Dr Asano x SDGs @ Library "Lunchtime Sometimes"



Dr. Iku Asano of the Faculty of Education gave a special presentation last week on the Social Development Goals mandated by the United Nations during lunch break at the Shinshu University library. Dr. Asano, who's field is environmental studies with an emphasis on biodiversity in the rainforest of Malaysia has worked with the library to acquire a great collection of books about the SDGs.

In her presentation entitled "Let's think about the SDGs together! Sustainable Diversity Research in the Rainforest", Dr. Asano reflected back on the policy of Shinshu University, whose themes align closely with the SDGs.

The Shinshu Policy 3Gs and 3Ls



Dr. Asano talked about how fieldwork is currently conducted in Southeast Asia to protect the rights of the local people, where as researchers of a previous generation acted like explorers, taking specimens as they pleased.

Field: Lambir Hills National Park in the state of Sarawak, Malaysia



Now, research is conducted very differently to give locals an ownership of the diverse life that they reside with, and access to research and educational opportunities.



Now, foreign researchers work with local populations to collect samples, study the wildlife together, and the locals themselves can study to become academics. There are strict laws regarding intellectual property to protect the DNA data of newly "discovered" wildlife.

Dr. Asano tries to achieve the SDGs through her work as a researcher. She says that everyone can start to contribute to achieve the SDGs by doing what they love, but doing it in a sustainable, conscientious way. Even though the Sustainable Development Goals may seem like an impossible feat, if everybody conducted their everyday lives in sustainable ways, we can achieve the SDGs together.

Japanese researchers working with locals.



Working together ensures access to quality education, reducing inequalities between groups of people, and for the better understanding of life on land.

Researchers have built tree towers with an extensive network of ladders. Sometimes they climb trees with just rope and harnesses.





Dr. Asano ended the talk with the 50th line from the UN Mandate regarding the Social Development Goals:

"Today we are also taking a decision of great historic significance. We can be the first generation to succeed in ending poverty; just as we may be the last to have a chance of saving the planet."

*Shinshu University library hosts a variety of talks given at lunchtime, occurring irregularly or "sometimes". Please check the library twitter for the latest information regarding events: @ShinshuUnivLib



信州大学附属図書館 @ShinshuUnivLib · Oct 24 ~ 【中央図】 <本日開催!>本日12:20より、知の森昼どきセミナーを開催しま す!講師は全学教育機構の浅野郁先生、テーマは「一緒に考えようSDGs!〜持 続可能な熱帯雨林の多様性研究〜」、会場は図書館1階自由学習スペースです。 ご参加お待ちしています。#信大中図

