

Global Leadership Program for Social Design and Management:

GSDM 2.0

September 2020

About GSDM 2.0

GSDM is a cross-departmental education program for students of Graduate Schools at UTokyo. It is open to graduate students from all faculties. The current student body as of mid-2020 includes 16 nationalities and offers a truly cosmopolitan environment.

From September 2020, GSDM will enter a new phase (GSDM 2.0), developing into a more flexible program adjusting to the needs of both master's and doctoral students.

GSDM wants to provide students with the ability to **discover and formulate issues** (problem defining skills), the ability to **situate the specialised areas of expertise from a bird's eye view** (horizontal perspective), the ability to **design integrated solutions** (design capacity) and the ability to **collaborate with various stakeholders to implement solutions** (implementation capability). Students are encouraged to explore the main questions that dominate contemporary society, with global perspective, bridging policy discussions, norms, regulations, with a multi-disciplinary approach.

What is SIP?

SIPs are half- to one-year projects led by GSDM students. Each SIP team aims to address global social issues based on (but going beyond) their disciplinary expertise. Students are responsible for the planning and execution of the project, through which they are expected to develop project design and management skills, communication skills, and leadership with a global and interdisciplinary mindset. Students can join as a leader or member.

Funding is provided by GSDM.

Spotlight: two past SIPs

Space SIP

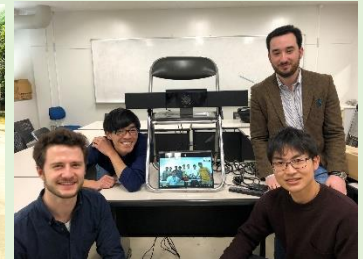
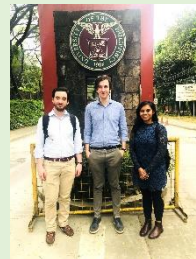
Duration: 2016-2020. Number of participants: 12.

Major achievements: initiation of first space capacity building efforts in Cambodia, publication of first book on history of space development in ASEAN, foundation of start-up company.

Since the space SIP began 4 years ago, 12 students from 8 countries have studied, designed and implemented multiple original initiatives related to space development in Asia-Pacific. Our activities have taken the team to the UN-SPIDER conference in Beijing, China, to the IAC in Adelaide, Australia, to the APRSAF in Bangalore, India, and to UP and DOST in the Philippines.

More recently, the team has travelled to Cambodia for a feasibility study on initiating space capacity building activities. The team delivered the first lecture course on space development in the country's history, to students at the Institute of Technology of Cambodia (ITC), Phnom Penh. After the course, ITC students initiated several space research groups, with potential for launch of a small satellite into orbit in the near future. Our activities were well received by the Cambodian government, which has requested further cooperation.

Some team members have now begun space engineering and diplomatic careers, building on opportunities gained in the project.



AgriDronevation SIP

Duration: 2018-2020. Number of participants: 5.

Major achievements: field trips to Thailand, proposal on how to design an ecosystem for promoting drone technology for small farmers in Asia.

AgriDronevation aimed to solve lingering social problems by promoting the easy and cheap accessibility of cutting-edge drone technology to small-scale farmers in Asia. Composed of five members across distinct fields with interdisciplinary vision, AgriDronevation pioneered the boundary between science and practice and successfully connected different stakeholders under one purpose. Thanks to financial support from GSDM, the group was able to survey the issues of technological adaptation and regulatory environment that small-scale farmers face in Japan and Thailand. Connecting the results of 5 years-long project, the group proposed a recommendation of how to design an ecosystem for promoting drone technology for small-scale farmers in Asia.



Currently active SIPs (join us!)

Towards Gender Equality at UTokyo

Our goal is to raise awareness of gender equality at UTokyo. We are making a documentary on UTokyo female researchers, and we are collaborating with the GE Office to create new institutions to promote GE. Follow us on Instagram (ge.at.utokyo), and feel free to contact us by email: ge.at.utokyo@gmail.com.



HER UTOKYO

Careers outside Japan after PhD

This project investigates the detailed experiences of PhD students who started to work overseas after they earned their degree in Japan. Through online-interviews we aim to understand why the career option was attractive for him/her and how he/she found her way to get the job. Our goal is to inspire more UTokyo students to pursue diverse career options.



SME Support During COVID-19

We are working on the assessment of government's decision-makings regarding the support of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) during the COVID-19. For more details, please visit our webpage. You're more than welcome to join us!!
Email: gsdm.covid.smes@gmail.com



Our webpage



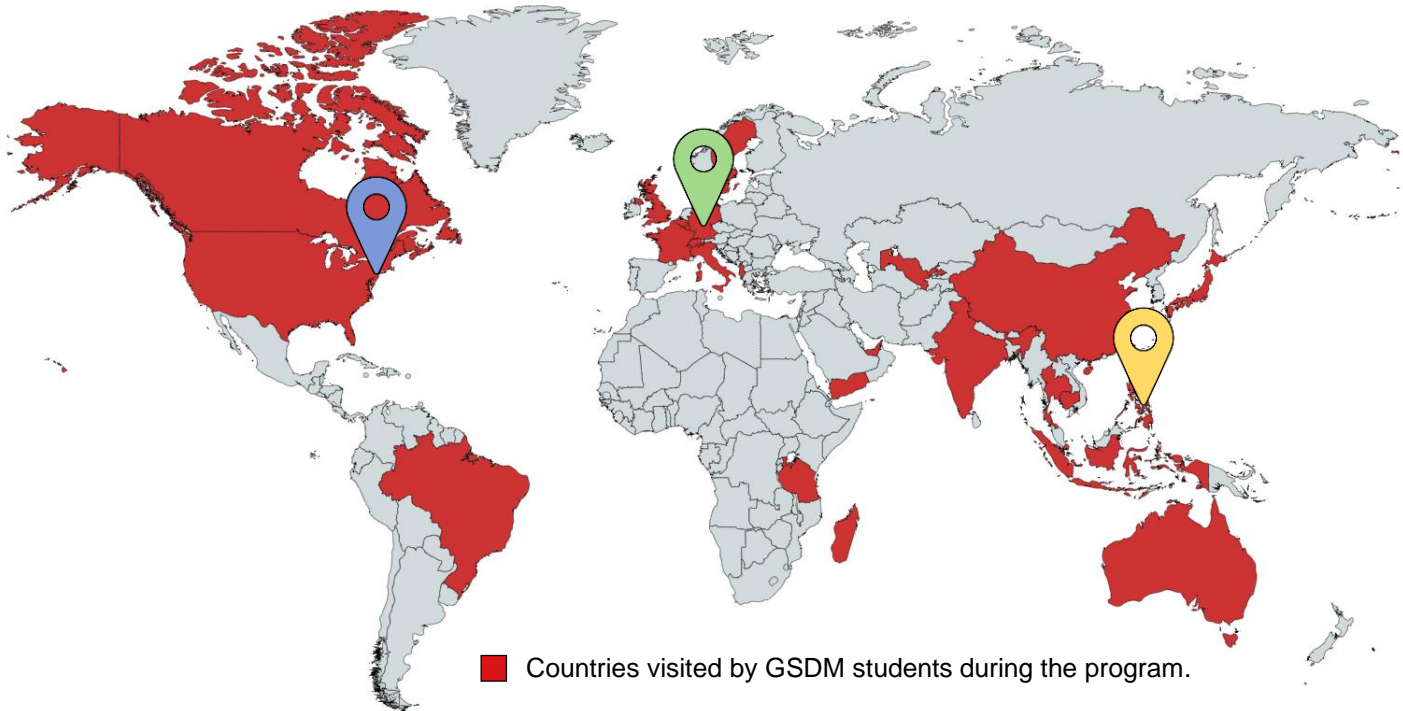
***New SIPs may start from Autumn!
(yours can too!)***

List of past SIPs

Technology: Disaster management for the future (parts 1 and 2) ▪ Space development in ASEAN - History and way forward (parts 1 and 2) ▪ Self-powered sensor device for the elderly ▪ Breaking the 'Echo Chamber' in social media ▪ Geopolitical analysis of energy connectivity between South Asia and Southeast Asia in the case of Myanmar. **Data:** Knowledge and data management for policy making towards data driven society ▪ Utilization of big data in public policy domain: Text mining for social policy solving and national security ▪ Visualizing Japanese national budget ▪ Tourism in Japan: Identifying emerging policy problems with horizon scanning ▪ High seas and big data - Using information to sustain the blue economy ▪ Mitigation of plastic pollution in Japan using Twitter. **Social responsibility:** #UTokyo4SDGs ▪ Food waste in Japan ▪ Towards gender equality at UTokyo (parts 1 and 2) ▪ Conbini FIT. **Public health:** Community outreach - Protecting yourself from pandemic ▪ Collaborative research in the public health field ▪ Thinking about future society for Infectious diseases ▪ Disease control for neglected infectious diseases ▪ Paradigm shift of cancer-cell therapy. **Business and entrepreneurship:** Innovation big bang: UT - Silicon Valley Innovation and Entrepreneurship Leading Forum ▪ Survey on the role of medium and small size enterprises to aviation industries and public policies to promote their growth ▪ Agridronevation (parts 1 and 2). **Education:** Design and implementation of interdisciplinary education - A case study from GSDM ▪ Ethics game (parts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5).

GSDM has enhanced the international experience of program members. Both Japanese and international students value opportunities to engage with peers, faculty, and experts from around the world, via GSDM's multiple platforms. *In principle, GSDM does not provide any allowance for the International Project.

Where have GSDM students been?



I did my International Project in the Agri-Food Policy Platform at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), the world's leading international rice research and training center, in the Philippines for 4 months. Thanks to GSDM, I had a chance to visit several countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to learn about other cultures and to exchange my research ideas with practitioners and other students.

- **Kumse Kaittisak**, D3, Global Agricultural Sciences, joined GSDM in 2015.

I did my International Project (IP) at the Institute of Communications and Navigation, German Aerospace Center (DLR) in Oberpfaffenhofen. It was a valuable experience for me in one of the most remarkable research institutes in Germany and Europe. I deepened my knowledge of my research field and experience working in a professional environment.

- **Do Xuan Phong**, D2, Aeronautics and Astronautics, joined GSDM in 2018.



Thanks to generous support from GSDM, I conducted my International Project (IP) at the Russian and Eurasian Studies Center, George Washington University, United States, for three months. I was able to meet and discuss my research interests with well-known professors, area experts, politicians, and ambassadors at multiple occasions. Thanks to the networking I established during my stay, I was recently able to publish an article on the important platform provided by George Washington University.

- **Bekzod Zakirov**, D2, Public Policy, joined GSDM in 2018.

Voices from current program students

Karthik Varada (D4)

Department of Technology Management for Innovation, Graduate School of Engineering
 Joined GSDM in 2017. Nationality: Indian.

GSDM is one of the best means by which students can engage with a community of like-minded individuals from diverse backgrounds. The program's structure enables this community to practice leadership, teamwork, and systems thinking. It offers a window of opportunity to meet, debate, and learn from leading practitioners across the world. It gets each student to stretch the boundaries of their curiosity, knowledge, and networks. I do not know of any other program that binds together these elements and more, into such a unique and fulfilling experience.



Ryosuke Ozaki (D1)

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences.
 Joined GSDM in 2018. Nationality: Japanese.

Thanks to GSDM's IP, I got an opportunity to conduct a field survey in rural villages of Madagascar. The host organisation was Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Studies (JIRCAS). With kind support from researchers of JIRCAS and local staff, I spent 7 weeks collecting precious data from 70 farm households. Through this valuable experience, I gained a holistic understanding of rural livelihood as well as my research interest. I am now working to analyse the data to write a chapter of my dissertation and to share many important findings based on it with the host organisation.



International opportunities at GSDM

International Project (IP)

IP is a multicultural and multilingual global internship or joint research. The GSDM network can help to initiate contacts, and provide guidance on organisation and planning. Students must take the initiative to arrange funding. IP gives students the opportunity to autonomously plan and carry out tasks, to develop their own studies and to build their careers as global leaders.



Interactive Evening Lounge (IEL)

IEL is a gathering led by faculty members and students to foster informal discussions among GSDM students. It is focused not just on specialised research but also on basic topics that anyone can appreciate. GSDM provides IEL funding, which can be used to invite speakers from government and industry.



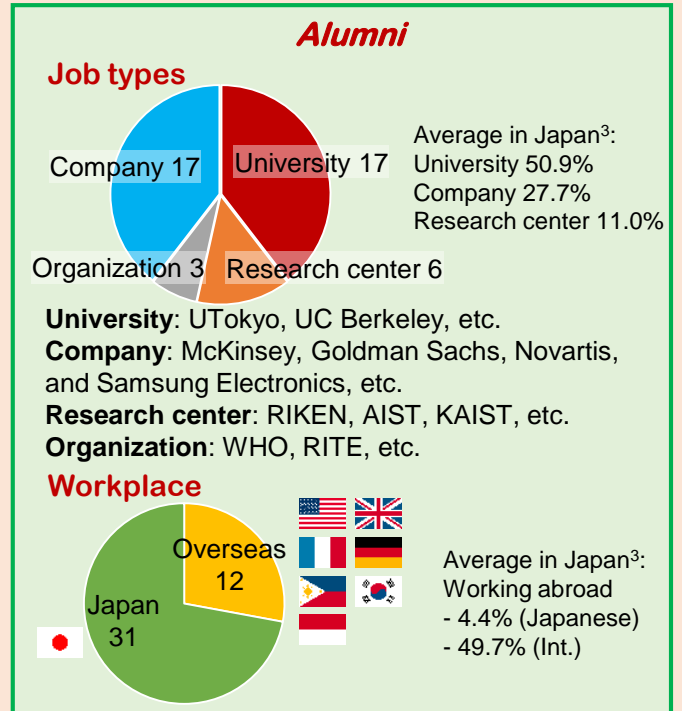
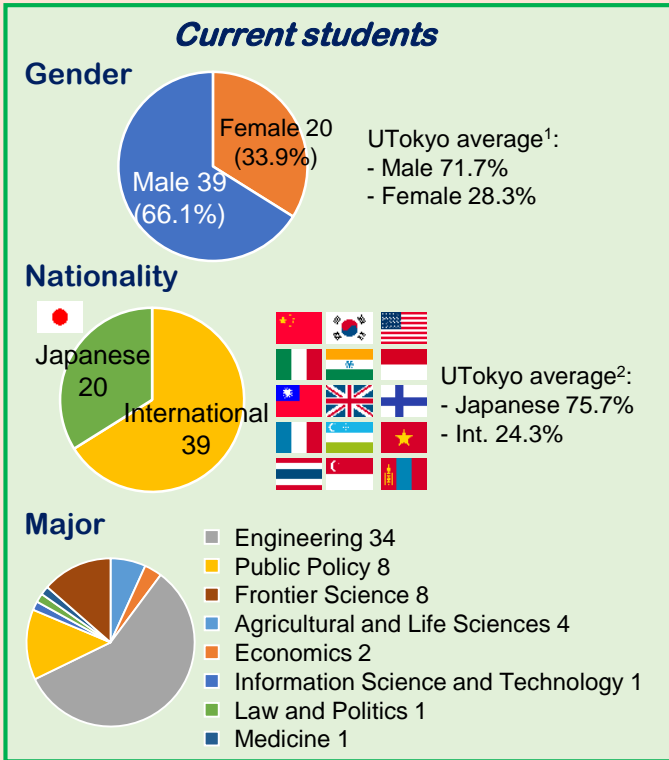
International Field Workshop (IFW)

IFW offers students opportunities to exchange views and discuss with senior officials, management staff and experts in government agencies, international organizations, global business entities, NPOs, and research institutions. The aim is to help students identify today's societal challenges and design solutions.



GSDM has accelerated the networking opportunities among students. GSDM members are diverse in terms of nationality and research field, which enables students to get new and meaningful insights of their research and career.

How diverse we are?



1. <https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/ja/about/overview/book.html>
2. https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/ja/intl-activities/intl-data/d03_02_02.html
3. https://nistep.repo.nii.ac.jp/?action=repository_uri&item_id=4501&file_id=13&file_no=5

Voices from alumni

Dr. Teruaki HAYASHI

Research associate of the Department of Systems Innovation, School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo

Graduated from Department of Systems Innovation

A good memory of GSDM was the encounter with the top students in other fields. After graduating, I have many GSDM friends to have research and work discussions. GSDM activities gave me a lot of opportunities to find issues and foster my research activities. Especially, the spring camp was the best one. It is easy to imagine that my doctoral course would have been miserable without GSDM. There were not many doctoral students in the same department. It was my great honor to receive the GSDM leadership award in the last year of my GSDM and the Dean's Award from the School of Engineering.



Dr. Goran KOVACEVIC

Associate, Securities Strats - Fixed Income Credit Trading, Goldman Sachs

Graduated from Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Systems

GSDM is an amazing platform that helps one reach new heights, but you need to view GSDM as a springboard toward your goals, and not the final solution. If you enthusiastically embrace GSDM initiatives you'll develop crucial skills for your career. GSDM helped me be more open and confident in group discussions with a large number of people from diverse backgrounds. Finally, GSDM coursework exposed me more to finance and business subjects, which helped me in my ultimate career choice. I highly recommend GSDM, but be prepared to be challenged and active, it will pay dividends in the future!



Voices from alumni (cont.)

Dr. Budhaditya PYNE

*RF Engineer, Synspecive Inc.
Researcher, ISAS/JAXA*

Graduated from Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Systems

GSDM provided me a unique platform to develop a passion in acquiring interdisciplinary knowledge to understand issues from a global perspective. I was able to travel around the world and lead discussions with counterparts from renowned global organizations like NASA, SpaceX, the UN and World Bank. Overall, GSDM not only paved the way for my future career, but it also made me grow as an individual by widening my perspective towards life in general, and improve social networking skills. Some of my GSDM colleagues became my best friends in Japan. I highly recommend aspiring students to join GSDM.



Dr. Priyanka SONI

VP of Clinical Products at I Peace, Inc., (a fast-growing regenerative medicine startup based in California)

Graduated from Department of Computational Biology and Medical Science

I have so many amazing memories from my time in GSDM, like the first SIPs, a Mock UN session for the Annual Retreat, and IELs. GSDM also allowed me to perform research as part of IP, where I met a great mentor. GSDM has helped me look beyond academia, grown my network, and developed skills such as negotiation, networking, team work, public speaking. I was able to meet and work with some of the smartest, curious, and amazing people working in a wide variety of fields. We've kept in touch even after GSDM and they have helped me navigate a potential career change.



Dr. Takashi SUZUKI

*Project researcher, The University of Tokyo
(From October 2020, Assistant Professor,
Kagoshima University)*

Graduated from Department of Global agricultural Sciences

GSDM activities such as the Summer Seminar and International Project allowed me to make friends from many different countries. During my IP in Taiwan, I was able to present my research and participate in international discussions at the APEC international conference. I am sure that my experience at GSDM has greatly contributed to my doctoral program and my subsequent research life. I believe that the GSDM's activities are beneficial to the students because it is an educational program that allows them to experience the importance of this kind of researcher's thinking during the student life.



Dr. Hao-Sheng LIN

*JSPS postdoctoral fellow (From February 2021,
Assistant Professor, Nagoya University)*

Graduated from Department of Mechanical Engineering

International program requires huge supports from GSDM. Thanks to visa related document supports from GSDM, I could smoothly conduct my IP at MIT. Particularly, a Chinese nationality with sensitive background as chemistry and material science. During the period I was in MIT, although it seems like biweekly report is time-consuming or annoying, actually GSDM helped me reduce my pressure in research and encourage me to enjoy life. Finally, I wholly thank the GSDM for supporting me this precious opportunity as an exchange student in MIT.



Why don't you join GSDM?