

Experience of turning a polluted city to an environmental model city and sustainable local communities in Japan

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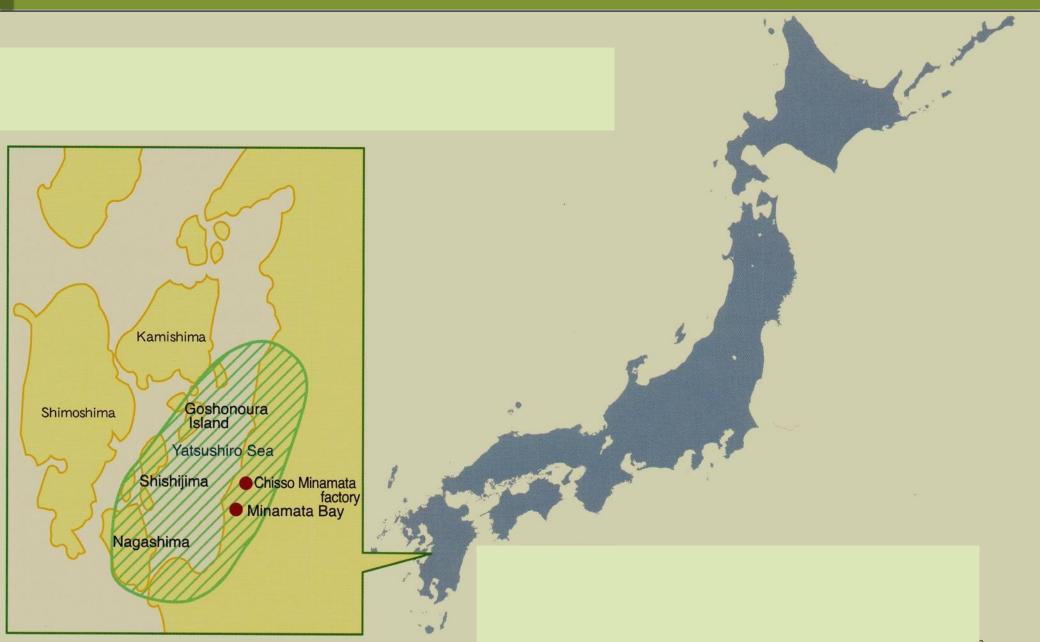
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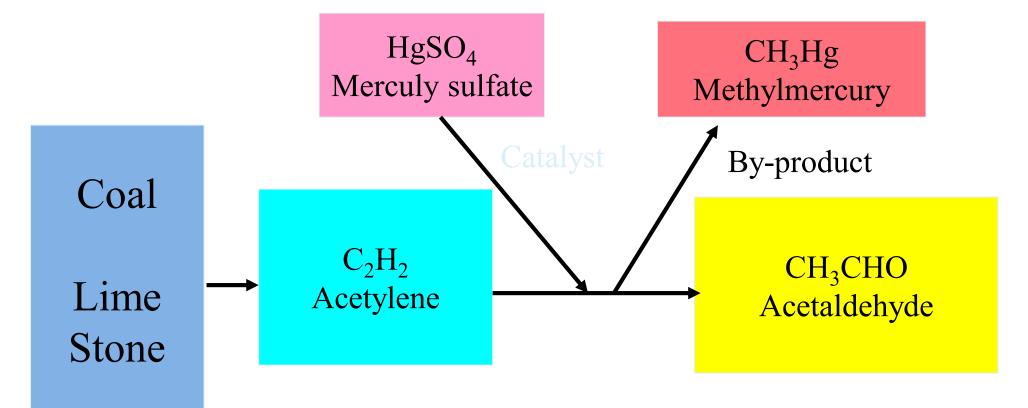
Minamata Disease

- 1909 Chisso, Minamata Div. established
- 1932 Acetaldehyde production plant started
- 1937 Methylmercury poisoning reported in UK)
 - 1955 Became a leading chemical company in Japan
 - 1956.5 Minamata Diseases were reported.
- 1959.7 Kumamoto Univ. concluded the disease was caused by organo-mercury.
- 1962 Fetus poisoning (17 case)
- 1968.9 Government recognized organo-mercury poisoning.
- 1965 Niigata Minamata Disease

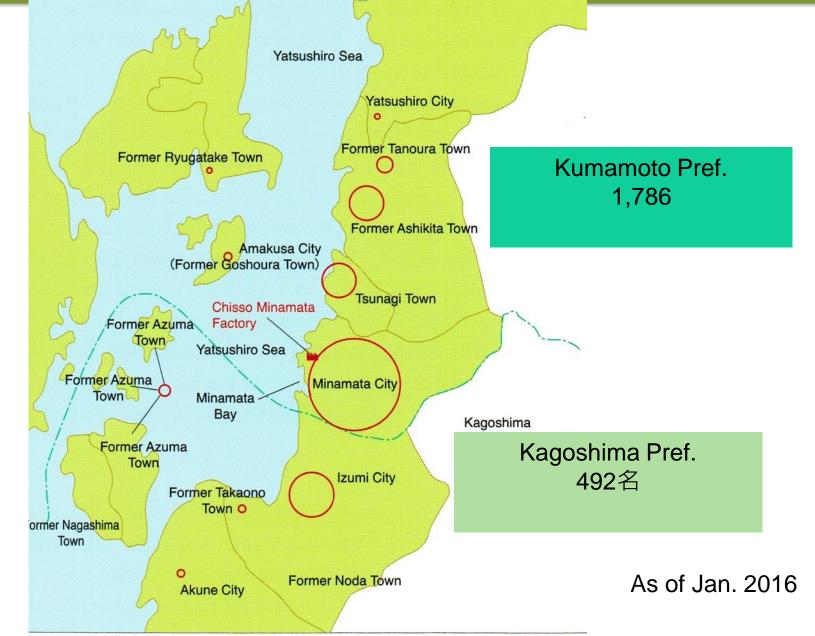
Outbreak area of Minamata disease patients



Methylmercury formation in the process



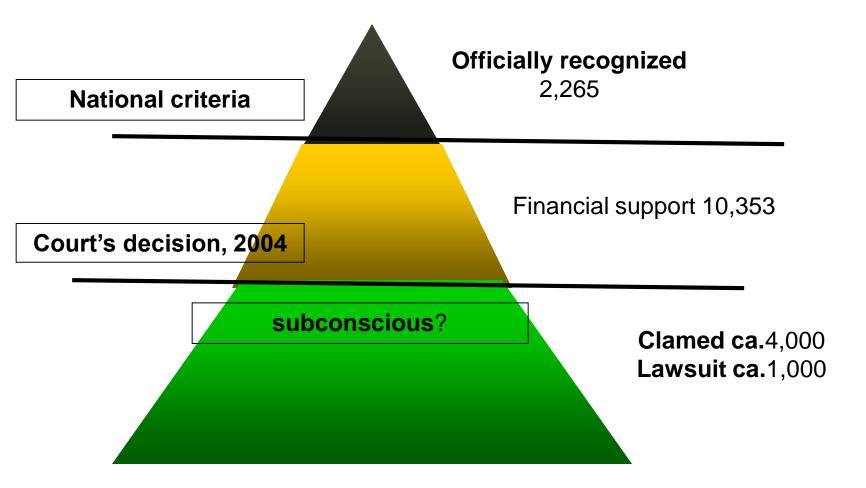
Distribution of certified Patients

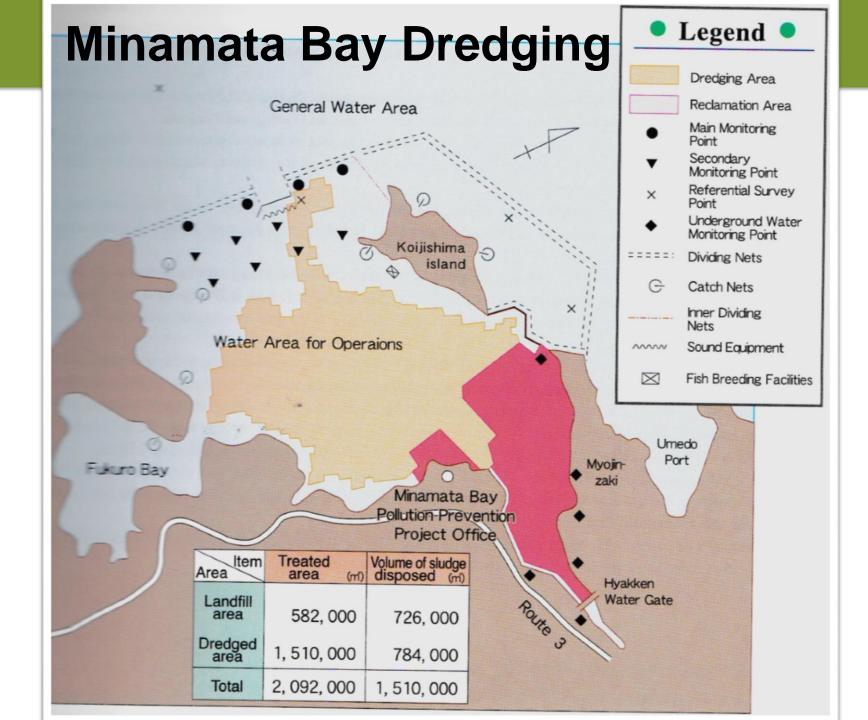


Typical symptoms of Minamata Disease

- Sensory disorder of the four extremities
- Ataxia
- Concentric construction of the visual field
- Hearing impairment
- Disequilibrium
- Speech impediments
- Tremors
- Disorder of the ocular movement

Victims of Minamata Disease





Compensation Sums of Minamata Disease

Sums of provided compensation (million yen/year, as of 1991)

> Health care : 7,671 Dredging : 4,271 Fishery : 689 Sum: 12,631

Estimated Treatment Cost : 123/year

Comprehensive Lessons from the Minamata Disease Affair

- 1. The actual setting must be directly observed, and the approach to the affair must be initiated from sincere hearing from the people.
- 2. Protection of health against damages must have priority over everything, and the administrative decision is required according to the certainty of the cause.
- 3. Collection and presentation of information in various scenes are necessary.
- 4. Companies have the social responsibility.

Minamata's Regeneration (moyai-naoshi)

1992 The declaration on a City that values the Environment, Health and Welfare.

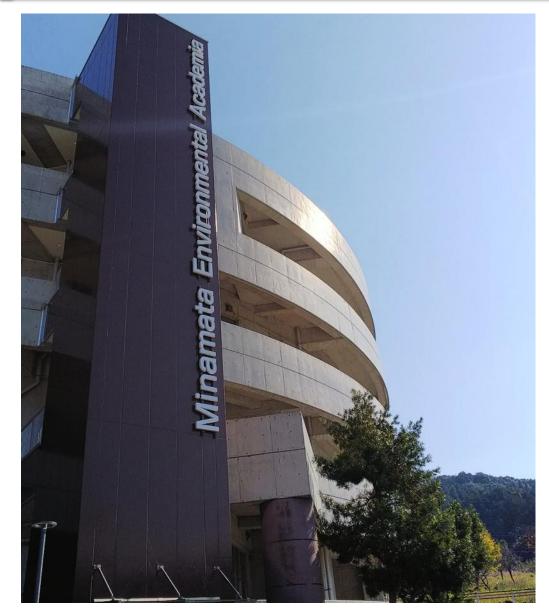
Declaration on the "Construction of a Model City for the Environment.

- 1993 The sorting and collection of household waste began (22 categories)
- 1994 Declaration of "Moyai-naoshi"
- 2001 Minamata Eco-town launched The 6th International Conference on Mercury in Minamata.
- 2011 "Environmental capital" received.
- 2013 Minamata Convention in Kumamoto city and Minamata city.92 countries signed.

Citizen participation type garbage sorting and recycling.



Minamata Environmental Academia





Established in April, 2016.

Missions of the Minamata Environmental Academia

- 1. Research and Education
- 2. Local Community Development
- 3. Job-Creation and Industrial Development



Activities of Minamata Environmental Academia

Number of visitors: 384 groups, (2016-2018) 10,647 people



APMMN Workshop Nov. 2016



JST Sakura Science Program July, 2017



Sophia Univ. Field-work Oct. 2016

Minamata Convention on Mercury

- Adopted at the conference held in Kumamoto city and Minamata city in Oct. 2013. (92 countries).
- 70 Ratifications (as of July 14, 2017), enacted from August 16, 2017.
- COP-1 on Minamata convention was held in Geneva, Switzerland, September, 2017.
- \cdot Collaboration with WHO, UNEP, etc.

Toward sustainable community

Issues Population decrease Innovation of new industries

Minamata Regeneration

- Model Environmental City
 - (International Environmental City)
- Based on abundant natural resources (clean water, forest, marine products), promotion of primary industry and agricultural diversification.
- Promotion of sustainability of the community.



- Minamata Disease Municipal Museum
 - · Environmental Center
 - NIMD Information Center



National Institute of Minamata Disease

Attractive nature and environment in Minamata area



A river source of Minamata





Rice paddy fields in Kugino area







Cherry blossoms along the Minamata river

Tea plantation in Ishidobi area

Yunoturu hot springs

Key persons to develop the sustainability in Minamata



Mr. H. Amano, owner of tea plantation.



Mr. T. Sawahata, organizer of local activities.



Mr. K. Sasahara, patishie, sweetshop.

Minamata's original sweets Monaka & Horaku manjyu





Mr. M. Morishita, diving instructor.

Products of Minamata



Young sardine



Sweet Orange



Japanese Tea

Salada-Onion (Salatama-chan)

Sakura Science Plan in Minamata

Sponsored by JST

10 graduate students from Taiwan, Thailand, Singapore.

10 days program regarding Japanese high technologies and environmental issues.

Home stay (1 day) program included.





Collaboration with International Agencies



Workshop with Taiwan EPA on Minamata Convention 2018.7.30 ~ 8.2



UNEP/ETC Initial Assessment on Minamata Convention 2018.5.30 ~ 31 UNIDO-ITPO Tokyo Site Visit Tour in Minamata 2018.11.20 ~ 22





Thank you for your Attention.



國際化學品2019 8/7~8/9管理研討會 International Chemical Management Conference 無毒家園 綠色首都 永續社會

