



熊本市長の大西です。

今日は、ユースのみなさんとお話でできる機会を設けていただき、ありがとうございます。とても楽しみにしております。

少しだけお時間をいただき、私の方から「持続可能な水保全の取組」についてお話をさせていただきます。

熊本市は日本の南に位置し、熊本城をはじめとした素晴らしい歴史と文化を誇り、清らかな地下水や豊かな緑、豊富な農水産物など、自然環境にも恵まれた都市です。

なかでも、人口74万市民の水道水源の全てを賄う良質な地下水は、貴重な資源であり、熊本の宝といえます。

この宝である地下水を未来へ守り伝える取組も先進的に展開しております。

Your excellencies and distinguished participants, Hello

I am Kazufumi Onishi, mayor of Kumamoto City.

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to talk with you all today, I have been greatly looking forward to it.

Now I want to take some time and personally talk about sustainable water conservation efforts.

Kumamoto City is located in the south Japan, and we take great pride in its impressive history and culture, symbolized by Kumamoto Castle, as well as the pure groundwater, abundant of greenery,

and wide variety of agricultural

and marine products stemming from its amazing natural environment.

However, among these resources we consider our high-quality groundwater that provides all the water for our 740,000 residents to be Kumamoto's true treasure.

In order to protect and pass down our treasured groundwater to future generations, we are taking a leading role in project development.

The Youth as Partners in Water Conservation

Young people played pivotal roles throughout the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit in Kumamoto City on April 23rd and 24th, 2022.

Opening Ceremony's
Declaration



Sharing with the World
at the Exhibition



Closing Ceremony's
Message to the Future



地下水保全に積極的に取り組む本市で、2022年4月23日、24日に第4回アジア・太平洋水サミットを開催しました。

水サミットは、このセッションを企画した日本水フォーラムと共催で開催し、30カ国の首脳・閣僚級、国際機関の長など約5,500人の皆様が参加しました。

水サミットはとても大きな成果を生み、この国連水会議でも世界に向けて発信され、多くの地域の水問題の課題解決に繋がるものと思います。

さて、水サミットで特徴的だったのは、ユースの皆さんが大活躍したことです。

開会宣言や閉会式のメッセージをはじめ、様々な場面で日頃の活動や研究成果を自分たちの言葉で、英語を駆使し伝えている姿は、頼もしく感じました。

その姿は、世界の水関係者がユースを水保全のパートナーとして認識したと言えます。

On April 23rd and 24th of 2022,

we had the opportunity to host the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit.

With the help of the Japan Water Forum

that co-sponsored the event and planned the sessions,

we had heads of state, minister-level officials,

and leaders of international organizations from 30 countries come together for a grand total of 5,500 participants.

The Water Summit produced fantastic results

that will be shown to the world at this UN Water Conference,

and I think they may contribute to finding solutions to many regional water issues.

However, what made this Water Summit truly distinct was the great success of the youth that participated.

Seeing young people using our terminology

to describe everything from daily activities to successful research results and speaking fluent English at various points during the event,

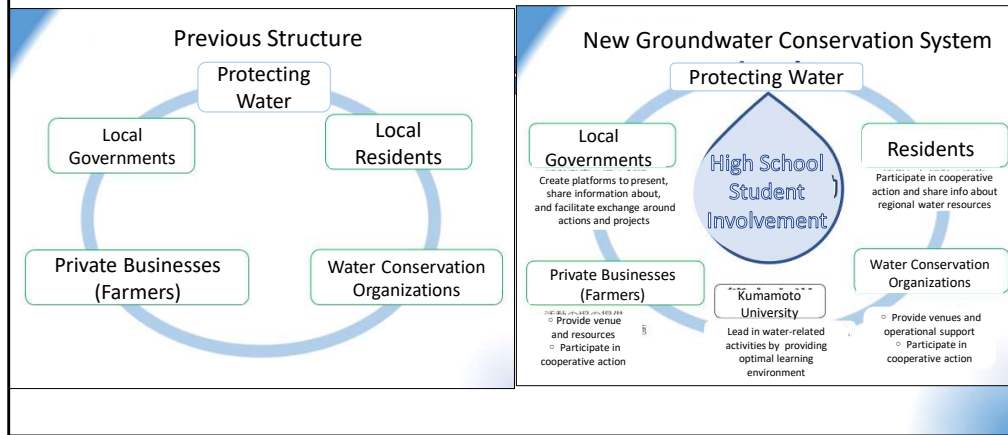
including the opening declaration and the closing ceremony's message, I felt that we were in good hands.

I think it is fair to say that the world's water professionals

recognized these young people as true partners in water conservation.

New Conservation Methods in Kumamoto

The city is also bringing in youth participation and developing new systems and plans around it.



本市も、水サミットにおけるユースの活躍を受け、新たな地下水保全のしくみを作りました。

この取組の輪に、高校生を中心としたユースを加え、様々なステークホルダーがその活動を支援し育て、共に活動することで、恵まれた地下水を後世に守り伝える、持続可能な取組を展開していきます。

日本水フォーラムも、水サミットを機にユース活動の取組を展開されております。今後は、世界でユースの活動への支援が広がっていくものと思います。

ユースのみなさん、水の未来のために一緒に頑張っていきましょう！

また、多くの皆様がユース活動を支えることを強く期待します。

Kumamoto City has also taken notice of this, and so, in addition to asking the youth participants to join the summit, we altered our local systems to include them.

By adding a seat at the table for young people, specifically those around high school age, as well as developing support for various stakeholder projects and working together, we can develop sustainable projects that will protect and pass down our blessed groundwater.

The Japan Water Forum also used the water summit as an opportunity to develop their youth participation projects. Moving forward, I think that support for youth looking to take action will only continue to grow around the world.

So I ask all of you young people here today for your help

so we may work together for the future of water.

Furthermore, I strongly believe that everyone should and will come to support youth involvement in the future.



Thank You for Your Listening.

ご清聴ありがとうございました

ご清聴、ありがとうございました。

Thank you.