**4th International Conference on Agricultural Education and Environment**

*“Education for Sustainable Community Development with Emphasis on Cooperation with Communities”*

**Dates:** August 3~6, 2009

**Venue:** Obihiro University of Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine, Obihiro, Hokkaido, Japan

**Main Events**
- **Keynote Address I:** “Principles and Practices for Sustainable Community Development and its Implications to Education”
  Dr. Jose A. Zaglul, President, Earth University, Costa Rica
- **Keynote Address II:** “Agricultural Extension for Community Development”
  Dr. Shiann-Gwo Jeang, Professor, Chung Hsing University, Taiwan
- **Panel Discussion on:** “How have we succeeded in alleviating hunger and poverty?”
  by 4 Community leaders
- **Symposium on:** “How have we worked in Education for Sustainable Development?”
  by 3 University Professors, Project In - charge.

Observation Tours (one day):

- Individual Research Reports: Paper and Poster Presentations
  (4 Major Thematic Areas: Environment, Education, Extension and Home Improvement)

**Organized by**
- Asia-Pacific Association of Educators in Agriculture and Environment (APEAEN)

**Co-organized** by Obihiro University of Agriculture and Vet. Medicine, and Obihiro City Office

**Supported by**
- Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Asian Productivity Organization (APO)
- JA Hokkaido Group of Federations
- Tokachi Agricultural Cooperative Association
- Shihoro Town Office, JA Shihoro, JA Obihiro-Kawanishi.
- Obihiro Citizens Association of International Friendship & Exchange

**Assisted by**
- Hokkaido Prefectural Government, Hokkaido Prefectural Board of Education,
  Hokkaido Oozora Town,
  Agricultural Section of Hokkaido High School Principal Association.
  Hokkaido Research Association of Integrated Agriculture.
Purpose of the Conference

The "Millennium Development Goal ", endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2000, calls for halving the share of people suffering from extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. This goal has been increasingly recognized as the most important target among a great majority of developing countries, since three out of every four people in those countries live in rural areas, and most of them depend directly or indirectly on agriculture for their livelihoods. (Ref. World Bank Development Report, 2008)

With this goal in mind, challenges on how to alleviate poverty and raise the standard of living in rural communities for sustainably managing resources and protecting the environment are now among the greatest tasks of educators in agriculture and environment.

There are a number of approaches to identify “the hows” of good practices for sustainable community development, however, the most appropriate way would be an analytical study of some successful examples (one or two) of past and ongoing projects.

The conference, therefore, will focus on two successful examples and analyze them for identifying main factors and processes leading to their success, evaluating the results objectively, and exploring future directions of the two programs.

The conference will be conducted at Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, Obihiro, Hokkaido. Its surrounding communities (Kawanishi and Shihoro), and the city itself, are most suitable places for observing group / cooperative efforts (and their results) of farmers towards poverty alleviation and attainment of considerable level of affluence.

Conference Outcomes

Outputs of the conference will give participants a compendium of basic principles, and approaches on how to develop a community which can alleviate poverty and raise standard of living giving consideration to sustainability, and show how to develop educational programs for institutions that cooperate and link with community in pursuit of sustainable development.

Four Points of Emphasis in Program Planning

In organizing programs for the conference, the following 4 points are kept in mind:

1) Practical fact-finding rather than theoretical exploration,
2) Analyses of basic concept, approaches, and processes of community development,
3) Contributions of educational institutions to community development,
4) Future directions for achieving sustainability especially at community level.
Programs and Activities

1. **Date:** August 3 (Monday)~6 (Thursday), 2009

2. **Venue:** Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, Obihiro City, Hokkaido, Japan.

3. **Organizer:** Asia-Pacific Association of Educators in Agriculture and Environment (APEAEN)

   **Co-organizer:** Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, and Obihiro City Office

4. **Supported by:**
   - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
   - Asian Productivity Organization (APO)
   - JA Hokkaido Group of Federation, consisting of
     - Hokkaido Prefectural Union of Agricultural Cooperatives
     - Hokkaido Credit Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives
     - Hokuren Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives
     - Hokkaido Welfare Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives and National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives
   - JA Tokachi Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives
   - Shihoro Town Office and JA Shihoro Agricultural Cooperative
   - JA Obihiro-Kawanishi Agricultural Cooperative
   - Obihiro Citizens' Association of International Friendship and Exchange

5. **Assisted by:** Hokkaido Prefectural Government, Hokkaido Prefectural Board of Education,
   - Hokkaido Oozora Town,
   - Agricultural Section of Hokkaido High School Principal’s Association,
   - Hokkaido Research Association of Integrated Agriculture.

6. **Title of the Conference:** “Education for Sustainable Community Development - with Emphasis on Cooperation with Communities - ”

7. **Daily Schedules:**

   **1st Day - August 3 (Monday):**
   - Arrival of participants and Registration.
   - **Opening** (Welcome speeches by APEAEN President, President of host institution, Mayor of Obihiro City, and Greetings of honorable guests, and Welcome party sponsored by Obihiro Citizen’s Association of International Exchange and Friendship.)
2nd day  August 4  (Tuesday):
Orientation by the APEAEN Secretariat and Program Officer of JC–APEAEN

Keynote address I:  “Principles and Practices for Sustainable Community Development and its Implications to Education”
Dr. Jose A. Zaglul, President, Earth University, Costa Rica.

Keynote Address II:  “Agricultural Extension for Community Development in Taiwan” by Dr. Shiann–Gwo Jeang, Professor, National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan.

Panel discussion on “How have we succeeded in alleviating rural hunger and poverty”
by four community leaders in Japan

Symposium:  “How have we worked in education for sustainable development”
by three University Professors, Project In-charge
(Note: These panel discussion and symposium will be open to citizens with simultaneous translation, and the symposium will be jointly undertaken with ESD program of the university.)

3rd Day  August 5  (Wednesday)

Study tours (for practical observation and field validation)
“Obihiro Citizens’ Forest”,  “Kawanishi Innovative Town”,
“University Campus”,  “Obihiro Agricultural High School”,
“Shihoro Town (Potatoe Kombinate)”,  “Shihoro Community High School”, and
“Welfare programs”.

4th Day – August 6  (Thursday)

Paper / poster presentation and open discussion on presentations
Summation of the conference results
Comments by FAO Representative and Guest Speakers
APEAEN business session
  Determination of the venue for the 5th Conference
  Approval of 2009~2010 Budget, Policy and Follow-up Actions
  Election of new set of officers
  Awarding of outstanding Paper and Poster Presenters
  Farewell Party (sponsored by the APEAEN President)

August 7 (Friday)  Departure for home
8. Conference Registration and Participation Fee.

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Regular Registration</td>
<td>U.S.$ 220</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Early Bird Registration by May 31</td>
<td>U.S.$ 200</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Regular Students Registration</td>
<td>U.S.$ 120</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>Early Bird for Students Registered by May 31</td>
<td>U.S.$ 100</td>
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Note: The fee covers participation in all sessions, field trips, conference materials, Meals (lunch and dinner), Refreshments, Welcome reception, Farewell party, excluding hotel accommodation.

Registration

Registration should be made in writing with the following details:
- Name,
- Title,
- Profession,
- address,
- Telephone Number,
- e-mail address,

Type of hotel you prefer

Arrival time and transportation (Flight Number, Train Number)

Registration Office: Dr. Hiroki Inaiizumi, Tokyo University of Agriculture.
E-mail: inaiizumi@nodai.ac.jp

Reference I: Hotel Accommodation:

There are 3 kinds of hotels available, and room charge is different by type of hotel and amenities preferred (taking breakfast at hotel or not). Please indicate choice in the registration form. Rates indicated are daily rates.

A Type Hotel
- With Breakfast: Yen 8,500 (almost U.S. $ 85,00)...........(A-1)
- Without Breakfast: Yen 7,500 (almost U.S. $ 75,00).........(A-2)

B Type Hotel
- With Breakfast: Yen 7,500 (almost U.S. $ 75,00)..........(B-1)
- Without Breakfast: Yen 6,500 (almost U.S. $ 65,00)........(B-2)

C Type Hotel (Business hotel)
- With Breakfast: Yen 4,800 (almost U.S. $ 48,00)...........(C)

Reference II: Air routes to reach Tokachi-Obihiro Airport

1) There are several air routes for reaching Tokachi-Obihiro Airport.

Among these, the best way will be to take a direct flight from Tokyo-Haneda to Tokachi-Obihiro. This is the simplest and shortest way to Obihiro City. This means that you
choose airlines that can bring you to (Tokyo-) Haneda Airport directly.

Followings are time tables of flight between Tokyo (Haneda) and (Tokachi-) Obihiro.

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<td>JL-1157</td>
<td>19.30</td>
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Note: In addition, there is a direct flight between (Oosaka-) Kansai and (Tokachi-) Obihiro, as described below:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.30</td>
<td>JL-2531</td>
<td>11.25</td>
<td>JL-2532</td>
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2) If you could not get direct flight bound for Tokyo-Haneda, you may certainly find many flights bound for Tokyo (Narita). In that case, you may take a bus bringing you from Tokyo (Narita) Airport to (Tokyo-) Haneda Airport, where you can catch a direct flight bound for (Tokachi-) Obihiro.

3) Time from Narita to Haneda is around 90 minutes, costing about 1,500 Yen, which is almost (15 U.S.$).

Some examples:

a. **Philippines** Manila 09.00 (JL-746) — (Tokyo-) Narita 14.25 – Bus for (Tokyo-) Haneda, then take a flight leaving from Haneda at 17.55 (JL1157) arriving at Obihiro 19.30
b. **Thailand** Bangkok 22.10 (TG-640) — (Tokyo-) Narita 06.20 – Bus for (Tokyo-) Haneda – then take a flight leaving from Haneda 07.50 (1151) arriving at Obihiro 09.25

4) **In Case of Korea**: Seoul to Sapporo (Chitose) — then, take a train from (Chitose) to Obihiro Sta.
   **Lv.** Seoul 10.10 (KE-765) — Ar.(Sapporo-) Chitose 12.55, then take a super express train (leaving at 14.30), **Ar.** at Obihiro Station (16.17)