

The Newsletter of the 20% Club for Sustainable Cities



Vol. 3
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■ A law to combat global warming has been passed in Japan. Although some maintain that it is inadequate as a legal framework to reduce the effect of greenhouse gases by 6% from the 1990 level - as was promised in the Kyoto protocol - the very existence of a law directed at preventing global warming is progress.

■ It can be considered particularly beneficial to the local authorities of the 20% Club who have already adopted a variety of countermeasures against warming.

■ The law to combat global warming originally defines the responsibilities of the national government, local authorities, companies and citizens. After deliberation at the House of Representatives, the law was modified to impose implementation and announcement of plans to combat global warming and of its development upon all the local authorities including prefectures and municipalities. In effect, the local authorities have been given a more important role.

■ The law also states that prefectures may establish a center to promote global warming prevention activities and NGOs would be involved in new environmental measures. The accumulation of regional activities is crucial to prevention of global warming. On the occasion of the enactment of the law, it can be said that local authorities have been required to introduce whole new environmental measures.

■ We apologize for being late in issuing the third issue of our newsletter for the 20% Club for Sustainable Cities. Herewith, we would like to introduce a new member, namely Yokohama City in Kanagawa Prefecture.

■ Yokohama has a population of 3,346,000, and is one of the relatively advanced local authorities in terms of tackling global environmental issues. Yokohama's projects registered with the 20% Club include 10% reductions in electricity used in their offices, fuel used in official cars, and paper usage, as well as 10% increase in recycling of paper.

■ The achievement of each project is inspected, appraised, and reviewed by supervisors in each government office or district, and the results are published in an annual report on the environmental management plan of the city.

■ The secretariat of the 20% Club received inquiries from local authorities in India and Laos about joining the 20% Club. We would be delighted if you could introduce the 20% Club when you hold an international conference, or host sister cities and overseas trainees, etc.

■ In this issue, we would like to present the results of the 'Survey Regarding Sustainable Cities' conducted in fiscal 1997 for the Environment Agency of Japan. The survey results from 20% Club members have already been printed in Vol. 2, so here we will introduce the survey results from non-members.



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1997 Survey Regarding Sustainable Cities

Survey Results Regarding Efforts in Focal Areas

(Responses from Local Authorities who are not 20% Club members)

Japanese Local Authorities (34 Organizations)

[Name of Local Authority]	Aichi Prefecture
[Project Name]	Global environment preservation related project (Promotion of 'Aichi Agenda 21')
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1994
[Budget scale]	¥160,645,124,000 for 156 projects (Fiscal 1997: Where a project did not specify a breakdown for the global environmental preservation element in its budget, the whole budget was used in calculating the total.)
[Project Description]	21 projects have been initiated, such as waste reduction, promotion of countermeasures against fluorocarbons (CFCs, HCFCs, HFCs, etc.), promotion of environmentally friendly corporate activities, stimulation of an energy saving lifestyle, and basic planning for environmentally friendly cities.
[Numerical Target]	5% reduction in domestic energy consumption by 2000.
[Status]	Steady progress is being made for each item.

[Name of Local Authority]	Ishikawa Prefecture
[Project Name]	Eco-life Promotion Project
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1991
[Budget scale]	¥1,631,000 (Fiscal 1997)
[Numerical Target]	Sending lecturers to forums held by various groups, such as ladies' societies; Implementation of environmental learning activities centered on the local area and using the public health center as a base (Details of the lectures and study meetings: Eco-cooking class, research into waterborne creatures)
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	-

[Name of Local Authority]	Ibaraki Prefecture
[Project Name]	Eco Academy Project
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1997
[Budget scale]	¥8,457,000
[Project Description]	Holding lectures for city, town, and village office staff, companies, and prefectural residents to nurture regional or business leaders for the promotion of environmental education and learning.
[Numerical Target]	None
[Status]	Administrative/general course: about 50 people; Business course: about 40 people; Children's Eco Club: about 100 people

[Name of Local Authority]	Osaka Prefecture
[Project Name]	Eco Energy City- Osaka Plan
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1996
[Budget scale]	¥30,000,000 (Fiscal 1997)
[Project Description]	Creation of a citywide system to utilize natural and unused energy in line with the energy usage status in Osaka; consider model projects for public facilities, and decide on strategies and issues that Osaka prefecture should tackle.
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	Raw data is being collected and analyzed.



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[Name of Local Authority]	Osaka City
[Project Name]	Air Preservation (Countermeasures against nitrogen oxides)
[Inauguration year]	1965 ~
[Budget scale]	-
[Project Description]	(Measures for plants/workplaces) Regulations, instruction, and promotion of countermeasures to NOx in accordance with the guidelines. (Measures for cars) Request to the government to tighten regulations on gas exhaust based on the 'vehicular pollution prevention plan', and the promotion of low pollution cars, etc.
[Numerical Target]	NO2 environmental preservation target: Daily average 0.06ppm per hour should be achieved, while striving to cut it to 0.04ppm.
[Status]	The volume of nitrogen oxide discharged has been significantly reduced at each generation source through the implementation or strengthening of various countermeasures.

[Name of Local Authority]	Okayama Prefecture
[Project Name]	Promotion of environmental education (Children's Eco Clubs)
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1995
[Budget scale]	¥1,670,000
[Project Description]	Supports children's eco clubs in partnership with businesses in the prefecture.
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	The number of clubs has increased from 37 (1996) to 90 (1997).

[Name of Local Authority]	Okinawa Prefecture
[Project Name]	Exchanges with Fujian
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1994
[Budget scale]	¥2,115,000
[Project Description]	Okinawa Prefecture has been holding exchanges with Fujian in China since as long ago as the Ryukyu kingdom era. It sends experts in a variety of fields, including economic, agricultural and cultural, and accepts technical trainees from Fujian for mutual goodwill, development, and to promote internationalization of the prefecture.
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	-

[Name of Local Authority]	Kagawa Prefecture
[Project Name]	Promotion of 'Kagawa Prefecture Basic Environmental Plan'
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1996
[Budget scale]	Fiscal 1996: ¥9,900,000 Fiscal 1997: ¥21,603,000
[Project Description]	Fiscal 1996: Establishment of the Basic Environmental Plan Fiscal 1997: Establishment of the environmental guidelines Instruction in the Basic Environmental Plan Basic environmental data research and collection
[Numerical Target]	34 items, including domestic sewage processing rate and city parking spaces.
[Status]	This was only set up in May 1997, so progress will be monitored later.



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[Name of Local Authority]	Kagoshima Prefecture
[Project Name]	Promotion of Environmental Cultural Concept for Yaku Island
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1992: Announced the Yaku Island Environmental Cultural Village master plan
[Budget scale]	¥303,000,000
[Project Description]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Environmental preservation support (Patrolling mountainous regions, distributing pamphlets, cleaning, etc.) * Nature preservation (Restoration of woods, afforestation, protection of sea turtle etc.) * Environmental studies (Yaku Island nature experience seminar, short program, etc.) * Cultural project (Issuance of foundation bulletins, implementation of events, etc.) * Management/operation of core facilities in the Yaku Island Environmental Cultural Village
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	March 1993: Establishment of the Yaku Island Environmental Cultural Foundation; July 1996: Yaku Island Environmental Cultural Village core facilities (hall), etc.

[Name of Local Authority]	Kita-Kyushu City (Fukuoka Prefecture)
[Project Name]	International Environmental Cooperation
[Inauguration year]	1987
[Budget scale]	-
[Project Description]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Acceptance of international trainees 2) Dispatching of experts in environmental fields 3) Holding and attending international conferences 4) Cooperation with international organizations 5) Cooperation with 'Dalian Environmental Model Area Plan'
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	-

[Name of Local Authority]	Gifu Prefecture
[Project Name]	Certification of recycled waste substance
[Inauguration year]	1997
[Budget scale]	¥3,135,000 (fiscal 1997)
[Project Description]	Mainly certifying that recycled products satisfy the criteria of having been produced in the prefecture using waste generated within the prefecture under the 'Gifu Prefecture Waste Recycling Certification Project'. First priority goes to use in prefectural projects, then requests for usage in cities, towns, and villages, and we also encourage people and companies in the prefecture to use them.
[Numerical Target]	Prior to carrying out their work each year, each office or department determines the usage targets per certified usable product.
[Status]	10 items have been certified as of 31st December 1997

[Name of Local Authority]	Kyoto Prefecture
[Project Name]	Promotion of the introduction of clean cars (*)
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1997
[Budget scale]	¥35,500,000
[Project Description]	Introducing electric cars to public health centers within the prefecture to promote



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the introduction of non-polluting cars.
[Numerical Target] Introduction of 12 cars
[Status] 6 cars introduced
(*) Additionally, we are initiating countermeasures against general dioxin problems and encouraging more widespread activity to prevent warming.

[Name of Local Authority] Kyoto City (Kyoto Prefecture)
[Project Name] Miyako Agenda 21 Promotion
[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1997
[Budget scale] ¥77,000,000 (Fiscal 1998)
[Project Description] 1) Establishment of the 'Miyako Agenda 21 Forum' in which various industries and layers will be involved.
2) Implementation of training programs and workshops to encourage citizens and companies to participate.
3) Implementation of an 'environmental household account book campaign' in model areas.
4) Foundation of a financing system to fund facilities that use solar energy, and introduction of natural gas engined city buses.
[Numerical Target] As the foundation for a variety of plans that will come to fruition in the future, we are trying to reduce the CO₂ levels to 90% of those in 1990 by 2010, and are aiming for further improvements through the active efforts of our citizens, companies, and government.
[Status] Started in earnest from fiscal 1998.

[Name of Local Authority] Kumamoto Prefecture
[Project Name] Kumamoto Region General Underground Water Preservation Promotion
[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1996
[Budget scale] ¥5,890,000
[Project Description] Promotes the 'Kumamoto region general underground water preservation plan as established in 1996 for the Kumamoto region, which has the highest reliance on underground water in the prefecture, as part of a larger strategic project - Water Preservation in Kumamoto.
[Numerical Target] Restored volume: 720,000,000 (units?)
The target volume of underground water preservation extraction (230,000,000) will be allocated for each purpose.
[Status] -

[Name of Local Authority] Sapporo City
[Project Name] Promotion of Fluorocarbon Collection
[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1995
[Budget scale] ¥3,000,000
[Project Description] A model project, carried out from fiscal 1995 to 1997, in which car recycling companies and suchlike use a fluorocarbon collector provided by the city to remove fluorocarbons from cars and refrigerators, etc., for its destruction. This project has allowed us to gather data relating to the costs and problems concerning the collection system.
[Numerical Target] -
[Status] Fluorocarbon collection from disposed refrigerators has been running at



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full-scale since this April.

[Name of Local Authority]	Shiga Prefecture
[Project Name]	Water Conservation
[Inauguration year]	1969 (Establishment of pollution control ordinance)
[Budget scale]	¥41,319,000,000 (as of fiscal 1997)
[Project Description]	Monitoring the environmental standards and water quality, measures for domestic drainage, sewerage system planning, looking after water sources, measures for agricultural drainage, financing for medium and small-scale enterprises, controlling industrial drainage, countermeasures against abnormal generation of plankton, promotion of a prefectural citizens campaign
[Numerical Target]	Target figure for Lake Biwa in 2,000 North Lake: COD 2.6, T-N 0.31; South Lake: COD 3.7, T-N 0.39, T-P 0.15 (all units are mg/l)
[Status]	-

[Name of Local Authority]	Shimane Prefecture
[Project Name]	Natural Environment Data Bank Preparation Project
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1995
[Budget scale]	Fiscal 1995 ~ 1996: ¥26,000,000; Fiscal 1997-: around ¥2,000,000
[Project Description]	Classifies natural and environmental data for ease of use by creating a system linked to all manner of related data, such as geographic data and research into preservation of the original natural environmental. This system is currently used to assess environmental effects and development projects.
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	The system was created in fiscal 1995 and 1996. Existing data has been added to or updated since fiscal 1997.

[Name of Local Authority]	Tokyo Metropolitan Government
[Project Name]	Tokyo Metropolitan Government Eco-Up Plan
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1997
[Budget scale]	¥9,500,000
[Project Description]	Tokyo Prefecture undertakes responsibility for the environment by taking the lead in implementing environmental preservation as if it were a large sized company or consumer, and also supports environmentally friendly activities of people or companies in Tokyo.
[Numerical Target]	Eight items have been established, such as a reduction in electrical and water consumption for fiscal 2000.
[Status]	The status is periodically inspected by the Tokyo Prefectural Environmental Council, which is the controlling organization for the whole of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

[Name of Local Authority]	Tokushima Prefecture
[Project Name]	'Taking the Lead in Action' Plan
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1997
[Budget scale]	¥14,000,000 (Fiscal 1997) ¥33,000,000 (Fiscal 1998)
[Project Description]	Various measures have been carried out to promote the 'Eco Office Tokushima - Taking the Lead in Action Plan' that was established in



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September 1996. In fiscal 1998, low emission cars (hybrid cars) were introduced for about 10% of the official cars that were renewed, and we also encourage our staff to adopt this concept.

[Numerical Target]

10 items, for example, a 20% reduction in use of virgin pulp for paper by the end of fiscal 2000.

[Status]

Introduced by the central government office in fiscal 1996, with full-scale implementation in fiscal 1997, and expanded to relevant organizations in fiscal 1998.

[Name of Local Authority]

Tochigi Prefecture

[Project Name]

Oku-Nikko Clear Stream & Lake Preservation Council

[Inauguration year]

Fiscal 1995

[Budget scale]

¥2,000,000

[Project Description]

1) Studies concerning 'Oku-Nikko Clear Stream & Lake Preservation Plan'
2) Supervising the above plan
3) Encourage projects for the preservation of water quality in the Oku-Nikko Area

[Numerical Target]

Yunoko: COD 1.3mb/l; Chuzenji Lake: COD 1.6mb/l

[Status]

The plan was established at the end of fiscal 1997, and is to be implemented between fiscal 1998 and 2002.

[Name of Local Authority]

Tottori Prefecture

[Project Name]

Lakes and Ponds Purification Project

[Inauguration year]

-

[Budget scale]

¥12,795,000,000 as of fiscal 1996 (including for city, town, or village projects such as sewerage system planning)

[Project Description]

Dredging of debris from the bottom, sewerage system planning, agricultural drainage planning, measures to ensure environmental responsibility by the stock farming industry, countermeasures against industrial and domestic drainage, etc.

[Numerical Target]

• COD 5.4, TN (Total Nitrogen) 0.79, TP (Total Phosphorus) 0.055 in lakes and mountainous areas by fiscal 2000. • COD5.5, TN0.65, TP0.069 in the inland sea by fiscal 1998.

[Status]

-

[Name of Local Authority]

Toyama Prefecture

[Project Name]

Ring of Japan Sea Environmental Cooperation Project

[Inauguration year]

Fiscal 1997

[Budget scale]

¥286,353,000 (Fiscal 1997)

[Project Description]

* Establishment of the Ring of Japan Sea Environmental Cooperation Center and holding of the Ring of Japan Sea Environmental Local Authority Summit
* Various cooperative projects, such as technical exchanges and research & studies

[Numerical Target]

-

[Status]

Promoting various projects in cooperation with local authorities along the Japan Sea coast and countries on the opposite shore.

[Name of Local Authority]

Nagasaki Prefecture

[Project Name]

Omura Bay Water Quality Preservation Measures

[Inauguration year]

Fiscal 1974

[Budget scale]

¥4,324,000 (Fiscal 1997)



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[Project Description] Planning and promotion of countermeasures against domestic and industrial drainage related to Omura Bay with relevant departments and coastal cities and towns in accordance with the Omura Bay Water Quality Preservation Guidelines.

[Numerical Target] Water quality environmental criteria for Omura bay: COD 2mg/l

[Status] Stabilized between 2.4 and 2.8 mg/l for the last several years

[Name of Local Authority] Nagano Prefecture

[Project Name] Nature Observation Instructors Registration and Dispatch Project

[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1993

[Budget scale] ¥6,611,000 (Fiscal 1997)

[Project Description] Registers people who are conversant in all manner of nature - including plants, insects and astrology - in a natural observation instructor's databank, and sends them to nature observation gatherings held by the prefecture, cities, towns, villages, and/or schools to raise general awareness of nature through increased opportunities to learn and come into contact with it.

[Numerical Target] Number of dispatches: 480 times per annum (target for fiscal 2000)

[Status] Number of dispatches: 308 times in fiscal 1996

[Name of Local Authority] Nagoya City (Aichi Prefecture)

[Project Name] Promotion of the Nagoya Agenda 21

[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1996

[Budget scale] -

[Project Description] Promotes the 'Nagoya Agenda 21' - a global environmental preservation action plan - that was established December 1996 through cooperation with citizens and local companies. Target: Realization of an environmentally friendly city that is in harmony with nature while enriching the functions as a city in order to build a 'Sustainable Society'.

[Numerical Target] -

[Status] Promoting change, such as reviewing lifestyles, by establishing the 'Nagoya Agenda 21 Promotion Council', which is made up of citizens and local companies.

[Name of Local Authority] Hyogo Prefecture

[Project Name] Ozone Layer Protection Measures

[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1993

[Budget scale] ¥2,125,000 (Fiscal 1997)

[Project Description] 1 Implementation of restrictions on the discharge of fluorocarbons
2 Supports the operation of the Hyogo Prefecture fluorocarbon collection and disposal promotion council
3 Research into fluorocarbon collection and disposal status

[Numerical Target] -

[Status] Collected quantity of fluorocarbons collected since July 1994: 89,239 kg; amount processed: 14,036 kg

[Name of Local Authority] Hiroshima Prefecture

[Project Name] Widespread Fluorocarbon Collection / Treatment Promotion

[Inauguration year] 1994 (support to prepare the collector in 1995, implementation of destruction tests and establishment of the promotion council in fiscal 1996)



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[Budget scale]	¥9,300,000 (Fiscal 1997)
[Project Description]	1 Establishment of a system for collection, storage, delivery, and destruction of fluorocarbons within the prefecture. 2 Implementation of fluorocarbon destruction test using private incinerators. 3 Support for preparation of fluorocarbon collectors for cities, towns, and villages. 4 Promotion of the destruction of fluorocarbons collected in each of the prefectures within the Chugoku and Shikoku regions.
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	Practical use of destruction technology through fluorocarbon destruction test (Full-scale operation of the Hiroshima Prefecture fluorocarbon collection and processing system from fiscal 1998)

[Name of Local Authority]	Hiroshima City
[Project Name]	Management of the Hiroshima Global Watch Club
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1995
[Budget scale]	¥4,800,000 (Fiscal 1997)
[Project Description]	Improving awareness of environmental preservation amongst elementary school and junior high school students in the city by considering and implementing an environmentally friendly lifestyle through observation of nature and the environment.
[Numerical Target]	Attract 500 joiners a year
[Status]	-

[Name of Local Authority]	Fukui Prefecture
[Project Name]	Fukui Environmental Promotion Council
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1994
[Budget scale]	Total budget: ¥3,786,000 (Prefectural fees of ¥950,000 included)
[Project Description]	1) Issuance of information journal (4 times a year) 2) Holding of an environmental photography contest 3) Dispatching of environmental advisers 4) Holding environmental classes (twice for families and companies), symposiums, and commendations
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	Membership as of 31st March 1997: 998 people, 60 groups, and 144 companies

[Name of Local Authority]	Fukuoka Prefecture
[Project Name]	Promotion of Support for Technological Developments including Waste Recycling
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1996
[Budget scale]	¥15,000,000
[Project Description]	Provides half of the subsidies to companies or groups within the prefecture who have been striving to develop environmental preservation technologies, such as waste recycling.
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	-

[Name of Local Authority]	Fukuoka City (Fukuoka Prefecture)
[Project Name]	Utilization of Heat Generated from Burning Waste
[Inauguration year]	Fiscal 1976
[Budget scale]	-



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[Project Description] An electricity generating facility that has been established at each incinerator makes practical use of the heat created when waste is incinerated (3 sites in the eastern, southern, and western areas). The electricity that is generated is used to heat public swimming pools and in senior citizens welfare centers, as well as being consumed within the facility. Any surplus electricity is sold to Kyushu Electricity.

[Numerical Target] -

[Status] Total electricity generated: 129,000,000 kWh; electricity sold: 54,000,000 kWh, income from selling electricity ¥458,000,000 (Fiscal 1996)

[Name of Local Authority] Fukushima Prefecture

[Project Name] Protection of the Ozone Layer (Ozone Layer Preservation Project)

[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1995

[Budget scale] ¥7,864,000 (Fiscal 1997)

[Project Description]

- 1) Encouraging promotion of fluorocarbon collection
- 2) Nurturing the Fukushima Prefecture Fluorocarbon Collection Promotion Council
- 3) Support to cover the cost of setting up the fluorocarbon collectors
- 4) Promotion of the destruction of the collected fluorocarbons

[Numerical Target] -

[Status] Steady progress

[Name of Local Authority] Mie Prefecture

[Project Name] RDF Electricity Generation Project

[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1996

[Budget scale] Undecided

[Project Description] Establishment of an RDF power plant to utilize electricity created by processing general combustible waste that is currently being incinerated in cities, towns, or villages to RDF (refuse derived fuel).

[Numerical Target] -

[Status] Its establishment is currently under investigation.

[Name of Local Authority] Yamaguchi Prefecture

[Project Name] Yamaguchi Prefecture General Campaign for the Prevention of Global Warming

[Inauguration year] Fiscal 1998

[Budget scale] ¥10,000,000

[Project Description] In order to promote the prevention of global warming, we are promoting a campaign involving everyone in the prefecture - such as through self-inspection - by creating and distributing a checklist, as well as urging the people of Yamaguchi prefecture to campaign for prevention of global warming.

[Numerical Target] -

[Status] -

[Name of Local Authority] Asuncion (Paraguay)

[Project Name] Eastern Paraguay Sustainable Development Project

[Inauguration year] -

[Budget scale] -

[Project Description] Planning a sector-crossing measure involving stakeholders (people concerned) and the general public in the variety of wildlife, forest preservation, and environmental education fields.

[Numerical Target] -



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[Status] -

[Name of Local Authority]	Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)
[Project Name]	Establishment of Sustainable Agriculture in Urban Areas
[Inauguration year]	1997
[Budget scale]	US\$ 41,500
[Project Description]	-
[Numerical Target]	-
[Status]	-

Non-member local authorities who did not reply (as they were unable to specify only one project, had nothing to report, or were simply unable to reply, etc.): The Prefectures of Niigata, Chiba, Saga, Nara, Iwate, Wakayama, Ehime, Yamagata, Hokkaido, Akita, Oita, Miyazaki, and Miyagi, and the City of Kobe.

Sustainable Cities Briefing

Kawasaki City establishes a Global Environmental Preservation Action Plan

The Kawasaki City global environmental preservation action plan was established in October in 1998. This plan is for tackling preservation of the global environment in each area, and can also be defined as a global environmental preservation version of the basic environmental plan, or Local Agenda 21.

The characteristics of this plan which has been promoted by establishing both a committee and sub-committee are as follows.

- 1) The plan mainly focuses on measures to prevent global warming.
- 2) The Citizens and local companies are supposed to define their own criteria and carry out unique projects.
- 3) Schools are defined as one of the implementing organizations. (Four sub-committees have been established for schools, as well as the city, companies, and administration)
- 4) The plan includes establishment of a numerical target for a reduction in greenhouse gases within a few years.

They say that their plan which consists of five chapters is easy to understand with regard to the problem of warming and relevant countermeasures so that they can carry out what is within their means first.

Kawasaki City is planning to establish a Kawasaki City Global Environmental

Preservation Promotion Council (provisional name) that will be made up of representatives from the sub-committees, and hold a Global Environment Forum (provisional name) for inter-committee exchanges in the future.

Kanagawa Prefecture issued Global Warming Prevention Action Case Studies

Kanagawa is the first prefecture in Japan to establish a local agenda named 'Agenda 21 Kanagawa' in January 1993 in corporation with citizen group, private enterprises and municipalities in the Prefecture. Since then the Prefecture has promoted a variety of global environmental preservation activities. While further efforts to combat global warming are required since the adoption of the Kyoto protocol in December 1997, Kanagawa Prefecture issued the Kanagawa 100 Global Warming Prevention Action Case Studies in May 1998 as a summary of their efforts.

This has been published as a guide to the activity details on the bases of the results of a survey in which many people expressed an interest in global environmental problems, but had no idea what to do.

It introduces 102 cases of efforts that have been done by local authorities, citizens and businesses in the prefecture in an easy to understand way. For example, one



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company's efforts for zero emission of waste, a junior high school's activity in support of an international cooperation project in Africa using funds from collections of materials which can be recycled, such as used tins, and an individual's efforts which make use of photovoltaic power generation. Kanagawa Prefecture is trying to expand their activities by involving as many people as possible to combat global warming, while stressing the activity rules laid out in Agenda 21 Kanagawa.

Gunma Prefecture buys up Amazonian forest for its citizens

Gunma Prefecture, which has undertaken various measures to achieve a 20% cut (cf. 1990) in CO₂ emission per person in the prefecture by fiscal 2005, has created a 'Forests for Gunma in the Amazon' in Belen, a city at the river's mouth in Brazil, and held the inauguration ceremony for the visitor's center last summer.

People of Japanese origin living in North Brazil, the prefecture, the prefectural assembly, labor union, companies in the prefecture, and high school students raised funds to buy a substantial area of tropical forests (540 hectares). This land has been bought on the understanding that no trees are to be cut down. A business center equipped with 16 private research rooms and exhibition rooms for natural and historical information was completed in August.

This is being considered for use as a base for the study of tropical forests for Japanese university researchers, and also as somewhere for young people who are learning about global environmental issues to exchange information. This unique environmental project of the local authority can be considered a model project that suggests a means for international cooperation in the future.

Kumamoto City launches a Citizen Registration System for the reduction of CO₂

Kumamoto City is an environmentally advanced city that was amongst the first local

authorities in Japan to advocate a 20% reduction in CO₂, even though, unfortunately, it is still not one of our members. When Kumamoto City held a catchphrase competition for its environmental month in June this year, 3,336 phrases were submitted from 47 prefectures, with 'Warming is a red light on the blue globe' being chosen as the top prize.

Kumamoto City began a registration system for citizens who declared a 20% reduction in CO₂ from September to encourage this activity amongst the general public. Citizens declare that they will implement certain activities from a selection of 15 items, such as waste reduction, energy saving, and more effective use of automobiles, and register their intentions with the city. More than 3,000 citizens have already joined up. A sticker calling for people to stop idling (referring to their cars!) and a checklist on which the catchphrase - 'Warming is a red light on the blue globe' has been printed are given to citizens who register.

The environment planning section in the city office expects a 6% reduction in CO₂ by popularizing this campaign throughout the whole city, and is also suggesting that other local authorities adopt a similar campaign.

Please make a 'Link' to our Home Page

The '20% Club's Homepage' (<http://www.shonan.ne.jp/~gef20/>) lays out the club's bylaws, a statement regarding its establishment, an outline of the "International Workshop on Local Initiatives for Sustainable Cities", and the numerical targets of each local government authority member, as well as provides an address list of each local government member and details on how to apply for membership. It also contains links to the homepages of local government authority members. We are most grateful for your cooperation to make a link to our home page.

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