

Nagasaki University (University Functions to be Enhanced: 1. Boost academic excellence in specific areas of the university's strength, 2. Generate innovation than can help solve global issues and advance societal reform)

Collaborators : University of Miyazaki, Kagoshima University

Participators : Osaka Metropolitan University, Hokkaido University, The University of Tokyo, National Institute of Infectious Diseases*, National Center for Global Health and Medicine*, JAMSTEC (Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology)

Summary



<Nagasaki University's Vision 10 Years from Now>

Toward a world-leading university that aims for the achievement of Planetary Health

—University management reforms that generate innovation to solve global issues—

Nagasaki University (NU) will serve as an engine for achieving Planetary Health* by promoting transdisciplinary collaborative research to address a wide variety of inter-related issues facing human beings and the Earth, identifying solutions based on scientific knowledge, and fostering human resources equipped with integrated intelligence.

* A new concept that facilitates the change of people's awareness, behavior, and values to solve global issues—including global warming, water-resource and food issues, and pandemics—and an initiative to explore answers to support the health of the planet

Distinctive research areas and NU's strengths

- The Global Health area centered on infectious disease research (BSL-4 Facility, Joint PhD Degree Program with the University of London)
- The Global Risk area that addresses nuclear disasters and works for the elimination of nuclear weapons (including the Fukushima reconstruction support project)
- The Global Ecology area that promotes the COI-NEXT blue economy
- Resident overseas stations (Kenya, Vietnam, Brazil)
- Interfaculty Initiative in Planetary Health: Production of people with Doctor of Public Health worldwide (strong collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), NCGM® (National Center for Global Health and Medicine), and NIID* (National Institute of Infectious Diseases))
※ Merged into JIHS (Japan Institute for Health Security) on April 1, 2025

Outline of research capability enhancement strategy

- Strengthen the management base that creates sustainable innovation
- Form an international network with collaboration among three universities in the southwestern Kyushu region (Nagasaki, Miyazaki, and Kagoshima) as the starting point, and promote international collaborative research
- Reinforce the global research promotion system and increase support personnel
- Develop a support system and a research environment to secure graduate students and young researchers
- Increase the number of overseas stations and enhance their functions to strengthen international collaborative research
- Establish a research center in the three fields to promote transdisciplinary collaborative research

Promoting transdisciplinary collaborative research in the areas of health, risk, and ecology

Initiative (1): Strengthening the management base

1. Establish an advisory board (including experts from overseas institutions/companies)
2. Raise funds by establishing the Development Office
3. Utilize overseas stations
4. Expand the international alumni network
5. Strengthen/expand profit-making business activities, including naming rights and the active use of real property
6. Expand endowment investment

Initiative (2): Securing and fostering young researchers

1. Lend intensive support to young researchers
2. Secure research time in terms of both quantity and quality
3. Provide career path support
4. Improve the treatment of doctoral students
5. Provide support to foreign researchers and international students

Initiative (3): Reinforcing research support systems

1. Boost the number of and foster URAs (University Research Administrators)
2. Establish an overseas grant support division
3. Increase the number of clerical staff to respond to internationalization
4. Secure shared facilities and foster technical personnel
5. Deploy collaborative research facilitators
6. Deploy overseas liaison faculty members

Initiative (4): Fostering human resources equipped with integrated intelligence

Graduate school-linked program, Interfaculty Initiative in Planetary Health

"Global Risk" doctoral program (quota: 5 students), scheduled to be launched in 2026

"Global Ecology" doctoral program in preparation toward its launch in 2029



Missions and specific initiatives in each area

Initiative (5): Strengthening pandemic prediction research

Create a sustainable human society in preparation for the next pandemic through collaboration among infectious disease experts, data science experts, and education experts

1. Establish a multidisciplinary pandemic research center (facility development project)
2. Form a spillover research team in collaboration with the University of Miyazaki and Kagoshima University
3. Establish a research base on the impacts of climate change on human health (in collaboration with JAMSTEC and the Atmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo)
4. Establish a division for information data on international infectious diseases
5. Establish a division for infectious disease literacy

Initiative (6): Develop an international network on global risk

Clarify how infectious diseases, nuclear proliferation, international conflicts, global environmental changes and other factors can deepen and complicate global risk, disseminate to the world information on innovative policy measures that contribute to solving such issues, and implement those policy measures

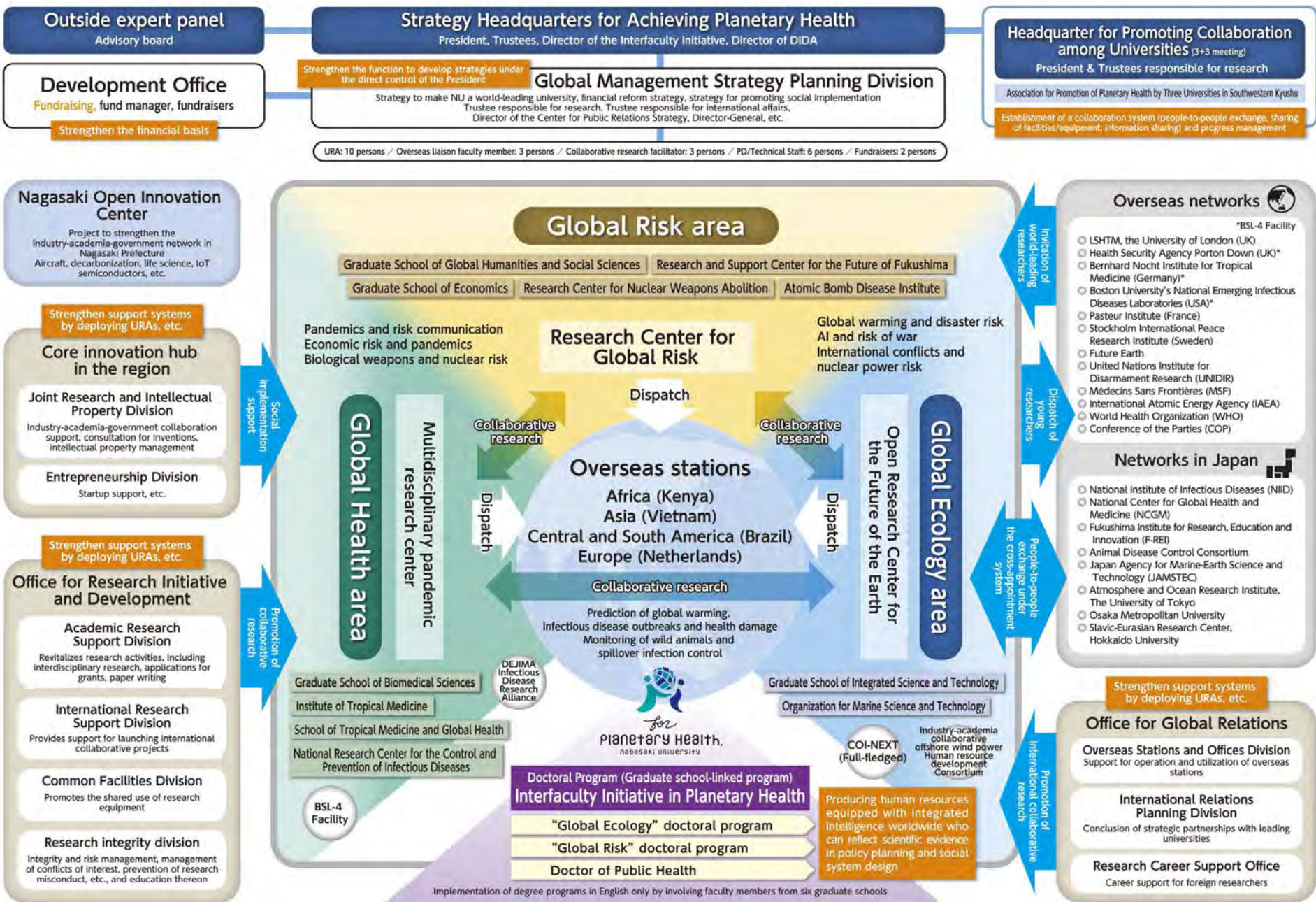
1. Put the Research Center for Global Risk into full operation
2. Conclude partnership agreements with international organizations and risk research centers overseas
3. Invite international conferences
4. Promote collaboration with the Research and Support Center for the Future of Fukushima and strengthen partnerships with the Fukushima Institute for Research, Education and Innovation (F-REI), Fukushima Medical University, and Fukushima University
5. Implement collaborative research on social infrastructure resilience with the Research and Education Center for National Health, Kagoshima University

Initiative (7): Accelerate innovation and social implementation

Promote science to protect the health of the Earth through innovation for building a society that recycles marine resources, food, energy, water, and carbon, and realize social implementation

1. Establish the Open Research Center for the Future of the Earth
2. Accelerate the Satoumi carbon neutrality model project
3. Combine technologies for offshore wind power generation, tidal current power generation, geothermal power generation, solar energy power, electric storage, and hydrogen production through collaboration with the GX Research Center, the University of Miyazaki
4. Conduct collaborative research with the Department of Marine Biology and Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Miyazaki
5. Implement collaboration between the team for research on the recycling of water resources and the team for research on the forests-and-green-spaces environment

Framework



Program for Forming Japan's Peak Research Universities (J-PEAKS)



University management reforms to generate innovation

Promote strategic management

Step up to become an international research university that leads the world in planetary health

- Establish the Strategy Headquarters for Achieving Planetary Health
- Establish the Development Office and expand the methods of fund procurement, such as expansion of NUGAN
- Assessment by and feedback from an outside expert panel
- Support acquisition of university operation funds: establishment of marketing methods, enhancement of PR activities
- Strengthen the collaboration system by establishing a headquarters to promote collaboration among three universities in the southwestern Kyushu region
- Establish the Global Management Strategy Planning Division and develop a management strategy

Support young researchers, foreign researchers, and international students

Toward a university that enables young researchers and foreign researchers to play an active role

- Enhance financial support for doctoral students, career development support, etc.
- Implement a program to dispatch young researchers overseas, provide research funds to young researchers, improve the treatment of young researchers, improve research environments
- Enhance support for foreign researchers and international students
- Strengthen the global research promotion system by establishing an NU station(s) in Europe

Strengthen research support systems

Toward a university in which people with various positions work together harmoniously and researchers can concentrate on research

- Significant increase in and fostering of research support personnel
- Upgrading/expansion of shared facilities and fostering of technical staff
- Employment of collaborative research facilitators, creation of opportunities to promote research cooperation, and support for the creation of collaborative research projects
- Promotion of collaborative research and startup support by upgrading/expanding the Tokyo office
- Development and implementation of a URA job-ranking system
- Internationalization of clerical staff

Achieve self-sustaining university management

Serve as a brain circulation base that fosters and produces a diversity of human resources who can play an active role on the global stage

Realize a research environment that supports world-leading research and an advanced support system

Output & Outcomes

The amount acquired from external funding (contracted research, collaborative research, donations)

7.2 billion yen at the time of application

FY 2035: 10.3 billion yen

Establishment of an international graduate school program that contributes to achieving planetary health

FY 2026 Global Risk doctoral degree program

FY 2029 Global Ecology doctoral degree program

Rate of NU papers ranked in the top 10% of international collaboration papers

12.9% at the time of application

FY 2035: 18.0%

World ranking in the number of papers in the infection area

162nd at the time of application

FY 2035: Within the top 50

Rate of NU papers ranked in the top 10% of papers in the infection area

9.6% at the time of application

FY 2035: 15.0%

Holding of an international forum on Global Risk

Cumulative number of forums in FY 2030: 2 or more

Cumulative number of forums in FY 2035: 7 or more

Cumulative number of startups

8 startups at the time of application

FY2035: 50 startups

FY 2025 – FY 2029

FY 2030 – FY 2035

Transdisciplinary research initiatives



Toward a world-leading research university in the infectious diseases area

- Establish a multidisciplinary pandemic research center, a division for information data on international infectious diseases, and a division for infectious disease literacy
- Form a project team for research on spillover infectious diseases in collaboration with the University of Miyazaki and Kagoshima University
- Start the monitoring of wild animals by using overseas stations
- Predict climate change and infectious disease outbreaks, and conduct health impact surveys
- Climate change and resulting changes in wild animals' behavior and the ecology of transmitting insects

Lead the world by fostering human resources equipped with integrated intelligence and PhDs with the capability to implement policy measures

- Put the Research Center for Global Risk into full operation and start research on complex risk
- Promote research on climate change and disaster risks and research on international conflicts and nuclear power risks, and make policy proposals
- Build an international network with UN and overseas research institutes, etc. and hold international conferences
- Establish a global risk degree program

Creation of innovation as breakthrough solutions for global environmental issues, and social implementation of research achievements

- Establish the Open Research Center for the Future of the Earth
- Establish a global ecology degree program
- Start collaborative research with the GX Research Center, the University of Miyazaki and the Research and Education Center for National Health, Kagoshima University
- Collaborative research by the team for research on the recycling of water resources and the team for research on the forests-and-green-spaces environment; integrated research on offshore wind power generation, tidal current power generation, geothermal power generation, solar energy power; and development of power storage devices
- Demonstration experiments and social implementation of the Satoumi carbon neutrality model

Establish a world-class system to monitor spillover infection, and advance toward being ranked among the world's best 50 universities in the infection area

Establish NU's status as a think tank that disseminates to the world solutions to increasingly complex global risks

Toward a research base for a decarbonized society with an eye toward realizing a society in which humans can live in harmonious coexistence with the environment

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