

Outline of Dr. Chabay's Lecture "Pathways to Sustainable Futures Through Mutual Learning"

Norio Okada

Advisor, Institute of Disaster Area Revitalization, Regrowth and Governance,
Kwansei Gakuin University



Dr. Ilan Chabay is an internationally renowned person with a variety of advanced studies and experiences in science, engineering, humanities, and social sciences. He is the head of the Strategic Science Initiative and Research Programme at the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) in Potsdam, Germany. I had the opportunity to conduct joint research with Dr. Chabay in the IASS for 1 year and 4 months during my time there in 2017 and 2020 as a Senior Fellow, and our exchange has continued since. He was a foreign visiting professor at Kyoto University's Disaster Prevention Research Institute from the beginning of 2021 to the end of May the same year. During this period, Deputy Site Superintendent Yoshiyuki Yama also had the opportunity to discuss regional reconstruction in conjunction with sustainable development. On May 14 (Friday), just before Dr. Chabay returned home, an international research seminar was planned at the Institute of Disaster Area Revitalization, Regrowth and Governance, Kwansei University. Despite the limitation of the COVID-19 pandemic, lectures were conducted in a hybrid fashion, which provided an opportunity for enthusiastic questions and discussions. The following is an overview of the lecture.

1. Humans are now hyper connected in both time and space in complex and systemic ways, which poses varied risks. The scales of these risks are becoming unprecedentedly multifactorial in both time and space.
2. Humans are part of nature. Nature is complex and intricate and exists as a global 'system of systems' (a condition in which networks are connected to become larger systems).

3. Today, various kinds of objects are connected globally, and they tend to become interdependent. “Forces against sustainability,” “globalization,” and “digitization” constitute the backdrop.

4. In a democratic framework, we will proceed incrementally with these social changes. To do so, we need to engage and learn from each other based on specific topics in SDGs.

5. Academia also undergoes changes. Let us create a place that transcends barriers, and work together and learn from each other as members of society.

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