

# **Human Resource Development Programmes for Africa and ASEAN in collaboration with UNCTAD**

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Senior Vice President

UNESCO Chair in Research and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)

OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY

Japan

29 March 2023

# The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UNITWIN/UNESCO Chair Programme Conference

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris  
November 3-4, 2022



Okayama University

“Future of Higher Education”  
Panelist at the official session

# Reputation and achievements in the field of ESD



2016: The 60th anniversary of Japan's accession to the UN

2017: The 70th anniversary of the foundation of the UN Association of Japan

May 2016: The Government of Japan launched the "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Headquarters"

Sep 2015: The United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



UNESCO Chair on Research and Education for Sustainable Development Japan



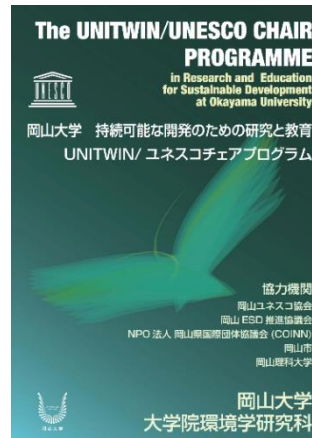
2017: The 10th anniversary of Okayama University as the UNESCO Chair (ESD)

Oct 2014

The UNESCO World Conference on ESD

Jun 2005  
Okayama City was certified as one of world's first seven "Regional Centers for ESD" (RCE)

Apr 2007  
Okayama University became Asia's first UNESCO Chair (ESD)



Sep 2016

Received the UNESCO / Japan Prize in ESD

Jan 2017

Received the UNESCO Learning City Award

Leading globally engaged education and research center for sustainable development

# The First Japan SDGs Awards ‘Special Prize’ Okayama University



awarded by the Government of Japan  
December 2017



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held the conferment ceremony  
at the Prime Minister's Office

# UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) UNESCO Side-Event: “ESD for 2030”

July 2019  
UN Headquarters, New York



UNESCO Chair Yokoi

President Makino

A whole institution's approach to the SDGs

Delegation of authority at Okayama University together with the Government of Japan and the Government of Germany

Presenter: President Hirofumi Makino, Panelist: From the left to right: Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education at UNESCO, Mr. Leicht UNESCO ESD Manager



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On January 9, 2020, Okayama University and UNCTAD concluded a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for comprehensive cooperation on the development of human resources in science and technology innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (STI for SDGs), the first of its kind among universities around the world.

## 1. UNCTAD Short-term Researcher Acceptance Programme Young Female Scientist Programme in Japan

“Joint Research and Training Course for Young Female  
Researchers from Developing Countries”

## 2. UNCTAD Long-term Program (At the Graduate School of Environmental and Life Science and Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering in Health Systems)

“Doctoral degree program for young researchers from  
developing countries”



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# **1. Young Female Scientist Programme**

**(Short-term)**



# Young Female Scientist Programme

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) are key drivers to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but STI capabilities in developing countries are still limited. Also, there is a lack of young women scientists in developing countries and closing the gender gap will be key to accelerate progress in harnessing science, technology and innovation for truly inclusive and sustainable development for all communities and all countries.

### Objective

To improve STI capabilities in relation to the achievement of the SDGs, the Young Female Scientist Programme was launched and implemented in the context of the [United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development](#).

The aim of this Young Female Scientist Programme is to build human capital in STI-related fields in developing countries through educational programmes and contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

### Activities

The programme offers the opportunity for eligible young female scientists from ASEAN and African countries to engage in cutting-edge research activities at Okayama University in Japan for 14 to 30 days.

### Intended Outcomes

Participants can gain hands-on research experience in their respective STI fields (many of them are health-related) with the help of top-class faculty at the university. Participants are expected to contribute to the achievement of SDGs in their own countries building on their research experience in Japan.



**Partners**  
Okayama University

**Beneficiaries**  
Gambia, South Africa, Tanzania, the Philippines, Egypt, Ethiopia, Botswana, Cameroon, Madagascar and Thailand.

**Duration**  
2020-2024

**21 participants from 10 countries:**  
**Republic of Botswana, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Madagascar, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, The Gambia, The Philippines**



# Women scientists from developing countries at the forefront of cutting-edge research

09 February 2023

Participants of UNCTAD and Okayama University's Young Female Scientist Programme are breaking the glass ceiling in science, technology, engineering and maths.

“

**We'll continue working on projects in both Egypt and Japan simultaneously in the future. We'll also apply for funding to support the projects and enable further research visits”**



**Ms. Menatallah Elserafy, Egypt**

# Women scientists from developing countries at the forefront of cutting-edge research

09 February 2023

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“  
I am exploring sending  
Filipino graduate  
students to Okayama  
University for possible  
sandwich research  
programmes  
to further strengthen the  
collaboration.”

**Ms. Fresthel Climacosa, the Philippines**

“

**The programme offered me an opportunity to deeply reflect on addiction issues and drug use disorders in particular,” Ms. Kemme said. “It has enabled me to come up with strong and evidence-based recommendations for addiction management.”**



**Ms. Marileine Kemme, Cameroon**

# Short-term Research Result Presentation 2022-2023



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Mr. Abiy Solomon  
Economic Affairs Officer  
UNCTAD

Ms. Shamika N. Sirimanne  
Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics  
UNCTAD

# Application Information

## 2023-2024



12 CSTD Member States;

- Algeria, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Rwanda, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, and the Philippines.
- Application Deadline: 30th April, 2023

## **2. Doctoral Degree Programme for Young Researchers** (Long-term)

## Philippines



## Nigeria



## Madagascar



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**Ms. Shamika N. Sirimanne**  
Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics  
UNCTAD

**Mr. Abiy Solomon**  
Economic Affairs Officer  
UNCTAD



UNCTAD-Okayama University Special Lecture

Technology × SDGs



# Catching technological waves: Innovation with equity

Language English (with Japanese simultaneous interpretation)

2023. **1.31** Tuesday 15:30-16:20



Venue Okayama Visionary Commons, Okayama University Tsushima Campus  
3-1-1 Tsushima-naka, Kita-ward, Okayama City, Okayama

Capacity 150 (First-come-first-served basis) Applications will be closed when capacity is reached.

Free of charge

### Profile of Lecturer

Dr. Shamika N. Sirimanne is the Director of the Division on Technology and Logistics of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). She leads UNCTAD's work on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), including e-Commerce and the digital economy, and manages the research for two of UNCTAD's flagship publications: Technology and Innovation Report, and Digital Economy Report.

### Registration

Please register from the QR code or the link below



Application deadline Tuesday, January 24, 17:00  
<https://forms.gle/j1qhWFKG2yQM4cvT6>



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Shamika N. Sirimanne



### Okaden Bus

Board for [Okayama University of Science] Bus #167 from Okayama Station West Side Get off at [Okayama University West Gate].  
Board for [Miyosaki] Bus #112 or #62 from Okayama Station East Side Get off at [Okayama University East Gate].

## Sustainable Building: Okayama Visionary Commons





# IAEA, Japan's Okayama University to Work Together on Advancing Boron Neutron Capture Therapy to Help Fight Cancer

The IAEA and Japan's Okayama University have agreed to work together in the area of Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT), a non-invasive therapeutic technique for treating invasive malignant tumours. An agreement signed in Vienna during the IAEA's 66th General Conference designates Okayama University as **the first IAEA Collaborating Centre in this field**.





The oldest UNU Regional Centre of Expertise in ESD  
Thank you for your attention!

**Prof. Atsufumi YOKOI FRSA**  
Senior Vice President | UNESCO Chair in ESD  
OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY