The DNA of ESD in Kitakyushu.

The women declare: We want a blue sky.

- To call out the seriousness of pollution, the women held an information session, conducted a study, and produced an 8mm film to spread the word and raise awareness of this social issue.
Women’s action with the efforts of industry, academia, government, and citizens conquered pollution

- 1982 Received Prime Minister’s Green City Award
- 1990 First Japanese city in Global 500
2002: World Conference on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, South Africa)

• United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) adopted

September 28, 2006: Kitakyushu applies for membership in ESD network

• 44 participating organisations; now 76 from industry, academia, government, citizen groups

December 10, 2006: RCE Kitakyushu recognised

2011: Selected as Environmental Model City
2011: Selected as Environmental Future City
“We aim to promote individuals’ empowerment toward achieving an ‘Eco-Polis’ in the world and building a fair and sustainable society. We also create our original style of “ESD,” engaging diverse methods of education and activities for building a Sustainable society and introduce it both in Japan and internationally.”

Diagram of vision of RCE Kitakyushu
(Kitakyushu ESD Council)
Structure of RCE Kitakyushu

General meeting

Executive board

Steering committee

UNESCO School

Regional Project

Research Project

Public Relations Project

Youth Project

Facilities For Higher education

Study groups

Secretariat

Women’s Group to support Tohoku

(2013, July)
RCE Kitakyushu

Regional network project team
Successful citizen leaders from the 1960s take part in ESD

- Citizens’ centre as the base point

Public relation project team

- Publication of “Mirai Palette”
- Publication of Leaflets
- Organizing “ESD Café”
RCE Kitakyushu

Research project team

- Research for public awareness of ESD
- Kanmon Consortium University
- International exchange

Youth project

- Ainoshima Study tour
- Korean Study tour

A workshop for elementary school “Relationship between our lifestyle and ecosystem”

Exchange with RCE Tongeyong
Roles of Kitakyushu ESD

2011: Benefit concert for disaster relief After the Great East Japan Earthquake

2013: 2nd Earthquake charity benefit concert

Energy study session
RCE Kitakyushu
Fostering ESD Coordinations
6th Asia-Pacific RCE Meeting

6th Asia-Pacific RCE Meeting and International Symposium on Sustainable Lifestyles
Day 1 (Oct 20), 6th Asia-Pacific RCE Meeting

Venue: Nishinippon Institute of Technology
Participating RCEs: 16 regions, 110 individuals (35 from overseas)

Session 1: Introduction of new RCEs

Session 2: “Thematic Discussions” on Youth, Community, Schools, Biodiversity, Disaster Risk Reduction

Handmade eco souvenirs by Council members
Day 1 (Oct 20), 6th Asia-Pacific RCE Meeting
(Field work, excursions, reception party)

Registration: Manabito ESD Station

Presentation of activities
(Manabito ESD Station)

Student-guided tour of Eco-Life Stage,
largest environmental event in western JP
Day 2 (Oct 21), 6th Asia-Pacific RCE Meeting

Venue: Kitakyushu International Conference Center
Participating RCEs: 16 regions, 110 individuals (35 from overseas)

Session 4 “Roadmap toward 2014 and beyond” (UNESCO)

Session 3: “Reporting Session” Recap
the thematic discussion
International Symposium on Sustainable Lifestyles  
(Oct 21)

Keynote Speech:  
"Role of RCE in developing sustainable regional society"  
Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto (ESD Programme Director, UNU-IAS)

Part 2: RCE Case Studies by 6 RCEs (Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Sendai, Cambodia, India, Kitakyushu)

Venue: Kitakyushu International Conference Center  
Participating RCEs: 16 regions, 700 individuals (35 from overseas)

Part 3: Panel Discussion  
"What can ESD do to promote sustainable lifestyles?"  
Dr Anwar Al-Said (Head of the Education Unit, UNESCO Jakarta Office)  
Dr Eun Kyung Park (Chairperson, Board of Directors, Tongyeong Education Foundation for Sustainable Development)  
Prof Osamu Abe (Rikkyo University)
Day 2 (Oct 21), 6th Asia-Pacific RCE Meeting
Farewell Party
On-site at the symposium, “Let’s Get Linked and Expand for the Future: Kyushu wrap-up meeting of UN ESD 10 years in July 2014”

・・・We put together a declaration and recommendations.
Mr. Kenji Kitahashi, Mayor of Kitakyushu

Mr. Shigeharu Kato, Director-General for International Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology,

Mr. Ryokichi Hirono, Board Member, DESD World Festival Forum
Panel discussion
“Environmental degradation, poverty, gender, and peace—no issue can be solved only with the knowledge of one person or limited to one field. The road to resolution will unfold by connecting diverse fields and sectors. “Children and adults alike must shoulder the responsibilities of our society. We believe that a small group of people can change the region, influence society, and become an uncontrollable force that can change the world.

“Ever since the start of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD), local residents’ groups and NGOs/NPOs in Kyushu have recognized the importance of ESD and have taken action. They have also established connections and collaborated with many people, including local governments, businesses, and researchers, and are continuing to work determinedly to promote ESD and the creation of a sustainable society.” (Excerpt from the Kyushu Agenda)

Yoshiko Misumi
President, Kyushu ESD Promotion Council
August 2014
In order for us to continue living on this earth, people from both developed and developing countries, those from both urban and rural areas, producers and consumers, children and adults must all come together to transform our lifestyles and social systems into something that is sustainable.

We must continue to promote more intensive and comprehensive actions as we aim to create a sustainable society.

Thank you for your kind attention.