# University of Tsukuba
# Multicultural Campus Project Toward Social Impact
# Multicultural Co-Learning Program:
# "Story Co-Creation for Sustainable Futures"
# Call for Participants (University of Tsukuba)

## 1. About the program

This multicultural co-learning program will provide participants with an opportunity to examine global challenges related to sustainable development and to develop a shared vision for a sustainable future through collaborative storytelling.

Specifically, students from the University of Tsukuba (including students from the University of Tsukuba Malaysia) and the University of Costa Rica will engage in a learning process that includes fieldwork activities, such as visits to museums and exchanges with research institutes, local governments and diplomatic missions. Based on these experiences, they will identify challenges related to sustainable development and explore ways to address them by proposing solutions in the form of stories. Through participation in this program, students will gain a deeper understanding of the issues involved in building a sustainable society. In addition, by engaging in problem-solving through storytelling within an intercultural environment, they will explore new and creative ways to express their ideas effectively. As the program aims to foster an interdisciplinary learning environment, it is designed to enable students from diverse academic backgrounds to participate meaningfully and contribute actively.

## 2. Program Schedule

Online Activities

| Date | Time | Activities |
|---|---|---|
| December 18 (Fri) | 10:15-11:45 | Orientation, lecture, and discussion. |
| January 8 (Fri) | 10:15-11:45 | Lecture and discussion. |
| February 12 (Fri) | 10:15-11:45 | Reflection on learning results and discussion. |

In-person Activities

| Date | Time | Activities |
|---|---|---|
| January 19 (Tue) | 10:00-15:00 | Lectures and discussion at UT. |
| January 20 (Wed) | 10:00-14:30 | Field work with Bachelor's Program in Global Issues (BPGI) and Tsukuba City Hall at UT. |
| January 21 (Thu) | 10:00-15:00 | Field work at National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) and National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO). |
| January 22 (Fri) | 10:00-16:00 | Field work at Ushiku Daibutsu. |
| January 25 (Mon) | 9:00-18:00 | Field work at Embassy of Costa Rica in Japan and teamLab Borderless. |
| January 26 (Tue) | 10:00-12:00 | Sharing story ideas with international students at UT. |
| January 27 (Wed) | 10:00-17:00 | Story co-creation at UT. |
| January 28 (Thu) | 10:00-17:00 | Story co-creation at UT. |
| January 29 (Fri) | 9:30-12:30 | Story presentation and closing ceremony at UT. |

Total program duration: **55 hours.**

## 3. Application guidelines

**Participation Fee:** Free (Participants are required to cover the cost of one round-trip train ticket from Tsukuba to Tokyo on January 25)

**Number of Participants:** 10 students from University of Tsukuba, 6 students from University of Costa Rica.
**Eligibility**: Undergraduate and graduate students (including international students) from all academic backgrounds.
* Applicants must be able to communicate in English at an everyday conversational level. Students interested in learning Spanish or Malay are encouraged to apply.
**Application Period**: November 2, 2026 (Mon) – November 27 (Fri)
**Notification of participant selection results:** December 1, 2026 (Tue)
**Application form:** Application Story Co-Creation For Sustainable Futures




* If the number of applications exceeds the available spots, participants will be selected based on their academic field, their GPA, and their responses on the application form regarding their motivation for participating in the program. A second round of applications may be conducted.
**Information Session:** November 18 (Wed), 11:30-12:10, Student Commons (1A203).

## 4. Credits and certification

University of Tsukuba students who successfully complete all program activities can obtain one credit through the following subjects:
- Undergraduate students: 8331353, Problem solving through multicultural co-learning (in Japan) I-B.
- Graduate students: 0A00324, Problem solving through multicultural co-learning (in Japan).

Additionally, these students will be awarded a **Silver Digital Badge** through JV-Campus. For information on the University of Tsukuba Social Impact Project digital badge system, please refer to the website below:
https://social-impact.projects.tsukuba.ac.jp/digitalbadge

**Contact information**
Aaron Mena, PhD
Specially Appointed Professor
International Co-Learning Office
Division of Educational Promotion
Department of Educational Promotion
University of Tsukuba
TEL: +81-29-853-5078
E-mail: mena.aaron.gb@u.tsukuba.ac.jp