

International Symposium on the Restoration and Sustainability  
of Estuaries and Coastal Lagoons  
- Towards the Wise Use of Lakes Shinji and Nakaumi -

January 26-28, 2007      Matsue, JAPAN

**Welcome Message**

On behalf of the Research Center for Coastal Lagoon Environments, Shimane University, I have the honor to welcome you to participate in the international symposium on the 'Restoration and Sustainability of Estuaries and Coastal Lagoons' to be held in Matsue, Shimane Prefecture, Japan. Shimane University has relatively long history in the field of wetland science and wise use of brackish-water environments. Shimane Prefecture is rich in beautiful nature and local citizens are especially proud of the area of Lakes Shinji and Nakaumi because they provide the people comfort and peace of mind through the changing landscapes in four seasons together with traditional culture abundant in this area.

The sustainable management of water resources has become a fundamentally important challenge for nations and local communities world-wide. It is the mission of this symposium to highlight the newest developments in wetland science with all its major disciplines and to review this knowledge in the perspective of integrated water resources management in your country and Japan.

I hope that there will be an optimal exchange of scientific and political ideas and that there will be a good and frank interaction among scientists, resource managers, policy makers and local citizens. The symposium will also provide excellent opportunities to experience Shimane culture. Please do not miss the chance to feel and see everything this symposium can offer. I look forward to seeing you in Shimane in January 2007.

Prof. Dr. Hidenobu Kunii  
Chairperson, Executive Committee

**Symposium Information**

**Date:** January 26-28, 2007

**Venue:** International Congress Hall, Kunibiki Messe, Matsue, Shimane Prefecture, Japan