

## Main Theme

### “Designing a Sustainable Future

#### - Creating a Virtual Country as a Model for Possible Future Action”

There are many significant problems facing our world today, due to the ongoing situations of the COVID-19 pandemic. What have we seen under the situations of the virus? What kind of problems has the virus revealed in this world?

The pandemic has demonstrated the fragility of our world. It has laid bare deep injustices and inequalities that countries have ignored for decades: inadequate health systems; gaps in social protection; structural inequalities; disparity between rich and poor, discrimination in races, gender, ethnic background, refugees as well as other issues such as environmental degradation and the climate crisis. The virus poses the greatest risk to the most vulnerable people.

"COVID-19 is a human tragedy, but it has also created a generational opportunity. An opportunity to build back a more equal and sustainable world" as António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations said. Our search for the solutions and actions we take will be a part of achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the year 2030. So, let us put our heads together at RSGF 2021 and share our ideas about sustainable and resilient societies through “**Designing a Sustainable Future.**” For this forum, we have created a “**Virtual Country,**” which has 3 main problems: **(1) Disaster Mitigation and Water Problems, (2) Industrialization and Environmental Destruction, (3) Disparity in Urban Areas.** Also, we have set up 5 roles (positions) for role-playing discussions this year, which will help us better grasp the issues from different aspects.

#### ◆ [Data of the Virtual Country](#)

Please see the separate paper with data of the Virtual Country we set up, which has population, climate, geography, etc.

#### ◆ [Settings of the Virtual Country for Discussions](#)

Please see the separate paper with settings of the Virtual Country for discussions, which has the detailed problem settings / situations, missions, roles, and research hints / case studies, etc.

#### ◆ [Discussions](#)

During the forum, one problem per day will be discussed, and due to time differences, we set 3 sessions a day so that as many schools as possible can join either (some) of them. So, participants will need to be prepared for the discussion topics on the days they will join.

Problem 1 (Disaster Mitigation and Water Problems) will be discussed on Day 1

Problem 2 (Industrialization and Environmental Destruction) will be discussed on Day 2.

Problem 3 (Disparity in Urban Areas) will be discussed on Day 3.

EX) If a participant can join the discussions on Day 1 and Day 3, then they should prepare for Discussion Problem #1 and #3. Please see the outline and the time schedule attached.

### ◆Role assignment

Each participant is assigned a role per problem. Please see the separate paper to find your roles.

### ◆Poster making

Before the start of RSGF 2021 Online, each school is requested to make mini-posters, based on a problem / a role set under the Virtual Country.

- Make a mini-poster about your assigned role using the sent format. Due to time constraints, students assigned to each role will make **one** poster about its related problem.
- Posters can be made by one student, or students can make groups to make one poster.
- Have a close look at the Settings of the Virtual Country for Discussions in the separate paper.

The poster has:

1. Problem #, Role
2. School Name
3. Participant(s) Name(s)
4. Your own image for the role (avatar / picture / hand-drawing picture, etc.)
5. Research

#### 【Problem 1】

- What would be the problem(s) about the situation from the viewpoints of your role?
- What would be the demands of your role to overcome the problem(s)?
- Research about the disaster mitigation measures to prevent damage by typhoons and the assurance of safe and secure water. (Use case studies / examples.)
- What kind of society will we need to build a sustainable future?

#### 【Problem 2】

- What would be the problem(s) about the situation from the viewpoints of your role?
- What would be the demands of your role to overcome the problem(s)?
- Research about how to develop rubber industries while considering biodiversity and the environment. (Use case studies/examples.)
- What kind of society will we need to build a sustainable future?

#### 【Problem 3】

- What would be the problem(s) about the situation from the viewpoints of your role?
- What would be the demands of your role to overcome the problem(s)?
- Research about how to create a diverse society while reducing disparities among people / groups. (Use case studies/ examples.)
- What kind of society will we need to build a sustainable future?

- Use proper font and size. You can change them as you like.
- You can change the colors of the boxes.
- It is recommended to use some graphs or pictures related to the content.
- Find the link to the poster format (Canva) below:

Problem 1      <https://bit.ly/3mHfeuh>

Problem 2      <https://bit.ly/3mJGrMN>

Problem 3      <https://bit.ly/3iSANad>

- Save your poster data as a PDF and upload it on Padlet. See the separate paper to find the links. There are 15 different Padlet shelves, based on 3 Problems and 5 Roles. **Do not put your poster on the wrong Padlet.**
- Do not include references on the poster. Add them in the comment space underneath your poster. This will provide more information to the other groups and deepen your discussions.

### ◆Pre-Meetings

Every student is requested to attend one of the 4 Pre-Meeting Sessions either on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> or Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Participants meet in advance for the event as a practice and have pre-discussions using the submitted Posters in groups of the same role members. Since we are under time constraints for the Pre-Meetings, you will discuss only from the viewpoint of your role about the problem(s) for the situation.

#### 【Pre-Meeting Sessions】

- ① Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>: from 14:00 to 15:30 JST
  - 14:00 – 14:30 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 1
  - 14:30 – 15:00 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 2
  - 15:00 – 15:30 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 3
- ② Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>: from 16:30 to 18:00 JST
  - 16:30 – 17:00 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 1
  - 17:00 – 17:30 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 2
  - 17:30 – 18:00 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 3
- ③ Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> : from 9:00 to 10:30 JST
  - 9:00 – 9:30 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 1
  - 9:30 – 10:00 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 2
  - 10:00 – 10:30 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 3
- ④ Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> : from 15:00 to 16:30 JST
  - 15:00 – 15:30 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 1
  - 15:30 – 16:00 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 2
  - 16:00 – 16:30 Meet with the same role participants of Problem 3

### ◆Google Classroom

Ritsumeikan High School will provide a school G-mail account for Google Classroom to every participating student and one chaperone teacher from each school. On Google Classroom, participants will receive a lot of important information about RSGF 2021. The accounts are temporary and will only be used for RSGF 2021. They will be provided later. Please see the separate paper to find out how to join RSGF 2021 on Google Classroom.