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**UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY**

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UNU to Host Symposium on Agroforestry's Relevance to Sustainable Development

- Event:** Symposium on Agroforestry
- Theme:** “Agroforestry: Its Relevance and Potential in Promoting Local and Global Sustainable Development”
- Date/Time:** 16 December 2009 (Wednesday), 1:00–6:00 PM
- Venue:** U Thant International Conference Hall, United Nations University Headquarters, Tokyo
- Organizer:** United Nations University (UNU)
- Co-organizers:** Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), Japan Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Japan Ministry of the Environment (MOE)
- Collaborators:** Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS), Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (FFPRI)
- Sponsors:** Meiji Seika Kaisha, Ltd., Fruta Fruta, Ltd.

- Agroforestry has been gaining increasing international prominence as an effective measure not only for achieving rural development and poverty reduction at the local level, but also for responding to global challenges such as climate change, loss of biodiversity and desertification. Agroforestry also is in line with the *Satoyama* Initiative, led by the Government of Japan and UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), which advocates a society based on the symbiotic relationship between human and nature.
- This symposium will address a wide-range of agroforestry topics, covering both theoretical and practical issues as well as their relationship with the *Satoyama* approach. The symposium's three sessions will focus on “The Relevance of Agroforestry in Addressing Today's Challenges”, “Good Practices of Agroforestry” and “The Future Potential of Agroforestry”.
- Speakers will include Dennis Garrity, Director-General of the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF); Kazuhiko Takeuchi, Vice-Rector, UNU; Yoshihiro Natori, Senior Fellow, UNU-IAS; advocates of the Brazilian Amazon and Indonesia agroforestries; and representatives of leading research institutes.
- This symposium aims to explore the current situation and significance of agroforestry and to identify its future potential, taking account of the 15th Conference of Parties (COP 15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2009 in Copenhagen and the 10th Conference of Parties (COP 10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity in October 2010 in Nagoya.
- Simultaneous English–Japanese interpretation will be provided.

To reserve a space at this symposium, media representatives may contact Naoko Tochibayashi Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu).

MEDIA ADVISORY