such as providing new jobs and promoting energy efficiency.

Promoting sustainable industries, and investing in scientific research and innovation, are all important ways to facilitate sustainable development.

More than 4 billion people still do not have access to the Internet, and 90 percent are from the developing world. Bridging this digital divide is crucial to ensure equal access to information and knowledge, as well as foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

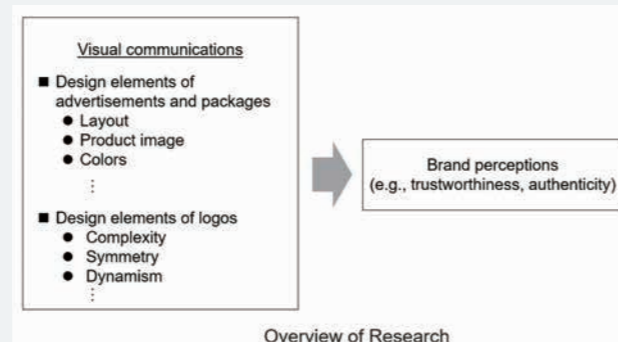## A Study on Building Brand Trust Through Visual Communication

Togawa Taku, Associate Professor
Faculty of Economics, Department of Management

【Abstract】
To implement sustainable marketing strategies, firms have increasingly emphasized building brand trust with consumers. Previous studies suggest that brand trust is engendered not only by corporate efforts focusing on fairness and transparency but also by effective communication of the trustworthiness of their brand. This study focuses on the role of visual marketing communication through logos, packaging, and advertising, and examines how they affect consumer perceptions of brand trustworthiness.

【Future prospects】
This study aims to explore effective marketing communications to garner brand trustworthiness. Specifically, the study provides researchers and marketing managers with beneficial implications by examining the effects of visual elements on consumer perceptions of brand trustworthiness and identifying a boundary condition and underlying mechanism of these effects.

https://kaken.nii.ac.jp/ja/grant/KAKENHI-PROJECT-19K01943/

Overview of Research

GOAL 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Reduce inequality within and among countries

Income inequality is on the rise—the richest 10 percent have up to 40 percent of global income whereas the poorest 10 percent earn only between 2 to 7 percent. If we take into account population growth inequality in developing countries, inequality has increased by 11 percent.

Income inequality has increased in nearly everywhere in recent decades, but at different speeds. It's lowest in Europe and highest in the Middle East.

These widening disparities require sound policies to empower lower income earners, and promote economic inclusion of all regardless of sex, race or ethnicity.

Income inequality requires global solutions. This involves improving the regulation and monitoring of financial markets and institutions, encouraging development assistance and foreign direct investment to regions where the need is greatest. Facilitating the safe migration and mobility of people is also key to bridging the widening divide.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Sophia Africa Weeks

Sophia Africa Weeks was held for the first time in 2017 to deepen understandings for African regions as well as for the aim to build partnerships together with our students.

Sophia University offers many opportunities for students to learn about Africa where the significant economic growth is apparent and marking the solid presence in the global market.

We believe learnings of Africa will be sufficient for the students as they grow to become leading business people in the near future.

https://www.sophia.ac.jp/jpn/global/program/africa-weeks.html

Diversity Channel Project

Takaoka Eiko, Professor
Faculty of Science and Technology,
Department of Information and Communication Sciences

【Abstract】
Can we be happy in a world that does not accept diversity? With this in mind, we have come together to develop a portal site called "Diversity Channel" to help people with foreign roots work safely and healthily in Japan.
The language barrier is a major problem when people with foreign roots visit medical institutions in Japan.
In addition, there is a big communication barrier when working. In order to solve these problems, we are developing tools to support the dissemination of information and the improvement of knowledge and skills of foreign caregivers and nurses so that people with foreign roots can access medical care with peace of mind.
In addition, while their communication skills in Japanese are inadequate, they have to cope with the dialect spoken by the elderly and are having trouble understanding the dialect. In order to solve this problem, we have developed a dialect dictionary application for Okinawa and Wakayama and are releasing it on a trial basis on the Diversity Channel.

【Future prospects】
Anyone can view the published information on our website, and we would like to spread the information to medical and nursing facilities in Japan. We have extended the dialect dictionary application for Okinawa and Wakayama, and improved it into an application specialized for medical and nursing care. We will conduct a demonstration experiment and aim to put it to practical use. We would also like to try to create dialect dictionary apps for other regions as well. We want to provide a safe and secure working environment for foreign workers so that they do not have to suffer from language barriers that prevent them from receiving the full range of medical and nursing services that they are entitled to.
We hope that we can contribute in some small way to a society that respects multiple languages and is open to different languages and cultures.

https://www.diversity-channel.info/

沖縄方言辞書アプリの一例（む行）

Student Organization "Equity"

"Equity" is an organization that mainly discusses discrimination in general, including sexism, speciesism, and racism at Sophia University. The group is not bound by the framework of each type of discrimination, but focuses on the intersectionality of discrimination. Its main activities are to give presentations on topics of interest, such as sexism and racism, and to deepen mutual interest and discussion based on these presentations.
The group contributes to SDG No. 5 "Gender Equality" and 10 "Reduced Equality" by deepening the fundamental understanding of social issues related to discrimination and sharing this information on SNS. The representative of the organization has stated that even within the small community of Sophia University, the level of concern about discrimination varies from person to person, but learning little by little what is happening and what kind of discrimination exists is required.

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/equity_sophia/

Support for Students with Special Needs

Sophia University inherits the Jesuit educational spirit "Men and Women for Others, with Others". We believe that the existence of all humanity is good and all are equal in dignity. Therefore, it is our ambition that the entire student body works diligently while employing the best of their abilities, so they can be useful human resources to others.
In addition to the University's philosophy, based on the "Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2006, we will eliminate unfair and discriminatory treatment of students with disabilities while promoting study and research by discussing with each student the best course of action. Sophia University will provide reasonable accommodation* to students who require extra assistance.
In addition, all students will deepen their understanding of disabilities, practice actions with the perspective of the individual with a disability in mind, and aim for a symbiotic society.

https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/studentlife/support/with_others/index.html

Inter-University Exchange Project
Collaborative Online International Leaning Programs toward Human Security and Multicultural Coexistence: COIL

COIL stands for Collaborative Online International Learning. COIL is a new pedagogical approach that will allow Sophia University students in Japan to connect and learn with students at institutions abroad using ICT tools like Zoom, Google Classroom, Facebook, etc.
Three universities from Japan, Sophia University, Ochanomizu University, and University of Shizuoka, and ten institutions from U.S. participate to (1) provide globally connected educational opportunities, (2) enhance multi-faceted student mobility programs, which incorporate resources from partner institutions and local societies, and (3) contribute toward elimination of educational inequality through COIL for students in developing countries. It is worth nothing that all three universities began COIL initiatives in areas they have particular strengths, i.e., International Education for Sophia, Advanced Japanese education for Ochanomizu, and International Nursing for Shizuoka.

https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/global/coil.html

UNHCR – Refugee Higher Education Program

Sophia University joined UNHCR (The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)
UNHCR-Refugee Higher Education Program (RHEP) is a program implemented by twelve universities in Japan which supports
・refugees who live in Japan,
・to complete a undergraduate or graduate degree program,
・through scholarships from the universities.

The aim of the program is to provide access to higher education for refugees in Japan who would otherwise have difficulty completing an undergraduate or graduate degree program. The students' tuition fees and other study expenses will be funded by the universities. At the discretion of the universities, additional scholarship stipends may be paid to the students on a monthly basis.

The program is coordinated by UNHCR in Japan and Japan for UNHCR.

https://rhep-japanforunhcr.org/en/

GOAL 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

More than half of us live in cities. By 2050, two-thirds of all humanity—6.5 billion people—will be urban. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without significantly transforming the way we build and manage our urban spaces.
The rapid growth of cities—a result of rising populations and increasing migration—has led to a boom in mega-cities, especially in the developing world, and slums are becoming a more significant feature of urban life.
Making cities sustainable means creating career and business opportunities, safe and affordable housing, and building resilient societies and economies. It involves investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in participatory and inclusive ways.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Sophia Research Branding Project
Trans-disciplinary and Trans-national Research Program for Achieving Regional Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through River Basin Environment Conservation and Management

It is designed to develop a top world-class research platform at Sophia University which partners with other prestigious research institutions around the world for conducting advanced research on sustainable development via integrated river basin study. The primary focus is to establish a next generation framework of river basin governance with new concepts and to develop new guidelines of river basin management accordingly. The ultimate goal is to contribute to achieving SDGs at watershed scale.

Project features include probing into environmental problems from both macro and micro perspectives, dealing with both engineering and regulatory aspects, targeting both wet and dry regions, exploring solutions for both disaster reduction and ecosystem conservation, combining economic development with environmental ethics, having research fields in both developed and developing countries.

https://dept.sophia.ac.jp/is/risgenv/en/report/

GOAL 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Achieving economic growth and sustainable development requires that we urgently reduce our ecological footprint by changing the way we produce and consume goods and resources. Agriculture is the biggest user of water worldwide, and irrigation now claims close to 70 percent of all freshwater for human use.

The efficient management of our shared natural resources, and the way we dispose of toxic waste and pollutants, are important targets to achieve this goal. Encouraging industries, businesses and consumers to recycle and reduce waste is equally important, as is supporting developing countries to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption by 2030.

A large share of the world population is still consuming far too little to meet even their basic needs. Halving the per capita of global food waste at the retailer and consumer levels is also important for creating more efficient production and supply chains. This can help with food security, and shift us towards a more resource efficient economy.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Student organization "CeeK"

CeeK is a student organization engaged in activities based on the idea of "Let's create smiles in Cambodia." CeeK is divided into three project groups and is contributing to Goals 1, 3, 4, and 12 through the summer Cambodia volunteer project.

Among them, the "Pencil Project" is an activity to collect donated stationery and give it to Cambodian children. By supporting children who have lost educational opportunities due to a lack of stationery, they are contributing to Goal 4 "QUALITY EDUCATION."

In addition, through the "Hygiene Project," they are contributing to Goal 3 "GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING." Unused toothbrushes are collected in Japan and distributed to local children while teaching the importance of handwashing and tooth brushing.

Finally, there is the "Clothing Project," which collects children's clothes in Japan and gives them to local children. By distributing clothes to children who used to wear the same clothes every day, they contribute to Goal 1 "NO POVERTY" and Goal 12 "RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION."

Since they cannot go to Cambodia due to COVID-19, they hold academic meetings to study and share information about Cambodia.

Web : https://ceeksophia2011.wixsite.com/ceek2020
Twitter : https://twitter.com/ceek_jp
Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/ceek_jp/

Student Organization "Green Sophia"

Sophia University's environmental protection group "Green Sophia" has the following three visions: (i) From Sophia to the world, (ii) Environmental influencer, and (iii) Do something that each of us can do.

The group was founded because there was no Japanese-language group that could address environmental issues at Sophia University. The group strives to create a world where people can easily take action to solve environmental problems by sharing their actual experiences and research information on SNS.

Specific activities include study sessions, workshops, social networking, and beach cleanups. These activities and the environmental policy proposals that are made a few times a year are carried out by each member at their own pace, contributing to SDG 13 "CLIMATE ACTION" and 14 "LIFE BELOW WATER."

Those who focus on environmental and ethical activities are working every day to achieve SDGs 11, 15, and 17. And, they are taking actions for the environment beyond the framework of the SDGs, that are fun to do, and that people want to share with their neighbors.

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/greensophia_insta/
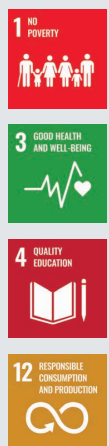Twitter : https://twitter.com/greensophia_jp
Facebook : https://m.facebook.com/greensophia.fb/
YouTube : https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCooYbMtDP6rLzB2QmN1xMsw/about

Beach cleaning activity by Sophia University Environmental Protection Organization Green Sophia

Poster
"Clean energy for your lifestyle "

Office of Sophia Sustainability Promotion

GOAL 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

There is no country that is not experiencing the drastic effects of climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions are more than 50 percent higher than in 1990. Global warming is causing long-lasting changes to our climate system, which threatens irreversible consequences if we do not act.

The annual average economic losses from climate-related disasters are in the hundreds of billions of dollars. This is not to mention the human impact of geo-physical disasters, which are 91 percent climate-related, and which between 1998 and 2017 killed 1.3 million people, and left 4.4 billion injured. The goal aims to mobilize US$100 billion annually by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries to both adapt to climate change and invest in low-carbon development.

Supporting vulnerable regions will directly contribute not only to Goal 13 but also to the other SDGs. These actions must also go hand in hand with efforts to integrate disaster risk measures, sustainable natural resource management, and human security into national development strategies. It is still possible, with strong political will, increased investment, and using existing technology, to limit the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, aiming at 1.5°C, but this requires urgent and ambitious collective action.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Green infrastructure Research

Tsuge Takahiro, Professor
Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies, Master's (Doctoral) Program in Global Environmental Studies

【Abstract】
As the number of natural disasters such as floods and landslides increases with the progress of climate change, it is becoming more and more important to develop infrastructure for disaster prevention and mitigation. Against this backdrop, green infrastructure, which utilize the functions of nature to cope with such disasters, has been attracting attention. Green infrastructure not only has a smaller impact on ecosystems and landscapes than artificial infrastructure (gray infrastructure) such as dams, but is often less expensive to build and to maintain in the future. I study the cost-effectiveness of the so-called "ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction: Eco-DRR" that utilizes green infrastructure from an economic perspective.
【Future prospects】
My research focuses on flood control using forests and retarding basin against river flooding caused by heavy rainfall due to climate change. I plan to expand my research to include green infrastructure against a wider range of natural disasters.

https://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/S2212420917301930

Student Organization "+Re: (Purari)"

+Re: (Purari) is a club that practices the 3Rs, "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," in daily life and contributes to a sustainable future. The main activities of +Re: are the collection of contact lens cases after registering with Eye City's Eco project and toothbrush collection under LION's "Toothbrush Recycling Program." According to the total number of empty contact lens cases, 6,272 lenses were collected in about two months, contributing to a 17.6 kg reduction in CO_2, which is the equivalent of driving a car a distance of 127.4 km.

+Re: was able to contribute to Goal 10 "REDUCED INEQUALITIES," Goal 12 "RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION," Goal 13 "CLIMATE ACTION," and Goal 14 "LIFE BELOW WATER."

As for Goal 10, the collected lens cases were made into other products, and profits from donated to support the independence and employment of the disabled, and to the Japan Eye Bank Association. And, for Goal 12, collecting plastic has provided an opportunity to review a society in which disposable products have become widespread. For Goal 13, they were able to reduce the amount of waste incinerated and contribute to the reduction of CO_2 and greenhouse gases by recycling. Finally, for Goal 14, their deplasticization activities are helping solve the marine plastic problem.

There is a collection box in the student center on the first floor of Building 2, and the "9 café" in the basement of Building 9. Also, new members are being recruited.

Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/purari_sophia2021
E-mail: purari.sophia@gmail.com

Announcement to join Climate Action 100+

Sophia School Cooperation has announced its participation in Climate Action100+ as a supporter (Oct. 16 ,2020). Climate Action100+ is a global investor initiative to engage the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitters who have an impact on solving global environmental issues in constructive dialogue on information disclosure and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/jpn/news/PR/climateaction100.html

Endorsing the TCFD <Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures>

Sophia School Corporation supports the Paris Agreement adopted in December 2015, and endorsed the TCFD <Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures> established by the Financial Stability Board (FSB).
https://www.sophia-sc.jp/en/esg.html

GOAL 14 LIFE BELOW WATER

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

The world's oceans – their temperature, chemistry, currents and life – drive global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind. How we manage this vital resource is essential for humanity as a whole, and to counter balance the effects of climate change.

Over three billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods. However, today we are seeing 30 percent of the world's fish stocks overexploited, reaching below the level at which they can produce sustainable yields.

Oceans also absorb about 30 percent of the carbon dioxide produced by humans, and we are seeing a 26 percent rise in ocean acidification since the beginning of the industrial revolution. Marine pollution, an overwhelming majority of which comes from land-based sources, is reaching alarming levels, with an average of 13,000 pieces of plastic litter to be found on every square kilometre of ocean.

The SDGs aim to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, as well as address the impacts of ocean acidification. Enhancing conservation and the sustainable use of ocean-based resources through international law will also help mitigate some of the challenges facing our oceans.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Sustainable water resources management

Sugiura Mikiko, Professor
Center for Global Education and Discovery

【Abstract】
Various possibilities for realizing a sustainable future are examined through an interdisciplinary approach to using (mainly) river water in the Asian monsoon region with its high temperature and high rainfall, focusing on the knowledge of river management and agricultural water use.

Particularly, considering the global shift from anthropocentrism to nature-centrism, I am investigating and analyzing how the relationship between humans and water (nature) has changed and will change from the three perspectives; Satoyama, Kasumi-tei (open levee as one of the nature-based solutions), and water rights system.

Besides the trans-disciplinary research in collaboration with the researchers acquainted through MIRAI (Face I: 2017-2019), I was fortunate enough to further develop the study of Satoyama through my relationship with the University of Portland, with whom I collaborated on the COIL project.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to expand the collaboration with inside and overseas universities through our research and education platform.

【Future prospects】
We want to disseminate the results of our joint research by holding the Sophia Symposium and other means.

GOAL 15 LIFE ON LAND

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
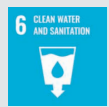
Human life depends on the earth as much as the ocean for our sustenance and livelihoods. Plant life provides 80 percent of our human diet, and we rely on agriculture as an important economic resource and means of development. Forests account for 30 percent of the Earth's surface, providing vital habitats for millions of species and important sources for clean air and water; as well as being crucial for combating climate change.

Today we are seeing unprecedented land degradation, and the loss of arable land at 30 to 35 times the historical rate. Drought and desertification is also on the rise each year, amounting to the loss of 12 million hectares and affects poor communities globally. Of the 8,300 animal breeds known, 8 percent are extinct and 22 percent are at risk of extinction.

About 80% of the Arab region is made up of dryland ecosystems, particularly fragile with converging risks from climate change. Threatened species in the region stand at over 1,000, with a majority being critically endangered. Of these, 24% are fish, 22% birds and 20% mammals. Arab countries have made efforts to preserve their biodiversity, including through the expansion of protected areas and sustainable use regimes in key ecosystems such as oases. As a percentage of total territorial area, protected areas grew from 3.21% in 1990 to 9.28% in 2012.

The SDGs aim to conserve and restore the use of terrestrial ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, drylands and mountains by 2020. Halting deforestation is also vital to mitigating the impact of climate change. Urgent action must be taken to reduce the loss of natural habitats and biodiversity which are part of our common heritage.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Global Forest Conservation Policy

Shingo Shibata, Professor
Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies,
Master's (Doctoral) Program in Global Environmental Studies

【Course description】
Students will be guided to understand an overall picture of complex global forest and natural resource conservation issues at local, national, regional and global level, including comparative historical policy reviews, and analyses of various policy measures taken such as ecosystem-based management approach, participatory/collaborative management/planning and trade-off analysis, PES/REDD+.

Student is required to select a specific case study of their interest, and conduct an oral presentation at the last class, and submit a written report, in addition to regular (group) readings, presentations and reaction papers. Guest lectures/field visits/attendance of out of campus semiars may be arranged.

GOAL 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance, based on the rule of law - we cannot hope for sustainable development. We are living in a world that is increasingly divided. Some regions enjoy sustained levels of peace, security and prosperity, while others fall into seemingly endless cycles of conflict and violence. This is by no means inevitable and must be addressed.

High levels of armed violence and insecurity have a destructive impact on a country's development, affecting economic growth and often resulting in long standing grievances that can last for generations. Sexual violence, crime, exploitation and torture are also prevalent where there is conflict or no rule of law, and countries must take measures to protect those who are most at risk.

Home to only 5 percent of the world's population, the Arab region was home to almost 47 percent of the world's internally displaced population in 2014 and 57.5 percent of the world's refugees. Most of those were forcibly displaced because of conflict and violence, as the Arab region has witnessed almost 18 percent of the world conflicts between 1948 and 2014, 45 percent of global terrorist attacks in 2014, and 68 percent of the world's battle-related deaths in the same year.

The value of the Human Development Index for Libya and Syria has dwindled to levels last seen 15 years ago. Other estimates suggest that Syria may have lost over 35 years of hard-won gains in human development. The SDGs aim to significantly reduce all forms of violence, and work with governments and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity. Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights is key to this process, as is reducing the flow of illicit arms and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Peace studies

Koyama Hideyuki, Professor
Faculty of Theology, Department of Theology

【Course description】
Peace studies is an "interdisciplinary research and education on the causes of war and conditions of amity," and what I personally refer to as peace studies is conducted particularly from the standpoint of Christianity on the basis of God's creation and redemption.

The peace aimed at here is not just "negative peace," which refers to a state without warfare or discord, but also "positive peace," which refers to a state wherein structural violence such as poverty, oppression, and discrimination have been eradicated. Structural violence is built into the social, cultural and economic institutions. In the Bible, peace is signified by the Hebrew word "shalom," which is derived from the word meaning "complete," and it represents peace in a comprehensive sense. Shalom is a state of life that requires nothing, and it the fulfillment of life in the existence of the living God, the love of human beings for each other, and the fullness of life in the community of all creatures. It is something completely intact. Consequently, the goal of peace studies broadly covers the goals of the SDGs.

Here we will develop an ability to analyze the world situation, and we will develop also a sensitivity towards concord, via the use of textbooks and audiovisual material.

Sophia Institute of International Relations (SIIR)

Established in July 2015, SIIR aims to serve as a hub of research and education on international relations at Sophia University. While promoting and organizing research on international relations, SIIR also fulfills an educational function. It seeks to serve as a forum where faculty and students, researchers and practitioners from inside and outside of Japan can come together and engage in free exchange of ideas. For this purpose, SIIR will seek to collaborate with other research institutes throughout Japan and overseas.
https://dept.sophia.ac.jp/is/ir/en

Dr. Daisaku Higashi spoke at the seminar at UNHQ on "Traditional Conflict Resolution Mechanism and Roles of UN"

"Traditional Conflict Resolution Mechanism and Roles of UN missions" hosted by UN Division of Evaluation, Policy, and Training (DPET) in Department of Peace Operations at UN Headquarters in New York on 10 March 2020

Professor Daisaku Higashi (international relation scholars specializing in peacebuilding from Sophia University in Tokyo), Professor Eisei Kurimoto (social anthropologist and specialist on South Sudan from Osaka University), and three UN officials from Department of Peace Operation (DPO), Department of Peacebuilding and Political Affairs (DPPA), and Peace Building Support Office (PBSO), had a panel discussion on "Traditional Conflict Resolution Mechanism (TCRM) and Roles of UN Missions" on 10 March 2020. The event was hosted and moderated by Division of Evaluation, Policy, and Training (DEPT) in UN DPO at UN Headquarters in New York.

After the initial presentations by three prominent UN officials, Professor Kurimoto shared his 40 years' experiences of his field research on South Sudan, and presented his argument about the need of understanding traditional conflict resolution mechanism (TCRM) to have better approaches for peacebuilding efforts in South Sudan.

Professor Higashi shared his experience in Afghanistan as a team leader for reconciliation and reintegration in UNAMA (UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan), as well as his field research as a professor in South Sudan to argue why understanding TCRM is critical for peacebuilding. He then shared his recommendations about how UN field mission could utilize the knowledge of the experts on TCRM.

After the presentations by five panelists, a moderator and panelists exchanged their views and arguments on this critical issue. They concluded the discussion by confirming the importance of strengthening TCRM in the context of post-conflict peacebuilding efforts.

The seminar was prepared by Dr. Daisaku Higashi at Sophia University, together with Department of Policy, Evaluation, and Training at UNHQ.
https://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/news/unhq.html

GOAL 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

The SDGs can only be realized with strong global partnerships and cooperation. Official Development Assistance remained steady but below target, at US$147 billion in 2017. While humanitarian crises brought on by conflict or natural disasters continue to demand more financial resources and aid. Many countries also require Official Development Assistance to encourage growth and trade.

The world is more interconnected than ever. Improving access to technology and knowledge is an important way to share ideas and foster innovation. Coordinating policies to help developing countries manage their debt, as well as promoting investment for the least developed, is vital for sustainable growth and development.

The goals aim to enhance North-South and South-South cooperation by supporting national plans to achieve all the targets. Promoting international trade, and helping developing countries increase their exports is all part of achieving a universal rules-based and equitable trading system that is fair and open and benefits all.

(Cited from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) web page)

Student Organization "AIESEC in Japan Sophia University Committee"

AIESEC was established after World War II by seven youths in Europe who felt that cross-cultural understanding was essential to prevent another tragedy from occurring. They have chapters at universities in over 100 countries and regions, and the Sophia University Committee is one of them.

The committee's main projects had been providing global volunteer and internship opportunities to students, and each was set with a mission to achieve different SDGs. Due to the COVID-19 situation, online events and programs are being done instead. The Sophia University Committee is organizing events with a mission to help Japanese youths become active leaders in the world, and they will continue to work with a variety of people across borders to produce leaders of the next generation and achieve world peace.

Instagram : https://instagram.com/aiesec_sophia/
Twitter : https://mobile.twitter.com/AIESEC_SOPHIA

Student Organization "KASA Sustainability"

KASA Sustainability was formed in 2015 with the mission of (re)connecting people to nature. They are interested in understanding and appreciating complex and dynamic human-nature relations. KASA Sustainability is open to anyone— undergraduate and graduate students from diverse backgrounds—who wants to understand and practice sustainability and together learn to be sustainable beings. The definition of sustainability, for us based in a university, encompasses three areas that are central to the missions of higher education; Research and Education; Practice and Infrastructure; Global and Community Engagement. Their current initiatives were created at the intersection of the pillars: Sustainable Campus Forum, Campus Farming/Composting, and learning from others and sharing. At the Sustainable Campus Forum, they invite students, faculty members, and staff to discuss what makes a campus sustainable by sharing different perspectives, empowering students to participate in sustainability initiatives, decision-making within the University, and raising awareness of global problems to take action on campus. The Campus Farming/ Composting that started in 2015 continuously teaches how to enjoy harvesting organic vegetables, fruits, and flowers, and appreciate the importance and difficulty of growing food. The organization's goal is to establish a cycle of recycling resources within the Yotsuya Campus by reusing some of the food waste from dining halls and fallen leaves throughout the campus as compost fertilizer for the farm's soil. They also engage in empirical and theoretical research by field-based learning and research, readings on sustainability, political ecology and development, as well as farm visits. Those exchanges are transformed into journal articles, seminars, workshops, discussion sessions, blog articles, and SNS posts to be shared with others. KASA Sustainability invites everyone to join in making the campus more sustainable by sharing experiences and learning to be sustainable beings! Everyone is welcome!

Web : https://ja.kasasustainability.org/
Facebook : https://www.facebook.com/kasasustainability/
Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/kasasustainability/

Foreign language departments words drama festival

Word drama festival executive committee, that is extracurricular activities group takes this event, and it is mediator and sends the cause of instruction of department teacher, everyday learning result outside on-campus including advisor and performs for the purpose of having not only we plan improvement of linguistic ability and communicative competence of student, but also high school student and general people interest in importance of communication with language and culture, people and people in foreign countries. Friend, family, teacher, graduate student, graduate, high school student of student, a large number of people including staff of embassy came for theatergoing this year.

https://ocw.cc.sophia.ac.jp.e.dc.hp.transer.com/lecture/20191207highschool/