4th World Social Science Forum

The series of World Social Science Forums is convened by the International Social Science Council (ISSC). The Forum in 2018 will be hosted in Fukuoka, Japan by Kyushu University with support from Science Council of Japan (SCJ) & Japan Science and Technology (JST). In organizing the Forum, they will be joined by a consortium of members from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Fukuoka: Gateway to Asia

Fukuoka is located in western Japan, in Kyushu, one of the Japanese Island chain. Due to its geographic and historical proximity to the Korean Peninsula and the Asian Continent, Fukuoka has played a significant role in foreign diplomacy, business and culture, as a gateway to Asia since ancient times.

Fukuoka Airport is one of Japan's leading international airports with high frequency of flights, and it boasts the greatest accessibility to the central part of the city. An under-15-minute subway-ride from the airport will take you to major business and commercial districts. Lying just around 1 hour from Seoul, 1.5 hours from Shanghai and Tokyo, and about 4 hours from Hong Kong by plane, the airport is regarded as a transportation hub for major urban cities throughout the Asia-Pacific region, in addition to domestic metropolises.

Fukuoka: Tradition & Modernity

"Nicely co-existing tradition and modernity" are the terms often used to describe Fukuoka. Fukuoka has a well-conserved natural environment such as beautiful mountainous scenery and seacoasts and has also fostered its own unique traditional culture including shrine festivals and Shinto rituals, while developing into a modernized city, adopting advanced technology and cultural diversity.

Following a couple of world famous manufacturers with a long history based in this region, many businesses are leaders in Asia, in creative industries such as game production and robotics, or in green industries of hydrogen energy, which emerged in this century; these original endeavors are currently greatly expanding overseas. "Creativity and vibrancy" is another key phrase to characterize today's Fukuoka.

Detailed information of the 4th World Social Science Forum is available via the WSSF 2018 Website: http://www.wssf2018.org/
You are kindly requested to bookmark and visit it regularly. Please also mark down the forum date in your calendar and make sure you join us in Japan, in Sep. 2018.

Access
From FUKUOKA International Airport:
A. Taxi-ride to the venue (15min.)
B. Subway-ride to Hakata JR Station (5min.) → Bus-ride to the venue (12min.)

*** Flying hours to Fukuoka International Airport
From Incheon International Airport: approx.1.3 hours
From Shanghai International Airport: approx. 2 hours
From Narita International Airport: approx. 2 hours
From Haneda International Airport: approx. 1.5 hours
From Kansai International Airport: approx.1.2 hours

FUKUOKA, JAPAN
September 25-28, 2018
Venue: Fukuoka International Congress Center

WSSF2018

Science Council of Japan (SCJ) [TBD]
Japan Science and Technology Agency [TBD]
First Announcement

The International Social Science Council (ISSC) is an independent NGO established by UNESCO in 1952. It is the primary body representing the social, economic and behavioral sciences at an international level.

The ISSC’s mission is to increase the production and use of social science knowledge for the well-being of societies throughout the world. A World Social Science Forum is one of their flagship activities.

Kyushu University is now pleased to announce that they are highly honored to be able to host this prestigious and influential event, for the first time as an Asian institution. The Forum Consortium Partners will be La Trobe University / Institute of Social Science, the University of Tokyo / Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) / Waseda University/ Hitotsubashi University and others. (TBD)

The WSSF Local Organizing Committee is presently in talks with many other academic institutions including universities in South Korea, China, Taiwan and Vietnam, for partnership in the Forum, as well.

Forum Theme & Sub-themes
Security and Equality for Sustainable Futures

In the Anthropocene, human activities are recognized to have a significant global impact on the Earth's geology and ecosystems. This in turn requires inclusive and coordinated actions to ensure security and equality for human beings. Equality is a basic human right and is built on recognition of diverse values. Security includes not just military and political security but environmental, resource and livelihood security. Security and Equality are prerequisites for stability and sustainability. The social sciences and humanities have a vital role to play in clarifying and developing principles, norms, rules and institutions to undertake actions and in participating in the dialogue among citizens and policy makers to achieve such a sense of security. This Forum seeks to create a platform for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, to contribute to transformations to the sustainable world.

The following sub-themes highlight the main areas of interest.

1. Sustainability and security
2. Cybersecurity, cyberattacks, hybrid warfare
3. Human security
4. Security and the 2030 Agenda
5. Globalization, diversity and cultures of belonging
6. Development and inclusion in urban and rural areas
7. Gender equality and security
8. Health, safety and biosecurity
9. Freedom, democracy and security

The WSSFs provide a global platform for researchers, funders, policymakers and other stakeholders to debate topics of world significance at a multidisciplinary and inter-disciplinary level. In the WSSF2018, comprehensive coverage of the social sciences and humanities as well as the natural sciences will be ensured by the partnership of Kyushu University, SCJ and JST. Incorporation of some parts of the global agenda suggested by Future Earth into the Forum subthemes will enable us all to identify the more specific contexts of transdisciplinary research, and to mobilize natural science themes and resources, to cooperate to help solve global problems together.

You are cordially invited to submit session proposals & abstracts to present papers or posters for WSSF2018. Further information will be available on the Website.

(Proposed periods: as below)

Call for sessions: JUN 1, 2017 ~ SEP 1, 2017

Call for papers: DEC 1, 2017 ~ MAR 1, 2018

* * History of World Social Science Forum * *

2009- One Planet-Worlds Apart?
Bergen, Norway/ May 2009

2013- Social Transformation and the Digital Age
Montreal, Canada /October 2013

2015-Transforming Global Relations for a Just World
Durban, South Africa/ September 2015