1. Introduction

Welcome to the inaugural issue of The International Journal of Sustainable Future for Human Security (J-SustaiN). On behalf of the Editorial Board, we would like to introduce this new journal briefly, and to introduce the motivations behind its creation.

J-SustaiN was initiated as an outcome of a series of highly successful, ongoing conferences on Sustainable Futures for Human Security (http://sustain-kyoto.com/). It originated from the need to provide an inter-disciplinary forum where the most serious problems affecting the potential creation of a sustainable future for human security can be discussed, in recognition of the fact that many future problems cannot be solved by a “silied” approach. The emphasis on sustainable futures is in response to the general awareness of the need to solve numerous human-related problems resulting from the rapid growth of modern society. The topic of sustainable futures for human security needs to be discussed in an integrated way, in accordance with the principles of sustainability, considering energy and materials supply, economies and trade, technology, cities, agriculture, social and environmental aspects.

The journal will address problems of primary importance for human security, discussing and proposing a more constructive and progressive approach to ensure future societal sustainability.

The journal is structured into five thematic areas which represent overlapping areas of concern for sustainable and secure futures:

- **Energy & Environment**: covers issues of sustainable energy technology and systems, with a focus on integrated planning to enhance both societal and environmental systems.
- **Forestry & Agriculture**: covers issues of sustainable forest management and agriculture for food security.
- **Built Environment**: encourages debate over the built environment for sustainable human activity covering aspects of planning, technology, behavioural and cultural development.
- **Disaster & Mitigation**: covers interdisciplinary studies on mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery from natural or human disasters.
- **Social Science**: discusses issues of democracy, politics, governance and economics in the context of sustainable development and human security.

2. Approach

J-SustaiN seeks to embrace the broad areas of research that can help identify the current and future areas of critical need to develop sustainable futures for human security. However, in calling for papers with such wide coverage, we still ask that the authors include explicitly the considerations of how their research fits within the concept of sustainability and how it could contribute or translate to improving sustainable development outcomes at a broader national or global level.

In addition to each individual article seeking to draw the connections between science and sustainability more broadly, as the journal progresses we will start publishing an annual summary volume. These volumes will serve as a concise overview of the previous year’s work and a distillation of the identified areas of need for future years’ – both with regards to research and societal action. In developing these volumes, we will call on input from editors, authors and reviewers in order to distill the knowledge clearly and accurately.

3. Editorial Committee

In this first edition in particular, we would like to thank the editorial committee for their input and commitment to the actualization of this journal.

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- Inter-Graduate School Program for Sustainable Development and Survivable Societies (GSS)