

### 【Special lecture Report 】

Date and Time: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 10:00–12:00, 13:00–15:00

Format: In-person

Venue: Saitama University, Building No. 3, Department of Environmental and Social Design

Number of Participants: Approximately 20

We were honored to welcome Professor Akira Kawamura, Professor Emeritus of Tokyo Metropolitan University, as our guest speaker.

Professor Kawamura has demonstrated exceptional mathematical talent through programs such as the Kalman filter and storage function method. At the same time, he has led the Urban Water Related Problems session at the international AOGS conference for over ten years, a session that we have now inherited and continue to sustain. A recurring theme in his lectures on recently legislated basin-scale flood control in Japan and research on integrated flood management in the Philippines was governance. While the principles behind basin-scale flood control are well-intended, achieving substantial results remains challenging. After introducing perspectives from advocates of change (don't know if leading to reform or deterioration), the discussion turned to the complexities of flood management. During the Q&A, participants noted that historical legacies and entrenched interests make it difficult to achieve effective flood management that transcends disciplinary boundaries. Academia raises questions through research papers, but ultimately, the real test is whether governments can effectively address these issues. Given Professor Kawamura's unique approach, this experience was likely meaningful for the generally earnest students of Saitama University.

