

### Eco-Model Cities for the Low-Carbon Society

To facilitate shift to a low-carbon society on a nationwide basis, the Japanese government selected the following 13 domestic municipalities that are taking actions to achieve ambitious environmental targets, such as a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and designated them as *Eco-Model Cities* in fiscal 2008.

Shimokawa-cho, Obihiro, Chiyoda-ku, Yokohama, Iida, Toyota, Toyama, Kyoto, Sakai, Yusu-hara-cho, Kitakyushu, Minamata, and Miyakojima

### Promotion Council for the Low-Carbon Cities

The council was established in December 2008 with the participation of municipal and prefectural governments, relevant national governmental agencies and other stakeholder organizations, with a view to disseminating the good practices of the Eco-Model Cities nationwide and sharing information with the world. As of December 1, 2010, the membership consists of a total of 192 organizations.

Reference: Website of Eco-Model City Project—Sustainable City for Future: <http://ecomodelproject.go.jp/>

# International Conference on Promoting the Low-Carbon Cities in Kyoto

## Purpose of Conference


Transition to a low-carbon society is of utmost imperative not only for Japan but also for all the nations and people around the world.

To facilitate the transition process, the Japanese government selected 13 domestic municipalities that are taking actions to achieve ambitious environmental targets, and designated them as *Eco-Model Cities*. The government also established the Promotion Council for the Low-Carbon Cities, comprised of 192 members that include the Eco-Model Cities, as well as local governments, national governmental agencies and other related organizations that are ready to assume a leading role in working toward a low-carbon society. Through this council, efforts are underway to introduce good practices across the board and promote collaboration with environmentally advanced cities abroad.

The council will organize the International Conference on Promoting the Low-Carbon Cities in Kyoto and invite experts and representatives of environmentally-friendly cities, both Japanese and foreign, to learn from the insights of the foreign cities, share best practices internationally, and discuss how cities and regions can play a leading role in creating a sustainable society. Foreign experts invited from the cities in Europe and the U.S. with successful records in shifting toward a low-carbon society will make presentations and participate in a panel discussion.

Date : Friday, February 11, 2011

Venue : Kyoto International Conference Center (Room A)

Organizer:  **Promotion Council for the Low-Carbon Cities**

(with membership consisting of national and local governments, private companies and other related organizations)

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## International Conference on Promoting the Low-Carbon Cities in Kyoto — Schedule

### Morning Session (Part 1)

If we are to successfully facilitate a shift toward a low-carbon society at a local level, we should combine the knowledge and skills available in the local community by fostering partnership among stakeholders across a wide range of sectors. Part 1 of this conference will focus on citizens' actions discussing how we can encourage greater civil participation and effectively combine the knowledge and skills of citizens in promoting actions.

**10:00 to 10:20** Opening

**10:20 to 10:40** Keynote lecture: **Development of a low-carbon community by making effective use of knowledge and skills of citizens**

Dr. Masaaki Naito, Director of the Miyako Agenda 21 Forum, Professor Emeritus at Kyoto University



Dr. Masaaki Naito

**10:40 to 11:10** Presentations by domestic civil groups

**Ohisama Shinpo Energy Co., Ltd. (Iida City)**

**Zero Waste Roundtable (Minamata City)**

**NPO KES Environmental Organization (Kyoto City)**

**11:10 to 11:30** Dialogue between domestic civil groups and foreign participants and concluding comments

**11:45 to 13:00** Buffet-style reception party for citizens (at Sakura; Entry fee: 2,000 yen)

**13:10 to 14:30** Award Ceremony for the Best Practice in Low-Carbon City Development

### Afternoon Session (Part 2) Promotion Council for the Low-Carbon Cities — Joint Meeting of Working Groups\*

One of the most effective ways to accelerate shift to a low-carbon society is to learn from the best practices, both domestic and foreign, take a hint from them, and adopt successful tactics across the board. Part 2 of the conference will consider the roles of stakeholders, including local governments, private companies, NPOs and citizens, in disseminating the best practices from community to community, through presentations of successful cases in Japan and abroad, and a panel discussion.

**13:30 to 13:50** Keynote lecture: **Cities: the Front Runners of Low-Carbon Society**

Dr. Shuzo Nishioka, Senior Visiting Researcher of the National Institute for Environmental Studies



Dr. Shuzo Nishioka

**13:50 to 14:50** Presentations by foreign and Japanese speakers

1. Boulder City, U.S.A. (Ms. Susan Osborne, Mayor of Boulder )

2. Freiburg City, Germany (Dr. Dieter Wörner, Director of the Environmental Protection Agency)

3. Växjö City, Sweden (Ms. Anna Tenje, Chairman of the Technical Services Board & Member of the Executive Board)

4. The winner of the Grand Prix in Best Practice in Low-Carbon City Development

— Break —

**15:10 to 16:20** Panel Discussion

Coordinator: Dr. Tsuyoshi Fujita, Professor at Toyo University



Dr. Tsuyoshi Fujita

**16:20 to 16:30** Final concluding comments, closing

\* WGs for regional low-carbon policies, green economy, and promotion of nationwide best practice

## Profiles of Overseas Participants and Cities

### Boulder City (U.S.A.)



Ms. Susan Osborne

In 2007, Boulder City became the first municipal government in the U.S. that introduced the Climate Action Plan Tax as an energy tax to be used exclusively for actions to prevent global warming. The city is leading the nation in terms of global warming prevention and use of alternative natural energy. In 2008, Boulder drew additional attention as the first Smart Grid City in the U.S., which, as a model city of the Smart Grid Project, showcases environmental technologies that incorporate the smart grid concept.

2007 – Mayor of Boulder

Board and was president of Historic Boulder.

After retiring, she taught at the University of 1977 – 1999 Colorado. Courses included History of City Planning, Housing Policy and Programs, Energy and Design, Behavior and Environment  
Also during the post-retirement, pre-council years, she served 5 years on Boulder's Parks

Director of long range planning, Energy and environment director, Community Development Block Grant assistant director and director, Neighborhood and historic preservation planner for the city of Boulder

### Freiburg City (Germany)



Dr. Dieter Wörner

Freiburg City was awarded the title of Environmental Capital in Germany in 1992, and many other prizes thereafter for its environmental contributions. The city has been taking multifaceted approaches for environmental preservation in a wide range of areas. The RegioKarte (a transport pass to protect the global environment) to encourage use of public transport, the park and ride system to reduce the number of private cars in the urban area, and the car-sharing system are part of many environmental measures promoted by the city. Freiburg City definitely deserves the title of Environmental Capital of the World.

1986 – Director of the environmental department of the city of Freiburg

1978

Doctorate in engineering with themes in nuclear physics

1979 – 1986 Officer and expert in the ministry for environmental protection of the Land (state) of Baden-Württemberg

1974 – 1979

Studies of some semesters in economics

1974 – 1979

Scientific employee in the institute for nuclear energy and energy systems of this university

### Växjö City (Sweden)



Ms. Anna Tenje

The winner of the European Commission's Sustainable Energy Award 2007 in the category of Sustainable Communities, Växjö City is known as the most environmentally-friendly city in Europe. Since 1980, the city has introduced biomass on a phased basis under the leadership of the local forestry industry, and in 1996, declared their determination to become fossil fuel-free. By carrying out the environmental plan formulated as part of the Local Agenda 21, the city is working to replace fossil fuels entirely with biomass.

2011– Member City Council of Växjö: Chairman of the Technical Services & Environmental Board & Member of the Executive Board

Constitution and the Committee on Environment and Agriculture

2006 – 2010 Member of the Swedish Parliament: Member of the Committee on the

2001 – 2006

Political advisor for the Moderate Party: Working as a political advisor with issues concerning health and medical

## Introduction of Participants from Japan

### Dr. Masaaki Naito

Graduated from Faculty of Engineering at Kyoto University in 1962, and obtained his Dr. Eng. degree from Kyoto University in 1969. Appointed as professor at Kyoto University's Graduate School of Engineering in 1995 after he assumed post of Director of Research Analysis and Research Officer responsible for the Environmental Research Group at the National Institute for Environmental Studies. Appointed as professor at the Hall of Global Environmental Studies, Kyoto University Graduate School in 2002. Present Executive Director of Kyoto Institute for Eco-sound Social Systems (NPO) and Chief of Lake Biwa Environmental Research Institute. Dr. Masaaki Naito specializes in Environmental Systems. He has been interested in the circulatory system recently, and doing research on the formation of natural symbiosis society with practical activities to actualize the same and the formation of civil technology.

### Dr. Shuzo Nishioka

Dr. Eng. Graduated from the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Ph.D. course at The University of Tokyo. Worked at the National Institute for Environmental Studies, and served as professor at Tokyo Institute of Technology, professor at Keio University, and Executive Director of the National Institute for Environmental Studies. Present Executive Director of the G8 International Research Network for Low Carbon Society. Specializes in environmental systems, environmental policy studies, and global environmental studies. Dr. Shuzo Nishioka is doing research on techniques to reflect the results of science on governmental policies. He has been researching climate change impact at the IPCC since 1988. He was a leader of Research on Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction for 2050 as a global environmental research project of the Ministry of Environment. Present Chairman of the Short- and Intermediate-term Roadmap Subcommittee of the Central Environment Council. Author of Scenario of Japan's Low Carbon Society—Pathway to Carbon Dioxide Reduction (Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun) and Global Warming and Japan—Estimation of Effect on Nature and People.

### Dr. Tsuyoshi Fujita

Graduated from Department of Urban Engineering at The University of Tokyo in 1983, and University of Pennsylvania (Master of Urban Planning) in 1991. Ph.D. (Engineering). Worked on regional development planning and urban activities for a construction company after graduation, and assumed education and research positions in environmental systems engineering at Osaka University and Toyo University. NIES Director since 2005. Dr. Tsuyoshi Fujita wrote urban environmental planning, environmental technology assessment, eco-town, urban industrial symbiosis system, and many other research papers. Expert panel of environmental information at the Central Environment Council. Chair of the Eco-Town Study Group of the Environment Ministry, a member of the Planning Process Research Committee for Planning Stages of Public Works of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, a member of the Study Committee on Eco-town and Other Cooperation Facilities at the Ministry of Economy, a member of the Manual Planning Committee for Global Warming Countermeasures at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and Visiting Professor at Chinese Academy of Sciences.