



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

Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment

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 I Initiative in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in September 2002, and based on a 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.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

What is the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment?

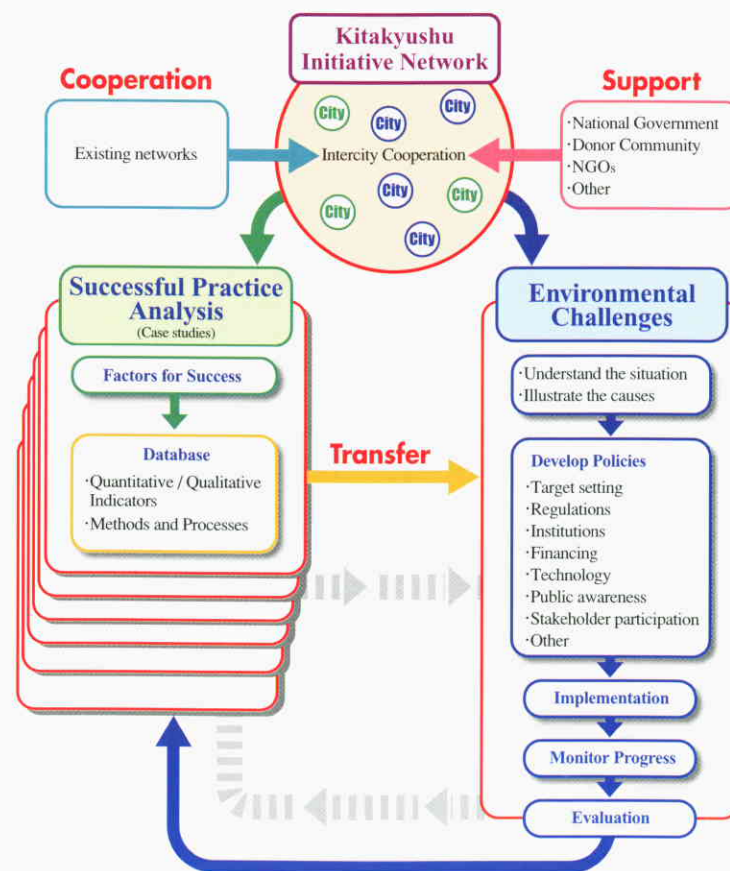
It is a mechanism to promote environmental action at the local level

What does the programme do?

It helps local governments improve their capacity in urban environmental management

What is the programme's mandate?

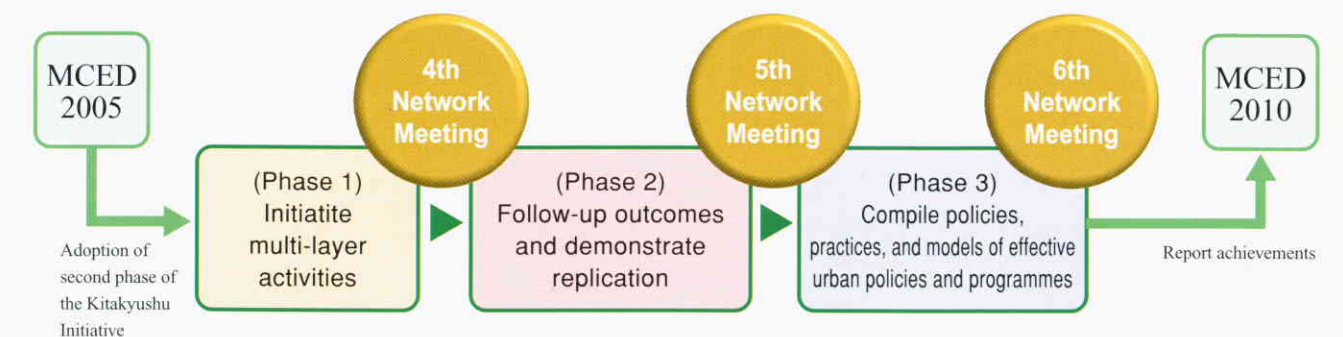
It aims to achieve measurable improvement in the urban environment in Asia and the Pacific



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)



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.



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, catalysation 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.



