Kazuhiko Takeuchi is Senior Vice-Rector of United Nations University, Director and Professor of the Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (IR3S) at the University of Tokyo. He has served, inter alia, as a member of the Science Council of Japan, and a vice-chairman of the Food, Agriculture and Rural Area Policies Council, Government of Japan, Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Sustainability Science* (Springer).

Educated and trained as a geographer and landscape ecologist at the University of Tokyo, he engages in research and education on creating eco-friendly environments for a harmonious coexistence of people and nature, especially focusing on Asia and Africa. He leads the *Satoyama* Initiative as well as climate/ecosystem change research in Asia and Africa.