



International Symposium

Toward a New Food System: Agroecological Solidarity in Monsoon Asia

Funded by Tokyo NODAI Research Institute
Supported by Dept. of Food Environment Economics
Dept. of International Food and Agricultural Science

The food system, developed in line with the imperatives of the contemporary economy and capital, has separated producers from consumers, leaving both sides facing multiple challenges. A transition to a sustainable food system requires rebuilding producer-consumer relations and fostering “solidarity” that recognizes values beyond market exchange. To capture the significance of diverse practices and the transformations they bring, it is essential to adopt an agroecological perspective attentive to regional ecosystems, including the cultural dimensions of livelihoods. Accordingly, this study examines the feasibility of a Monsoon Asia food system grounded in producer-consumer solidarity from an agroecological perspective, focusing on the mainland (Vietnam, Bangladesh) and island (Indonesia, the Philippines) contexts.

9:00	《Registration》
9:15	Opening Remarks Rie Miyaura (Project Leader, Tokyo NODAI)
9:30	The Challenges and Potential of Organic Farming in Bangladesh Keiko Yoshino (Dept. of Food Environment Economics, Tokyo NODAI) Md. Rashedur Rahman (Bangladesh Agricultural University) Mohammad Abu Bakar Siddique (Kishan Somonnito Krishi Udyog) Mohammad Khurshed Alam (Research Institute for Rural Life and Community)
10:40	《Coffee break》
10:50	Agroecological Transition and Certification Pathways in Indonesia Rie Miyaura (Dept. of International Food and Agricultural Science, Tokyo NODAI) Apri Larastio (Agatho Organic Farm, Yayasan Bina Sarana Bakti) Ronald Shiddiq Wibowo (PT BIOCert Indonesia)
12:00	《Lunch break》
13:00	Organic Farming in Vietnam - Progress of PGS Vietnam - Fumie Takanashi (Dept. of Food Environment Economics, Tokyo NODAI) Tran Manh Chien (Hòn Đất Agriculture Co., Ltd.) Dao Van Dai (Ecological farm, Hoa Binh province)
14:10	Grassroots Pathways to Agroecological Transition in the Philippines Keisuke Nakakubo (Dept. of Food Environment Economics, Tokyo NODAI) Gary Ben Suazo Villocino (MASIPAG Mindanao) Mabi David (Good Food Community)
15:20	《Coffee break》
15:30	Organic Farming Movement in Japan Keiko Yoshino
16:00	General Discussion
17:00	Closing Remarks
17:30	《Reception》



↑ Registration
(Before Thu, Oct. 23 (JST))

Oct. 28_{Tue} 2025

Conference Room 1 & 2, International center, Setagaya Campus, Tokyo NODAI

*Hybrid (On-site & Online), Advance registration is required for participation.

Registration form: <https://forms.office.com/r/1B24yufKTa> (Before Thu, Oct. 23 (JST))

Agroecology, developed largely in Europe and North America, has gained attention as a food and agriculture model that integrates ecological integrity, economic viability, and social justice. By inviting nine practitioners and researchers from four focus countries, this symposium seeks to clarify the concept of an “Asia agroecology” and identify practical pathways for its implementation. It aims to uncover the logics of sustainability emerging in Asia while moving beyond conventional growth narratives centered on innovation, scaling up, AI, and biotechnology.

Session Overview

Bangladesh

Md. Rashedur Rahman: A comprehensive introduction to the current state and challenges of organic agriculture in Bangladesh, including policy aspects.

Md. Khurshed Alam: Bangladesh faces significant bottlenecks in the distribution of organic agricultural products. This report addresses these challenges and proposes potential solutions.

Md. Abu Bakkar Siddique: After a career shift from the mass media industry, he became a new farmer. Focusing on fruit trees, he has cultivated and sold organic and reduced-pesticide crops based on the principle of “producing food safe enough for my own family to eat.” Drawing on this experience, he will propose necessary steps for promoting and expanding organic agriculture in Bangladesh.

Indonesia

Introduces new post-pandemic trends emerging in Java and Bali amid rapid economic growth, government-led support for youth entrepreneurship, local government programs facilitating the shift from chemical to organic fertilizers, and the establishment of “organic villages.”

Apri Larastio: Case report on Agatho Organic Farm, Indonesia’s oldest organic farm, detailing its production system, marketing practices, collaboration with consumers, and current challenges.

Ronald Shiddiq Wibowo: From the perspective of BioCERT Indonesia, one of Indonesia’s accredited organic certification bodies, explains the current status of domestic organic production and the structure and operation of the certification system.

Vietnam

Tran Manh Chien & Dao Van Dai: Overall trends in organic agriculture in Vietnam, the promotion of organic farming by PGS Vietnam, an overview of Bac Tom (a natural food store managed by Mr. Chien), Mr. Chien’s initiatives to support organic producers, and an introduction to the ecological farm in Hoa Binh Province operated by Mr. Dai.

Philippines

Gary Ben S. Villocino: will share MASIPAG’s experience in empowering rural communities through the sustainable use and management of biodiversity, emphasizing farmer control over genetic and biological resources, agricultural production, and associated knowledge developed through collaboration among scientists, local NGOs, and farmers’ organizations.

Mabi David: will share the experience of Good Food Community’s localization of community-supported agriculture as a solidarity-based model bridging farmers and consumers, and how it has evolved with the food insecurity impacts of the Covid pandemic through its collaboration with the urban poor communities in Quezon City. She will share their experience as a social enterprise becoming part of agroecology movement in the Philippines.