

Division of Environmental Studies
[Department of International Studies](#)

Laboratory	Faculty	Introduction of research activities and laboratory	Key words	Projects or activities summer program students can participate
Horita Laboratory	Prof. Masahide HORITA	<p>Our research group explores how societies manage decision-making processes towards cooperation particularly when faced with conflicting interests. We pay particular attention to international infrastructure projects, where a large number of stakeholders from different backgrounds work together towards a collective outcome, usually a public good itself. Coming from various academic backgrounds including engineering, management, economics and political sciences, the members of our group are aiming at overarching the related fields such as decision analysis, public choice theory, mechanism design, applied linguistics and many others, in an effort to systematically apply this wide range of knowledge to the real-world management issues.</p> <p>Among those research topics we are currently working on are: mechanism design of public-private partnerships (PPP) projects; project governance and conflict management in the infrastructure sector; evolution of decision rules for natural resource management; and evolution of cooperation and public goods provision.</p>	<p>collective decision-making; infrastructure management; evolution of public goods provision</p>	<p>Participants in this program will have an opportunity to be involved in on-going research projects that our group is currently carrying out. These include: building a theoretical model for public goods provision in either the infrastructure or the forestry sector; numeric simulation using the theoretical models; strategy building for infrastructure asset management in local governments; and model-based simulation analysis on procurement processes in PPP projects.</p> <p>For each project, the participants will work closely with their supervising professor and other postgraduate students. It is expected that technical skills for data analysis, programming, simulation and case studies are to be acquired through these research activities. Some of the projects may include the possibility of short-term travelling and/or field work in or outside Japan.</p>