

Fostering the SDGs Youth Leaders – Learning from Japanese Frontrunner Cities

未来のSDGsの担い手を 日本のフロントランナー地域と共に育成する

> Interactive Session 2 (IS-2) 29th July 2025 15:10 - 16:40 Pacifico Yokohama Room 501

> > **Junko Ota**



Fostering SDGs Youth Leaders – Learning from Japanese Frontrunner Cities 未来のSDGsの担い手を日本のフロントランナー地域と共に育成する

Youth Leaders



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マリアム・アルナクビ

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> マーティン・ロゲリオ・ ブスタマンテ・アントニオ

叡啓大学ソーシャルシステムデザイン学部 学生



Mana SHORT

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Organizer



OTA Junko

Research Manager, Kitakyushu Urban Centre, IGES

大田 純子

IGES 北九州アーバンセンター リサーチマネージャー

Frontrunner Cities



KOGA Minoru

Director General, Minamata Environmental Academia, Minamata City Office

古賀 実

水俣市役所 水俣環境アカデミア 所長

Minamata City



SII VAN DE VELDE

Co-founder, INOW

シル・ヴァン・デ・ヴェルデ INOW 共同創業者

Kamikatsu Town



ITO Yoshitaka

Section Manager, General Affairs Department, HOKUTAKU Co., Ltd.

伊藤 嘉隆

株式会社北拓 総務部課長

Kitakyushu City



FY2024 IGES organized "The SDGs Human Resource Development Program that Connects Learning and Society through Environmental Issues" for Youth

IGESは、文部科学省 令和6年度ユネスコ活動費補助金(SDGsの担い手育成推進事業)として 「環境課題から学びと社会をつなぐ持続可能な開発目標(SDGs)グローバル人材育成プログラム」を大学生対象に実施

Since 2019, IGES has been annually organizing the Kitakyushu SDGs Training

The Fourth Kitakyushu
SDGs Training
March 2023
REFLECTION NOTE
By the Participants



2024 Scale up

FY2024, IGES's proposal was accepted by Japan's Ministry of Education's fund and expanded the program to outside of Kitakyushu City



Ministry of Education Japan HP: https://www.mext.go.jp/unesco/015/1342621_00002.htm IGES HP: https://www.iges.or.jp/en/events/202407-202501



Purpose Connect Global Youth to Local Region

Designing "multi-purpose" program that benefit all stakeholders leads to sustainability 全てのアクターが恩恵を受ける「マルチ・パーパス」の実現がサステイナビリティにつながる

Students



持続可能な社会の担い手になるための 資質を身につけ、行動を始める

IGES



学生と社会をつなぎ、SDGsの担い 手に必要な資質・能力を引き出す

Government



持続可能な社会の担い手を育成し 社会問題を解決する枠組を提供する

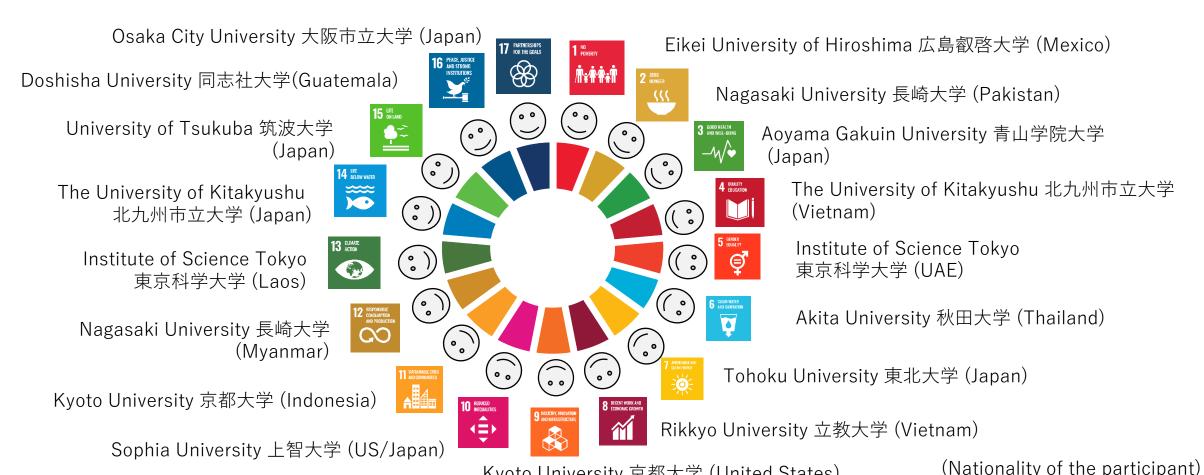
Local Society



国際的な若者の視点と未来志向な発想を得る

Selecting through public applications 17 university students with diverse expertise covering the 17 SDGs areas

SDGsの17分野をカバーする多様性な専門性・関心がある17名の大学生を公募で選考





Programme

Purpose

The participants will be able to cultivate the international competencies to become leaders in a sustainable society, and to take the first-step action by learning from the real cases where diverse stakeholders are working together to achieve the SDGs with generating solution to the environmental issues.

プログラムの目的

多様なステークホルダーが協働し、環境課題を核にSDGsを達成している実社会から学ぶことを通じ、受講者は、持続可能な社会の担い手になるための国際的な資質を身につけ、行動の第一歩を踏み出すことを目的とする。



学びを広める報告会

導入研修(2日間) IGES本部 (神奈川県) 実地研修(2週間) 上勝町、北九州市、水俣市 (徳島県) (福岡県) (熊本県)



Visit 3 regions where a different approach is being used to overcome environmental problems and create socio-economic ripple effects

異なるアプローチで環境問題を克服し、経済社会の波及効果を創出する地域を訪問

Kamikatsu Town

Tokushima Prefecture



Population 1,300 Small

Kitakyushu City

Fukuoka Prefecture



900,000 Large

Minamata City

Minamata Prefecture



210,000 Middle



Kamikatsu Town (Tokushima prefecture)

上勝町

Revitalization of rice terraces "Kamikatsu Thatched Roof School"





Visualization of market price of waste Zero Waste WHY Center





Decorative leaf business "Irodori"







Kitakyushu City (Fukuoka prefecture)

北九州市

History of overcoming pollution



Offshore wind power farm under construction



Training facility for turbine



Cultural revitalization and



Beach clean up





Locally manufactured foundation



Circularity Deck Workshop





Minamata City (Kumamoto prefecture)

水俣市

Minamata Academia





Ocean Preservation



Nagisa-no-Koban



Interaction with Minamata High School



Local Tourism





Key Competencies for Sustainability

ユネスコが提唱する持続可能な社会をつくる人材能力

System thinking

システム思考

Anticipatory

予測

Normative

規範的

Strategic

戦略的

Collaboration

協働

Critical thinking

批判的思考

Self-awareness

自己認識

Integrated problem-solving

統合的問題解決

Source: UNESCO. 2017. Education for Sustainable Development Goals: learning objectives



Kept Diary for Sustainability Competencies during the Field Trip

持続可能性のための人材になる8つの能力について

実施研修中、地域づくりの現場から感じた点、自分自身に変化があった点などを日誌をつけた

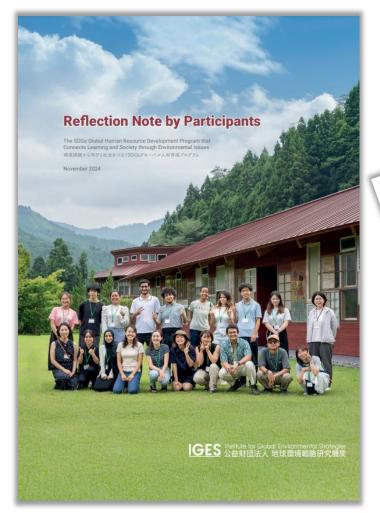
Competency type	Sub-categories	Kamikatsu		Kitakyushu		Minamata													
		3 rd (Tue)	4th (Wed)	6th (Fri)	9th (Mon)	10th (Tue)	12th (Thur)	13th (Fri)	Overall										
Systems thinking	different domains and different scales;		residents' lifestyle of not exploiting nature is a systemic response to environmental sustainability.	focuses on eradicating pollution, emphasizing how energy, technology, and resources are interconnected. Utilizing	hydrogen energy integration are examples of a larger, interconnected energy system working towards carbon reduction and community		The relationship between industrial pollution and human health demonstrates the deep infer connectedness; between corporate activities, environmental degradation, and societal well-being.		Kamikasus comocion between popule and nature highlights hose humans and nature bounds each other. Klashyushus efforts in eradicating pollution by utilizing resources and energy through corporate initiatives. JEPLAN's recycling model, span Competence materials to close the water loop. Milmanatis's transformation initiatives. Type		Sub-categories		Kamikatsu 3 rd (Tue) 4th (Wed)		Kitakyushu Sth (Fri) 9th (Mon) 10th (Tue		Minamata e) 12th (Thur) 13th (Fri)		Overall
	Deal with uncertainty.								environmental model, addressing of environmental negligence.	the needs, perspectives and	Collaboration with local and external stakeholders is vital in rethinking consumption patterns and encouraging the	Kamikatsu's compactness allow for closer community ties, which enhances the collaborative effort towards shared goals, such as	s In Kitakyushu, cooperation between citizens, corporations, and the government to reduce pollution shows a highly		JEPLAN collaborates with residents and brands, making recycling a communal effort. The	The engagement with students in Minamata represents an effort to collaborate with younger	Using Legos as a tool to communicate highlights the power of collaboration, where group interaction and	- JICA's collaboration between Japanese businesses and developing countries to addres economic and environmental issues. - The wind power project in Kitakyushu, where	
Anticipatory	Create one's own Apply the Assess the		By adopting substitute products and altering lifestyles, Karnikatsu anticipates future economic benefits and reduced waste, positioning the town for a more sustainable future.		Kitakyushu's investment in wind power, with projects that will last 30-35 years, demonstrates for esight in sustainable energy infrastructure.		Minamata's efforts to focus on health safeguards and environmental cleanup show a proactive approach to preventing future crises.	such as I future on -Dynami commun -Long ite biomass s sustain -The cas the long-	-Kamikatsu's sustainable lifestyle such as bulk buying and yuko farm future-oriented planning. -Dynamic pricing experiments in community projects for future ener Long-term planning for wind burbli biomass energy projects, including	Collaboratio n		Innovative and creative ways.		creating a sustainable community.		trust and strengthens collaboration.	and environmental awareness.	non-verbal methods help express individual and collective ideas.	profits are shared with clitzens for greening activities. -UEPLAN's collaboration with municipalities a other brands to recycle materials and create sustainable products.
	Deal with risks and	residents by pronoung the town's unique capabilities, such as the Zero Waste Cente and upcycling shops.	r						to mass energy process, includes a sustainability and hydrogen energy -The case of the Minamata disease the long-term social and environm of corporate actions.	Critical	Question norms, practices and opinions; Reflect on own one's values, perceptions	Currently, the Zero Waste process does not leverage technology, making it overly manual. The town must recognize the need for continuous improvement, which could be achieved through the integration of	The reflection that "your trash reflects your lifestyle" involves critical analysis of consumption habits. By introducing substitute products and reducing waste, Kamikastu engages in behavior that promotes environmental sustainability.	The use of dynamic pricing experiments and analyzing hydrogen fuel cell challenges shows critical analysis of energy solutions, where companies are learning from both successes and failures (e.g., Suzük's hydrogen vehicle	Kitakyushu's innovative recycling methods, like turning waste into new fabrics, challenge traditional ideas of waste management.	JEPLAN's focus on chemical recycling and collaboration with municipalities shows critical evaluation of how to solve recycling challenges in innovative ways (e.g., decolorizing materials and	operations, involves a critical reevaluation of		-Kamikatsu's approach to sustainable farmin, and bulk buying to reduce waste, questioning i current wasteful systemsThe dishore wind power and biomass energ projects in Kladyushu tackling challenges like import dependency and energy supplyThe Minamata case study evaluating the ethi dlemma of cortinaing oper signor despite
Normative	Negotiate sustainability values, principles, goals, and targets, in a	and objectives of the Zero Waste Center with individual goals is necessary to foster a more harmonious and	The vision of Kamikatsu being focused on projects and research rather than capitalist ventures highlights their strong value-driven approach, where economic gain is not prioritized, but long-term societal and environmental	ojects and research splintial ventures is strong value- ch, where economic oritized, but long- and environmental is.		normative stance on producing high-quality, eco-friendly products, even in the face of higher costs.	The Minamata case is a profound example of how environmental negligence, when profit is prioritized, can lead to massive human suffering. Declaring	assempte of how enterin registrone, lit is prioritized, on massive effering. Declaring tention of the producting tention and the production of the productio	Nominitatal is non-capitalisi appraign on sustainability and research interes or profit.	thinking	and actions; Take a position in the sustainability discourse.	technology or other innovative solutions.	ŕ	struggles).			dependencies vensus human health.	1	evidence of environmental harm. -JEPLAN's ability to overcome market challenges by using high-tech recycling methods and addressing the cost concerns.
	context of conflicts of interests and trade- offs, uncertain knowledge and contradictions.		sustainability is.				environmental model city in 1992 is a normative shift toward accountability and sustainability.			Society; Continually evaluate and further motivate	reward points or product exchanges, could enhance the effectiveness of Kamikatsu's circular economy efforts, motivating residents to actively	are not driven by monetary gain				Minamata's journey from tragedy to environmental model town reflects self- awareness in understanding past mistakes and moving toward healing and receiver ation.	thoughts and ideas through senses, such as touch, illustrates self-awareness in communication methods This use of Legos to convey complex ideas reflects an	Kamikatsu's focus on salf-sufficiency and community sustainability, rejecting external pressures like tourism. -The reflection on the Minamata disease's social and ethical impact, emphasizing the ne for recognition and heating. -The creative process using Legas to express unspoken thoughts, enhancing self-awareness.	
Strategic		locally and internationally	u would share meal's, leveraging eness both communal activities for the mally broader purpose of fostering cossibility crestivity and innovation in sync ent on with nature. This reflects a	developing countries through partnerships with Japanese companies.	cheaper two-wing designs		rebuild the town's reputation and enhance		JICA's win win policy in negotial Japanese companies to solve deve countries' issues. Klaskywathu's strategic use of liqui gas and energy-assing schnology infrastructure and clinics. The use of automation in wind tur	awareness	one's actions; Deal with one's feelings and desires.				The last of the la	Theresides		expression.	through hands-on learning.
		THOMS PERSON TIO							maintenance to reduce liabor costs -Smart community creation project dynamic princing for more efficient consumption.	Integrated problem- solving	frameworks to complex	from key stakeholders, such as the government or local municipality, to improve transportation options to and from the town. Addressing this	It The farming of unique citrus and finding substitutes for products are innovative solutions that address economic and environmental concerns simultaneously, reducing waste while supporting local agriculture while supporting local agriculture.	to reduce pollution and reliance on local energy sources highlights a multi-faceted approach to addressing environmental and energy	The town's mix of wind energy, biomass, and recycling activities represents a holisist approach to tackling energ needs and waste reduction through various sustainable methods.	recycled goods	Minamata's focus on environmental cleanup, health, and sustainable practices reflects a multifaceted approach to resolving the community's historical environmental challenges while aligning with the SDGs.		JLCA's business model for solving excounts and environmental problems by integrating multiple stakeholders. *Kolksyach's recoping energy initiatives, combring technology and oliziem engagemer address pollution and energy needs. *JEPLAM's use of chemical recycling processes, integrating municipal collaboratio close the waste loop. *Mirmanda's ta randormation into an environmental model, balancing excounties, environmental model, balancing excounties.



Published "Reflection Note by Participants" as Written Output

受講生からのアウトプット:リクレクションノート

Issued in November 2024







First Step of Action

Disseminate Your Learning & Experience to Your Community

行動の第一歩「学びを広める報告会」を各自が自主的に所属大学などで企画した





自分で報告会を企画し、自分の言葉で訪問地域について語れるようになった

Now, the Youth can Talk about Kamikatsu, Kitakyushu, Minamata with Their Own Words











Guiding Question 1

What was your TAKE AWAY from this program?

このプログラムから得たことは何ですか?



Guiding Question 2 for Youth Leaders

What type of the SDGs leader you want to be?

どのようなSDGsの担い手になりたいですか?





Mana SHORT

Research Assistant, Department of Global Studies, Sophia University

Mana Short is a Japanese-American researcher and recent graduate of Sophia University, where she earned a B.A. in International Relations through the Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures. Her work centers on regenerative education and grassroots environmental movements. She currently serves as a research assistant on two projects: one investigating urban watershed governance and green infrastructure in Tokyo, and another examining agroecology movements throughout Japan. Outside of her academic work, Mana actively explores community-based sustainability initiatives, learning how local groups organize and collaborate to address pressing social-ecological challenges.

ショート 真菜

上智大学総合グローバル学科 研究支援員

上智大学サステイナブル・フューチャーズ・プログラムにて主にRegenerative education(再生的教育)と草の根の環境運動を研究、国際関係学の学士号を取得。現在、東京における都市型流域ガバナンスとグリーンインフラに関する調査と日本各地のアグロエコロジー運動に関する研究の2つのプロジェクトでリサーチ・アシスタントを務めている。学術活動の枠を超えて、地域に根ざしたサステイナビリティの取り組みにも積極的に関わっており、地域コミュニティが社会・生態系の課題にどう連携して取り組んでいるかを研究している。





Martín Rogelio BUSTAMANTE ANTONIO

Student, Department of Social System Design, Eikei University of Hiroshima

Martin is a Mexican student enrolled in the Social System Design program at Eikei University of Hiroshima. Passionate about sustainability and peacebuilding, he actively collaborates with international organizations such as UNITAR and the YMCA. He has participated in regional initiatives the Asia Pacific Next Generation (APNG) Camp, contributing to youth-led innovation across the Asia-Pacific. Although not originally from Asia, Martin is deeply committed to strengthening cooperation and dialogue among young leaders in the region, fostering cross-cultural collaboration for a more sustainable future.

Driven by a strong curiosity to understand the systems that shape our world, Martin explores the intersections of sustainability, economic development, and market dynamics. He currently leads multiple initiatives, including a food self-sufficiency start-up, aimed at building resilient and inclusive communities.

マーティン・ロゲリオ・ブスタマンテ・アントニオ

叡啓大学ソーシャルシステムデザイン学部 学生

メキシコ出身。広島県叡啓大学ソーシャルシステムデザイン学部在籍。サステナビリティや平和構築に強い関心を持ち、UNITARやYMCAといった国際機関と連携して活動している。アジア太平洋地域の若手リーダー育成を目的とした国際プログラム"APNG Camp(Asia Pacific Next Generation Camp)"にも参加し、同地域におけるイノベーションの促進に貢献してきた。地域内の若手リーダー同士の対話と協力を深め、異文化間のつながりを通じて持続可能な未来をともに築くことを目指している。

また、世界を形作るシステムを理解したいという探究心から、サステナビリティ、経済発展、市場の動きが交わる領域に目を向けている。現在は、食料自給 を目指すスタートアップを含む複数のプロジェクトを主導し、包摂的で強靭なコミュニティづくりに取り組みたいと考えている





Mariam ALNAQBI

Student, Department of Transdisciplinary Science and Engineering, Institute of Science Tokyo

Mariam Alnaqbi is a graduate student in Transdisciplinary Science and Engineering at the Institute of Science Tokyo. She serves as the President of the Emirati Youth Council in Japan, working to strengthen cultural and strategic relations between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Japan. She is also the Founder and President of Women in Science Tokyo (WiST), an organization dedicated to promoting gender equity and inclusion in STEM. Mariam welcomes opportunities to collaborate with like-minded individuals and organizations.

マリアム・アルナクビ

東京科学大学環境・社会理工学院博士課程後期 学生

東京科学大学環境・社会理工学院大学院生。日本における在日アラブ首長国連邦(UAE)ユース・カウンシル会長として、UAEと日本の文化的・戦略的な関係強化に取り組んでいる。また、STEM分野におけるジェンダー平等とインクルージョンを推進する団体 "Women in Science Tokyo (WiST) "の創設者兼代表でもあり、共通の志を持つ個人や団体との連携の機会を大切にしている。





KITAGAWA Sakurako

Student, Graduate School of Energy Science, Kyoto University

Sakurako Kitagawa became interested in decentralized energy systems after experiencing the Great East Japan Earthquake and the resulting power outages when she was in the third grade of elementary school. The inconvenience of life without electricity, along with a sense of discomfort toward the structure of the current energy system, sparked her interest. She studied energy from an engineering perspective at the Faculty of Engineering, Tohoku University. Motivated by a desire to consider energy issues from a more multifaceted viewpoint, she is now continuing her studies at Kyoto University's Graduate School of Energy Science. Her current research explores whether decentralized energy systems—which require long-term investment recovery—can be economically and socially sustainable in regional areas of Japan, where population decline and decreasing demand are anticipated. She is also interested in how the traditional ways of life, cultural practices, artisanal techniques, and temples and shrines—passed down over generations in these regions—can be preserved and revitalized for the future. Her work focuses on the intersection of regional sustainability and decentralized renewable energy systems.

北川 桜子

京都大学大学院エネルギー科学研究科 学生

小学校3年生で東日本大震災、それに伴う停電を経験し、電気がない生活の不便さや現在の電力システムの仕組みに対する違和感から、分散型エネルギーシステムに興味を持つ。東北大学工学部でエネルギーについて工学の観点から学びを深め、エネルギーをより多角的な視点で考えられるようになりたい、という思いで京都大学エネルギー科学研究科に進学。現在は、人口減少・需要縮小が予想される日本の地方において、長期の投資回収が必要な分散型エネルギーシステムの導入は経済的・社会的にサスティナブルになりえるか?日本の各地域に根付く、長い歴史が紡いできた営みや文化、伝統技術、寺社仏閣をどのように後世に残し、活かしていくか?など、地域持続性×再エネ分散型エネルギーシステムを探求中。





Hangga PRIHATMAJA

Student, Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies, Kyoto University

After 13 years of professional work as an auditor for various sustainability certification programs, while also serving as a consultant in the field of climate change mitigation, I am currently pursuing a PhD in Global Environmental Policy at the Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies, Kyoto University. I am also affiliated with the Division of Graduate Studies at Kyoto University, supported by the Japan Science and Technology Agency, and the Mitsubishi UFT Trust Foundation as one of its scholars. Whilst founding MIDORI Forestry, I aim to become a leading research consultant in the fields of climate change, forestry, and sustainability.

ハンガ・プリハトマジャ

京都大学地球環境学舎地球環境学専攻 学生

インドネシアにてサステイナビリティ認証制度に係る監査業務に13年間従事し、また同時に気候変動緩和分野のコンサルタントとして活動した経験を経て、現在は京都大学大学院地球環境学舎博士課程に在籍し地球環境政策を専攻している。日本学術振興会(JST)および三菱UFJ信託財団の支援を受け、京都大学の大学院教育支援機構にも所属。現在は、気候変動、林業、サステイナビリティの分野における先導的な研究コンサルタントを目指し、MIDORI Forestry の設立に取り組んでいる。





Alejandra Maritza RODAS AROCHE

Student, Graduate School of Business, Doshisha University

Alejandra Maritza Rodas Aroche is from Guatemala and currently a Global MBA candidate at Doshisha University in Japan, specializing in innovation, sustainability, and technology in business. In 2024, she completed specialized SDGs training through IGES and participated in the World Recycling Convention in Italy. Her current thesis explores how AI and circular economy principles can be applied to sustainable product design, with a focus on consumer perception and environmental impact.

アレハンドラ・マリッツア・ロダス・アロチェ

同志社大学大学院ビジネス研究科グローバル経営研究専攻修士課程 学生

グアテマラ出身。同志社大学グローバルMBA課程において、イノベーション、サステナビリティ、テクノロジーを研究している。2024年、IGES主催のSDGs研修およびイタリアで開催された世界リサイクリング会議に参加。修士論文では、AIと循環型経済の原則を活用した持続可能な製品デザインをテーマに、消費者の認識や環境への影響を考察している。



Guiding Question 2 for Frontrunner Cities

How would you want to foster youth? What types of human resource needed?

どのように若者の人材育成に取り組みたいですか? どのような人材を必要としていますか?

Upcoming Kitakyushu SDGs Training 25 Aug. – 5 Sep. 2025 in Kitakyushu City

Application deadline is tomorrow (30 July) via IGES-HP Event Page



https://www.iges.or.jp/en/events/20250825-0905

Zero Carbon EV Motors Japan
Hokutaku
Kitakyushu Power
Hiagari waste-to-energy plant
Next generation Energy Park

Circular Economy Think
SYNERGY
with local
companies

Nature Positive

Mine Well Create Kitakyushu Eco Town

Shabondama Soap Hibikinada Hops Group Biotope

- ✓ 25 Aug. to 5 Sep. 2025 (2 weeks) in Kitakyushu
- √ Think "synergy" with local stakeholders
- ✓ Present your idea to local companies
- ✓ Free participation fee including accommodation
- ✓ Supported by Kitakyushu City and JICA Kyushu