

Promoting the SDGs through City Networks—Starting with VLR (CityNet SDGs Cluster Seminar)

With the increasing global interest in SDGs and decarbonization, local governments worldwide are voluntarily conducting Local Reviews (VLRs) to assess progress towards sustainable development goals, and CITYNET supports member cities in creating VLRs. This session will feature presentations from CITYNET member cities (e.g., Kuala Lumpur, Yokohama city), international organizations, private companies, and elementary school students from Yokohama city, showcasing their efforts towards SDGs and decarbonization. Besides, toward promotion of SDGs and decarbonization in Asia Pacific area, the discussion will also explore the potential for VLR expansion making use of CITYNET's network.

Date & Time:	15th (Wed) Nov 2023, 13:00-15:00 (JST)
Venue:	PACIFICO YOKOHAMA North G301
Meeting Style:	Face-to-face and online *Online participants: Live streaming via Zoom (Ch3) will be available. To obtain the URL of zoom, please register your participation from the URL below. Participant registration: https://y-ship2023.peatix.com/
Language:	Simultaneous Interpretation (Japanese – English)

Speakers

Opening: Minatomiraihoncho Elementary School

Opening Remarks: Hirotoishi Shiro Deputy Mayor, City of Yokohama

After joining the City of Yokohama in 1987, he served as Deputy Director General of the Transportation Bureau and Director General for the Policy Coordination of the Policy Bureau. In 2012, he was appointed Director General of the Hospital Administration Bureau. After that, he served as Director General of the Medical Care Bureau newly formed in 2015 and Director General of Transportation Bureau. He has been Deputy Mayor since 2020.

Keynote Speech: Sanjeevani Singh

Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Urban Development Section, Environment and Development Division, UNESCAP
Senior expert in Urban Planning, Housing, and Sustainable Development. Currently, holding a position at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific supporting international cooperation, intergovernmental meetings, managing projects, providing technical assistance, and fundraising. Leading efforts in localizing the SDGs, urban and territorial planning, and digital innovation for climate action and sustainable development.





Moderator: Yatsuka Kataoka

Programme Director, City Taskforce, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Joined IGES in 2001 after she engaged in environmental technology transfer projects targeted at the Asian countries in Global Environment Centre Foundation (GEC). After 2017, She is working on city-related project at the IGES City Taskforce, including city-to-city collaboration projects for sustainable development between EU and Japan as well as Japan and other Asian countries. Her recent study focus also includes localisation and follow-up and review at local level of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Speaker: Takuya Endo

Executive Director for SDGs Future City Promotion Climate Change Policy Headquarters, City of Yokohama

After joining the City of Yokohama in 1995, he served as Head of Totsuka Central Area Zoning Office, Director for the City Center Redevelopment, and Director of the Minato Mirai 21 Promotion Division of the Urban Development Bureau. He has served in his current position since April 2023.



Speaker: Xuanxuan Kumazawa

World Horticultural Exhibition Promotion Division, Kamiseya Development and World Horticultural Exhibition Promotion Office, Urban Development Bureau, City of Yokohama

After joining the City of Yokohama in 2012, she served as a civil engineering staff and tackled flood-control projects in Yokohama. She has been working for the World Horticultural Expo since 2018 and contributed to the decision to hold the EXPO 2027 in Yokohama.



Speaker: Nor Nazariah binti Kamardin

Senior Deputy Director, Administration Department, Kuala Lumpur

Appointed the first position in Kuala Lumpur City Hall in 1997. Highly knowledgeable in management and laws. Thus, has joined various departments in Kuala Lumpur City Hall liase with social management, housing, tourism and customer service.

The careers and experiences have colored her with knowledge of sustainable development in the city of Kuala Lumpur. Become a Champion of Administration Department in steering SDGs and actively involves in energy efficiency activities for all Kuala Lumpur City Hall's buildings with Malaysian Green Technology And Climate Change Corporation of Malaysia (MGTC).

Speaker: Le Minh Tuong

**Vice Director of Department of Planning and Investment,
Da Nang City**



After majoring the international economics and public policy at Cardiff University, United Kingdom, he started his carrier at the Organization Department of the Communist Party of Da Nang Committee. He served as Vice-director of the Da Nang Center for Promotion of Human Resources Development and Vice-director of the Da Nang Investment Promotion Agency in the Da Nang City People’s Committee. He has served in his current position since 2021.

Speaker: Naoki Ishii

President, Ishii Zouen Landscape Co.,Ltd.



Appointed as president of Ishii Zouen Landscape Co.,Ltd in 2004. Graduated from Yokohama Junior Chamber, appointed as supervisor of Yokohama City Landscape Gardening Association and vice-chairman of Yokohama standard promoting conference in 2006. With its management philosophy of “Through its corporate activities, the Ishii Zouen Landscape aims to be a company that shares happiness.”, the company constructed its own tree-planting fund and is developing its management based on CSR focused on community contributions, considering where it contributes among the 169 targets of SDGs.

Speaker: Noboru Okazaki

**Deputy manager, Overseas administration department,
JFE Engineering Corporation**



Joined JFE Engineering Corporation in April 2014. After some experiences in various business fields in this Company; marketing for Coastal Steel Infrastructure department, General Secretary of JFE Engineering Labor Union. Since April 2022, he has been in charge of Overseas administration department and responsible for branch management in Philippines and Myanmar, especially in the field of Corporate Division such as Accounting, Human Resources, Administration.

Closing: Rumi Kurita

Head of Office, CITYNET Yokohama Project Office



Served as Director General of Kohoku Ward, City of Yokohama from 2018 to 2021. After serving as Vice President of the Yokohama Sport Association, she was appointed as Executive Director of Yokohama Convention & Visitors Bureau, a public interest incorporated foundation, in April 2023. She has been working on the promotion of MICE tourism and developing Yokohama as a tourism region and has held her current position since July 2023. With over 30 years of experience from working in local government, she hopes to contribute to the further prosperity of member cities, companies, and organizations by deepening connections and collaborations.