

Organiser: Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

# The Future of Climate Change and the Marine Environment

## – Towards Sustainable Oceans –

The ocean is deeply connected to our daily lives. As the impacts of climate change continue to grow, what can we do to protect our marine environment?

This forum, themed "Sustainable Oceans," will feature distinguished researchers from Japan and overseas, who will share the latest insights on the current state of the marine environment and innovative efforts to address its challenges.

Come and gain valuable knowledge and discover key actions we can take to safeguard the future of our oceans.

We look forward to your participation!

Date and time

Tuesday, 18 March 2025 14:00 - 16:30 (JST)

Venue

9th floor, International Conference Room  
the International Health Development Center (IHD Building)  
(1-5-1 Wakinohamakaigandori, Chuo-ku, Kobe City)

Session Format

Hybrid (on-site and online)

Free of Charge

Capacity

60 persons at the venue,  
300 persons online (first-come-first-served)

Japanese-English  
simultaneous interpretation

Programme

{ Part One }

Keynote  
speech

**"Current Status of Marine Environmental Issues and Strategic Approach by Digital Twin"**

Yusuke Uchiyama  
Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Kobe University

{ Part Two }

Introduction of  
overseas case

**"Long-term Monitoring of Plastic Pollution in the North Pacific"**

Susanne M. Brander  
Associate Professor, Oregon State University

Introduction of  
overseas case

**"Assessing Microplastic Contamination in Fish and Local Perceptions of Plastic Pollution in the Pacific Island Region."**

Amanda Ford  
Senior Lecturer, The University of the South Pacific

Sponsors: Hyogo Prefectural Government, Hyogo Environmental Advancement Association,  
International Center for Environmental Management of Enclosed Coastal Seas (EMECS)

**APN**  
ASIA-PACIFIC NETWORK FOR  
GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

# Speaker's Profile



## Yusuke Uchiyama

Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Kobe University

Dr Uchiyama obtained a Doctor of Engineering from Tokyo Institute of Technology (now Institute of Science Tokyo) in 1998. After working at the Port and Airport Research Institute and at the University of California, Los Angeles, he became an associate professor at Kobe University in 2011 and has held his current position since 2015. Specialising in physical oceanography, coastal engineering and computational fluid dynamics, he is engaged in education and research related to the marine environment, such as coral and eelgrass ecosystem network structures and marine plastic pollution, through the development of ocean digital twins in various areas.

## Susanne M. Brander Associate Professor, Oregon State University

Dr Susanne Brander is an Associate Professor and Ecotoxicologist in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University and also currently serves as a Senior Scientist for the EHS Action Science Initiative. Dr Brander's research program focus is on the occurrence and biological effects of stressors, such as micro and nanoplastics, endocrine disrupting compounds, other emerging contaminants, and climate change, on aquatic and terrestrial organisms. She has served on the board of directors for the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, North America and is a member of the Green Ribbon Science Panel advisory team for the California Department of Toxic Substances Control. She also advises on microplastics at the Southern California Coastal Water Research Program and is on the steering committee of the Scientists Coalition for the UNEP Global Plastics Treaty negotiations.



## Amanda Ford

Senior Lecturer, The University of the South Pacific

Dr Amanda Ford is a Senior Lecturer in Marine Science at the University of the South Pacific. She earned her PhD from the University of Bremen in 2017, where she studied the resilience of Pacific Island reef systems, and has extensive research experience in the region. Her work focusses on coral reef ecology, ecosystem monitoring and marine resource management. She currently leads an APN-funded project integrating scientific and local knowledge to tackle marine plastic pollution in the Pacific Island region.



## Venue map

### International Health Development Center (IHD Building)

1-5-1 Wakinohamakaigandori, Chuo-ku, Kobe City

- Approximately 13 minutes walk south from Nada Station on the JR Kobe Line
- Approximately 10 minutes walk southeast from Hanshin Iwaya Station



## How to apply

Scan the QR code on the right to fill out and send the application form. Applicants will receive an auto-reply email.

If you do not receive an auto-reply email, contact the following:

- Contact: Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)
- HP: <https://www.apn-gcr.org/>
- E-mail: [apnseminar@gmail.com](mailto:apnseminar@gmail.com) TEL: +81-078-230-8017 FAX: +81-078-230-8018



<https://x.gd/EsQB6>

**Deadline: Tuesday, 11 March 2025**