

The Eighteenth International Students Summit (ISS) on Food, Agriculture and Environment

*Students Taking Actions to Increase Youth Involvement in Sustainable Agriculture and to
Close the Gap Between Actors in the Food System*

September 27 – 28, 2018

Statement

The world is now facing a crisis of sustainability, and we find it significantly important to draw together the wisdom and vitality of youth, the torchbearers of the future of mankind. There are wide ranging missions especially for agricultural students, as agricultural science plays a key role in solving fundamental problems in food production and safety, environmental conservation, energy, and human health. The system of food production and consumption is without a doubt closely related to nature, economic development, and food culture of each country and its regional characteristics. It is thus important to understand how agriculture and food systems should be organized and maintained in each society.

In 2001, Tokyo University of Agriculture (Tokyo NODAI) organized the first “International Students Summit (ISS) on Food, Agriculture and Environment in the New Century” to provide students from our global partner universities with an opportunity to gather and exchange views and ideas on global food, agricultural and environmental issues, and also to discuss their own roles in sustainable development. Since then, ISS has been held every year at Tokyo NODAI. Participating students adopted the Action Plan in 2002 and established the International Students Forum (ISF) in 2003. The 12th ISS was held overseas for the first time at Michigan State University, USA, which is the first partner university of Tokyo NODAI. The 14th ISS in 2014 was held in Thailand, which was sponsored jointly by Kasetsart University (KU) and Tokyo NODAI. The 17th ISS in 2017 was co-hosted by Nation Chung Hsing University (NCHU) and Tokyo NODAI in Taiwan.

The 18th International Students Summit will be held on September 27-28, 2018 at the Tokyo NODAI Setagaya Campus in Tokyo, Japan. As the number of Tokyo NODAI partner universities has increased to more than 40, the number of participating students in the 18th ISS is expected to be the largest ever. The theme for this summit is “***Students Taking Actions to Increase Youth Involvement in Sustainable Agriculture and to Close the Gap Between Actors in the Food System***”, which was adopted at the 17th ISS. We hope participating students place focus on activities undertaken by each university in their presentations and discussions. The framework of student activities as to the rationale, methods, implications (economic, social and cultural), and constraints should be clarified in order to foster their contributions in solving global problems on sustainability.

Only one presentation will be accommodated for each participating university in the following sessions.

Opening Session: Opening ceremony and keynote speeches

Session 1: Universities with Students’ Actions in the field of agriculture

Session 2: Universities with Students’ Actions in the field of education

Session 3: Universities with Students’ Actions in the field of environment

Session 4: Universities with Students’ Actions in the field of food

Closing Session: Discussion and adoption of joint communique

Organizing Committee & Students Committee,
International Students Forum,
Tokyo University of Agriculture