

Panel Discussion



SUGIURA Ai

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【Bio】

Dr. Ai Sugiura is the Programme Specialist for Natural Sciences at UNESCO's East Asia Regional Office in Beijing, a role she has held since February 2023. She oversees the implementation of key UNESCO programmes, including the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB), and International Geoscience and Geoparks Programme (IGGP), with a focus on South-South cooperation, Open Science, and engaging youth and women in science.

Previously, she was the Programme Specialist for Science Policy and Capacity Building at UNESCO's Jakarta Office (2017–2023). Her career includes roles at the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM) in Japan, specializing in flood risk management, and in wastewater management in Indonesia. She also lectured on disaster management at GRIPS in Japan.

Dr. Sugiura holds a Master's in Agronomy (University of Gembloux, Belgium), a Master's in Hydrology (Paris VI University, France), and a PhD in Water Sanitation and Reuse (Cranfield University, UK), where she researched wastewater treatment using renewable energy crops under the EU Life "WaterRenew" project. She is also pursuing an MSc in Psychology, Neuroscience, and Mental Health at King's College London. Dr. Sugiura advocates for inclusive Open Science, ensuring equitable knowledge sharing for all societal actors.