



Global Environment Information Centre  
地球環境パートナーシッププラザ

# Symposium on Communities' Responses to Climate Change

## Integrating Scientific Knowledge and Grass Root Experiences

**Date:** 25 March 2009 (Wednesday),  
**Time:** 14:00–17:00 PM (registration from 13:30)  
**Venue:** Elizabeth Rose Conference Hall (5F), United Nations University Headquarters, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo  
**Organizers:** United Nations University – Institute of Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP) Global Environment Information Centre (GEIC)

The risks associated with climate change are becoming more apparent. Poor communities in developing countries whose living depends on natural resources, or those in the most vulnerable areas in the urban settings are most negatively affected by changing climate. For the last two decades, scientific knowledge of future climate predictions and impact evaluations has been accumulated. On top of that, the contribution of bottom-up initiatives by local communities based on the indigenous knowledge and social capital to cope with current climate variability is being observed and highly recognized. We need to closely integrate scientific knowledge with local experience in order to adapt.

Since its establishment, UNU-ISP GEIC has been continuously implementing projects to promote community participation in environment-related decision making processes in developing countries as well as in Japan. This symposium aims to share local experiences and initiate discussion on how to combine scientific knowledge with social institutions to support local initiatives with experts and practitioners.

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### Programme (Draft) : Simultaneous Interpretation : Japanese – English

14:00-14:10	Opening Remarks	Prof. Takeuchi Vice-Rector of UNU, Director of UNU-ISP
14:10-14:20	Introduction	Ms. Mikiko Nagai UNU-ISP
14:20-14:40	Presentation 1 -integration of scientific knowledge into local development policy	Dr. Hiromune Yokoki (ICAS Ibaraki University)
14:40-14:55	Presentation 2 - The perspective from grass root study Mr. Raquibul Amin	Mr. Raquibul Amin (IUCN Bangladesh), Dr. Tan Chun Knee (UNU-ISP)
14:55-15:15	Overall Q & A	
15:15-15:30		Break
15:30-17:00	Panel discussion Moderator Mr. Hiroshi Kato (Deputy Director JICA Research Institute) Panel Mr. Shozo Sakata (Institute of Development Economics, JETRO) Dr. Hiromune Yokoki (ICAS Ibaraki University) Dr. Eizi Yamaji (University of Tokyo) Dr. Kazuhiro Harada (University of Hyogo)	