

## **Global Leadership Fellows Forum 9th Cohort Mid-term Presentation**

### **Title & Abstract**

**<First Presentation> 2:10 pm~2:50 pm**

**Title: Strengthening relationships between communities, farms, and the environment**

#### **Abstract**

Today's agricultural system prioritizes the financial gain of large farm owners and corporations while sacrificing small-scale farmers, rural and indigenous communities, and the environment at large. Agroecology is a solution to this problem. It is an interdisciplinary approach to agriculture that aims to preserve the environment and our health while considering ecological and social factors. Characterized as three pillars, the science, practice, and movement of agroecology is designed to improve our current relationship with the environment and shift away from harmful monoculture-based agricultural systems. Through the application of various sustainable farming techniques and highly contextual local knowledge, agroecology supports the success of smaller farmers, creates community-based economic opportunities, and addresses problems with food insecurity, cultural revitalization, and social cohesion. We provide examples of different agroecological practices that ensure the long-term viability of our natural resources. We also introduce case studies that demonstrate how communities have benefited from successfully applying agroecology to their existing food systems.

**<Second Presentation> 3:10 pm~3:55 pm**

**Title: The Future of AI: Promises and Perils**

**Abstract**

The development of Artificial Intelligence represents a categorically different revolution than any other technological revolution in the past. Not only does it represent a revolution in technological capability, but it also has the capability to be an evolution in intelligent life itself. As such, AI is relevant to every field, from war to business to the arts, and has important ethical implications. It is likely that this will be the most significant event in human history, with limitless possibilities for promise and peril.

Because of the importance of the changes that AI will bring and the rapid rate with which said change will happen, it is important to discuss the ethics and strategies surrounding the development of AI and solidify concrete theories guiding future actions. This presentation hopes to serve as a springboard for these discussions by outlining the various ways AI interacts with our lives and the possibilities that the transition to superintelligent AI could bring.

**<Third Presentation> 4:15 pm~4:45 pm**

**Title: How to reduce food wastage while balancing economic and environmental trade-off in Japan**

**Abstract**

A 2022 report reveals that 2.5 billion tons of food are wasted around the world each year. Wasting food means not only wasting money but also land, water, energy, and other natural resources. In a food life cycle, it needs to be grown and processed, transported, distributed, prepared, consumed, and sometimes disposed of; each step creates greenhouse gasses and contributes to climate change. Our study focuses on food wastage, the decrease of food at all stages of the food system from production to consumption that was originally intended for human consumption. Our research aims to find new solutions that can balance economic and environmental tradeoffs in dealing with food wastage in different phases. To solve this issue with greater impact, it is critical to consider economic incentives that help individual consumers and companies change their behaviors and customs.