

Tokyo University of Agriculture
International Students Summit on Food, Agriculture and Environment (ISS)

Important Information

The International Students Summit on Food, Agriculture and Environment (ISS) is a student-centered conference which highly emphasizes on actions taken by the students in tackling problems faced by their respective communities. Since 2001, ISS has been held every year and this time we will be holding the 23rd ISS. Each year, students from participating partner universities meet and decide the theme for next year's ISS. Participants in the 22nd ISS agreed that the theme for the 23rd ISS (2024) will be **“Youth Actions and Collaboration towards Resilient Food Systems and Environmental Conservation”**.

Applicants must submit the ISS manuscript that their content not only relate to the ISS theme but also include (but not limited to) the following ideas:

- What challenges do your community face in the food, agricultural, and environmental sectors?
- How the youth (especially you) have managed to address the theme (i.e. Youth Actions and Collaboration towards Resilient Food Systems and Environmental Conservation) in their communities or universities?
- What are the social, economic, and environmental implications of these programs or activities?
- How are other youth involved in these programs or activities? What motivates them?
- Do you have any difficulties to promote your activities? How could these activities be expanded and sustained?

NOTE: The application is not limited to individual student's actions, the applicant (student) can present students' group activity as a representative of that group.

Contrary to previous years' ISS, the number of partner universities participants in ISS have increased rapidly. All partner universities will be given an equal chance to nominate one or more applicants who will undergo a screening process. This screening process will ensure the quality and efficiency of the ISS experience. This screening will not only be students based but also the diversity will be considered where **Each selected partner university will be given one slot; however, kindly understand that NONE will be selected if your university's applicant fails to pass the screening process.**

General selection criteria

- ☐ Whether the student's manuscript have followed the **format or template provided**
- ☐ Whether the student's actions or activities **related to the ISS general theme**
- ☐ Student's ability to place his/her actions in a **broader context**
- ☐ **Clarity and depth** of the student's action or activity in tackling problems in the field of food, agriculture and Environment
- ☐ **Motivation**: sincere curiosity and interest in taking part in the mentioned actions.
- ☐ **Contribution** of the student's action in tackling problems facing his/her community
- ☐ Students articulation of his/her responsibilities to the actions taken
- ☐ **Future potential or the trajectory** of the student's action

Specifically, the criteria for this screening process are as follows:

Criteria	Check Point
Format and Theme Connection	How well does he/she follow the templates' format given? How much is his/her topic related to the theme?
Topic Discussion	Does he/she have a <u>clear</u> goal?
	Does he/she <u>properly</u> discuss the topic and issues at hand? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First statement should be related to all the contents in the paragraph.• Evidence should be substantial and relevant to the theme with supporting facts and figures (with proper citation)• Community problem where student action is necessary.
Student (Action) Involvement	Is he/she <u>directly</u> involved in the student action? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• He/she should give prescription to improve the situation as a student• His/her topic should show the possibility for further action by the students.

1. Timeline of the 23rd ISS

The 23rd ISS will be held at the end of July to the beginning of August 2024. The tentative timeline including the student nomination deadline and preparation process are as shown below. Any changes to this timeline will be communicated in due course.

Tentative timeline

January	Dispatch of Invitation Letter (Tokyo NODAI)
March 20 (Wed.)	Deadline of <u>Participant Nomination</u> (each partner university)
March – April	Screening period of applicants and <u>Manuscript review</u> (ISS advisors committee)
May 13 (Mon.)	Dispatch of <u>Acceptance Letter</u> (Tokyo NODAI)
June 4 (Tue.) (16:30 JST~)	PRE-SUMMIT (online) *All the ISS participants must attend. Further information will be shared in due course.
June 28 (Fri.)	<u>Final ISS Manuscript submission.</u>
July 30 (Tue.)	Arrival in Tokyo
July 31 to Aug.3	ISS week
Aug 4 (Sun.)	Departure Preparation
Aug.5 (Mon.)	Departure from Tokyo

2. International airfare

International airfare is to be borne by the participating student (or his/her home university).

3. Items to be provided by Tokyo NODAI during ISS week

✓Airport transfer(Inside Tokyo) ✓Accommodation (with breakfast) ✓Lunch and dinner of several days.

4. Special Program to be held in conjunction with ISS

The “Comprehensive International Education Program (CIEP)” is an integrated learning program consisting of lectures, field practices, and workshops, which provides the opportunity for students to learn about food, agriculture, and the environment in Japan and Asia. CIEP 2024 will be held a week before the ISS week, from July 20th to July 30th. In previous years, this program has been conducted in the Noto Region, Ishikawa Prefecture, which is registered as a “Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS).” However, this year, the region for CIEP program **has not yet been decided**. We will contact all interested students directly whenever the decision has been finalized. All the ISS participants are also welcome to join this special program. Participation is free of charge. However, transportation from Tokyo to the designated region, accommodation, and meals during the CIEP period should be shouldered by each participant. (The approximate budget per student is 50,000 ~ 60,000 Japanese Yen).

Required Application Documents

Kindly send to us the following documents for all the students that you will nominate to represent your university in the 23rd ISS.

1. Univ Acronym Nomination Letter Form A (Word).

This file must be filled out and signed by the university authorities who will select the representative student(s). Please send this form, along with other documents to Tokyo NODAI by email at isf@nodai.ac.jp by **March 20th, 2024.**

2. Student Application Form B (Excel).

This file must be filled in by student and returned to your university (office in-charge). All the parts related to information for travelling to Japan must be properly filled. Please send this form, along with other documents to Tokyo NODAI by email at isf@nodai.ac.jp by **March 20th, 2024.**

3. ISS Manuscript.

The selected student(s) to represent your university have to submit the ISS Manuscript (**must be 4 to 7 pages**) to your university (Office in-charge). The manuscript must follow the guidelines and template provided. Please find the manuscript template provided and refer to the file attached regarding the “Instructions on writing the ISS manuscript for the 23rd ISS. Please send this manuscript, along with other documents to Tokyo NODAI by email at isf@nodai.ac.jp by **March 20th, 2024.**

NOTE

After Tokyo NODAI’s screening process, all selected students (applicants) will be required to register through our **Registration Google Form**. Further information will be shared to all students who will pass the screening process, however this form will require the following:

- Passport size ID photo
- Photo for ISS website (free style)
- Information of the student’s advisor
- Passport Copy
- Medical and food restrictions and allergies
- Emergency contact
- Information on financial source of travel to Japan
- Order of preferences for the ISS groups (sub-themes)
- Agreements on the terms and conditions of the ISS
- CIEP participation (Only those who will participate in CIEP program)