Kominkan (CLC of Japan) based ESD in Okayama
- Creation of learning place by municipality and citizens

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Okayama City

- Population: 700,000
- Area: 660 square kilometers

Beijing  Seoul  Osaka  Sendai  Tokyo  Okayama City  Shanghai
Kominkan = CLC in Japan

ESD = Education for Sustainable Development
Education for Sustainable Development

Realize the linkages of the various aspects of economy, environment, society.

Transform values, behavior and lifestyles to achieve sustainable society
RCE: Regional Centers of Expertise on ESD

Formal education

Universities

Secondary Schools

Primary Schools

(Research centers)

Univerisies

Secondary Schools

Primary Schools

Non-formal education

Knowledge-related institutions

(Science) museums

Botanical gardens

Kominkan

Local Governments

Community leaders

Media

Local businesses

Local NGOs

Vertical links

Lateral links

Horizontal links
Outline of Kominkan

- Kominkan = CLC of Japan
- Established after WWII
- Originally, functioned as the place for learning democracy
- Emphasize the importance of citizen’s initiative
Outline of Kominkan

Role of Kominkan

Place for life-long learning

Provide residents with the place for

- Learning
- Gathering
- Working for social action
Outline of Kominkan

Structure and management of Kominkan

- Based on Social Education Act (1946-)
- Set up by each municipality
- Financial support for operation from local government
- Kominkan in Okayama City belongs to the Education Board of Okayama City
Outline of Kominkan

Role of the staff

• Full time professional staff as social education coordinator
• Learning coordinator; class hosted by Kominkan
• Community worker; class run by residents
Kominkan festival
(Classes run by residents)
Management of Kominkan in Okayama City

1. Basic policy = Community development for harmonic living

2. Work on common main challenges in all 37 Kominkan

3. Tackle with specific challenges in each Kominkan depending on the difference of each area

4. Promotion of Education for Sustainable Development – bring up people who can tackle with the local and global challenges

5. Capacity building of the staff
Creation of learning place by municipality and citizens

1. Basic policy
Community development for harmonious living
Creation of learning place by municipality and citizens

2. Work on Common main challenges

- Elderly citizens
- Health
- Environment
- Child rearing
- Gender
- Safe and secure community
Creation of learning place by municipality and citizens

3. Tackle with specific issues in each Kominkan depending on different challenges in each area

Coexistance with foreigners

Conserve environment
4. Promotion of Education for Sustainable Development

Link personal, community, local and global challenges through ESD

Bring up citizens who have the will and skills to solve the local and global challenges
challenge 1: shallow relationship in urban community

make linkages between neighbors through learning the environment of the area
challenge 2: uneasy future of the agricultural area

To know and think about the agriculture and the future of the area with school children and the neighborhood
Field work to the local farm with high school students and community people
Challenge 3: conflict on the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainability of agriculture
Challenge 4: lack of communication between Japanese and non-Japanese in the community

Cross-cultural understanding through education and training for disaster
Challenge 4:
how elderly people live healthy and happy in their community in aging society

Demographic change of over 65 years old
Community issue 4: how elderly people live healthy and happy in their community in aging society

1. Provision of courses for elderly citizens to enjoy their lives
Challenge 4:
how elderly people live healthy and happy in their community in aging society

2. Matching the needs and wants of the community people through utilizing the skills acquired at Kominkan
Challenge 4:
how elderly people live healthy and happy in their community in aging society

- 3. Inter-generational exchange
2. Creation of learning place by municipality and citizens

5. Capacity building of the staffs

- regular exchange meeting
- autonomous learning group on the common challenges
- Seminar and workshop on various themes
4. CLC/Kominkan Conference on ESD in Okayama City in 2014 as one of the UNESCO World Conference on ESD

Date: October 6-8, 2014 (tentative)
October 9, Excursion
Venue: In Okayama City
Let’s learn together
ESD Promotion through CLC and Kominkan in Okayama City 2014!