

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)
Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment


5th Kitakyushu Initiative
Network Meeting

**Perspectives for Future Regional
Initiatives on Sustainable Urban
Development**

Day 1 Session F
Rihga Royal Hotel, Kitakyushu, Japan
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Overview

- Overall trends point towards growing need to improve capacity of urban environmental management**
 - Regional trends**
 - Urbanization, industrialization, population growth, growing middle-class with higher demand
 - Devolution and decentralization of environmental management responsibilities
 - Global trends:**
 - Climate change and global warming – incorporate mitigation and adaptation at local-level development
- Inter-city networks or programmes resembling KI will continue to be relevant and popular. In what way?**

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Improving Future Regional Initiatives via City Networks

- Design projects based on specific needs and demands, coordinate with others to supplement network functions**
 - Programme/network's framework must be **realistic and objective-oriented**
 - Able to achieve **tangible results** within **given time frame**
 - Necessary to mobilise resources from multiple external sources

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Improving Future Regional Initiatives via City Networks

- Identify targeted groups of local governments**
 - Cities vary in terms of their unique features (economic strength, culture, demands etc)
 - Assist local governments to clarify demands and needs through self-analysis
 - Choice of network members can be more selective
 - Geographical scope may be narrowed or more focused

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Improving Future Regional Initiatives via City Networks

- Explore and collect untapped good practices and innovative policies**
 - Local governments tend to be more advanced than national governments in terms of creating low carbon, sustainable societies
 - Many under-promoted practices found in Japan and other countries in the region
 - Key areas:**
Greenhouse gas emission reduction, energy efficiency, resource efficiency, 3Rs, efficient public transport systems, greening of urban spaces etc

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Improving Future Regional Initiatives via City Networks

- Assist and facilitate replication**
 - Focus on good practices suitable for replication:
 - Low-cost, low-tech, low maintenance and use of local resources
 - Can be sustained by local community
 - To maximize success and potential, aim for close-range and strategic replication
 - Replicate practice **within the city and country first**, before replicating in foreign countries

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Improving Future Regional Initiatives via City Networks

5) Work with central governments to induce larger benefits

- Help to scale-up and expand local good practices
 - political endorsement , financial and technical support
 - capacity building and public education
- Highlight good practices and model city locally, then encourage others to replicate
- In the long-term, institutionalize environmental initiatives in national policy framework

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Future Initiatives beyond Kitakyushu Initiative

1) Build on achievements and momentum of KI programme

- Continue to assist replication of Surabaya's model of composting to other countries
- Also assist replication in other areas, beyond composting:
 - Identified promising practices
 - Low-cost decentralized wastewater systems
 - Septage treatment
 - Final disposal site disposal
 - Waste minimization

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Beyond Kitakyushu Initiative

- 1) Kitakyushu City's Asia Low Carbon Centre
- 2) MCED2010
- 3) Clean Asia Initiative
 - Supporting the long-term goals of sustainable cities
 - Low-carbon
 - Sound material cycle society

East Asia Summit Environmental Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM)

 - 1) High-level Seminar on 'Environmentally Sustainable Cities' (identified priority area for regional environmental collaboration)

Thank you!

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