

## OPENING ADDRESS

Welcome to the 10th International Conference on Climate Change (ICCC). This prestigious event is a collaborative effort between Sebelas Maret University (UNS) and Gifu University, organized under the theme “Climate Change, Plant, and Health.” Since its inception in 2016, ICCC has served as a vital platform for researchers, scholars, and practitioners from around the globe to address the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change. This year’s theme emphasizes the critical interconnections between environmental shifts, human health, and the sustainability of plant ecosystems, which are increasingly affected by the ongoing climate crisis.

The 2024 ICCC represents a significant milestone as it is being held for the first time in Japan, hosted at Gifu University. This year’s conference highlights Gifu University’s dedication to addressing global sustainability challenges, exemplified by the establishment of the Center for Environmental and Social Symbiosis. This newly launched center focuses on advancing interdisciplinary research in critical areas such as climate change adaptation, biodiversity conservation, carbon neutrality, and the sustainable use of ecosystem services. By integrating expertise across diverse academic disciplines, the center aims to drive meaningful contributions toward creating a resilient and sustainable future.

This year’s hybrid conference has successfully gathered more than 150 participants, including over 50 online attendees and 75 international delegates. The event is structured to foster interdisciplinary collaboration, facilitate knowledge exchange, and inspire actionable solutions. Participants also experienced Japan’s natural beauty through a visit to the Takayama Experimental Site. This site, known as AsiaFlux TKY, represents Asia’s longest-running continuous observation station for carbon dioxide flux. Participants will have the opportunity to visit the broad-leaved forests of Takayama, a picturesque location celebrated for its vibrant autumn foliage.

We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all participants, keynote speakers, and organizers who have worked tirelessly to make this conference a success. Your contributions are instrumental in advancing the global dialogue on climate change and in fostering international cooperation. We are confident that the research, discussions, and innovative ideas shared during this event will pave the way for transformative solutions that address the urgent challenges posed by climate change. May this conference inspire lasting partnerships, strengthen collaborative networks, and contribute to shaping a healthier, more sustainable future for generations to come.

Rector  
Sebelas Maret University, Indonesia  
**Prof. Dr. Hartono, dr., M.Si.**

President, Gifu University  
**Kazuhiro Yoshida**

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