

## The Kitakyushu Initiative Network (KIN):

### Overview and Future Direction

Asian City Network for Environment Improvement

Kitakyushu Asian Center for Low Carbon Society

Kitakyushu City, Japan



## KIN Objectives

① Improve urban environments by helping member cities increase their environmental management performances.

② Improve urban environments throughout the Asian Pacific region by making best practice cases widely available to member cities.

## Accomplishments of the Network (1)

### Expansion of the Number of Member Cities

The Network began in 2000 with 20 cities from 10 countries.

In 2005, this number expanded to 62 cities from 18 countries.

As of 2010, more than 100 cities have participated in various KIN events such as workshops and seminars.

## Accomplishments of the Network (2)

### Overall achievements of the Network over the last decade:

① Environmental conditions have actually improved in member cities.

② Some members of the Network have become Environmentally Advanced Cities in their respective countries, for example, Surabaya in Indonesia, Nonthaburi in Thailand, Sibul in Malaysia and Dalian in China.

③ Best practices have been transplanted and expansion models have been provided to member cities through KIN programs.

## Lessons Learned from KIN Activities

The network began on a vast scale, aspiring to deal with all aspects of urban environments in cities in 18 countries around the Asian Pacific region

However, there were limits to the personnel and resources that the Network administration could provide.

Therefore, we decided to focus on manageable fields and regions.

This is the background of our "learning curve".

## Future Direction (1)

### (1) Organizing a cluster network

Transfer and widespread adoption of best practices between cities are currently being conducted through Network programs.

Using these successful models, Environmentally Advanced Cities are encouraged to play a leading role in environmental improvement,

and the Network administration will manage information exchange and sharing to organize a cluster network.

## Future Direction (2)

### (2) Concentrating on activities that provide direct benefits such as promoting interaction between cities and achieving successful results

From a financial perspective, instead of spending funds on conferences, the Network intends to concentrate on activities that provide direct benefits, such as promoting interaction between cities and achieving successful results. To this extent, **we plan to organize workshops on individual themes.**

The Network can **offer useful resources to international conference and other city networks** through information sharing and presentations of accomplishments.

## Future Direction (3)

### (3) Autonomous Growth of Cities

The role of cities in economic advancement and environmental improvement will expand, and it will be necessary to encourage sustainable development that balances economic and environmental requirements.

Therefore, each city should **organize urban plans that take environmental issues into consideration,**

and **increase the ability of local government officials** to administer these plans.

## Establishment of the Asian City Network for Environment Improvement

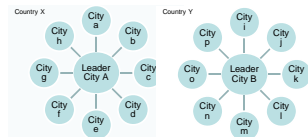
### Kitakyushu Initiative Network (KIN)

62 cities in 18 countries of the Asian Pacific region

Re-organization

### Asian City Network for Environment Improvement

Establish one or two cities as leaders so they can contribute to efficient management by spearheading efforts to better local environments and reduce carbon output



## Establishment of the Kitakyushu Asian Center for Low Carbon Society

Promote the active transfer of technological and social technologies to trigger reform in society and to create new values and cultures.



## Memorandum of Understanding between Kitakyushu City and JBIC

Date of signing: December 21, 2009

### Signatories:

**Kenji Kitahashi**  
Mayor of Kitakyushu City  
**Hiroshi Watanabe**  
CEO, Japan Bank  
for International Cooperation (JBIC)



A memorandum of understanding for mutual cooperation in the fields of climate change and water infrastructure was signed by JBIC and Kitakyushu City for the realization of the Kitakyushu Asian Center for Low Carbon Society Initiative