

## **Mission Statement by Masayuki Kondo**

I have been conducting international research activities to assess reliable greenhouse gas budgets at regional and global scales using terrestrial ecosystem models, atmospheric inversions including GOSAT CO<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub> inversions, and empirical upscaling of CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes based on eddy flux observations, aiming to provide deep insights into the Earth's biogeochemical cycle. Through these activities, I have been involved in and led a wide range of international research networks, and these experiences will be useful for further developing the Biogeosciences section in AOGS.

An effective way to promote the Biogeosciences section that I propose is to make AOGS the home base of international research networks. Currently, I am the leader of the Southeast Asia chapter of the international project The Regional Carbon Cycle and Processes study (RECCAP2), which estimates the greenhouse gas budget for the world region. I am also the founder and chairman of the League of geophysical research eXcellences for tropical asia (LeXtra), a research network to promote understanding of greenhouse gas dynamics in Southeast Asia. Recently, I have been a member of the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) of the Integrated Land Ecosystem-Atmosphere Processes Study (iLEAPS), an international research network under the umbrella of Future Earth that aims to promote understanding of the processes occurring at the atmosphere-land interface of the Earth system.

As the Director of Biogeosciences, I will make AOGS the base for these international networks, widely disseminate the results of biogeosciences, including greenhouse gas budget research in Asia, and contribute to nurturing young researchers who desire to understand climate change and the current situation of each country toward climate neutrality. In particular, for iLEAPS, I plan to launch a Southeast Asian branch called iLEAPS-SEA and use AOGS as the base of activities to promote unity among researchers in Asia.

I have been a member of AOGS since 2014 and have contributed to the promotion of biogeochemical cycle research in Asia by hosting eight sessions in the Biogeosciences section. My achievements in the study of CO<sub>2</sub> budget in Southeast Asia (Kondo et al. 2018 Nature Communications, etc.) led to me receiving the Kamide Lecture Award in 2019. As such, I have established a good foundation in AOGS and am ready to contribute to the further advancement of AOGS. I strongly believe that my role as the director is to contribute to the development of the younger generation across borders and produce the next generation of leaders.