

Thanks for your interest in joining our lab. Below you can find some useful information. Please read carefully before contacting to inquire about postgraduate study at the lab.

## **Degrees**

All lab students are postgraduate, either at the MSc or the PhD level. All students are affiliated with the Graduate Programme on Sustainability Science – Global Leadership Initiation (GPSS-GLI), based at Kashiwa Campus. To graduate, further to their research, all students must meet all degree requirements of GPSS-GLI.

GPSS-GLI is a heavily research-oriented programme both at the MSc and the PhD level. The MSc course is not a mere taught course, but entails the design and implementation of a substantial research project carried out from the beginning of the course.

## **Research interests**

You will find a lot of information throughout this website about the research conducted within the lab. Please check the Theses section to see the wide breadth of research topics among our students.

## **Funding**

Funding options offered by GPSS-GLI can be found here.

<http://www.sustainability.k.u-tokyo.ac.jp/admissions/admissionssummary.html>

Other funding options at the University of Tokyo and Japan can be found here:

<https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/prospective-students/scholarships.html>

[https://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study\\_j/scholarships/index.html](https://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study_j/scholarships/index.html)

The Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship is an excellent funding option for postgraduate study in Japan. For more information seek information from the embassy of Japan at your country and see also here:

<https://www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj/toj0302e.html>

Please keep in mind that often such scholarships do not cover research expenses such as equipment and fieldwork. Applicants are advised to think in advance the resources needed for the successful completion of their proposed research, and identify possible funding options.

## **Other considerations**

The GPSS-GLI selection process is quite competitive. Only a small proportion of students are selected each year. It is important for applicants to have thought well the proposed topic before applying, as this can affect to a large degree whether they will be admitted.

GPSS-GLI is a residential programme and cannot be taken from a distance. Even if all other formal course requirements are met, students are still expected to be in Tokyo during semesters and participate to all other academic activities of the programme such as the weekly seminars.

Extended fieldwork abroad can be conducted only during semester breaks, i.e. February-March, and August-September. Unless there is a specific need to conduct fieldwork during a specific period (e.g. due to seasonality), it is highly unlikely that permission for extended absence during the semester will be granted. Please take this into consideration when designing your research project.

## **Contact**

If you are interested to discuss opportunities for postgraduate study please contact Dr. Alexandros Gasparatos: gasparatos.alex [at] gmail.com

In the introductory email please send your CV and proposed research. Ideally send a detailed description of the research topic that outlines clearly the aims/objectives of the study, the methods and the study sites for field-based research.

**PLEASE CONTACT BEFORE APPLYING.** This applies to both prospective MSc and PhD candidates. It is highly unlikely to endorse an application without prior consultation.

Please contact me well in advance of the application deadline. I am generally reluctant to take forward applications close to deadline.