

CONNECTING OUR OCEANS: THE NIPPON FOUNDATION/GEBCO TRAINING PROGRAM ALUMNI CONFERENCE 2023 TOKYO

Overview

The purpose of the Connecting our Oceans alumni conference—where approximately 140 attendees will gather—is to mobilize the power of Nippon Foundation / GEBCO Training Program alumni towards solving the many and complex problems of the ocean that we face today, including but not limited to finding out more about the world’s ocean floor, strengthening the alumni network, and encouraging further capacity building. It is hoped that introduction to different disciplines from the guest speakers will broaden alumni’s perspectives, help to set new targets and encourage the development of ideas that could potentially lead to new initiatives.

The alumni conference will not only be a place to rekindle old friendships, but a place for alumni to meet and grow, to learn about all the latest developments in the ocean sector (not just in the field of ocean mapping), and to verify and strengthen the effectiveness of the alumni network as a whole.

The conference is organized by The Nippon Foundation and the Organizing Committee composed of the Alumni of [The Nippon Foundation/GEBCO Training Program](#).

Conference Theme

Title: Connecting our oceans
Vision: Our ocean, our responsibility

Date, venue and form of Conference

Date: 31 July, 2023 - 3 August, 2023
Location: Grand Prince Hotel Shin Takanawa, Tokyo, Japan
Form: In–Person (Hybrid option are being evaluated if required)

Logistics

International flights to Tokyo (round trip), accommodation in Japan will be arranged by the conference secretariat. Flights will be arranged to enable the Alumni to arrive in Tokyo on 30th July and depart on 4th August, 2023. Costs of travel insurance, visas and Covid-19 PCR tests can be covered by the host as well as the transportation and accommodation fees, however the additional transportation and accommodation fees and arrangement regarding outside the duration of the Conference and accompanying persons will not be included.

Tentative Agenda (all speakers and panellists are yet to be confirmed)

30 th July, 2023	
Alumni arrival to Tokyo	
Day 0: 31 st July, 2023	
9:00 am - 8:00 pm	Alumni Networking Sessions and Ice Breaking Reception
Day 1: 1 st August, 2023	
9:00 am -10:00 am	Opening Ceremony
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Break
10: 30 am - 12:00 pm	Keynote Addresses:
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Panel Discussion 1: <i>Needs of the Ocean Community</i>
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Break
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Panel Discussion 2: <i>Technology - latest autonomous and remote marine technology (ROVs, robots, AUVs, crowdsourcing bathymetry, etc.)</i>
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Welcome Reception
Day 2: 2 nd August, 2023	
9:00 am - 10:30 am	Panel Discussion 3: <i>Sustainable Development (Climate Change Impacts, Mapping in Polar Regions, Renewable Energy)</i>
10:30 am - 11: 00 am	Break
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Panel Discussion 4: <i>Marine Education/Capacity Building for the Next Generation</i>
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Wrap Up
3:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	New alumni projects
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Closing Ceremony
Day 3: 3 rd August, 2023	
8:30 am – 5:30 pm	Excursion
4 th August, 2023	
Departure from Tokyo	