

Climate Change Study Group

Based on a proposal from the Institute for Security and Development Policy, a Swedish think tank, an emergency application for funding was submitted immediately before the budgetary directors' meeting. Once approval was granted, study group meetings were held from May 2021, with speakers proposed by the Swedish and Japanese sides. Meetings consisted of two lectures of thirty minutes each, followed by an hour-long Q&A session. The topics of each month's meeting are given below. The ISDP, which derives a large part of its budget from trust and assistance from the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is enthusiastic about PR and has held online lectures open to the public in June and November. They also plan to hold an in-person meeting in Stockholm this June to present the results of study meetings to date (unfortunately, attendance by the Japanese side currently seems unlikely).

We have been impressed by the priority given to work-life balance, with a summer vacation lasting from mid-June to mid-August and much of December taken up by a winter vacation (though there was also an explanation that much of the country is busy with ceremonies for the Nobel Prize during that month.) We learned that Swedish law forbids public meetings (meetings of NPOs that receive government funding, or symposiums open to the public) to be held without the participation of women, and five of the nine speakers from the Swedish side were women. By contrast, all the speakers that the Japanese side was able to arrange were men, and the difference between the two countries was conspicuous in this respect.

We have received a request from the ISDP to continue co-hosting study group sessions again next fiscal year. Whether this goes ahead is likely to depend on the content of the policy recommendations and the results of review meetings by participating members.

Month	Agenda	Title of ISDP's Lecture	Title of KIIP's Lecture
May	Kick-Off: Presentation by Members	"Climate Change and Environmental Policies"	"Proposal for Objective, Strategy, and Agenda of the Project"
June	Sweden-Japan Climate Cooperation (Open Online Lectures)	"How Sweden Takes on Climate Change!"	"Achieving Net Zero GHG Emissions by 2050 in Japan"
July	Summer Vacation		
August	Presentation by Members II	"Regularity Designs on Climate Change & Renewable Energy: Juxtaposing the EU, Swedish and Japanese Model"	"Global Warming: All Emissions, Heat, Wastewater and Ocean"
September	Climate Change Accounting	"Accounting Practices and Climate Change Cooperation between Sweden and Japan"	"Several Discussion Points for Evolving Common Framework for a Sustainable Disclosure System"
October	Climate Change Related Technologies that Japan & Sweden Have Competitive Advantage	"People Friendly Cities in a Data Rich World: Implications for Sweden and Japan"	"Japan-Originated Technology Assets to Solve Climate Change-Driven Problems"
November	<i>ONLINE SYMPOSIUM: Renewable Energy and Climate Cooperation</i>		

Month	Agenda	Title of ISDP's Lecture	Title of KIIP's Lecture
December	Winter Vacation		
January	Green Finance with Emphasis on Private Equity	"Green-Transition Investments in the North of Sweden"	"Green Finance in the World & in Japan"
February	Roles Central versus Local Governments Play	"Cities and Climate Change in Sweden"	"Inter-governmental Relations in Japan: Administrative and Fiscal Issues"
March	Climate Change and Public Private Partnership	"Innovation and Collaboration as mechanism for sustainable development Urban Innovation governance - Part of a New Narrative for Economic Growth"	"Climate Change x PPP"
April	International Sustainability Standards	"ISSB's Draft on International Accounting Standards"	"How ISSB Would Pave the Way for Climate Finance and Sustainable Finance Globally and Nationally"
May	Putting Together Policy Recommendations		
June	Concluding Symposium in Stockholm		

Members

Nobuyuki Hiraizumi (Leader)

President, Kajima Institute of International Peace

Director, Kajima Corporation

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Tatsuo Shikata

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