

## **SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE 2020: TOKYO, JAPAN**



### **THEME: “EMBEDDING THE U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs): THE ROLE OF BUSINESS, GOVERNMENTS, ORGANISATIONS AND THE ACADEME”**

Graduate School of Business Administration, Meiji University,  
Kanda-Surugadai, Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan  
20 – 22 November, 2020



Following the four successful Sustainability Conferences inaugurated and convened at Massey Business School, Massey University, Auckland Campus, New Zealand, we are hosting the fifth conference in Tokyo to continue the conversation for another stimulating ‘boundary-spanning’ debate.

### **Purpose**

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been in existence for 4 years, and just a couple of months prior to our conference, the SDGs will be 5 years old. Therefore, it is imperative at this juncture to start a critical and frank review of the ways in which business, governments, NGOs, academics and academic institutions, along with other organisations

are embedding the SDGs into their strategies and policies. Thus, this conference is timely and fundamental to both sustainability and SDGs debates.

While we are witnessing increasing economic growth and technological progress, environmental problems and social issues such as widening inequality are becoming more prominent globally. The formation of SDGs, also known as the Global Goals or Agenda 2030, has reenergized the focus to find lasting solutions to resolve the 'grand challenges' and 'wicked problems' facing the world. The SDGs have been touted as a global roadmap to resolve economic, social and environmental challenges, and yet progress in many areas of the SDGs is relatively slow, given the aim to reach the targets by 2030. This begs the question: what are the catalysts and barriers to achieving the SDGs?

The aim of this conference, "Embedding the UN Sustainable Development Goals: The role of business, governments, organisations, and the academe" is to provide a forum for academics, practitioners, entrepreneurs, policy makers and the NGOs to come together and debate new ideas, research and critical issues in sustainability. The purpose is to advance sustainability research and discussion by mapping where sustainability theory and practice is heading, with a thorough grounding in what has come before. Further, this conference will provide a forum to share and present experiences and news ideas that would help to better deliver the SDGs.

## Call for Papers

Empirical and conceptual papers are invited from academics, practitioners, NGOs and policy makers for the conference. We invite our participants to explore, but not be limited to, the following themes:

- All areas of the SDGs
- The SDGs in the Business Sector
- Education, Sustainability and the SDGs
- Academics/Academic Institutions and the SDGs
- Communicating Sustainability and the SDGs
- The SDGs, Sustainability, IT & AI
- Global Initiatives and the SDGs
- Sustainability, SDGs and SMEs
- The role of Government and NGOs in the SDGs debate
- Sustainability, the SDSs and The Circular Economy

## Submissions

Interested presenters should initially submit an abstract of no longer than 500 words. It should include reference to relevant theory/practice, research methodology where appropriate, findings, conclusions and any recommendations for future action/research. Abstracts can be sent as a Word attachment in **English or Japanese** to Professor Koichi

OKADA: [okada@meiji.ac.nz](mailto:okada@meiji.ac.nz) by Tuesday, 30th June 2020. All submissions will be subject to a formal double blind peer review and notification of acceptance will be provided by 24th July 2020. All accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings. On your proposal please indicate the title of the paper, authors and contact details. Full papers may also be submitted for peer review if required by your funding institution. Full papers (of no more than 20 pages) should be sent by 16th October 2020 to be eligible for selection for a special issue.

Note that 20th of November will be dedicated to the **PhD colloquium**. We strongly encourage submissions on different areas of sustainability disciplines from PhD students for inclusion in the colloquium.

Offers to run symposia, workshops and panel discussions are also welcome.

Further deliverables from the Conference

Selected papers presented at the Conference will be published in a special issue of *Corporate Governance – An International Journal of Business in Society* (Emerald publisher).

## **Early Bird Registration - on or before 31 October 2020**

All participants including delegates, speakers and guests should register online with payment of the registration fee.

### **Registration Entitlements include:**

- Doctoral Workshop, Meiji University, Suragadai Campus, Tokyo 20 November
- Welcome Reception, 20 November
- Sustainability Conference, Meiji University, Suragadai Campus, Tokyo 21 & 22 November
- Conference Dinner, 21 November

### **Registration Fee**

Full Registration, before 31 October — US\$390

Full Registration, after 31 October — US\$450

Student Registration, before 31 October — US\$180

Student Registration, after 31 October — US\$240

## **Key Dates**

Call for Papers - Now Open

Registration - Now Open

Deadline for Submission of Papers – 30 June, 2020

Notification of Accepted Papers – 24 July, 2020

Early Bird Registration Closes – 31 October, 2020

Deadline for Presenters to Register - 5 November, 2020

## **Venues**

### **Doctoral Workshop**

Date Friday 20 November 2020

Meiji University, Surugadai Campus, Tokyo

Time 14:30 – 17:30

### **Sustainability Conference**

Date Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 November, 2020

Time 10.00am- 5.00pm Saturday / 10.00am - 5.00pm Sunday

Meiji University, Surugadai Campus, Tokyo

### **Welcome Reception**

Date Friday 20 November 2020

Meiji University, Surugadai Campus, Tokyo

Shikon-Kan 6F

Time 18.00

### **Conference Dinner**

Date Saturday 21 November 2020

Meiji University, Surugadai Campus, Tokyo

Salon San Liberty tower 23F

Time 18:00

## Accommodation

Tokyo is a very attractive, culture and cool city and benefits from plentiful accommodation. Hotel recommendations will be advised nearer the time.

## Contact Us

For all enquiries regarding registration or submission of papers, please contact Professor Koichi Okada ([okada@meiji.ac.jp](mailto:okada@meiji.ac.jp)).

On behalf of the Sustainability Conference 2020 Organizing Committee:

- ☆ Professor Koichi Okada (Meiji University) (Co-Chair)
- ☆ Associate Professor Gabriel Eweje (Massey University) (Co-Chair)

Professor Kenichi Suzuki (Meiji University, Japan)

Associate Professor Shima NAGANO (Meiji University, Japan)

Associate Professor Margaret Brunton (Massey University, New Zealand)

Dr Masahiro Hosoda (Ibaraki University, Japan)

Hitomi Toyosaki (Meiji University)

Maiko Kodama (Meiji University)