Kitakyushu Initiative
for a Clean Environment
A programme of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Second Cycle: 2005-2010
Putting Practice into Action

With the Asia-Pacific region a centre of rapid urbanisation, local governments are questioning how they can address the myriad problems that affect their cities, control the ever-widening gap between supply and demand for urban environmental infrastructure and services, and improve deteriorating health and sanitary conditions that are putting increased pressure on urban environmental resources.

In September 2000, the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment was adopted at the 4th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED) held in Kitakyushu, Japan, as a mechanism to achieve tangible progress in environmental quality and human health in urban areas in Asia and the Pacific. Since then, a range of activities—thematic seminars and demonstration projects on successful policy measures and information dissemination through the Kitakyushu Initiative Network—has been developed under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), with primary funding support from the government of Japan and with participation of a number of local, national and international partners.

In the past five years, the initiative has been recognised as a Type 1 Initiative in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in September 2002, and was included in the comprehensive review of its achievements during the MCED 2005 preparatory process, the ministers supported a programme's practical and focused activities and endorsed the Action Plan to guide activities from 2005 to 2010.

FOCUS for 2005-2010

In line with the focus on "Green Growth" highlighted by MCED 2005 as an innovative and powerful strategy for reconciling the two potentially incompatible Millennium Development Goals: economic growth to alleviate poverty and environmental sustainability, the second cycle of the Kitakyushu Initiative (2005-2010) will be instrumental in enhancing the capacity of local governments in Asia and the Pacific. This will be carried out through the promotion and application of integrated win-win approaches in urban environmental management and the promotion of socio-economic livelihoods at the local level.

TIMETABLE FOR THE SECOND CYCLE (2005-2010)

- **MCED 2005**
  - Adoption of second phase of the Kitakyushu Initiative
- **4th Network Meeting**
  - (Phase 1) Initiate multi-layer activities
- **5th Network Meeting**
  - (Phase 2) Follow-up outcomes and demonstrate replication
- **6th Network Meeting**
  - (Phase 3) Compile policies, practices and models of effective urban policies and programmes

**Phase 1 (2005-2007)**

In Phase 1, activities will be carried out to promote integrated win-win approaches by local governments in the region in order to simultaneously address urban environmental management and socio-economic development issues. Activities include identification of seed cases, selection of candidate cities for pilot projects and development of a programme for training and study tour activities to facilitate the replication process.

**Phase 2 (2007-2008)**

Activities in Phase 2 will be guided by the outcomes in Phase 1, and will further attempt to demonstrate replication. Activities include extension of the study tour programme to support the efforts of participating cities in the replication of successful policies and practices, and provision of guidance and assistance in the implementation of demonstration projects with financial support from the initiative.

**Phase 3 (2008-2010)**

Phase 3 will feature the conclusion of field activities, such as study tours and demonstration projects. Final products, in particular the compilation of successful urban policies and practices by participating cities, and models of effective urban policies and programmes, will be developed and prepared for presentation at the final Network Meeting.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- **What is the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment?**
  - It is a mechanism to promote environmental action at the local level.
- **What does the programme do?**
  - It helps local governments to improve their capacity in urban environmental management.
- **What is the programme's mandate?**
  - It aims to achieve measurable improvement in the urban environment in Asia and the Pacific.
The Second Cycle of the Kitakyushu Initiative will build upon the achievements in 2000-2005. The Kitakyushu Initiative Network will continue to provide the following functions to participating local governments:

- Assistance in preparing and implementing integrated and sustainable urban development plans and strategies with quantitative indicators;
- Periodical monitoring of implementation and progress in terms of quantitative indicators;
- Promotion of information exchange and sharing of experience among participating local governments;
- Provision of a platform for the transfer of technology, know-how packages, good practices and a successful municipal/regional model for sustainable development;
- Linkages, catalysis and facilitation of internal and external financial support to international co-operation activities of local authorities;
- Facilitation of capacity-building activities for environmental administration staff in participating local governments;
- Promotion of environmental education programmes in intercity cooperation;
- Encouragement of private enterprises to participate in infrastructure development and environmental quality enhancement programmes.

ACTIVITIES (2005-2010)

The Second Cycle of the Kitakyushu Initiative will be conducted under three pillars.

- Collection and replication of successful policies and practices
- Development of models of innovative policies and programmes
- Development of future collaborative mechanisms

Collection and replication of successful policies and practices

Seed cases are collected through literature reviews and the organisation of workshops on innovative win-win policies to achieve tangible improvements in environmental quality, while promoting local livelihoods. Opportunities are provided to exchange experiences and carry out discussions on solutions to common problems and identification of follow-up actions.

The replication of successful policies and practices is encouraged and supported through the sharing of information, transfer of experiences through study tours, support for the formulation of demonstration projects with potential technical assistance, and analysis of the outcomes of these projects to provide feedback for future activities.
Demonstration Projects: What are they?

Demonstration projects are methods to replicate successful policies and programmes in different situations. The outcomes of such projects are shared through mutual information exchange and study tour programmes.

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

An energy audit of office buildings was carried out in the Khan-Uul District of Ulaanbaatar City to demonstrate that substantial reductions in energy consumption and energy bills of local governments can be achieved with small initial investments. This project was conducted in coordination with UNESCAP, Khan-Uul District, Ulaanbaatar; the Ministry of Fuel and Energy; and the Ministry of Nature and Environment.

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

A model project for water-use efficiency in the urban area was documented, tested, and is available for replication in Iran and other countries. The project envisions economic growth while limiting the use of water resources and cutting pollution, and keeping within the aquatic carrying capacity. The project was carried out by setting up a project and NGO support team, collecting and processing the water-use data over the last five years in the project area, conducting a leak detection survey of the project area, replacing water meters for cold and hot water supply in 120 apartments, replacing obsolete household water fixtures for toilets, taps and showerheads, and conducting public awareness activities.

Nonthaburi, Thailand

The first study tour of the Second Cycle was hosted by Nonthaburi Municipality in December 2005. This activity was implemented to provide cities with an opportunity to observe successful activities in improvement of the environment and behaviour of residents as a result of a pilot project on minimising waste and increasing recycling rates conducted from November 2001 to December 2002.

Other demonstration projects

- Dhaka (Bangladesh): Solid waste management planning
- Chongqing (China): Study on urban air quality management
- Weihai (China): Feasibility study on privatisation of industrial wastewater treatment
- Surabaya (Indonesia): Stakeholder awareness improvement for air quality management
- Cebu (Philippines): Water quality improvement
- Puerto Princesa (Philippines): Multi-stakeholder approach to climate change
- Nakhon Ratchimsa (Thailand): Construction of small-scale treatment facilities for domestic wastewater
- Ho Chi Minh (Viet Nam): Stakeholder awareness in industrial relocation

DEVELOPMENT OF MODELS OF INNOVATIVE POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

Expert group meetings are conducted to develop basic concepts for urban policy models for environment and development as well as to identify innovative models, which will be further developed through the collection and replication of successful policies and practices.

DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE COLLABORATIVE MECHANISMS

The Kitakyushu Initiative Network, an existing mechanism for intercity cooperation, acts as a platform for the implementation of the Kitakyushu Initiative programme and as a springboard for the development of future collaborative mechanisms.

- Network Meetings: To share goals for the Second Cycle, monitor activities, and invite commitments by local governments.
- Staff exchange: To facilitate capacity building of governmental staff and provide on-ground experience.
- Information tools: Development and expansion of the Network website to facilitate activities and city-to-city communication.
- Cooperation and coordination: Working together with existing initiatives and programmes in the region.

And... COMMITMENT

To continue efforts to improve the environment and promote livelihoods

Since its inception in 2000, the Kitakyushu Initiative has been assembling pieces of the puzzle to support visible on-ground environmental improvement.

Expected Achievements in the Second Cycle (2005-2010)

The Second Cycle of the Kitakyushu Initiative will build upon the achievements of the First Cycle and will focus on intensifying the activities and outcomes of the programme to ensure that by 2010, the programme can assist local governments to develop and implement "win-win" strategies.

Successful Practices

Success stories by participating cities in achieving tangible improvements in environmental quality and promotion of livelihoods, with documented replication of experiences

Policy Models

Successful policy models that can be adopted by local governments in promoting integrated win-win approaches to urban environmental management and socio-economic development

Commitment

Commitments by cities and partner initiatives to continue efforts to improve the environment, promote livelihoods, and engage in intercity cooperation on an autonomous basis.
PARTICIPATING CITIES

COUNTRY       CITY

Bangladesh    Dhaka, Sylhet
Cambodia      Siem Reap
China         Beijing, Chongqing, Dalian, Guiyang, Jiangyin,
              Lanzhou, Ningbo, Rongcheng, Shanghai,
              Shenzhen, Taiyuan, Weihai, Yantai, Zhangjiagang,
              Zhenjiang, Hong Kong [China], Macao [China]
Fiji          Lami
India         Bhopal, Kanpur
Indonesia     Balik Papan, Bekasi, Ganyar, Jakarta, Medan, Semarang, Sidoarjo, Surabaya
Islamic Republic of Iran   Tehran
Japan         Fukuoka, Hiroshima, Kitakyushu, Minamata, Ube, Yokohama (CITYNET)
Korea (Republic of)  Cheongju, Daegu, Jeju, Jeonju, Pohang
Malaysia       Sibu
Mongolia       Ulaanbaatar
Myanmar        Yangon
Nepal          Birrendranagar, Dhankuta, Doti-Silgadi, Hetauda, Kathmandu, Lekhnath
Pakistan       Karachi, Quetta
Philippines (the)  Bago, Cebu
Sri Lanka      Colombo, Jayewardenepura Kotte
Thailand       Bangkok, Korat, Nonthaburi
Viet Nam       Ho Chi Minh

62 cities from 18 countries (as of March 2006)

Find out what's happening at http://www.iges.or.jp/kitakyushu
About the programme

The Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment, a programme of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), was adopted at the 4th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific held in the City of Kitakyushu, Japan in 2000.

The Kitakyushu Initiative, identified in the Plan of Implementation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) as a relevant initiative to achieve sustainable development, has a mandate to achieve measurable progress in improvement of the environment in major cities in the Asia-Pacific region. The Kitakyushu Initiative focuses on the sharing of experiences of cities that have overcome pollution and improved the urban environment, taking selected technical, institutional, regulatory and participatory measures available.

The government of Japan and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies provide financial and secretariat support to the Kitakyushu Initiative Network.

For more information, please visit the Kitakyushu Initiative Network website.

http://www.iges.or.jp/kitakyushu

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