

Nitrogen

as a Lens for Sustainability Challenges: Transdisciplinary Approaches for Future Generations

Nitrogen is essential for life, food production, and economic development, yet its inefficient use contributes to many environmental challenges, including climate change, air and water pollution, and biodiversity loss. Because nitrogen is deeply connected to food systems, energy use, ecosystems, and human well-being, it provides a unique lens through which to explore the interconnected sustainability challenges facing society today.

As part of the 10th International Nitrogen Conference (N2026), this symposium brings together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to examine how scientific knowledge, societal perspectives, and policy processes can be better integrated to advance sustainable nitrogen management. Through presentations and panel discussions, participants will explore pathways for addressing multiple challenges simultaneously and contribute ideas toward a more policy-relevant and stakeholder-informed Kyoto Declaration for Sustainable Nitrogen Management for Future Generations.

Nov. 4
2026

Keynote speech

YAMAGIWA Juichi (Director-General, RIHN)

**Food and Fight:
A Gorilla's Perspective
on Human Prosperity
and Conflict**



Access



Room D,
Kyoto International Conference Center
Kyoto, Japan

Online
Registration



Organized by

Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN)
National Institutes for the Humanities (NIHU)
Inter-University Research Institute Corporation

This symposium is part of the program of the
10th International Nitrogen Conference (N2026).

Contact

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RIHN 21st International Symposium

Nitrogen as a Lens for Sustainability Challenges: Transdisciplinary Approaches for Future Generations

PROGRAM

Wednesday, 4 November 2026

Room D,

Kyoto International
Conference Center

- 8:45-9:15 Registration begins and ice-breaking time
9:15-9:20 Opening Remarks
YAMAGIWA Juichi (Director-General, RIHN)
9:20-9:30 Introduction and Symposium Overview
HAYASHI Kentaro (RIHN)

Session 1 Moderator: **ASARI Misuzu** (RIHN)

Linkages between Global Environmental Challenges and Nitrogen

- 9:30-10:00 Keynote speech:
YAMAGIWA Juichi (RIHN)
"Food and Fight: A Gorilla's Perspective on Human Prosperity and Conflict"
10:00-10:30 **OTSU Eri** (O2Farm/RIHN)
"A Family Farming Model for Nitrogen Cycling, Carbon Neutral, and Nature-, Human-, and Water-Positive Outcomes in Aso, Japan"
10:30-11:00 Coffee break
11:00-11:30 **HONGO Shun** (RIHN/Kyoto University)
"Wild Meat in Tropical Rainforests: A Lens on Nitrogen and Sustainability"
11:30-12:00 **YOSHIKAWA Narumi** (RIHN)
"Cultural Aspects of Japanese Diet and Environments"

Session 2 Moderator: **TANIGUCHI Makoto** (RIHN)

Science-Policy Engagement for Sustainable Nitrogen Management

- 12:00-12:30 **Mark A. SUTTON** (Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, United Kingdom)
"Mobilizing the Nitrogen Circular Economy"
12:30-13:30 Networking lunch
13:30-14:00 **David R. KANTER** (New York University, United States of America)
"The Role of the Scientific Community in Nitrogen Governance"
14:00-14:30 **Mihai CONSTANTINESCU** (Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests, Romania)
"The UNEP Nitrogen Working Group: Perspectives on Global Nitrogen Governance"
14:30-15:00 **KUBO Makiko** (Ministry of the Environment, Japan)
"Overview and Implementation of Japan's National Action Plan on Sustainable Nitrogen Management"
15:00-15:30 Coffee break

Session 3 Moderator: **HAYASHI Kentaro** (RIHN)

Panel Discussion: Integrated Approaches to Addressing Multiple Challenges Simultaneously

- 15:30-16:40 Discussant: **Mihai CONSTANTINESCU** **KUBO Makiko** **OTSU Eri** **YAMAGIWA Juichi**
David R. KANTER **Mark A. SUTTON** **HONGO Shun** **YOSHIKAWA Narumi**
16:40-16:45 Closing Remarks
ASARI Misuzu (Deputy Director-General, RIHN)