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Institute for the Advanced Study  
of Sustainability

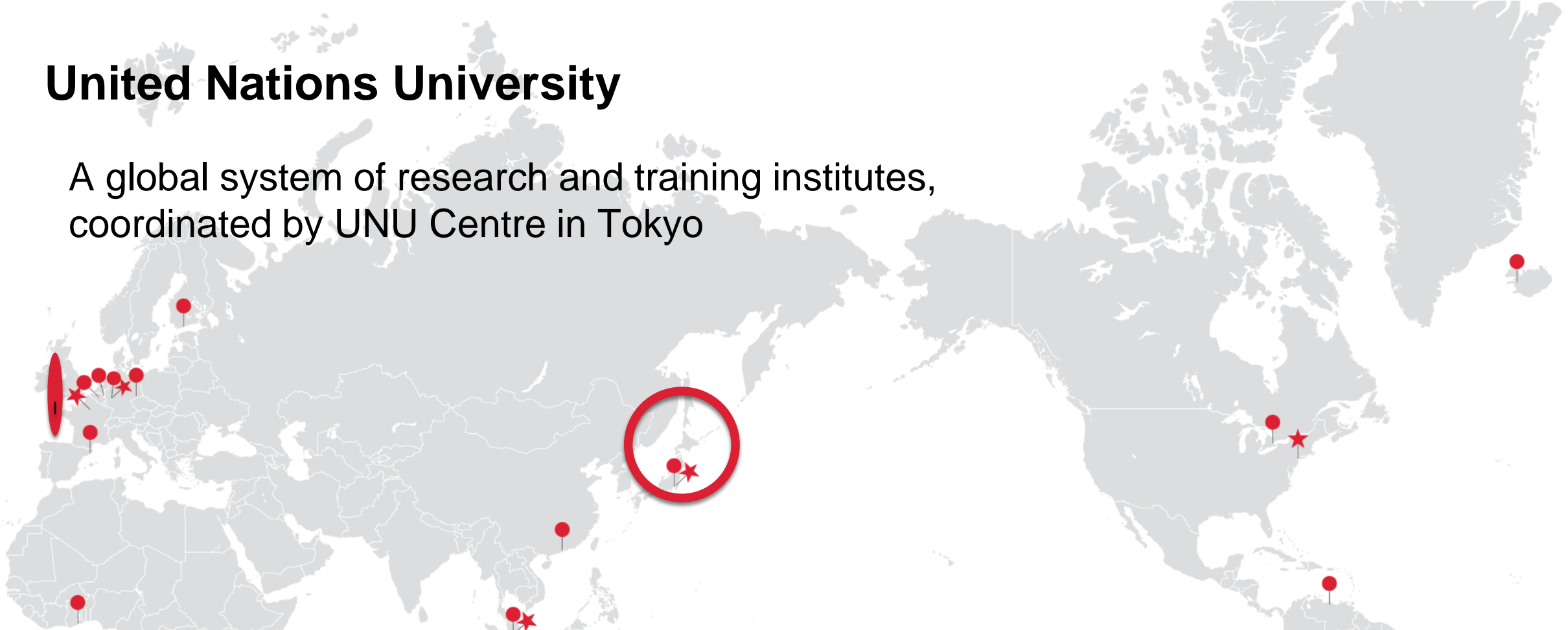
The Paris Agreement Article 6 Implementation Partnership  
2nd Plenary Meeting, 1 September 2023

# **UNU programme to support implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement**

**Akio Takemoto, Head of Programme and Administration  
United Nations University  
Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)**

# United Nations University

A global system of research and training institutes, coordinated by UNU Centre in Tokyo



- Established by the UN General Assembly in 1972
- Serves as a bridge between the United Nations and the international academic community
- Provides a platform for global and local dialogue and creative new ideas



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# UNU Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

UNU-IAS is a research and teaching institute dedicated to realizing a sustainable future for people and our planet.

## Mission

*“to meet the pressing challenges for achieving sustainability that are of concern to the United Nations and its Member States”*

- Inform policymaking for sustainability by producing and disseminating solution-oriented research
- Promote interdisciplinary understanding and approaches
- Develop future generations of policymakers and researchers



# UNU-IAS

## Our Focus on Sustainability

### — Four Thematic Areas of Expertise



Postgraduate Degree Programmes are closely interconnected with the institute's research activities. Students have opportunities to gain practical experience by engaging actively in the research projects in UNU-IAS thematic areas. The courses offered correspond to these thematic areas under the overarching theme of sustainability.

- Governance for Climate Change and Sustainable Development (GSD)
- Biodiversity & Society (BDS)
- Water & Resource Management (WRM)
- Innovation & Education (IVE)



Photo: UN Women/Amanda Voisard



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# Postgraduate Degree Programmes

- **MSc in Sustainability** (2-year programme)
- **PhD in Sustainability Science** (3-year programme)
- **Students:** currently 38 (19 MSc, 19 PhD) from 19 countries, 76% from developing countries (as of AY 2022)
- **Scholarships:**
  - Support 58% of students
  - Provided by the Japan Foundation for UNU (JfUNU), Asian Development Bank, Resona Bank, and UNU
- **Partnerships:**
  - Credit exchange with three universities in Tokyo
  - Double degree with the University of Tokyo (UoT)
  - Joint diplomas with UoT and Sophia University



# Postgraduate degree specialisation on Paris Agreement (SPA)

Launched in September 2023

Potential in collaboration with A6IP as a part of A6 Implementation Support Package

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## Objective

- **Develop future leaders of practitioners** who are equipped with the knowledge and skills to strengthen institutional and technical capacities to implement climate actions under the Paris Agreement
- Contribute to **enhancement of institutional memories** of member states through development of professionals holding master degree and PhD

## Beneficiary students

- **Open to candidates from all member states, prioritizing developing countries**
- Select from students with bachelor degree, government officials, professionals, etc.

## Structure

- Build on the existing **Master** of Science in Sustainability and **PhD** in Sustainability Science Programmes requiring course works and dissertation, plus Practicum training course
- Implement in collaboration with partner organisations and visiting scholars

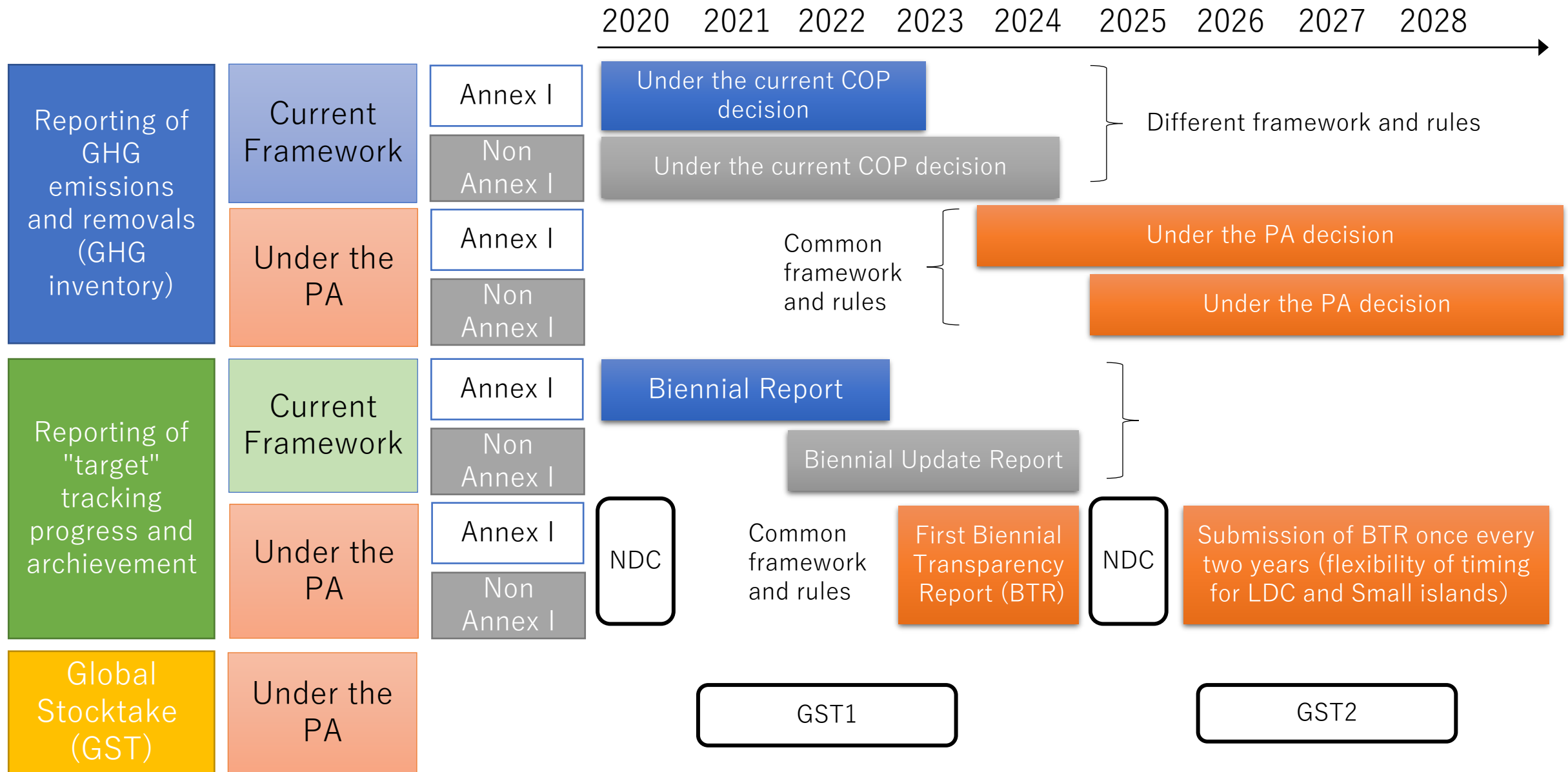


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# Outlook of transparency reporting and global stocktake under the Paris Agreement (PA)



# SPA will provide opportunity for developing capacity to implement climate action including capacity for PA/A6

Conduct quality accounting on greenhouse gas emissions and removals

Understand the latest climate science

Propose effective and solutions based on the evidence and scientific analysis

Initiate drafting the strategy and plan for achieving net-zero emissions by 2050

Coordinate with relevant ministries and various stakeholders

Engaged in international negotiations and cooperation



# Course work - Mechanism for the Implementation of the Paris Agreement

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- Aim to enhance understanding on the key climate agreements, and their modalities and relevance for the Paris Agreement.
- Syllabus covers:
  - Major elements of the Paris agreement and UNFCCC
  - Climate change mitigation and transparency (Article 4 and 13)
  - Market mechanisms (Article 6)
  - Climate change adaptation (Article 7)
  - GHG inventories calculations and Land-based mitigation
  - Partnerships
- Opportunity to develop students' ability to explore information on climate change data and policy, and measures which are necessary to consider solutions of different goals of PA.
- Help in understanding the interests of the students and thus, refinement of the syllabus for specialization course on Paris Agreement.



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# Course work – From SDGs to climate change

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- Explore the knowledge of the synergies and trade-offs between climate change actions and multiple SDGs, i.e., energy, biodiversity, economic development, finance, urban development, gender and equity.
- Provides an opportunity to understand how climate policy interventions can sustainably transform society by enhancing synergies and reducing trade-offs with socio-economic impacts.



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# Practicum

conducted in summer  
2024 and beyond

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Joint operation with partner organisations

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Focused on practical themes, i.e.; GHG MRV, net-zero emission / adaptation planning, carbon market, etc.

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Combination of short (1-2 week) course and 1-month internship

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Short course: open to participation by young learners and professionals from partner's network

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Internship: provide an opportunity for working with staff of a partner institute to take climate action including field visit to governments and business sector outside Japan

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