



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

2021  
2030 United Nations Decade  
of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development

# The Future of Climate Change and the Marine Environment

## – Towards Sustainable Oceans –

**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

Japanese-English  
simultaneous interpretation

### Programme

〈Part I〉  
**Opening Remarks**  
14:00-14:05

Linda Anne Stevenson  
Acting Director, APN Secretariat

**Keynote speech**  
14:05-14:50

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

Yusuke Uchiyama  
Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Kobe University

**Break** 14:50-15:00

〈Part II〉  
15:00-16:25

**Introduction of overseas case 1**

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

Susanne M. Brander  
Associate Professor, Oregon State University

**Introduction of overseas case 2**

### "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

**Closing Remarks**  
16:25-16:30

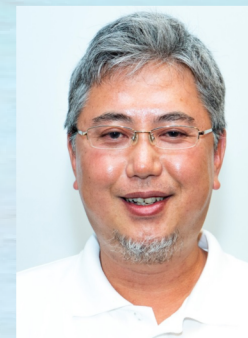
Hiroaki Shibuya  
Deputy Director, APN Secretariat

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.

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

### 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.



Thank you for joining us today. After the forum, please fill in the questionnaire using the QR code on the right.

<URL for questionnaire> <https://x.gd/ENnmX>



### Contact

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

East Building, 4F, 1-5-2 Wakinohamakaigandori, Chuo-ku, Kobe 651-0073 JAPAN

Website: <https://www.apn-gcr.org/>

E-mail: [apnseminar@gmail.com](mailto:apnseminar@gmail.com)

TEL: +81-078-230-8017

FAX: +81-078-230-8018

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