

# Starting point for creating a society with sustainable development

## Kitakyushu City and ESD

**Intense pollution**



Since the start of the Government Managed Yawata Steel Works in 1901, and the gathering of many factories centering on heavy industry, the Kitakyushu area developed as one of the four major industrial areas in Japan, propelling the industrial modernization and rapid economic growth of Japan. However, on the other hand, the rapid economic growth brought serious environmental pollution in the 1960s.

**"We want our blue sky back" activity by the local women's group**

Investigation of dust and soot, presentation about living conditions, making of a documentary film "We want our blue sky back", etc.



第一長期間汚染調査



The partnership among industry, academia, the government and the citizens that overcame the pollution, and the various efforts that made the most use of that partnership.

On-site inspection of factories



Citizens efforts



Study through a professor's lecture

Partner ship

Enterprises efforts

Energy efficient production process and introduction of pollution control equipment

The local government efforts

Monitoring of environment and enhancement of environmental infrastructure



When the citizens found the problem, they studied and thought by themselves, and took action, these efforts spread to universities, the government and enterprises; and in this way the problem was solved.

## It was precisely the practice of ESD.

Miraculous recovery from a sky of dirty smoke and a sea of deadly pollution

**Recovered blue sky and beautiful sea**



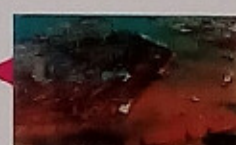
Pollution (air pollution) in the 1960s "Kitakyushu Industrial Area" with smoke of various colors



Mountains of Wakamatsu Ward on the opposite side of Dokai Bay can be seen clearly.



After dredging the bay, a lot of fish came back.



Pollution (water pollution) in the 1960s The sea of deadly pollution, Dokai Bay where even cod bacteria couldn't live

**Keywords of ESD: "Connect" and "Expand"**

International cooperation and current initiatives based on previous experience with overcoming pollution

**International cooperation**

Improvement of environment in Dalian



Smog over Dalian City



Blue sky recovered by the cooperation between local government and enterprises

Improvement of environment in Surabaya, Indonesia



City area filled with garbage



Introduction of composting and understanding of citizens



City area that is full of green

**Current initiatives**

Hibikinada Eco Frontier Park



Kitakyushu Smart Community Creation Project



International contribution by making use of the know-how regarding sustainable creation of an eco-friendly city gained through the cooperation among industry, academia, the government and citizens

▶ Kitakyushu city has a rich basis to encourage ESD.