

SDGs Report 2024

Hokkaido University
Sustainable Development
Goals Report



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ABOUT

About Hokkaido University

Hokkaido University is a flagship university with a strong emphasis on graduate studies, and its origins go back to Sapporo Agricultural College, established in 1876. The University will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its founding in 2026. As we approach this significant milestone, we are deeply aware of the importance of the role a university must serve in society and have been boldly and steadily advancing the university reform based on our core principles and long-term goals toward “contributing to the resolution of global issues.”

Value Creation Process at Hokkaido University

Aiming to Realize a Sustainable Well-Being Society through a Virtuous Circle of Excellence and Extension

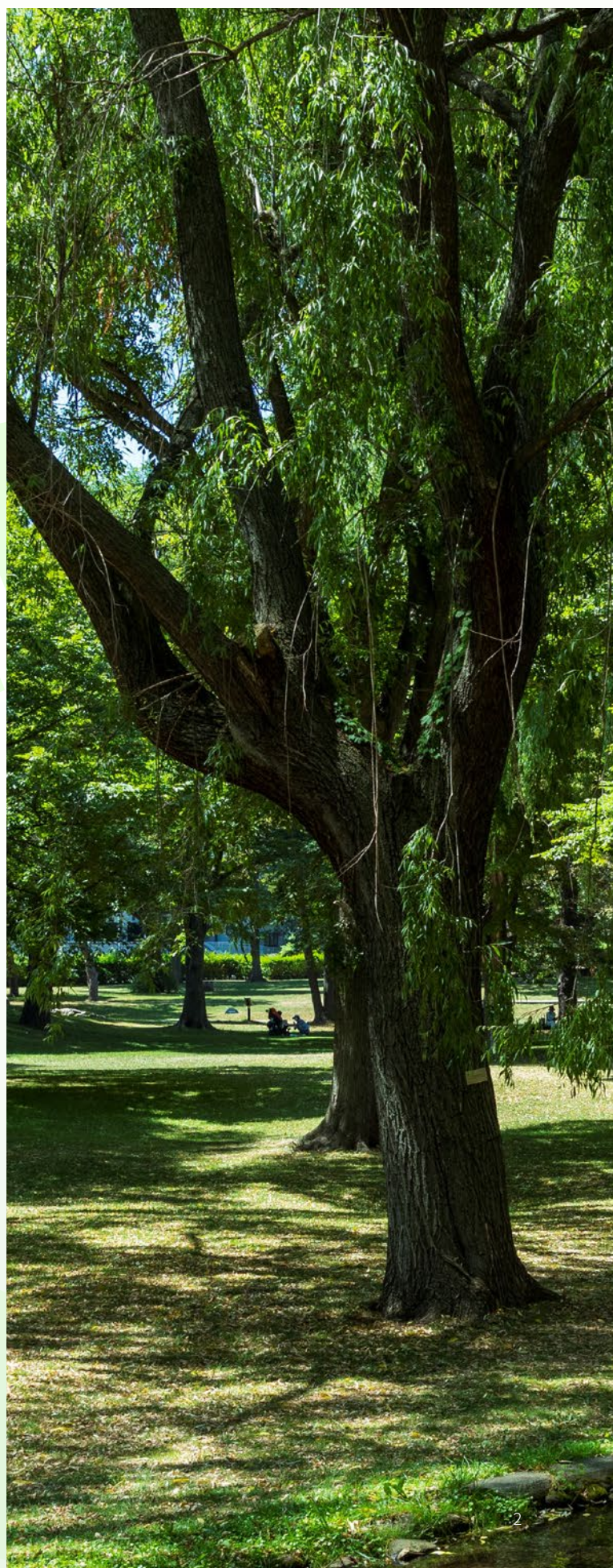
With excellence in education and research in the fields of science and technology; and extension, the ability to expand education and research into society to solve regional issues as its two driving engines, Hokkaido University will steer its own innovation and move vigorously toward the realization of a sustainable well-being society.

HU VISION 2030

This medium-term vision of Hokkaido University targeting the year 2030 has to clearly visualize “Excellence” and “Extension” and create a virtuous circle and ecosystem through the integration of these two elements.



Novel Japan University Model

We aim to achieve a new university image through the realization of HU VISION 2030. It is a Japanese flagship university as a public good and management entity that dramatically strengthens partnerships with the international and local communities, and creates social impact and innovation through collaboration.





Goal 1:
End poverty in all its forms everywhere

SDG1 : NO POVERTY		
 Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact	 Citation Count
40	2.4	1505
	World average: 1.0	

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Student Financial Support Systems at
Hokkaido University

1. Scholarships and Financial Assistance

Hokkaido University has established a comprehensive support system that enables students to pursue their studies with peace of mind.

Students can receive financial support, including scholarships, through a wide range of support organizations. There are two main types of financial support: grant-type and loan-type.

Grant-type support includes Hokkaido University’s unique financial assistance, scholarship programs implemented by the university in collaboration with companies, and scholarships provided by local governments and private organizations.

Even if students cannot receive benefit-type (grant-type) support, they still have the opportunity to receive assistance through loan-type scholarships, such as those provided by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO).

As a research university, Hokkaido University aims to provide an environment where students can devote themselves to their research, and places particular emphasis on supporting doctoral programs.

In the doctoral program, multiple student support systems promoted by the government have been adopted. When combined with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) fellowships—which provide living and research expenses—and other financial support systems, about half of all doctoral students receive grant-type financial support.

Furthermore, approximately 70% of students receive monthly grants of 150,000 yen or more, ensuring that they can focus on their studies and research without financial hardship.



2. Support Systems for International Students
(Study Abroad Expenses and Financial Assistance)

Hokkaido University has developed a variety of financial support systems to ensure that international students can continue their studies and research with peace of mind. The actual expenses required to study at Hokkaido University vary depending on individual lifestyles and living arrangements.

The university provides information on enrollment fees, tuition fees, living expenses, and tuition exemption systems, which can be found in the Hokkaido University International Student Prospectus and the Student Guide to Japan.

In addition, Hokkaido University offers support programs for international students who experience temporary financial hardship due to unforeseen circumstances such as accidents or illness.

(1) Michiko Seki International Student Support Fund

This fund provides emergency financial assistance to international students enrolled at Hokkaido University who face serious financial difficulties caused by unexpected events.

It is intended to help students maintain their studies and daily lives during difficult times.

(2) Lump-sum Loan System

This system offers interest-free short-term loans for international students who need temporary financial assistance.

Students can borrow up to 50,000 yen, interest-free, for a period of up to six months.

This program is implemented as part of the activities of the Hokkaido University Supporters’ Organization, and serves as a safety net for students who face sudden financial needs.

Through these support systems, Hokkaido University provides a stable and inclusive framework that enables all students—both domestic and international—to continue their studies even in times of financial difficulty.

The Consortium of Child Poverty Survey Research

The Consortium of Child Poverty Survey Research is a national academic partnership established in 2019 by six universities in Japan to advance evidence-based research on child poverty. Hokkaido University contributes to this initiative through the Research and Clinical Center for Child Development, Faculty of Education.

Each participating institution conducts large-scale longitudinal and cross-sectional studies, and by integrating their datasets, the consortium enables more robust analysis and a deeper understanding of the complex factors related to child poverty. This collaborative framework also supports the development of research-based proposals for social policy and community support systems.

At Hokkaido University, Research and Clinical Center for Child Development brings together scholars across a wide range of disciplines—including developmental psychology, social education, social welfare, sociology, clinical psychology, special needs education, teacher education, and pediatric neurology. Through its strong interdisciplinary approach, the center promotes innovative research that bridges academic fields and addresses real-world social challenges affecting children and families.



Research and Clinical Center for Child Development, Faculty of Education, Hokkaido University

Hokkaido Startup Future Creation Development by Mutual Support Networks(HSFC)

The Hokkaido Startup Future Creation Development by Mutual Support Networks (HSFC, also known as H-Force) is a wide-area platform connecting universities, research institutions, colleges of technology, local governments, and financial institutions across Hokkaido and nationwide to foster and support research-based start-ups.

As the principal institution, Hokkaido University plays a central role in organizing and leading HSFC, driving the social implementation of research outcomes and supporting start-ups that contribute to regional innovation. Within HSFC, the GAP Fund Program is operated as a form of entrepreneurial support to bridge the gap between research outcomes and their social implementation.

Furuhon (Used Book) Donation Program

The Furuhon Donation Program is an initiative that promotes sustainability while supporting education and research at Hokkaido University. Unneeded books are collected and sold to secondhand bookstores, and the proceeds are used to enhance the services of the Hokkaido University Library.

Anyone can participate simply by donating books they no longer need. Collection stations are available at the Central Library and the North Library.

Funds raised through the program are used to improve the learning environment, including the purchase of books for students and essential library equipment.

In 2024 (January–December), a total of 3,864 books were donated, generating 233,196 yen. These funds were used to replace a portion of the seating in the North Library, improving comfort for library users.

This program not only supports student learning but also promotes the reuse of resources and environmental sustainability on campus.



Used Book Donation Station



Chairs for the North Library purchased through the Used Book Donation Program



Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

SDG2 : ZERO HUNGER

 Scholarly Output

264

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

4.51

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

13387

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Hokkaido University Held Its J-PEAKS Kickoff Symposium

On July 25, 2024, Hokkaido University held the Kickoff Symposium for the Program for Forming Japan's Peak Research Universities (J-PEAKS) on the Sapporo Campus. In FY2023, Hokkaido University was selected as one of 12 institutions nationwide under this program for its proposal titled "Building a Regenerative Agri-Fishery System for Sustainable Food Production and Global Well-being Based on Field Science."

In his opening address, President Kiyohiro Houkin expressed the university's strong commitment to advancing this initiative, stating, "Among the selected universities, Hokkaido University aims to play a leading role and generate national and international impact through this program."

The symposium featured a panel discussion with representatives from diverse sectors, including dairy farming, fisheries, government, and private industry. The participants exchanged perspectives on the future of agriculture and marine industries and emphasized the importance of cross-sector collaboration in addressing global challenges in sustainable food production.



Scene from the symposium

Kitamite Garden SDGs Farm Project

The "Kitami Garden SDGs Farm" is a collaborative project between the Hokkaido University Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability SDGs Initiative Division and the Organizing Committee for Hokkaido Marathon, which aims to promote resource recycling on campus through the utilization of leaf litter made from fallen leaves collected at Hokkaido University's Sapporo Campus. The project is designed to promote the recycling of resources on campus, not only with the university's students and faculty but also with the local community.

The SDGs garden, located in the courtyard of the museum, is created and managed by the volunteer group "Kitamite Garden" of Hokkaido University Museum, which consists mainly of Hokkaido University faculty and staff, the Organizing Committee for Hokkaido Marathon, and Hokkaido University students.

This initiative is supported by the Japan Association of Athletics Federations (JAAF). Received the "BEST THINK Award" at the "Athletics Awards 2024" *You will be redirected to Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability website.



Cycle of the "Kitamite Garden SDGs Farm" Project

Collaborative SDGs Initiatives at Hokkaido Marathon 2024 Receive the “Best Think Award” at the Athletics Award 2024

In December 2024, Hokkaido University and its partners received the “Best Think Award” from the Japan Association of Athletics Federations (JAAF) in recognition of their sustainability initiatives associated with the Hokkaido Marathon 2024. The award is the highest honor within JAAF’s SDGs initiative “#LETSTHINK”, which promotes social contribution through athletics.

As part of this initiative, the Hokkaido University Institute for the Promotion of Business-Regional Collaboration, Sustainability Promotion Division collaborated with the Organizing Committee for Hokkaido Marathon 2024 and “Kitamite Garden,” a student volunteer group based at the Hokkaido University Museum. Together, they launched the Kitamite Garden SDGs Farming Project, which promotes resource recycling and community engagement on campus.

Using compost made from fallen leaves collected on the Sapporo Campus, vegetables were cultivated in the SDGs garden located in the courtyard of the Hokkaido University Museum. The harvest was served to the public as part of original menu items at the Museum-Cafe Polus and was also provided to 154 runners during the carbo-loading party held on the day before the Hokkaido Marathon 2024.

In addition, wood that was unavoidably removed during the demolition of the university’s pedestrian bridge was repurposed to create a monument featuring an Yezo deer (*Cervus nippon yezoensis*) at one of the marathon’s turning points. This initiative symbolized environmental stewardship and circular resource use while connecting the marathon with the natural and cultural identity of Hokkaido.



JAAF Athletics Award 2024

Hokudai Marche Award / Hokudai Marche

The Hokudai Marche Award was held as an annual event that brought together local farmers, food producers, students, and consumers. Through direct sales, knowledge sharing, and the recognition of outstanding initiatives in agriculture and food, the event introduced innovative approaches to farming, rural community development, and food-related problem-solving, and fostered new perspectives through collaboration between students and producers.

Alongside this, the Hokudai Marche, which started in 2009 under the theme “bringing Hokkaido’s food and agriculture to the people,” functioned as a direct-sales fair where producers and consumers interacted directly. It served as a venue to strengthen ties between producers and consumers and to widely promote the value of Hokkaido-grown food.

Both initiatives are conducted as part of the Inter-Graduate School Classes (postgraduate common subjects) at the university.



Top two:
Scenes from the
Hokudai Marche;

Bottom:
Poster for the Hokudai
Marche Award 2024

Public Lecture Series

The “Clock Tower Salon: Let’s Ask the Faculty of Agriculture”, launched in 2012 by the Research Faculty of Agriculture at Hokkaido University in collaboration with the Hokkaido Shimbun Press, was a public lecture series where citizens and those involved in agriculture learned about food and farming. It was held annually. In 2024, themes included “Asian Rice Cultivation and Water,” “The Latest Encyclopedia of Vegetables,” “The Wisdom of Plants,” and “Barrel Wood and Whisky – The Forestry Industry Supporting Food Culture.” These events brought together producers, researchers, and citizens to discuss topics such as crop breeding, food safety, biodiversity, and sustainable agriculture. The lectures were free of charge, did not require prior registration, and were open to everyone.



Posters for the Public Lecture Series

Smart Agriculture Education Center and Online Training Programs

Smart Agriculture Education Center at Hokkaido University served as a national hub for smart agriculture education, offering training programs for active farmers. The university provided a “Smart Agriculture Online Course” and a consultation service, delivering the latest knowledge and technology in precision agriculture and digital farming to local food producers.

Collaboration with Hokudai Food Bank

The Hokkaido University Co-op, which works closely with Hokkaido University as part of the campus community, collaborates with the student volunteer group “Hokudai Food Bank.” Through this partnership, the Co-op provides surplus food items—such as unsold rice balls and bread—to children’s centers in Sapporo free of charge. This initiative contributes to reducing food loss on campus and supporting local food assistance efforts.

Wine Tasting at the Center of Education and Research for Hokkaido Wines

Hokkaido University’s Center of Education and Research for Hokkaido Wines opened to visitors for wine tasting from September.

The Center of Education and Research for Hokkaido Wines was established in April 2022 to conduct education and research for the sustainable development of Hokkaido’s wine industry. In September 2023, the Former School of Entomology, a historical building on the Sapporo Campus, was restored and renovated to house the Center.

From September 6, 2024, the Center opened its gallery area to the public, where visitors could taste a dozen brands of Hokkaido wines. The tastings were intended to convey the appeal of Hokkaido wines to the general public and also serve as part of research into the relationship between the chemical composition of wines and their palatability.



The Center of Education and Research for Hokkaido Wines Building




The wine tasting stand in the gallery area. Wine is served by coin-operated dispensers (black cabinets).



Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

SDG3 : GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING


 Scholarly Output

5203

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

1.92

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

122203

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

WHO Collaborating Centre Designation

The Center for Environmental and Health Sciences at Hokkaido University has been designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre by the World Health Organization. This designation enables the university to contribute to international health initiatives, participate in global research networks, and support the development and dissemination of training modules for medical professionals.

Promoting Community Health and Well-being through the Collaborative “H-ARTs” Wellness Project



Participants taking part in a free health check-up



Scene from the Good Driver Check

Hokkaido University is implementing the Wellness Promotion Project “H-ARTs”, in collaboration with ARCS CO., LTD., RALSE Co., Ltd., TSURUHA Holdings Inc., and the City of Sapporo. The project aims to contribute to the creation of a healthy and sustainable local community.

In fiscal year 2024, “Free Health Check” events were held in May, August, October, and March. Participants received bone density screening, brain age testing, and Veggie Check®, a test that estimates vegetable intake. In addition, a consultation desk was set up to provide support for daily life concerns among older adults.

At the May event, the Good Driver Check was conducted with cooperation from the Non-Profit Organization Good Driver Lesson.

Participants engaged in self-assessments to promote safe driving and practiced exercises designed to prevent accidental pedal misapplication between the accelerator and brake.

Students from Hokkaido University as well as neighboring universities participated as event staff, making the initiative an opportunity for student volunteer engagement and promoting community health awareness.

Development of MIND DIET

Hokkaido University Hospital Nutrition Management Center not only works to improve the satisfaction and nutritional status of hospitalized patients, but also collaborates with restaurants and companies to develop and sell products, and is involved in a variety of projects aimed at promoting the health and preventing disease in the local community.

The MIND diet was developed at Rush University in the United States as a dietary method to slow down brain aging. It is a combination of the Mediterranean diet and the DASH diet, which aims to prevent high blood pressure, and is attracting attention as a dietary method that can slow down cognitive decline. Hokkaido University Hospital Nutrition Management Center, together with the Personal Health Center (PHC) and the restaurant Ari in Tobetsu Town, is working to popularize and raise awareness of the MIND diet, including developing MIND diet lunches.

For more information, please see “Mind Food” - A dietary method to slow down brain aging. It is also introduced on the Hokkaido University Nutrition Management Center’s YouTube channel “Delicious! Hokkaido University Hospital Recipes.”



Example of a lunch box incorporating Mind Food (Photo: Public Relations Division)

Promotion of Student Consultation System and Mental Health Support

Students may face various difficulties such as mental health, interpersonal relationships, harassment, career, and academics. To address these, the university has established multiple consultation facilities on campus and actively promotes mental health support. In addition, the university holds the “Student Consultation Forum” about three times a year to strengthen coordination among consultation offices and provide better support for students.



A helpful guide for Hokkaido University students (front



[A helpful guide for Hokkaido University students \(back\)](#)

Office of Health and Safety to Guide and Supervise Safety and Health from a University-wide Perspective

The University has educational and research sites and other facilities covering a diverse mix of specialized fields on its vast premises. The Office of Health and Safety was established as an organization that centrally grasps the status of safety and health management and is responsible for the planning, formulating, and supervising of related activities. In collaboration with individual departments and related organizations, the Office is engaged in a variety of health and safety initiatives.

【Lunchtime Workshop Series】Learning Relational Skills

The “Lunchtime Workshop Series – Learning Relational Skills” was organized by the International Student Counseling Office, Student Advice and Counseling Center.

The purpose of this workshop was to help participants enhance their interpersonal skills, with each session focusing on different aspects of relational competence.

As relationships often become more complex upon entering university or graduate school, many students experience difficulties in building satisfying relationships with others. Through this workshop, participants learned the fundamentals of social skills and deepened their understanding of how to apply them effectively in their daily lives.



Poster announcing the events

Harassment Consultation Office

The Harassment Consultation Office was established in April 2016, with specialist consultants possessing professional knowledge and expertise on harassment and related matters assigned to the office.



Front side of the Harassment Prevention Card




Back side of the Harassment Prevention Card



Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

SDG4 : QUALITY EDUCATION

 Scholarly Output

110

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

2.42

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

1820

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Hokkaido Summer Institute (HSI)

Hokkaido Summer Institute (HSI) is one of the largest summer schools in Japan and has been held annually since 2016. Making use of Hokkaido's cool summer climate, the program invites leading researchers from around the world who have outstanding academic achievements and professional experience to collaborate with Hokkaido University faculty in offering innovative educational courses. These courses also open the university's world-class research and educational resources—previously available only to enrolled students—to participants from around the world. HSI provides a wide range of cutting-edge and engaging classes, including active learning courses designed to foster global talent and field training programs that take advantage of Hokkaido's rich natural environment.

As part of this international academic program, the SDGs Initiative Division of the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability at Hokkaido University offered the course "Introduction to International SDGs" from August 6 to 9, 2024. This course was also positioned as an introductory subject within the OGGs (One Program for Global Goals) framework. A total of 63 registered students participated in the eight-session course, which was conducted in a hybrid format, combining in-person and online instruction.



CoSTEP

CoSTEP (Communication in Science & Technology Education & Research Program) in Hokkaido University, Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education, Center for Open Education, is an organization for education, practice, and research in science communication.

CoSTEP will organically link education, research, and practice of science communication, collaborate with institutions inside and outside the university, and produce people who are active in science communication.

Hokkaido University Signs Comprehensive Partnership Agreement with NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation) Sapporo Broadcasting Station

On April 9, 2024, Hokkaido University signed a Comprehensive Partnership Agreement with NHK Sapporo Broadcasting Station. NHK will mark the 100th anniversary of radio broadcasting in 2025, while Hokkaido University will celebrate the 150th anniversary of its founding in 2026. Through this agreement, the two institutions will collaborate to address social challenges in Hokkaido, revitalize local communities, and promote education, research, and human resource development by leveraging their respective strengths and resources.



Scene from the comprehensive partnership agreement signing ceremony

Introductory Course for All First-Year Students “Learning at Hokkaido University” Begins

A compulsory introductory subject “Learning at Hokkaido University” is offered as an intensive course for all first-year students since the 2023 academic year. The course comprises eight lectures, including those on the history and present state of Hokkaido University, its efforts to address global issues (such as DEI and SDGs), career education to support future planning, and dialogue with alumni. These lectures help students to understand the characteristics, strengths, and advantages of the University. The “Understanding Global Issues” session provides an overview of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals), a common set of global objectives. The course is designed to foster an understanding of the importance of becoming creators of a sustainable future society. Regardless of their background in arts or sciences, students will gain insight into the value of human resource development, which enables them to acquire diverse knowledge, understand different cultures, and assume creative and leadership roles that will contribute to the future of humanity.



Slides used in the lecture

Hokkaido University SDGs Startup Guidebook 2024 (digest version for faculty and staff) has been created and published

The SDGs Initiative Division, Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability, Hokkaido University, has created and published the “Hokkaido University SDGs Startup Guidebook 2024 (Digest Version for Faculty and Staff).”

Hokkaido University conducted on-site FD/SD training programs titled “Hokkaido University’s Efforts to Achieve the SDGs and Educational and Research Activities” for all faculty and staff in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 (for details, please see [here]). Based on the opinions and feedback received from participating faculty and staff regarding the University’s SDGs initiatives, we have developed a new SDGs guidebook.

This guidebook can be used as a supplementary resource following the FD/SD training, as well as an introductory

reference for those who wish to begin engaging in SDGs-related activities or pursue re-skilling opportunities in this area.

Hult Prize Organizing Committee at Hokkaido University Selected as “2024 OnCampus Awards Program of the Year in Asia Pacific”

The Hult Prize is one of the world’s largest social entrepreneurship competitions for students, organized by the Hult Prize Foundation. At Hokkaido University, the student-led Hult Prize Organizing Committee hosts the annual Hult Prize OnCampus Program at Hokkaido University.

The committee has successfully secured sponsorship and support from multiple companies based in Hokkaido. In the 2023–24 competition cycle, the committee collaborated with STARTUP HOKKAIDO, a public-private initiative for startup support in Hokkaido involving Hokkaido Prefectural Government, the Hokkaido Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry, and the City of Sapporo. As part of this collaboration, the Hult Prize OnCampus Program at Hokkaido University partnered with Hokkaido Innovation Week, an international conference organized by STARTUP HOKKAIDO.

In recognition of these efforts, the committee achieved outstanding success by being selected as the “2024 OnCampus Awards Program of the Year in Asia Pacific” in the global Hult Prize OnCampus Awards, ranking No.1 in the Asia Pacific region and Top 7 worldwide.




KAWATE Kuriko, Chair of the Hult Prize Hokkaido University Organizing Committee (2023–2025)



Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

SDG5 : GENDER EQUALITY

 Scholarly Output

41

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

4.11

World average: 1.0

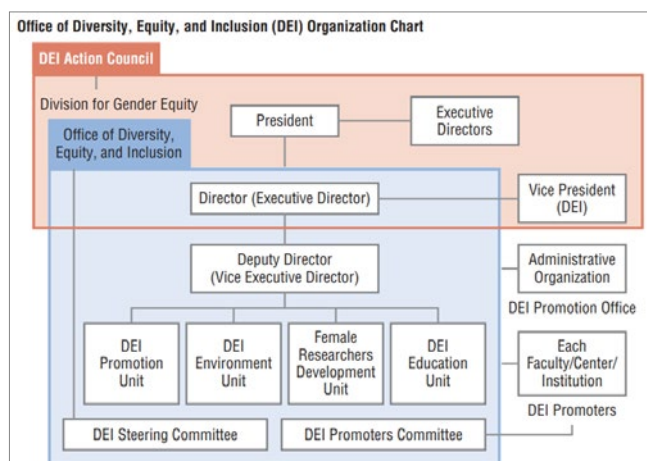
 Citation Count

809

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

In 2021, Hokkaido University (HU) released the Hokkaido University Statement on the Promotion of Diversity and Inclusion, which outlines the principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) that are essential for a university to contribute to solving global challenges. This declaration expressed our commitment to creating a diverse and inclusive academic environment in which the dignity of all members is respected, each individual takes pride in oneself, and mutual respect is fostered. Under this declaration, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion has initiated organizational reforms to establish the bidirectional dialogue from top-down efforts such as the DEI Action Council, led by the university's executive leadership, and bottom-up initiatives such as the DEI Promoters Committee, representing voices from the field level. The Office has also implemented a variety of support measures for the DEI environmental improvements and female researchers, and educational seminars and programs for the advancement of DEI in education. Beyond the university, HU actively promotes DEI throughout the region by leveraging a collaborative DEI network that includes universities and research institutions across Hokkaido.



Hokkaido University Conducts 2024 DEI Campaign Lecture Series

Hokkaido University is committed to fostering an educational and research environment that ensures diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) while raising university-wide awareness of these values. As part of this effort, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI Promotion Headquarters) organized a four-part DEI Campaign Lecture Series in 2024 to deepen and share understanding of DEI within the university community, under the university's vision of "DEI that contributes to solving global challenges."

On November 15, 2024, a Purple Ribbon Lecture titled "Do You Know About Dating Violence? – How Not to Be a Bystander" was held. On December 4, 2024, in conjunction with Disability Week (December 3–9), a special lecture titled "Even If You Cannot Hear – Raising a Child with a Rare Disease and Starting a Business after Leaving a Major Company" was hosted. A total of 213 participants, including faculty, staff, and students, attended the series.

Implementation of the Initiative for Realizing Diversity in the Research Environment (Female Leader Development Type), a Project Subsidized by MEXT

The University has indicated in HU VISION 2030 that it will strive to realize the Statement on the Promotion of Diversity & Inclusion with a view to ensuring diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus. In this context, the University has

Action Plan

- I. Fundamental organizational and awareness reforms as the foundation for DEI promotion
- II. Fostering female researcher leaders in line with the ambition of each individual
- III. Recruitment and active promotion of female researchers to higher positions

been selected for the Initiative for Realizing Diversity in the Research Environment (Female Leader Development Type), a project subsidized by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) for human resource development in science and technology. We aim to create an environment in which female researchers at the University can fully demonstrate their ambition, and to increase the number of women in upper-level and managerial positions.

Support for Career Events for Female Students and Graduate Students

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at Hokkaido University promotes the development of female researcher leaders by supporting each individual's ambitions and career growth, including doctoral students and early-career researchers.

As part of this effort, the "Support for Career Events for Female Students and Graduate Students" initiative provided partial financial support for seminars and other events designed to give female students and graduate students opportunities to reflect on their future career paths and encourage them to pursue doctoral studies.

Grant Program for Women Researchers

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at Hokkaido University provided research grants to female researchers who plan and lead outstanding collaborative research projects. The initiative aims to enhance their research capabilities, strengthen their leadership skills, and expand their academic networks.

Support Program for Departmental and Organizational Initiatives to Promote Diversity and Inclusion

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at Hokkaido University continued to implement the "Support Program for Departmental and Organizational Initiatives to Promote Diversity and Inclusion" in 2024. The DEI Office provided financial support for seminars and other events related to diversity, equity, and inclusion held within the university, with the aim of creating opportunities for members of the university community to deepen their understanding of DEI.

Hokkaido University held "Woman's Career Canvas – Exploring Future Career Paths for Female Students."

On February 13, 2024, an event titled "Woman's Career Canvas – Exploring Future Career Paths for Female Students" was held for female students at Hokkaido University. The event was co-hosted by the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI Promotion Headquarters), the Institute for the Advancement of Graduate Education (IAGE), and the Center for Co-creative Educational Design (Co-creative Hub for Learning & Education / CED).

Hokkaido ranks among the lowest in Japan in the Prefectural Gender Gap Index, and many female students face challenges in envisioning their future careers due to the lack of accessible role models. The event aimed to support female students in designing their career paths by learning from real examples.

Woman's Career Canvas ♡♡
～女子学生が描くキャリアの未来図～

2024/02/13 (Tue)
11:00 - 13:30
エンレイソウ1階
メインラウンジ

大学院進学？
修士？博士？
就職？結婚・子育て？

大学卒業後の進路はどうしよう…。
大学院進学に興味はあるけど将来が不安…。
"Woman's Career Canvas"は、そんなあなたのためのイベントです。
グローバルに活躍する卒業生や博士課程在籍中の先輩方のお話を聴き、
女性のキャリアパスについて知ってみませんか？

プログラム

1. 博士課程の学生による研究発表・博士課程進学までのお話
2. 株式会社Savon de Siesta 岡田さんのお話「理学修士から就職まで」
3. 北大での取り組み紹介
4. 登壇者全員の「女性大学校生の未来図」パネルディスカッション
5. 交流会

登壇者

附島 彩子さん
・北海道大学理学修士号
・株式会社 Savon de Siesta 取締役

池端 麻理さん
・大学院院務課国際学際・博士課程課

白井 那保さん
・大学院文学部 博士後期課程2年

長塚 紀子先生
・ダイバーシティ・インクルージョン推進本部 特任教授

賀島 (夏緑) 香織先生
・大学院院務課国際学際・博士課程課

ランチ・飲み物がつきます！

お申込
お申込は以下QRもしくはURLより
<http://bit.ly/careercanvas2402>

男女問わずお気軽にご参加ください！
締切 2/7(木) 13:00

こんな方におすすめ！

- ・将来の進路やライフプランを考えたい方
- ・キャリアの選択肢を広げたい方
- ・博士課程進学についての情報やアドバイスをりたい方
- ・学生同士のつながりを作りたい方

参加無料

主催
・大学院教育推進機構
・ダイバーシティ・インクルージョン推進本部
・国際プロジェクト推進 国際教育センター

※イベントは、文部科学省科学研究費助成事業「ダイバーシティ・インクルージョン推進実証型エデュエフ（女性リーダー育成型）」の一環として実施します。

Poster announcing the event



Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

SDG6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Scholarly Output

413

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

3.75

World average: 1.0

Citation Count

21961

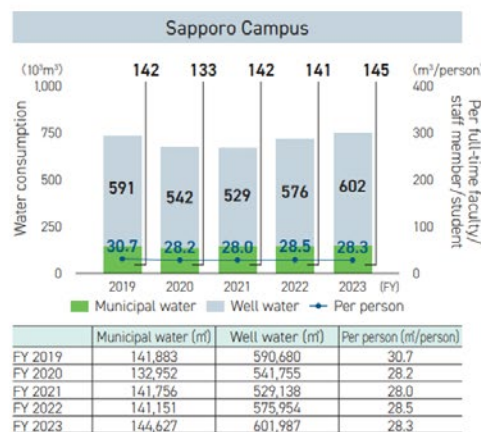
Data source: Scopus
Year range: 2020 to 2024

Water consumption

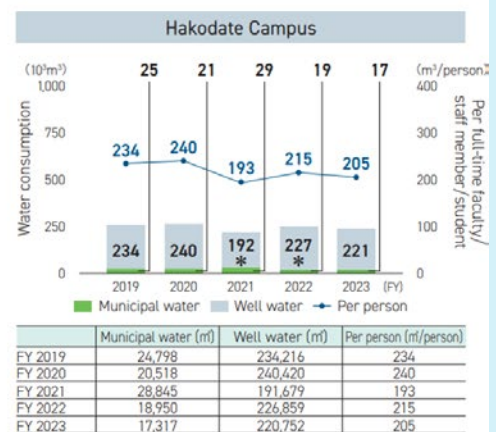
Water consumption (FY 2023)

Municipal water
161,944m³

Well water
822,739m³



Note: Per capita consumption figures include temporary faculty/staff.



*The amount of well water used at the Hakodate Campus is an estimate because the meter is presently out of order.

Water Refill Station Map



Map showing water refill locations on the Hokkaido University campus

Promoting Sustainable Water Use: Trial Installation of Water Purification Stand at Hokkaido University

A water purification-type Water Stand system has been installed on a trial basis at the North Cafeteria of the Hokkaido University Co-op. This initiative is jointly implemented by the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability at Hokkaido University and the Hokkaido University Co-op. The installed unit is a directly connected water purification stand that filters tap water through a Nano Trap filter, removing impurities while retaining essential minerals, allowing users to enjoy clean and great-tasting water. The water stand is available not only to Hokkaido University students, faculty, and staff but also to members of the general public, who are encouraged to fill their own reusable water bottles directly from the unit.

By promoting the use of reusable bottles, this initiative aims to provide safe and hygienic drinking water while simultaneously contributing to reducing plastic waste and lowering CO₂ emissions.



Poster encouraging the use of personal bottles for water refills



Scene from the water refill station

Report on Wastewater Management and Environment-related Laws and Regulations

Hokkaido University is working to reduce emissions of chemical substances and to provide education on safety based on the Hokkaido University Chemical Substances Management Regulations. Experiment-related liquid waste is collected and final treatment is outsourced. Since wastewater other than experiment-related liquid waste is discharged into the public sewage system, the campus wastewater routes are inspected for water quality once a month, and the results are reported to the local government. Voluntary inspections are also conducted routinely. These thorough wastewater management practices prevent any impact on the ecosystem, including humans, animals, and plants, and help protect the environment. Concerning environment-related laws and regulations (e.g., the Sewerage Service Act, the Air Pollution Control Act, laws and regulations concerning the proper disposal of waste, and energy conservation-related laws and regulations), we received recommendations by the regulatory authorities based on the Sewerage Service Act in FY 2021, and we have completed measures to improve the wastewater quality. We have not received any guidelines or recommendations by the regulatory authorities regarding other laws and regulations.

The Global Energy and Water EXchanges (GEWEX)

The Global Energy and Water EXchanges (GEWEX), one of the core projects of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), is an international research program jointly funded by the International Science Council (ISC), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO). GEWEX promotes research on the impacts of global climate change on the circulation of water and energy on a global scale.

The 9th GEWEX Open Science Conference (GEWEX-OSC 2024), an international scientific conference organized by GEWEX, was held in Sapporo, Japan, from July 8 to 12, 2024. This was the first time the conference had been held in Japan. It was organized by the International GEWEX Project Office and co-hosted by the Local Organizing Committee, Hokkaido University, and the Science Council of Japan.

Professor Tomohito Yamada of the Faculty of Engineering, Hokkaido University, served as Committee Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), overseeing the overall management of the event. With approximately 1,300 participants from 45 countries, this was the largest conference ever held in the history of GEWEX.

Recognizing that developing mitigation and adaptation measures for global warming, as well as forecasting future climate change, are urgent issues that must be addressed globally, the conference was held under the theme “Water and Climate.” At the opening ceremony, congratulatory remarks were delivered by representatives of the host and co-hosting organizations, along with a message from Prime Minister Fumio Kishida at that time.

The conference featured presentations not only on satellite-based Earth observation and climate simulations, but also on fundamental physical processes such as clouds, precipitation, and surface energy exchange. In addition, a lot of researchers from around the world presented and discussed studies directly addressing societal challenges, including future water resource issues and the reduction of natural disaster risks.

Beyond academic sessions, a “Stakeholder Session”—introduced for the first time at this conference—brought together participants from government, academia, and industry for lively discussions on how scientific knowledge can be applied to society, demonstrating the session’s significant importance.

Sessions featuring Japanese ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of the Environment, the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), covered topics such as flood risk assessment under climate change, development of agricultural production infrastructure, promotion of adaptation measures based on scientific knowledge, and international collaborative research with developing countries.

In sessions involving local governments and universities, active discussions were held on the assessment of flood risks associated with climate change and the processes toward societal implementation. Participants shared the recognition that understanding the complex processes of the water cycle and improving predictive technologies are essential.

Based on these discussions, Professor Tomohito Yamada, Committee Chairman of LOC, presented a summary of the inter-agency agreements at the closing ceremony, emphasizing the importance of formulating climate change adaptation policies grounded in both science and stakeholder dialogue.

Professor Peter van Oevelen, Director of IGPO and Professor at George Mason University, concluded by stating that “this conference enabled researchers and policymakers to communicate in the same language,” and commended it as an important turning point for the future of GEWEX activities.

Before, during, and after the conference, a variety of activities—including bicycle tours, technical tours in and around Sapporo and throughout Hokkaido, and a young researchers’ tour—were held, offering participants from around the world opportunities to experience the unique appeal of Hokkaido, the host region. These activities also provided valuable opportunities for networking and exchange, which became a notable feature of the conference.

Through this conference, Japan’s and Hokkaido’s approaches to science-based, risk-informed decision-making were communicated to the international community and received widespread recognition. This contributed to further strengthening collaboration between science and policy, enhancing Japan’s presence in international climate change adaptation strategies, and showcasing Hokkaido University’s contributions to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and the creation of a sustainable society.



Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

SDG7 : AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY


 Scholarly Output

873

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

1.22

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

19363

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Primary Energy Consumption



Primary energy
consumption
(FY 2023)

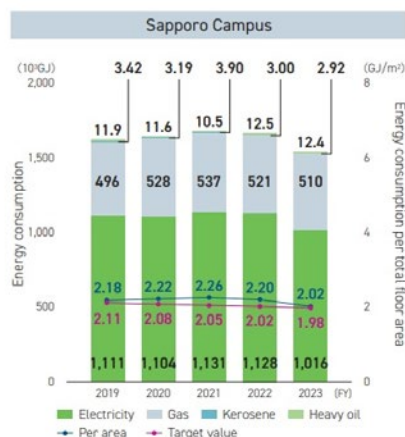
Electricity
1,047,210GJ

Gas
517,407GJ

Kerosene
2,942GJ

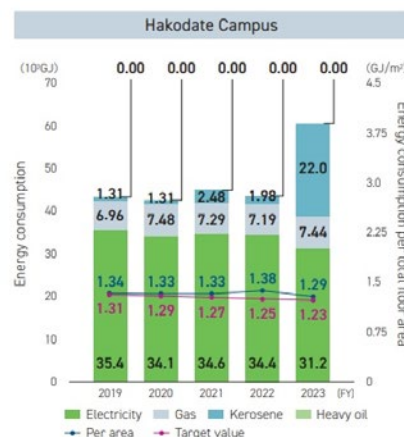
Heavy oil
12,386GJ

Conversion factors by
energy type
Electricity 8.64MJ/kWh
Gas 45.0 MJ/m³
Kerosene 36.5 MJ/L
Heavy oil 38.9 MJ/L



	Electricity (GJ)	Gas (GJ)	Kerosene (GJ)	Heavy oil (GJ)	Primary energy consumption (per area)	Target value
FY 2019	1,110,729	495,974	3,424	11,888	2.18	2.11
FY 2020	1,103,906	527,649	3,192	11,565	2.22	2.08
FY 2021	1,130,615	537,129	3,895	10,464	2.26	2.05
FY 2022	1,128,240	520,749	3,003	12,512	2.20	2.02
FY 2023	1,016,009	509,971	2,920	12,386	2.02	1.98

Note: 2019 ~ 2020: These values include private use. The increase in kerosene consumption at the Hakodate Campus in FY 2023 is attributable to research activities.
The energy conservation target is a 1.5% reduction per year in the basic unit for primary energy consumption at the Sapporo and Hakodate campuses (source: Action Plan for Building a Sustainable Campus 2016). It is planned to reset that target during the Fourth Period of the Mid-Term Plan.



	Electricity (GJ)	Gas (GJ)	Kerosene (GJ)	Heavy oil (GJ)	Primary energy consumption (per area)	Target value
FY 2019	35,402	6,961	1.31	0.00	1.34	1.31
FY 2020	34,119	7,483	1.31	0.00	1.33	1.29
FY 2021	34,567	7,293	2.48	0.00	1.33	1.27
FY 2022	34,383	7,193	1.98	0.00	1.38	1.25
FY 2023	31,201	7,436	22.01	0.00	1.29	1.23

Hokkaido University established the Renewable Energy Research & Education Center (REREC)

Hokkaido University established the Renewable Energy Research & Education Center (REREC) in June 2024 as a five-year initiative to serve as a hub for research and human resource development in renewable energy technologies. The Center is led by Professor Kazushi Miyashita, Director of the Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere.

REREC promotes comprehensive research on the utilization of renewable energy, including project planning and development, environmental impact assessment, and full life cycle studies covering installation, operation, management, and decommissioning. In addition, the Center aims to foster human resources capable of building consensus with local communities and addressing complex challenges through a balanced approach that values both "nature positive" and "community positive" outcomes. Through these efforts, REREC seeks to contribute to regional benefit-sharing and the sustainable use of natural capital.

Contributing to the Development and Demonstration of Autonomous Driving Systems Using On-campus Shuttle Buses

In June 2023, Hokkaido University, Hokkaido Electric Power Co., Inc., and the Northern Advancement Center for Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as “NOASTEC Foundation”) launched the Hokkaido University Innovation Commons Concept, a collaborative social problem-solving model that utilizes the university campus as a demonstration field. This initiative is a comprehensive model that incorporates the concept of “Energy Lake,” which aims to integrate low-carbon energy systems with disaster resilience, together with the “Campus Circulation Model,” a new economic framework designed to promote a recycling-oriented society.

Within the transportation domain of the initiative, studies have been conducted on decarbonizing the on-campus circular shuttle bus system, including the potential adoption of electric vehicles (EVs). In fiscal year 2024, field demonstrations were conducted to establish autonomous driving technologies suitable for snowy and cold regions. These demonstrations utilized the Hokkaido University Monitoring System, developed by Associate Professor Sho Takahashi of the Faculty of Engineering, Hokkaido University. This system enables accurate evaluation of road conditions, including visibility, road surface status, and snow accumulation, even under severe winter weather and poor visibility.

Beginning in November 2024, the Hokkaido University Monitoring System was installed on two circular shuttle buses operating on the Hokkaido University campus (currently operated manually and not yet autonomous). Image-based road condition analysis was conducted throughout the autumn and winter seasons as part of ongoing field validation. The findings from these demonstrations will contribute to the realization of safe and practical autonomous driving systems in regions with severe winter climates and support the development of next-generation mobility infrastructure within the Hokkaido University Innovation Commons Concept.

As part of the Campus Master Plan, 2018 Action Plan, “Thorough energy management throughout the University,” we are working to utilize centralized air conditioner controllers (timer-controlling of air conditioners to reduce wasteful operation). In FY 2023, the control system was implemented in the Centennial Hall, Civil Engineering Building, Machinery Building, and North Campus Building No. 6. It was confirmed that electricity consumption in North Campus Building No. 6 was reduced by 6.2% compared to the previous year. It was also confirmed that gas consumption for gas heat pump air conditioners (GHP) in North Campus Building No. 6 was reduced by 77.9% compared to the previous year.



On-campus shuttle bus operating on the Sapporo Campus

Centralized Air Conditioner Controller Utilization

As part of the Campus Master Plan, 2018 Action Plan, “Thorough energy management throughout the University,” we are working to utilize centralized air conditioner controllers (timer-controlling of air conditioners to reduce wasteful operation). In FY 2023, the control system was implemented in the Centennial Hall, Civil Engineering Building, Machinery Building, and North Campus Building No. 6. It was confirmed that electricity consumption in North Campus Building No. 6 was reduced by 6.2% compared to the previous year. It was also confirmed that gas consumption for gas heat pump air conditioners (GHP) in North Campus Building No. 6 was reduced by 77.9% compared to the previous year.

Reduction effect of electricity consumption in North Campus Building No. 6				
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Total
FY 2022 (kWh)	134,970	77,832	90,666	303,468
FY 2023 (kWh)	119,758	83,145	81,877	284,780
Reduction (kWh)	15,212	−5,313	8,789	18,688
Reduction effect	−11.3%	+6.8%	−9.7%	−6.2%
Reduction effect of gas consumption for GHP in North Campus Building No. 6				
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Total
FY 2022 (m³)	376	1,059	1,458	2,893
FY 2023 (m³)	161	204	274	639
Reduction (m³)	215	855	1,184	2,254
Reduction effect	−57.2%	−80.7%	−81.2%	−77.9%



Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

SDG8 : DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH


 Scholarly Output

213

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

3.33

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

12970

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

“Hokkaido University Administrative DX Strategy” Mind × Digital Transformation

Since April 2022, our university has been promoting DX of administrative operations with the keyword "Mind × Digital Transformation" with the aim of improving the operational environment of administrative organizations and creating benefits for its members.

We have formulated the “Hokkaido University Administrative DX Strategy,” which is the basic strategy for our university’s administrative DX.

- Creating a comfortable working environment for all employees
- Developing an environment that enables proactive response to new tasks

With this aim, we have set up projects tailored to issues ranging from core fields to operational units, and are promoting transformation through the three processes of [stopping], [reducing], and [changing].



On-site FD/SD “Efforts to Achieve the SDGs and Educational and Research Activities at Hokkaido University”

The SDGs Initiative Office of the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability has been conducting the faculty development (FD) and staff development (SD) program at individual departments since December 2022 to deepen the understanding of “contributing to the achievement of the SDGs” as stated in the Fourth Period of the Mid-Term Goals and Mid-Term Plan.

By FY 2023, the program had been applied 30 times, with a total of more than 2,400 participants (approximately 63% of faculty and staff), including on-demand versions.



Executive Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer YOKOTA conducting an on-site FD-SD session

Promotion of Responsible Trading and Procurement

The Hokkaido University Procurement Information website provides information on advertising for general competitive bidding and procurement results of environmental goods at the University.

Procurement results in FY 2023 (partial)

(1) Procurement of environmental goods

Outline: The following items were summarized and publicized in the procurement results of environmental goods.

- 1) Procurement status of specified items (generally 100% of items procured)
- 2) Environmental considerations on procurement of other goods and services
- 3) Evaluation of procurement performance in the current fiscal year

(2) Procurement of goods from facilities that employ people with disabilities

Results: The number of contracts was 14. The amount was 1,361,613 yen

Policy: The policy for FY 2024 has been established and announced.

(3) Contracts related to small and medium-sized enterprises

Policy: The policy on contracts related to small and medium-sized enterprises is publicly announced.


HOPS Seminar 2024: Diversifying Lifestyles and Work Styles and the Future of Pension Systems

The Graduate School of Public Policy at Hokkaido University (HOPS) held the 11th HOPS Seminar titled “Diversification of Lifestyles and Work Styles and the Pension System” on October 30, 2024, free of charge. The seminar explored the future design of Japan’s pension system in the context of increasing diversity in ways of living and working in modern society, focusing on topics such as the eligibility requirements of employee pension insurance, Category III insured persons, and income security for freelancers.



Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

SDG9 : INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE


 Scholarly Output

340

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

1.12

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

6084

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Office for Promotion of Semiconductor Hub Formation Established

Rapidus Corporation has announced the establishment of a state-of-the-art semiconductor plant in Chitose City, and Hokkaido University established the Office for Promotion of Semiconductor Hub Formation on October 1, 2023 to study and formulate a policy for the University in cooperation with other related organizations. By centrally responding to requests from the government, other research institutes, and companies and formulating strategic policies for human resource development, research, and collaboration with external organizations, it aims to contribute to the formation of a manufacturing base for advanced semiconductors in Japan. From now on, the Office will function as a bridge between the departments responsible for the actual research.



Photo courtesy of Office of Public Relations and Social Collaboration

Re-signing of Partnership Agreement on the Development of Future IT Personnel

In 2019, the City of Sapporo, Hokkaido University, and Nitori Holdings, Co., Ltd. signed a Partnership Agreement with the aim of fostering Future IT Personnel who can create the future society; and from 2021, the Hokkaido Government joined the partnership, these four parties have been promoting a project to foster IT personnel who will lead the future of Hokkaido and Sapporo. Recognizing that the development of IT personnel will continue to be essential in Hokkaido, the four parties have re-signed the Partnership Agreement in 2024. Toward the realization of a super-smart society, "Society 5.0," we will promote projects aimed at fostering human resources who can apply the power of digital technology and data to solve problems in local communities.



The signing ceremony (from left to right: President HOUKIN Kiyohiro, Hokkaido Governor SUZUKI Naomichi, Sapporo Mayor AKIMOTO Katsuhiro, and President SHIRAI Toshiyuki of Nitori Holdings, Co., Ltd.)

Comprehensive Partnership with Rapidus Corporation Established to Advance Semiconductor Talent Development and Research Collaboration

On June 5, 2024, Hokkaido University and Rapidus Corporation signed a Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement on Education and Research with the aim of contributing to the advancement of Japan's scientific and technological capabilities and the development of human resources in the semiconductor industry. As initiatives to promote the semiconductor industry are rapidly progressing in Hokkaido, strengthening human resource development and research and development has become a key challenge.

In light of this situation, both parties will advance long-term collaboration in the development of highly skilled professionals and research on advanced semiconductors, in anticipation of the operation of Rapidus' pilot production line scheduled for April 2025 and the start of mass production in 2027. In the near term, the university will cooperate with Rapidus in establishing its semiconductor facilities, while also collaborating in semiconductor-related human resource development and advanced semiconductor research.

Specifically, Rapidus will establish a facility for evaluation and analysis of 2-nanometer semiconductors on the Hokkaido University campus, and the partnership will further promote research and development projects in advanced semiconductor technologies. In addition, professionals from Rapidus will deliver lectures as practitioner faculty members, contributing to practical, industry-based education.

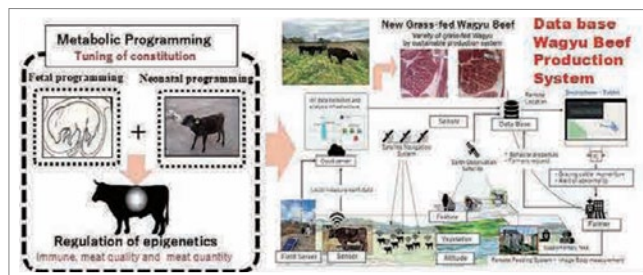


Scene from the signing ceremony
(from left: Hokkaido University President HOUKIN Kiyohiro; Rapidus Corporation President and CEO KOIKE Atsuyoshi)

“Next-Generation Wagyu Nexus” Selected for COI-NEXT

In October 2024, the project titled “Next-Generation Wagyu Nexus”, proposed by Hokkaido University as the representative institution in collaboration with Shiraoi Town as the lead municipality and Shikishima Farm Co., Ltd. as the lead partner organization, was selected for the COI-NEXT: Co-creation of Innovation – Next Generation Research & Development Program (Regional Co-creation (Development Type)) by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). The project is led by Professor TAKAFUMI GOTOH of the Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere, Hokkaido University.

The project aims to realize “an innovative regional society led by Generation Z through smart grazing management”, promoting the development of a sustainable community based on food production. By making effective use of digital tools such as smartphones to support smart grazing systems, the initiative seeks to drive structural reform in livestock production, enabling farmers to envision a hopeful future for the industry.



COI&NEXT
hokkaido univ.

COI-NEXT G-BASE



Next-Generation Wagyu Nexus

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

SDG10 : GENDER EQUALITY

 Scholarly Output

70

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

3.86

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

2051

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Accessibility Maps Developed for Sapporo and Hakodate Campuses

The Accessibility Support Office of the Student Counseling Center at Hokkaido University has developed Barrier-Free Maps for both the Sapporo and Hakodate campuses with the cooperation of student peer supporters. These maps are designed to make campus navigation easier for individuals with disabilities by clearly indicating information such as steps and level differences, slopes, wheelchair-accessible routes, and the locations and accessibility conditions of building entrances and connections. The maps are also available on the website of the Student Counseling Center. <https://www.sacc.hokudai.ac.jp/about/>

Shuttle bus stops on the campus (examples)	
Administration Bureau	カンピカラ ウシ コツチャケ (At the place where documentation is prepared)
Clark Memorial Student Center	クラーク エシカルン ウウエカラバ チセ コツチャケ (At the house for Clark's memorial and gathering)
School of Science	カムイ イレンカ ウワンパレ カンビヌイエ ウシ コツチャケ (At the place to research and study the providence of God)
Student Communication Station	カンビヌイエ クル ウタヲ ウタ サタサ ウシ コツチャケ (At the place where students interact with each other)
Gymnasium	ウエトウシマク ケンル コツチャケ (At the gymnasium)

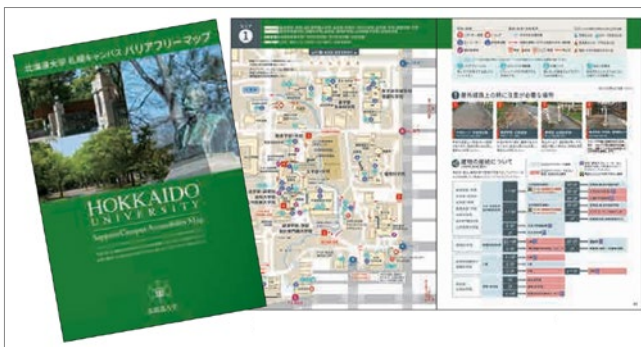
“Nakaniwa (Courtyard) Project”

The Faculty of Health Sciences, Hokkaido University launched the project titled “Preparing an Environment for the Formation of a Community Symbiosis Model through Collaboration with Persons with Disabilities and Older Adults with Dementia” (commonly known as the Nakaniwa Project) in 2024.

The Faculty of Health Sciences consists of five professional fields in healthcare education and is uniquely positioned to assess the performance and individual strengths of persons with disabilities and older adults, including those living with dementia, and to support their participation in meaningful activities. The Nakaniwa Project was established as a new model for an inclusive society, aiming to create, connect, and expand community networks by revitalizing a courtyard space and cultivating crops together. The project promotes the formation of three interconnected communities: the Student Circle, the Local Community Circle, and the Hokkaido University Circle.

The Student Circle

Students from the School of Medicine (Division of Health Sciences) and the Graduate School of Health Sciences participate in the Garden Creation Team and the Public Relations Team, working together with faculty and staff on garden development, event planning and implementation, and outreach activities. The project logo, characters, and Instagram



Hokkaido University Sapporo Campus Accessibility Map

Ainu Language Introduced for Bus Announcements on Hokkaido University Campus

The University established the Office of Ainu Relations and Initiatives in April 2022, and has been making various efforts to promote coexistence between the Ainu people inside and outside of the campus and other members of the University. Since January 25, 2024, announcements on the shuttle buses on the campus are given in the Ainu language (mainly the Ishikari dialect). The campus shuttle bus service, which is available only to faculty and staff, serves a total of 190,000 passengers annually, providing an opportunity for many of the University's faculty and staff to experience the Ainu language on a daily basis.

promotions were also created by students. Through this collaboration, students from different courses and specialties—who normally have few opportunities to interact—build connections and contribute to the project with creativity and initiative.

The Local Community Circle

The project also aims to create a casual and welcoming space for interaction with local residents, particularly older adults, who join students in gardening activities. Through new encounters between students and local residents, participants discover new joy, mutual learning, and purpose through shared experiences. In addition to gardening in the courtyard, various community activities such as radio exercise sessions, curry cooking events, and health measurement activities are organized.

The Hokkaido University Circle

Expertise in soil, plants, and ecosystems is essential for developing the courtyard space. Therefore, the project receives support from the Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere (FSC), Hokkaido University. Both the Faculty of Health Sciences and FSC are members of the Hokkaido University Future Earth Consortium, sharing a strong commitment to the SDGs. FSC's contributions go beyond assisting with the creation and maintenance of the courtyard, extending to initiatives such as building benches using wood reclaimed from trees removed during campus development work, demonstrating sustainable resource use.



Group photo of participants in the Nakaniwa (Courtyard) Project

Accessibility Services Office

The Accessibility Services Office provides "Reasonable Accommodation" for Hokkaido University students necessary to eliminate or reduce limitation and difficulty in study and research due to their disability or impairment. Our specialist staff are also available to provide consultation services to students who are facing issues or difficulties in their student lives.

We also offer consultation services to family members of our students as well as faculty and staff members of the University.

Available Services

- Develop and dispatch peer supporters to help students with disability or impairment
- Loan assistive devices and goods

- Produce and distribute educational materials
- Coordinate with departments or schools as well as faculty and staff members with regard to reasonable accommodation
- Conduct FD/SD training programs on disability, impairment and support

Examples of "Reasonable Accommodation"

Digitization of reference materials; loan of video magnifiers; note-taking (by computer or by hand); audio typing; use of hearing aid systems; change of classrooms; reservation of specific seats; extension of exam time; test-taking accommodations; approval of computer use; classroom accommodations; use of noise-cancelling headphones; and providing instructions and directions in writing.



Accessibility Services Office

Peer Support

Peer Support Unit has been founded to provide "support for students by students". Trained student staff see the needs of students from their perspective as fellow students and can offer the appropriate assistance.

Peer Support Unit is comprised of three sections – The Peer Support Unit: Student Consultation Section, The Peer Support Unit: Accessibility Services Section and The Peer Support Unit: Department of International Students.



Peer Support



Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

SDG11 : SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES


 Scholarly Output

432

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

1.66

World average: 1.0

 Citation Count

7488

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Open Access to Campus Green Spaces

Hokkaido University provides open public access to its central lawn and the green areas adjacent to the Faculties of Agriculture and Science, offering spaces of relaxation and interaction not only for students and staff but also for local residents. Visitors of all ages—from children to adults—can enjoy the seasonal beauty of nature in a safe and welcoming environment. Furthermore, the Sapporo Campus, as a 30by30 Nature Positive Site and OECM-registered area, serves as a rare, internationally recognized ecosystem where people can directly engage with biodiversity. These vast open spaces function as true venues of public access and inclusive community engagement.



Central Lawn

Specialized Library Access

The Fisheries Science Library and Museum Complex — a comprehensive MLA-linked facility that integrates and connects the functions of the Fisheries Science Museum and Library, equipped with advanced archive and shop functions — and the Slavic-Eurasian Research Center Library are also open to the public. These specialized libraries possess unique collections and support research in specific academic fields, further expanding public access to resources.



Fisheries Science Library and Museum Complex

Hokkaido University Museum

The Hokkaido University Museum provides free public access to museums, featuring exhibitions in natural history, archaeology, and cultural artefacts. It ensures that cultural and scientific knowledge is available to all members of society, supporting education and community development.



Hokkaido University Museum

Student-led Event to Share Hokkaido University's Natural Environment with the Local Community

Hokkaido University utilizes the green spaces on its campus as public assets that are open to the local community, and it promotes community engagement through student-led initiatives. In 2024, the 13th Golden-Leaf Festival (Kon'yousai) was held on the Sapporo Campus as an event open to the public with free admission. The festival featured a variety of programs, including the illumination of the iconic Ginkgo Avenue, stage performances by student music groups, hands-on activities for children, and local food stalls. By welcoming participants of all ages—from young children to adults—the event created opportunities for visitors to enjoy the natural environment of the campus while deepening interaction between the university and the wider community.



Scene from the Golden-Leaf Festival (Kon'yousai)

Vehicle Entry Restriction Program

To minimize the number of vehicles on campus, Hokkaido University has implemented a comprehensive vehicle entry restriction program. This initiative limits campus access to vehicles used for university business or essential purposes, thereby reducing traffic congestion and environmental impact.

Campus Shuttle Bus System

The university operates a campus shuttle bus system to provide convenient and sustainable transportation within the campus. This service reduces the need for private vehicle use and supports efficient, low-emission mobility for the university community, aligning with the university's policy to set targets for sustainable commuting.



On-campus shuttle bus operating on the Sapporo Campus

Historic Heritage Visitor Guide and Map

Hokkaido University has created and provides the Historic Heritage Visitor Guide and Map to help both visitors and members of the university community easily explore and appreciate the university's rich historical assets. The guide introduces the background and distinctive features of the university's cultural properties, including those designated as National Important Cultural Properties and Registered Tangible Cultural Properties. It also features a detailed map highlighting key attractions and points of interest across the campus.



Excerpts from the Historic Heritage Visitor Guide and Map

Sustainability Report

The Sustainability Report, which Hokkaido University has been publishing since 2020, is a comprehensive report covering what should be included in an environmental report as well as sustainability initiatives of the University.

The Report includes not only data and initiatives related to environmental impact reduction, but also covers articles on the University's history, culture, social relations, student projects, and other content with a sustainability perspective.

From the Sustainability Report 2022, we have referred to the "GRI Standards" and reported from the three aspects of economic, environmental, and social impact, clarifying the relationship with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition, for environmental information, we have referred to the "Environmental Reporting Guidelines (FY2018)".



Sustainability Report 2024

Promotion of Responsible Trading and Procurement

The Hokkaido University Procurement Information website provides information on advertising for general competitive bidding and procurement results of environmental goods at the University.

Procurement results in FY 2023 (partial)

(1) Procurement of environmental goods

Outline: The following items were summarized and publicized in the procurement results of environmental goods.

- 1) Procurement status of specified items (generally 100% of items procured)
- 2) Environmental considerations on procurement of other goods and services
- 3) Evaluation of procurement performance in the current fiscal year

(2) Procurement of goods from facilities that employ people with disabilities

Results: The number of contracts was 14. The amount was 1,361,813 yen
Policy: The policy for FY 2024 has been established and announced.

(3) Contracts related to small and medium-sized enterprises

Policy: The policy on contracts related to small and medium-sized enterprises is publicly announced.

Paid Plastic Bag Policy at Campus Stores and Cafeterias (HU Co-op)

At the Hokkaido University Co-op stores and cafeterias, a paid plastic bag system has been introduced. This policy has maintained a plastic bag refusal rate consistently above 96%, and reduced usage by about 98% compared to before the introduction of the paid system, encouraging sustainable consumption habits.

Introduction and Collection of Recyclable Takeout Containers (Re-Repack)

Recyclable containers called "Re-Repack" are used for takeout meals in campus cafeterias. A collection system has been established, with about 40% of containers successfully collected and recycled, promoting resource circulation.



Poster for the Re-Repack Collection Campaign

Hokkaido Team Reports on Activities Following the Student Workshop on Decontaminated Soil Disposal, Co-organized by Fukushima University and the Ministry of the Environment

In September 2024, Fukushima University and the Environmental Regeneration and Resource Circulation Bureau of the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOE), with support from organizations including the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability at Hokkaido University, jointly organized a Student Workshop on the Disposal of Decontaminated Soil for university students nationwide. Five undergraduate and graduate students from Hokkaido University participated in the workshop, which included on-site visits to related facilities, lectures by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and the Ōkuma Town Office, and group discussions on possible approaches to addressing the challenges related to decontaminated soil management.

Following the workshop, participating students from Hokkaido University and Future University Hakodate voluntarily formed the "Hokkaido Team." In December 2024, the team exhibited at the Hokkaido University Science Festa 2024, held at the Sapporo Ekimae-dori Underground Walkway (nickname: Chi-Ka-Ho), where they presented informational panels on the current status of post-disaster reconstruction and the issue of decontaminated soil disposal. Through this outreach activity, they promoted public awareness and encouraged constructive dialogue with local citizens.





Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

SDG13 : CLIMATE ACTION

Scholarly Output

595

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

1.57

World average: 1.0

Citation Count

15677

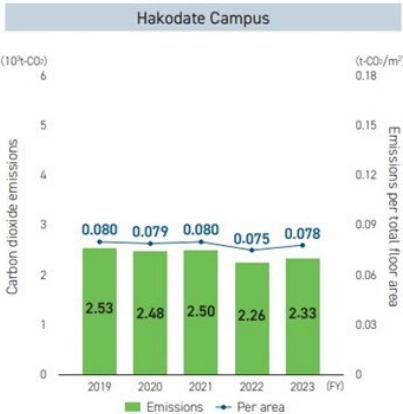
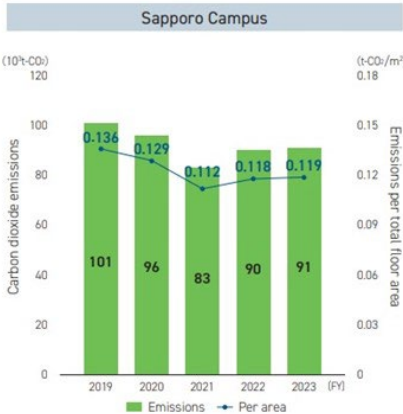
Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024

Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Greenhouse gas emissions (FY 2023)

Carbon dioxide
93,063 t-CO₂



	Carbon dioxide emissions (t-CO ₂)	Emissions per floor area (t-CO ₂ /m ²)
FY 2019	101,423	0.136
FY 2020	95,872	0.129
FY 2021	83,141	0.112
FY 2022	89,669	0.118
FY 2023	90,730	0.119

	Carbon dioxide emissions (t-CO ₂)	Emissions per floor area (t-CO ₂ /m ²)
FY 2019	2,534	0.080
FY 2020	2,482	0.079
FY 2021	2,500	0.080
FY 2022	2,258	0.075
FY 2023	2,334	0.078

Note: In FY 2019, the adjusted electricity-derived CO₂ emission factor [kg-CO₂/kWh] used for calculations was 0.673 (April – June, new electricity supplier) and 0.656 (July – March, Hokkaido Electric Power Co.) for the Sapporo Campus, and 0.656 for the Hakodate Campus. In FY 2020, it was 0.601 for both campuses. In FY 2021, it was 0.473 for the Sapporo Campus and 0.601 for the Hakodate Campus. In FY 2022, it was 0.537 for both campuses. In FY 2023, it was 0.541 (Hokkaido Electric Power Co.), 0.438 (Watami) and 0.372 (SE) for the Sapporo Campus, and 0.541 for the Hakodate Campus.

Hokkaido University Develops Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory

In October 2024, Hokkaido University developed the Hokkaido University GHG Inventory 2022, a systematic compilation of data on the university's greenhouse gas (GHG: Greenhouse Gas) emissions. The inventory was created as a foundational dataset for achieving carbon neutrality and to accurately assess the current status of greenhouse gas emissions across the university. The inventory covers all campuses and all university activities, and it is structured as a reliable database compliant with international standards, including globally recognized GHG accounting frameworks. The data serve as a fundamental resource for evaluating and reviewing Hokkaido University's climate change

measures over the medium to long term toward achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. Building on this inventory, Hokkaido University will continue to formulate specific targets and action plans related to carbon neutrality in the coming years.

Hokkaido University Issues Its First Sustainability/Blue Bond: “Hokudai Ambitious Bond”

On November 29, 2024, Hokkaido University issued its first bond, the “National University Corporation Hokkaido University Bond” (nickname: Hokudai Ambitious Bond), which

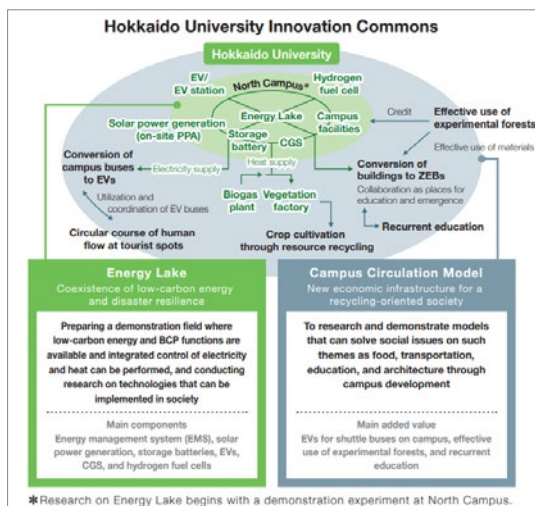
also became the first Sustainability/Blue Bond ever issued by a national university corporation in Japan. This bond features combined characteristics of a Social Bond and Green Bond, while also incorporating Blue Bond elements, reflecting its high potential to contribute to both society and the global environment.

The funds raised through the issuance of this bond will be allocated to the development of a symbolic co-creation hub (tentative name: D-Square) as part of the realization of HU VISION 2030. The project aims to maximize the university's potential by developing an innovation commons where students, faculty and staff, local communities, and industry partners collaborate. In addition to facility development, the initiative envisions strengthening governance by bringing together highly specialized personnel dispersed across the university and appointing dedicated coordinators to promote interdisciplinary collaboration, social innovation, and dynamic knowledge exchange.

A Sustainability/Blue Bond is a bond issued to raise funds for eligible social, green, and blue projects. Blue projects are considered a type of green project and, according to the World Bank, support the "sustainable use of ocean resources for improved livelihoods and jobs while preserving the health of ocean ecosystems," also known as the Blue Economy.

Collaboration Agreement on the Zero Carbon Demonstration Experiment Project on Hokkaido University Campus

In June 2023, Hokkaido University, Hokkaido Electric Power Co., Inc. and the Northern Advancement Center for Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as "NOASTEC Foundation") signed a Collaboration Agreement on the Zero Carbon Demonstration Experiment Project on the Hokkaido University Campus. The Hokkaido University Innovation Commons Concept is a complex model incorporating "Energy Lake," where low-carbon energy and disaster resilience coexist, and the "Campus Circulation Model," a new economic structure for a recycling-oriented society. The concept was partly selected for the Ministry of the Environment's Decarbonization Leading Areas initiative, which has been jointly proposed by the University, the City of Sapporo and other organizations. The joint research on Energy Lake was officially launched in July 2024. The development of an EMS (energy management system) that integrates and controls electricity and heat, and the study of decarbonizing the shuttle buses on the campus are also underway.



Hokkaido University Co-hosts the Student Symposium "Connecting Hokkaido's GX and Economy for the Future"

On May 10, 2024, the GX & Finance Consortium "Team Sapporo-Hokkaido" and the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability, Hokkaido University co-hosted a student symposium titled "Connecting GX and the Economy in Hokkaido: What Does the Future Hold?" The event was held in a hybrid format, attracting a total of 507 participants both on-site and online.

In the keynote lecture, Mr. Masato Kanedome of DNV Business Assurance Japan K.K. emphasized that "students who will soon enter society must recognize, define, and share the vision of a desirable future, embrace diverse values through collaboration, and take action by developing knowledge and skills in order to create that future."

A panel discussion followed, moderated by Professor Kazuei Ishii of the Faculty of Engineering, Hokkaido University, during which active dialogue was encouraged among both in-person and online participants.



Scene from the symposium

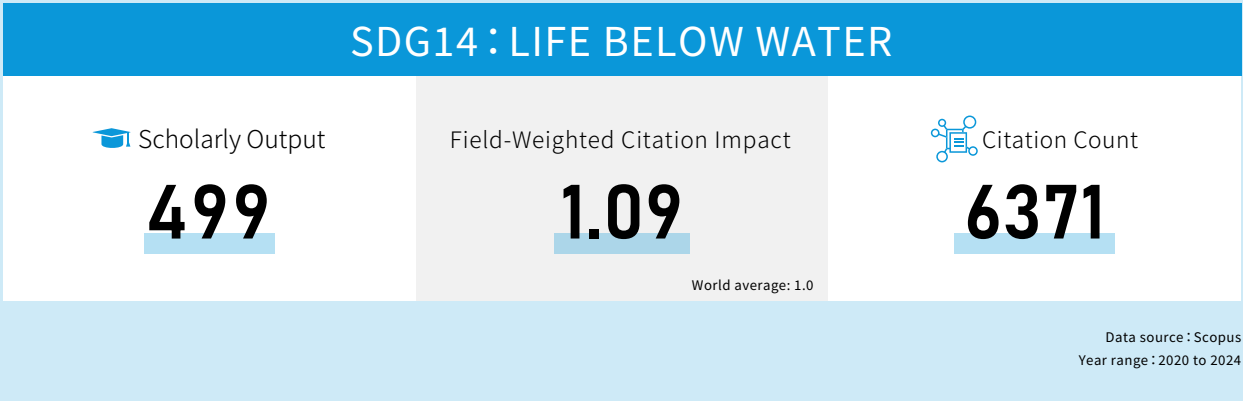
Environmental Performance of the Renovated Information Initiative Center: Equivalent to "ZEB Oriented"

Renovation of aging facilities of the South Building of the University's Information Initiative Center was completed in March 2024. This development was intended to transform and expand the Center into a next-generation academic data center that realizes big data processing using supercomputers and artificial intelligence systems, and to promote the development of a co-creation research environment and advanced information infrastructure that responds to virtualization. The building shows environmental performance equivalent to "ZEB Oriented" ($BEI \leq 0.6$). In winter, waste heat from the supercomputer and servers on the first floor is used to heat the hallways on the second floor. A BCP office is also located on the second floor to ensure that a minimum network is maintained on campus in the event of a disaster.



Information Initiative Center (South Building)

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development



Public Lectures and Open Courses

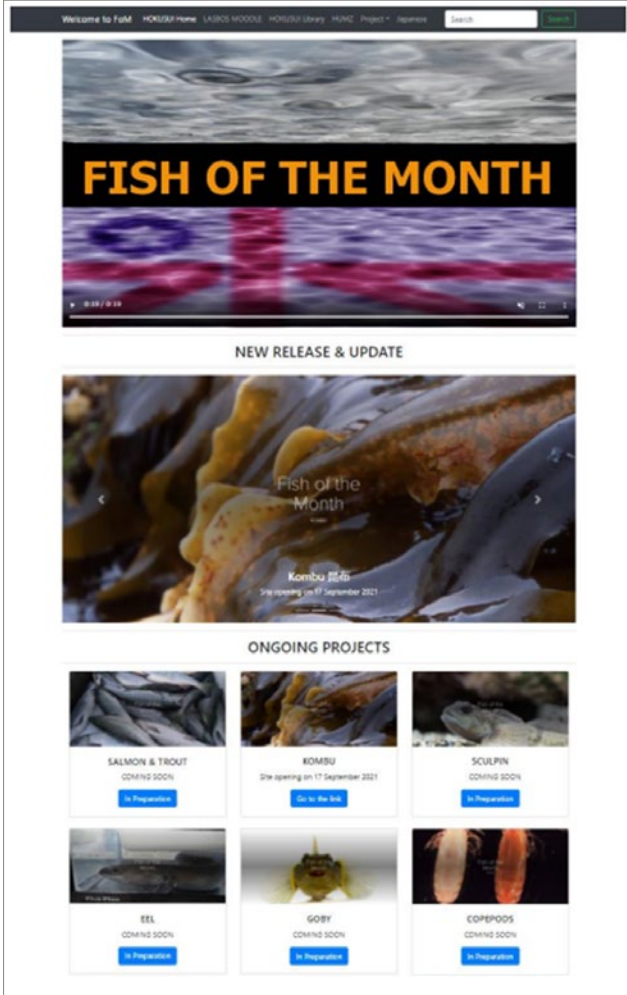
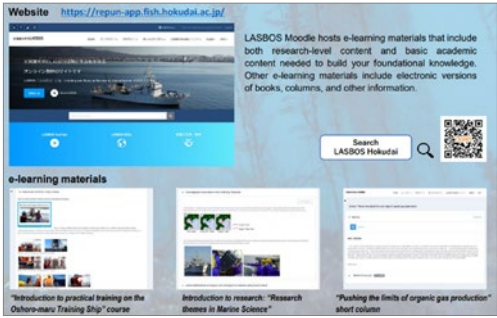
The Faculty of Fisheries Science held public lectures such as “Science of the Sea,” where high school students and citizens were introduced to topics including greenhouse gas absorption in frozen seas, the discovery of new whale species, and innovative methods of salmon and kelp aquaculture. Importantly, these public lectures were provided free of charge, ensuring broad access. By making cutting-edge science accessible, the lectures promoted sustainable practices and served as a nucleus for community outreach on sustainable management of fisheries.



Scene from the public lecture

Online Educational Materials and Resources

The Balanced Ocean Operation Division (LASBOS) provided free online educational content on fresh-water ecosystems (e.g., water management and conservation). In addition, Hokkaido University’ s Faculty of Fisheries and its partners operated the “Fish of the Month (FoM)” project, a creative web-based platform that delivered up-to-date information about marine and aquatic life. Both LASBOS and FoM were made available free of charge, offering global access to cutting-edge knowledge and expanding awareness of water-related ecosystems.



Long-Term Marine and Freshwater Monitoring Programs with Training Vessels

In 2024, the university operated the training vessels Oshoro-maru and Ushio-maru, which played a central role in monitoring health of aquatic ecosystem. These vessels supported oceanographic surveys, fisheries resource assessments, acoustic monitoring, and coastal remote sensing, providing long-term data essential for conservation and sustainable management.



Oshoro-maru

Regional Collaboration in Marine Education and Sustainable Fisheries

The Hokkaido University Regional Fisheries Co-Creation Center promoted “regional collaboration for sustainable fisheries management” and “community educational programmes.” In collaboration with Hakodate City and local schools, the center offered Marine STEAM Education free of charge, enhancing children’s interest in the ocean and fostering marine literacy. Furthermore, outreach classes and school visits on aquaculture industries and sustainable ocean use were conducted free of charge. The center also advanced the Hakodate Mariculture Project, challenged complete aquaculture of king salmon and kelp, and aimed at “Regional Carbon Neutrality” by offsetting CO₂ emissions with seaweed cultivation. Through site visits, symposiums, and joint industry-government-academia events, the center disseminated research results to citizens and industries, deepening understanding of sustainable fisheries and ocean industries.



Scene from outreach classes and school visits

“SDGs×Hokkaido Seminar 2024”

On January 22, 2024, Hokkaido University, Hokkaido Government, and JICA Hokkaido co-hosted the “SDGs × Hokkaido Seminar 2024” at the Hokkaido University Conference Hall and online, attracting a total of 154 participants. This seminar was organized as part of the initiatives conducted under the Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement between Hokkaido University and Hokkaido Government, with the aim of promoting awareness and engagement with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among a wide range of stakeholders.

The keynote lecture was delivered by Mr. Katsuhiko Ueda of Uekatsu Fisheries Co., Ltd., who spoke on the theme “Exploring the Conditions for Coexistence of the Sea, People, and Fish – Sustainability and Unsustainability in Japan’s Fisheries Industry.” Presentations on SDG-related initiatives were also given by a former JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, a Hokkaido University graduate student, and students from Hokkaido Kenbuchi High School.

During the panel discussion, Professor Satoru Kato of the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability, Hokkaido University, served as the facilitator. The discussion centered on the theme “What Does a Future Look Like Where We Can Continue to Enjoy Marine Resources Sustainably?”



Scene from the keynote lecture by UEDA Katsuhiko of Uekatsu Fisheries Co., Ltd.

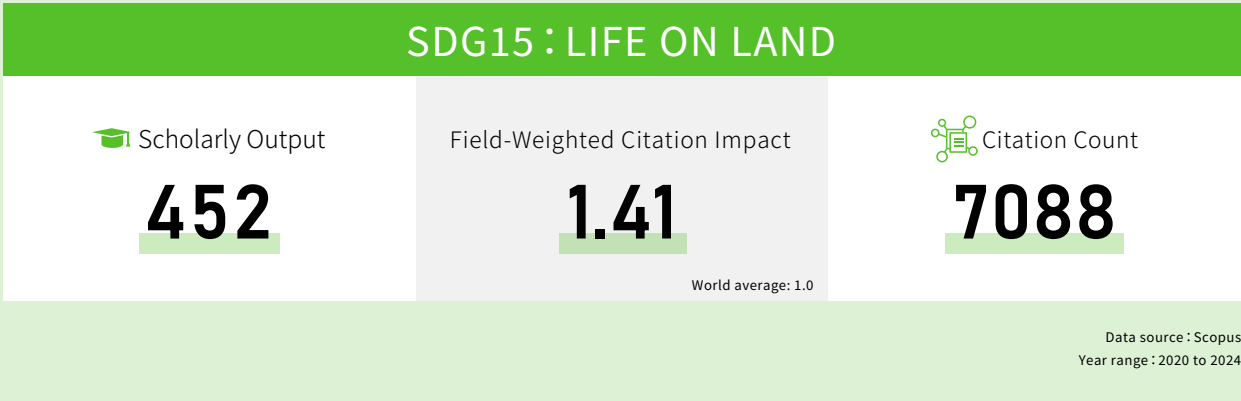
Partnership agreement with Shiriuchi Town

The Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences and School of Fisheries Sciences at Hokkaido University (hereinafter referred to as the Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences) and the Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere signed a collaboration agreement with Shiriuchi Town on Wednesday, April 10, 2024. Through this partnership, the Regional Fisheries Industry Co-Creation Center of the Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences will participate in the review council for the construction of a new seedling production facility in Shiriuchi Town, support the town’s “Aquaculture: Creating and Cultivating Fisheries” initiative, and work together to address key challenges in the fishing industry, including the sharp decline in the number of fishery workers, the loss of seaweed beds due to coastal denudation, and the decrease in coastal fish catches. The new facility, including the surrounding coastal area, is also planned to serve as an educational and research field for Hokkaido University after construction.



Goal 15:

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



Uryu Experimental Forest and Sapporo Campus Certified as Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Sites

The Uryu Experimental Forest was certified as a Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Site by the Minister of the Environment on October 25, 2023, and the Sapporo Campus on March 18, 2024, as areas that contribute to the conservation of biodiversity. An area of 24,170 ha of the Uryu Experimental Forest (excluding the wildlife protection area) and an area of 126 ha of the Sapporo Campus (excluding the zone where structures are concentrated) have been registered in the World Database on OECMs*1. This will directly contribute to the achievement of the 30by30*2 target as well as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, a global target to be achieved by 2030. “The Uryu Experimental Forest” comprises diverse forest types, mixed needleleaf and broadleaf forests. Through years of research and forest management, the pristine natural ecosystem and habitat of rare plant and animal species has been preserved. The Sapporo Campus is home to a farm and an experimental forest, and the ecosystem serving as the subsistence of diverse flora and fauna is well preserved. On the occasion of these certifications, the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability published the Hokkaido University Sapporo Campus “Ikimono” (Fauna and Flora) Guide for the general public. The University will continue its efforts to promote integrated sustainability that balances climate change countermeasures and (nature-positive) biodiversity conservation.

*1 Abbreviation for Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures. Areas other than protected areas, such as national parks, that contribute to biodiversity conservation.

*2 An international goal to effectively conserve at least 30% of the land and sea as healthy ecosystems by 2030.



Conservation of Hokkaido’s Endangered Plants at the Hokkaido University Botanic Garden

The Botanic Garden, Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere, Hokkaido University (HUBG) is engaged in the research, conservation, propagation, and public education of endangered plant species.

The Garden has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Hokkaido Government and collaborates with the Hokkaido Research Organization to promote ex-situ conservation of species designated under the Hokkaido Ordinance for the Conservation of Native Wildlife.

Since 2011, the Garden has been working together with Samani Town and the Mount Apoi Fan Club to conduct ex-situ conservation of hidakaso (*Callianthemum miyabeianum*), an endemic species of Mount Apoi. Through a propagation method known as “root cutting propagation” , in which lateral roots are cut and induced to sprout, multiple subpopulations have been successfully cultivated and maintained to preserve genetic lineages.

Furthermore, from 2018 to 2025, the Garden has been selected for three consecutive project phases under the Ministry of the Environment’ s “Project for Promoting Biodiversity Conservation” . Through this initiative, the Garden has conducted ex-situ conservation projects for Japan’ s nationally rare plant species distributed in Hokkaido, including Kirikishi-so (*Callianthemum kirigishiense*), an endemic species of the Yūbari Mountains, and Karafuto-gwai (*Sagittaria natans*),

which grows naturally in regions such as Lake Shikaribetsu. These efforts have been implemented in collaboration with related organizations, while placing strong emphasis on preserving genetic diversity within each species.



Scene from a conservation training session at the Botanical Garden



Scene from a conservation survey conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and related organizations

Educational Events for Children and Families

In 2024, Hokkaido University organized the “Forest Explorers” (in the Uryu Experimental Forest and the Wakayama Experimental Forest), the “Parent-Child Woodworking Workshop,” and the “Watching Tour in the Botanic Garden of Winter,” held at its Experimental Forests and Botanical Garden. Schoolchildren, parents, and teachers participated in forest exploration, woodworking, and plant observation, learning about nature and environmental conservation together and bringing these lessons back to their homes.



Scenes from the event

Hokkaido University Sapporo Campus “Ikimono” (Fauna and Flora) Guide

Located in the center of Sapporo, Hokkaido University’s Sapporo Campus serves as a vast green oasis cherished by both residents and visitors.

In the northern part of the campus lies a forest that retains the landscape from before the city’s development. Because of its many giant trees, it is affectionately known as the “Hokkaido University Primeval Forest.” This area provides a valuable habitat for a wide variety of wild plants and animals and was officially recognized by Japan’s Ministry of the Environment in 2024 as a “Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Sites.”

Following this recognition, the Institute for the Advancement of Sustainability published the “Hokkaido University Sapporo Campus “Ikimono” (Fauna and Flora) Guide” for the general public. This guide introduces the major species of flora and fauna found on campus, encouraging visitors to enjoy the beauty of nature throughout the changing seasons.



Hokkaido University Sapporo Campus “Ikimono” (Fauna and Flora) Guide (only in Japanese)

Hokkaido University Science Festa 2024

Hosted by Hokkaido University in collaboration with Hokkaido, Sapporo City, companies, and NPOs, “Science Festa 2024” showcased research by doctoral students contributing to the SDGs and encouraged understanding and co-creation with citizens. The university’s Forest Research Station, Field Science Center for Northern Biosphere also participated, sharing insights on ecosystem conservation and sustainable land use. Interactive programs such as SDG-themed voting, stage events, and workshops promoted dialogue between citizens, municipalities, companies, and high schools.



Poster from the Science Festa

Goal 16:

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

SDG16 : PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Scholarly Output

77

Field-Weighted Citation Impact

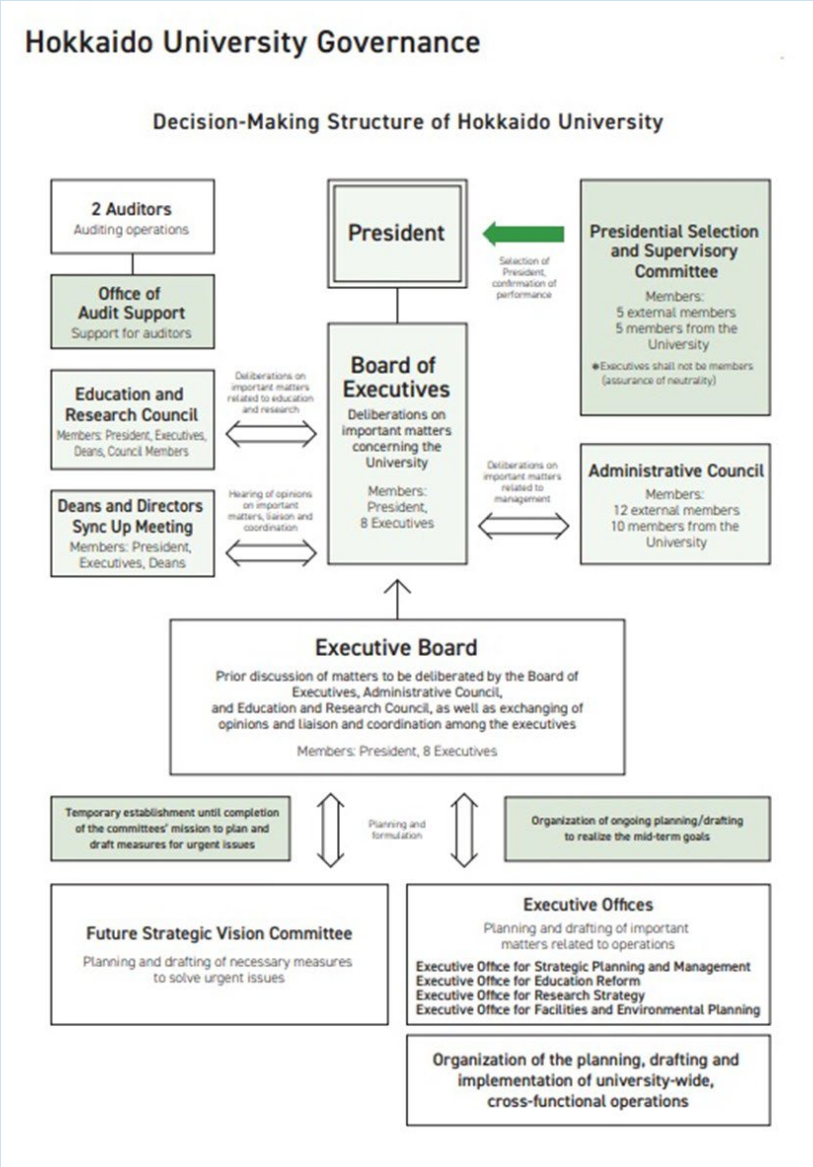
7.77

World average: 1.0

Citation Count

14313

Data source : Scopus
Year range : 2020 to 2024



Inclusive Governance through the Administrative Council

The Administrative Council of Hokkaido University plays a key role in realizing open and inclusive university governance.

Comprising both internal members and external experts from diverse fields — such as business, government, education, alumni networks, healthcare, law, and media — the Council brings a broad range of perspectives and expertise to the university's management.

Through constructive dialogue and collaboration, the University integrates academic insight with societal viewpoints, promoting transparent, accountable, and forward-looking management.

Hokkaido University remains committed to advancing a governance model that grows together with society, ensuring that its decisions and initiatives reflect the needs and aspirations of the broader community.

Audits

Audit by Auditors

The audit by auditors is conducted for the purpose of ensuring the rational and efficient management of the operations of the National University Corporation Hokkaido University, as well as securing the appropriateness of accounting and financial procedures. This audit is distinct from internal audits conducted by the Audit Office.

Internal Audit

Internal audits are conducted by the Audit Office to ensure the sound management of the university. The internal audit examines and evaluates the implementation status of various university operations, provides relevant information, and offers recommendations and advice for improvement and operational efficiency. The Audit Office conducts routine audits, guideline-based expenditure audits, priority audits, internal control system monitoring surveys, and other types of audits.

Audit by Accounting Auditor

The audit by an accounting auditor is conducted by an accounting auditor appointed by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). National university corporations, including Hokkaido University, are required to undergo audits of their financial statements in accordance with Article 39 of the National University Corporation Act, which applies Article 39 of the Act on General Rules for Independent Administrative Agencies *mutatis mutandis*.

Whistleblowing and breach reporting system

Hokkaido University has established fundamental policies regarding compliance in accordance with the Basic Compliance Regulations of the National University Corporation Hokkaido University. Based on these regulations, the University has built a framework to promote compliance and ensure ethical conduct in education, research, clinical practice, and administrative operations.

Whistleblowing and breach reporting system The whistleblowing and breach reporting system is a tool for early detection and handling of potential or substantiated misconduct that violates laws covered by the Whistleblower Protection Act, other laws and regulations, rules and regulations of HU, or ethical principles and other codes of conduct for education, research, and medical treatment. The system provides comprehensive protection for whistleblowers when receiving information about misconduct. HU has established whistleblowing channels, a process for responding to complaints including investigation of allegations and measures to protect whistleblowers.

Research Misconduct Prevention and Management System

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Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

SDG17 : PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

International Exchange Agreement

763

Data as of April 1, 2024

Industry–Academia–Government Collaboration Agreements

39

Date as of May 1, 2024

Participation in International Consortia

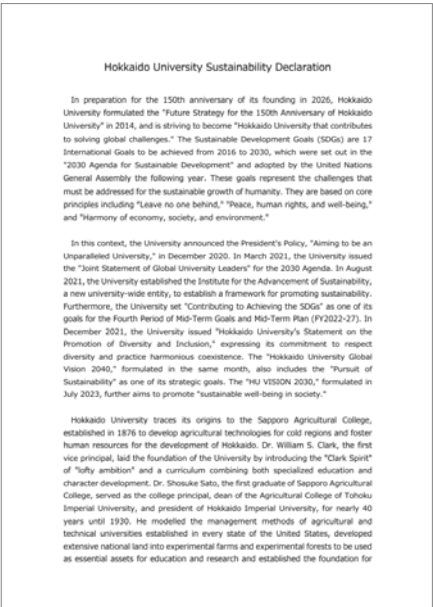
7

Data as of April 1, 2024

Announcement of the Hokkaido University Sustainability Declaration

Recognizing the importance of each and every member of the University community—including students, faculty, and staff—to be aware of and committed to the SDGs, the University announced the Hokkaido University Sustainability Declaration on August 1, 2024. The first half of the declaration touches on the history of the University’s development and describes how it has developed its strengths in field science and environmental science through the development and possession of large experimental forests and other research properties as well as an extensive, verdant Sapporo Campus. The latter half expresses the University’s commitment to promote on-campus unity through sustainability as our common language, to become a university that can further contribute to solving global challenges, and to thus become the core of the community and foster engagement and empathy to further increase its social impact.

*The Hokkaido University Sustainability Declaration can be found here.
<https://www.sustainability.hokudai.ac.jp/en/repository/declaration/>



Part of the Hokkaido University Sustainability Declaration

Executive Vice President YOKOTA Atsushi speaks at the Global Sustainable Development Congress (GSDC) 2024

The University participated in GSDC 2024 held in Thailand on June 10 to 13, 2024. GSDC 2024 was an international conference hosted by Times Higher Education (THE). It was attended by 3,189 participants, and the pre-release of the THE Impact Rankings 2024 was also presented there. Six faculty and staff members from Hokkaido University, including Executive Vice President YOKOTA Atsushi, participated in the event. Executive Vice President YOKOTA was the only speaker from a Japanese higher education institution to take part in the panel discussion on the 13th, and reported on the University’s initiatives. The University also participated in GSDC 2023 held in Saudi Arabia from May 29 to June 1, 2023, so this was the second consecutive year that Executive Vice President YOKOTA participated in the panel discussion. With its participation in GSDC 2023 and 2024, Hokkaido University has confirmed that its activities are in line with the direction of higher education institutions worldwide.



Executive Vice President YOKOTA (right) speaks (GSDC 2024)



Executive Vice President YOKOTA speaks (GSDC 2023)

SDGs × Hokkaido Seminar 2024

Co-hosted with Hokkaido Prefecture and JICA Hokkaido, this seminar provided a platform for universities, local governments, international cooperation agencies, and educators to exchange views and share regional sustainability practices.



At the venue on the day of the seminar



Hybrid panel discussion (in-person and online)

Participation in the UNU SDG–Universities Platform (SDG-UP)

Hokkaido University serves as a core member of the UNU SDG–Universities Platform (SDG-UP), established by the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS). The university participates in all working groups, fostering dialogue among universities, government agencies, and related organizations. In 2024, Executive Director and Vice President Yokota delivered a lecture at the “SDG-UP Public Symposium,” addressing the role of university management in building a sustainable society.



Group photo of symposium participants

International Universities Climate Alliance (IUCA)

Hokkaido University was a member of the International Universities Climate Alliance (IUCA), collaborating with leading institutions worldwide to collect and share climate-related data, build research networks, and promote collective action on climate change.



One program for Global Goals (OGGs)

The One program for Global Goals (OGGs) is an Interdisciplinary Graduate Education Program for all graduate students of Hokkaido University, established for deepening their studies and broadening their perspectives by integrating three international joint education programs adopted under the MEXT's “Inter-University Exchange” Project, while utilizing the characteristics of each program.

The OGGs aims to develop human resources who can contribute to solving global issues and realizing a sustainable society in cooperation and collaboration with people from different countries, regions and organizations. It has a cross-disciplinary curriculum that covers a wide range of sustainability-related topics including SDGs from the basic to advanced levels.

The OGGs is based on international co-learning activities, with lectures, discussions and group work in English with students from overseas partner universities, and fieldwork in Japan and overseas.

We offer 10 courses in the Hokkaido Summer Institute (HSI) and 2 courses in the Learning Satellite (LS)



The Global Energy and Water EXchanges (GEWEX)

The Global Energy and Water EXchanges (GEWEX), one of the core projects of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), is an international research program jointly funded by the International Science Council (ISC), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO). GEWEX promotes research on the impacts of global climate change on the circulation of water and energy on a global scale.

The 9th GEWEX Open Science Conference (GEWEX-OSC 2024), an international scientific conference organized by GEWEX, was held in Sapporo, Japan, from July 8 to 12, 2024. This was the first time the conference had been held in Japan. It was organized by the International GEWEX Project Office and co-hosted by the Local Organizing Committee, Hokkaido University, and the Science Council of Japan.

Professor Tomohito Yamada of the Faculty of Engineering, Hokkaido University, served as Committee Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), overseeing the overall management of the event. With approximately 1,300 participants from 45 countries, this was the largest conference ever held in the history of GEWEX.

Recognizing that developing mitigation and adaptation measures for global warming, as well as forecasting future climate change, are urgent issues that must be addressed globally, the conference was held under the theme “Water and Climate.” At the opening ceremony, congratulatory remarks were delivered by representatives of the host and co-hosting organizations, along with a message from Prime Minister Fumio Kishida at that time.

The conference featured presentations not only on satellite-based Earth observation and climate simulations, but also on fundamental physical processes such as clouds, precipitation, and surface energy exchange. In addition, a lot of researchers from around the world presented and discussed studies directly addressing societal challenges, including future water resource issues and the reduction of natural disaster risks.

Beyond academic sessions, a “Stakeholder Session”—introduced for the first time at this conference—brought together participants from government, academia, and industry for lively discussions on how scientific knowledge can be applied to society, demonstrating the session’s significant importance.

Sessions featuring Japanese ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of the Environment, the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), covered topics such as flood risk assessment under climate change, development of agricultural production infrastructure, promotion of adaptation measures based on scientific knowledge, and international collaborative research with developing countries.

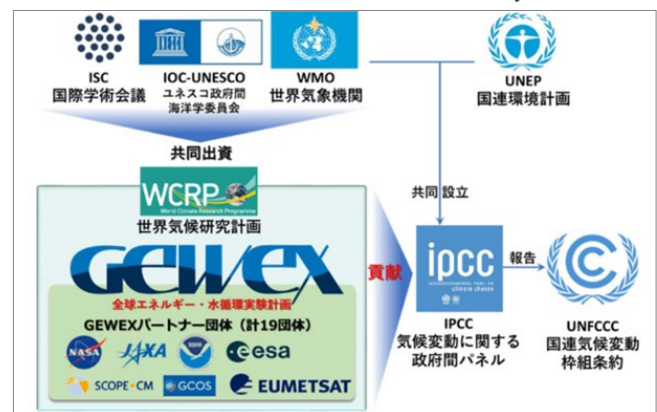
In sessions involving local governments and universities, active discussions were held on the assessment of flood risks associated with climate change and the processes toward societal implementation. Participants shared the recognition that understanding the complex processes of the water cycle and improving predictive technologies are essential.

Based on these discussions, Professor Tomohito Yamada, Committee Chairman of LOC, presented a summary of the inter-agency agreements at the closing ceremony, emphasizing the importance of formulating climate change adaptation policies grounded in both science and stakeholder dialogue.

Professor Peter van Oevelen, Director of IGPO and Professor at George Mason University, concluded by stating that “this conference enabled researchers and policymakers to communicate in the same language,” and commended it as an important turning point for the future of GEWEX activities.

Before, during, and after the conference, a variety of activities—including bicycle tours, technical tours in and around Sapporo and throughout Hokkaido, and a young researchers’ tour—were held, offering participants from around the world opportunities to experience the unique appeal of Hokkaido, the host region. These activities also provided valuable opportunities for networking and exchange, which became a notable feature of the conference.

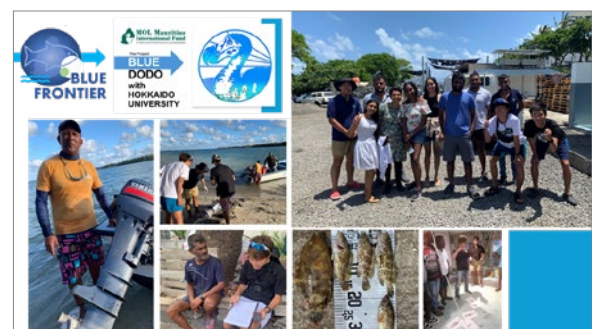
Through this conference, Japan’s and Hokkaido’s approaches to science-based, risk-informed decision-making were communicated to the international community and received widespread recognition. This contributed to further strengthening collaboration between science and policy, enhancing Japan’s presence in international climate change adaptation strategies, and showcasing Hokkaido University’s contributions to climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and the creation of a sustainable society.



GEWEX's Position within the International Framework Connecting ISC/IOC-UNESCO/WMO, WCRP, IPCC, and UNFCCC

Collaboration with the MOL Mauritius International Fund on the Blue Economy

Hokkaido University, supported by the MOL Mauritius International Fund for Natural Environment Recovery and Sustainability in Japan, a non-profit international foundation established to promote environmental protection and community development, collaborates with the Government of Mauritius, local fishers, tourism sectors and educational stakeholders including members of secondary schools and faculty members of the University of Mauritius to promote educational and outreach activities that support marine ecosystem restoration and sustainable coastal resource management based on fisheries and aquatic sciences. Through the active participation of local communities and various generations, these efforts advance the formation of sustainable socio-economy based on a harmony with dynamic coastal environments and contribute to enhancing resilience to climate change.



Collaboration with the MOL Mauritius International Fund on the Blue Economy



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