

(Appendix) Issues raised in the ISC discussions

Summarized below are the issues that emerged from ISC discussions.

These were organized and integrated into three broader themes that need to be intensively examined by IIAS, which are outlined in Chapter 4.

1 **Degrowth**

"Degrowth," a concept that goes beyond the 20th century's shared perception of "growth," is becoming a subject of debate in some parts of the developed world. We will examine each of those arguments and consider what we can add to the discussion.

2 **Edo Era and Japan's Journey Through the Times**

We will draw on Japan's cultural and spiritual history to discuss what our country has to offer the world towards making sustainable society a reality. ISC focused on some aspects of Edo era—social life, the recycle-mindedness that took root in civil culture, ethics in daily life, the spirit of tolerance and mutual respect, and others—that might inspire us on ways for all to live together on this limited earth. We will trace the path of Japan's history from that period through Meiji Restoration and thereon, explore how to build a future of peaceful coexistence for Japan and its Asian neighbors in the 21st century, and discuss what needs to be done to positively assess the potential of Japanese culture in the globalized world, as well as utilize that power to bring peace in the life of future generations.

3 **ELSI (Ethical Legal Social Issues)**

Ethical, legal and social issues (ELSI) emerge as a sort of intersection point when science addresses a complex social problem that requires collaboration between science and humanities or trans-scientific approaches. We will work to develop a common platform or an integrated model to handle ELSI.

4 **Seeking a Balance Within Imbalance**

We live in a time of imbalance, with countries and regions where "paradigm of society or sense of happiness do not depend on economic growth" on the one hand, and those that are continuing the existing growth-oriented capitalist path on the other. We will explore a model that allows us to achieve a good balance in this state of imbalance so that the earth will survive into the future. We will look deeply and professionally into imbalance and disparities, for example, in the areas of "energy resources," "healthcare resources," and others.

5 **Production and Consumption**

The "limited earth" will not tolerate the business activities of global capitalists to continue in the same way, nor should the resulting wealth gap be left unaddressed. We will explore alternative modality of production and consumption for the future.

6 **Guidelines for Addressing Problems of Unsustainability**

We will discuss directions for addressing serious challenges facing the earth such as global warming, water, food, resources, population, energy and more, in order to turn the future of our planet around. Debates on this theme are already taking place everywhere and in various ways, so we will aim to present a “ground plan” based on assumptions that a new sustainable model will be applied and that the various imbalances facing the world will be dealt with.

7 **Setting KPIs to Gauge Target Achievements**

We will examine if the global society is cooperating towards a moderate development or if it is succeeding in building a future beyond the challenges facing humankind, and set key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor the achievement of these targets, as well as discuss ways to track progress and share the target with others.

8 **Modes of Happiness**

The development in the 20th century revolved around the promotion of industrialization, which led to a strong perception that happiness is brought about by material wealth and measured by indices for economic or financial values, such as GDP. We will discuss what will determine happiness in a sustainable society and what elements are indispensable in structuring a new concept of happiness, such as the quality of life and increased cultural literacy.

9 **Ways to Solicit Interest of the Society in the Global Challenges Facing All Human Beings**

Human beings, just like the “frog slowly being boiled,” are making scant effort to tackle the already acute problems facing themselves and the earth. We will discuss and study how to present and call attention to, in a tangible way, the catastrophe that awaits human society if we sit and wait, the gravity of our situation, and the critical need for an all-out effort to solve those problems.

10 **Designing Measures to Bring Discussions out into the Society**

We will elaborate a comprehensive set of measures for putting the outcome of ISC discussions into practice in the society as soon, and in a specified manner, as possible. To ensure that these measures will be understood and practiced around the world—regardless of country, ethnicity or the diverse types and different levels of cultural literacy—we will repeat a cyclical process of “sympathizing, identifying problems, prototyping, testing,” work to establish a shared world view, and eventually develop a solution that is based on diverse humanity and limited earth.

11 **Aiming for cooperation on a global platform and identifying themes for collaborative research**

Aiming for future collaboration with world-class, globally active foundations, we will look closely into their activities and develop—from a viewpoint and approach that takes them one step further—novel themes for collaborative research, make proposals and realize partnership. (Already in progress as part of ISC activities for the current fiscal year.)