

■ News

Okayama University Vice President Atsufumi Yokoi participated in the International Youth Exchange Conference commemorating the marriage of Their Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince Naruhito and Crown Princess Masako as facilitator of the discussion on UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The International Youth Conference was held in Tokyo from September 26-28, 2018. The conference is organized annually by the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan as a part of the International Youth Development Exchange (INDEX) Program, which was established in 1994 to commemorate the royal marriage of Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince and Crown Princess.

Their Imperial Highnesses the Crown Prince Naruhito and Crown Princess Masako attended this year's conference and Okayama University Vice President Atsufumi Yokoi was invited to facilitate the discussion between nine youth delegates from seven countries. The participants exchanged views and ideas on issues including, "water and disaster" through discussions on career development, media literacy and multicultural society under the overall theme of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and multi-stakeholder partnerships that uphold "No one left behind." In addition, Vice President Yokoi gave a keynote speech to an audience of approximately 100 participants from 7 countries. He introduced the SDGs through multi-stakeholder partnerships and delivered a message stating that Okayama University has taken a strong lead from the Okayama area, encouraging people throughout the world to implement the SDGs.

Through the INDEX Program this year, 41 Japanese youths were sent to one of the countries of either Austria, Laos, or Latvia, while 51 international youths were invited to Japan from the 6 countries of, Austria, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Laos, Latvia, and Vietnam. All the participants attended the International Youth Conference to contribute to the future development of youth and the global community.



Keynote speech by Okayama University Vice President Atsufumi Yokoi.



Participants listening to a lecture at the conference.



Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince Naruhito and Crown Princess Masako observing the discussion at the meeting facilitated by Vice President Yokoi. The photograph was provided by the organizers.

Okayama University will continue to make university-wide efforts to promote the SDGs a manner unique to Okayama based on the Makino Vision of “Heading Further, To a Fruitful Academic Capital,” to further strengthen cooperation with stakeholders both inside and outside the university.



Members of the youth delegation and Vice President Yokoi. The photograph was provided by the organizers.

Further information

Okayama University (Japanese page)
http://www.okayama-u.ac.jp/tp/news/news_id7964.html

