

To all members of the press

November 9, 2023

WDO World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023 Administrative Office

192 design professionals from 32 countries and regions **WDO World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023 Closes** Discussing the future of society through design

The World Design Assembly (WDA) is presented by the World Design Organization (WDO), an international organization in the design field. At this year, for three days from Friday, October 27 to Sunday, October 29, the WDO World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023 was held by the Administrative Office of World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023 (parent organization: Japan Institute of Design Promotion). This conference, held in Japan for the first time in 34 years, upheld the slogan DESIGN BEYOND and gathered 192 design professionals and other specialists in a wide range of fields including ecology, engineering, communication, science, and technology from 32 countries and regions. The participants discussed the new roles and possibilities of design for three days. In addition, a total of 1,300 people visited the site or watched the conference online.



Group photo of the speakers after the conference: David Kusuma, WDO President (front row, fifth from left), Kazuo Tanaka, Executive Committee Chairperson of WDO World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023 (front row, fifth from right)

For media inquiries, please contact:

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27th (Friday) Research and Education Forum Agenda (titles omitted)

●Opening Remarks

Presented by David Kusuma (WDO President), Kazuo Tanaka (Executive Committee Chairperson of WDO World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023, CEO of GK Design Group, Inc.), Pier Paolo Peruccio (Professor of Design Faculty, Polytechnic University of Turin), Toru Yamamoto (Mayor of Sumida City)

●Keynote Sessions

Ayse Birsel (Co-founder of Birsel + Seck, industrial designer): “DESIGN FEINT”; Jian Liu (Associate Dean, Professor, School of Architecture, Tsinghua University): “People, Nature & Policy: Planning for Sustainable Human Settlement Development with Design Thinking”

●Paper Presentations

Presentations by 19 groups from every part of the world on three themes: Design for Humanity, Design for Human-Centred Technology, Behavioural Design for Planet

●Panel Discussion

Presentations by Jacob Mathew (Senior Design Principal, Srishti Manipal Institute), Kenta Ono (Professor, Design Research Institute, Chiba University), Hyungkun Yoon (Director, Korean Society of Design Science), Michal Ziso (Architect, Founder & CEO of ZISO and The SLEEP), followed by a discussion moderated by Tadanori Nagasawa (Former President of Musashino Art University)

●Closing Keynote

Katja Forbes (Design Leader & DEI Director, Data Visualization Society): “How Design Can Regenerate the Earth”

27th (Friday) Research and Education Forum



Opening remark by Kazuo Tanaka,
Executive Committee Chairperson



Keynote speaker Ayse Birsel



Panel discussion



Paper presentations

28th (Saturday) International Design Conference Agenda (titles omitted)

●Opening Remarks

Presented by David Kusuma (WDO President), Kazuo Tanaka (Executive Committee Chairperson of WDO World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023, CEO of GK Design Group, Inc.)
Video messages from Yuriko Koike (Governor of Tokyo) and Nobuhiro Yoshida (Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry)

●Keynote Sessions

Moderator: Seiichi Saito (Panoramatik's Principal)
Tim Ingold (Emeritus Professor of Social Anthropology, University of Aberdeen, social anthropologist): "DESIGN FOR HUMAN TO COME"
Ana Arriola-Kanada (Executive Director of IDEO Tokyo): "Multiplicity Abstracted"
Marianne Mensah (Founder, CEO, the Climate Innovation Education Lab [CIEL]):
"Towards a REGENERATIVE, NET-ZERO, RESILIENT FUTURE"

●World Design Medal Laureate Special Address

The World Design Medal honors an individual selected by WDO who has contributed to the advancement of industrial design. Patricia Moore (FIDSA President, designer of Moore Design Associates, gerontologist) won the award.

●Breakout Sessions

Divided into 4 sessions: Humanity, Planet, Technology, Policy. Presentations by groups of 4-6 members, followed by discussions.

Humanity

Moderator: Minako Ikeda (Associate Professor, Kyushu University)
Speakers: Dominique Chen (Professor, Faculty of Letters, Arts and Sciences, Waseda University), Junichi Rekimoto (Professor at the University of Tokyo, Deputy Director at Sony Computer Science Laboratories), Cameron Sinclair (Founder, Worldchanging Institute)

Planet

Moderator: Daijiro Mizuno (Professor, Kyoto Institute of Technology)
Speakers: Dwinita Larasati (Lecturer/researcher, Faculty of Art & Design, Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia), Monika Koncz-MacKenzie (Senior Design and Innovation Manager at Ellen MacArthur Foundation), Eisuke Tachikawa (President of Japan Industrial Design Association [JIDA], CEO of NOSIGNER)

Technology

Moderator: Suzanne Mooney (Associate Professor, Tama Art University)
Speakers: Yutaka Matsuo (Professor at Graduate School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo), Koji Sasaki (Chief Researcher, Research and Development Group, Hitachi, Ltd.), Miyuki Tanaka (Curator/Producer)

Policy

Moderator: Kinya Tagawa (CEO, Takram)
Speakers: Takashi Asanuma (Vice-Minister for Digital Transformation, Chief Officer of Digital Agency), Chi-Yi Chang (President of Taiwan Design Research Institute), Hiroshi Harakawa (Deputy Director, Design Policy Office, Commerce and Service Industry Policy Group, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry), Muhammad Neil El Himam (Deputy Minister for Digital Economy and Creative Products at the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia), Anna Whicher (Associate Director of Research at PDR)

●Afternoon Plenary Session

Five moderators including Seiichi Saito summarized the meeting.
Major topics included departure from human-centered design, respect for locality, and the need for a bridge to close the gap between local designs and designs by large businesses and the government.

28th (Saturday) International Design Conference



Keynote speaker Tim Ingold



World Design Medal Laureate (left: Patricia Moore, right: David Kusuma)



Breakout Session (Humanity)



Breakout Session (Planet)



Breakout Session (Technology)



Breakout Session (Policy)



Plenary Session 1



Plenary Session 2

WDO World Design Assembly Tokyo 2023 Overview

Dates: Friday, October 27 – Sunday, October 29

*Open to the public only on October 27 and 28

- October 27 [Research & Education Forum]
Forum on design research and education
(Research/study presentations, poster display, and discussions)
Venue: Design Research Institute, Chiba University (Sumida, Tokyo)
- October 28 [Design Conference]
International design conference featuring speakers from each country
(Keynote speeches, breakout sessions, and panel discussion focusing on sub-themes)
Venue: Roppongi Academy Hills (Roppongi, Tokyo)
- October 29 [WDO General Assembly]
Private meeting for WDO members only
Venue: Roppongi Academy Hills

Number of speakers (general meeting participants) 27th: 25, 28th: 50, 29th: 117
1,300 visitors in total

Resources: About the World Design Organization (WDO)

The World Design Organization (WDO) is an international design organization working toward 'Design for a Better World.' As a special advisory body of the UN Economic and Social Council, WDO embraces the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with the goal of contributing to their achievement through design. The former body of WDO, the International Council of Societies of Industrial Design (Icsid), was founded in 1957 with the aim of promoting the importance of industrial design. In 2017, the organization changed its name to the World Design Organization (WDO). Presently, WDO includes about 180 member organizations, educational institutions, and corporations from about 40 countries and regions. WDO members from Japan include the Japan Industrial Design Association, Chiba University, Musashino Art University, and Tama Art University, International Design Center NAGOYA Inc, Toshiba Corporation, Yamaha Corporation, in addition to the Japan Institute of Design Promotion.