

The issues in Kiribati



Coastal erosion



Water and soil



Port with wrecked ships



廃船が浮かぶ港



Plastic wastes on the beach



Wrecked cars

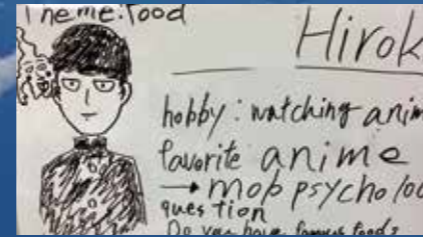
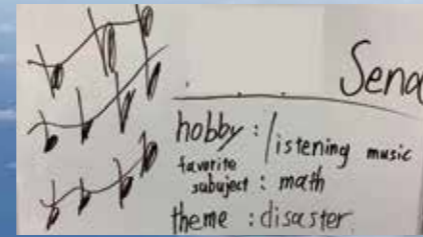
Exchange with the schools in the Republic of Kiribati

War Memorial Primary School, Teinainano Urban Council, and Shishiori Primary School, Kesennuma City.

The 2nd year was deeper and more enjoyable. Class 3, Class 4, Class 5, Class 6

Sacred Heart College, Teinainano Urban Council, and Tagajo High School, Miyagi Prefecture. Language Study Club.

The preparation is underway for the exchange at the end of March, 2023.



I am Takahiro Ono, principal of Tagajo High School



Foreign Language Research Club

Project Report FY 2022 Project for Assisting Establishment of Kiribati Non-governmental UNESCO Association

Sendai UNESCO Association

In November 2022, following the certainty of the establishment of a non-governmental UNESCO association in the Republic of Kiribati, the President and Vice-President of the Sendai UNESCO Association visited Kiribati. This is a report of what they saw, heard, conversed with and felt, as they received a traditional welcome and the great spirit of I-Kiribati hospitality.



Blue ocean
White beach
Golden sunset over the lagoon

We must preserve the beauty of Kiribati for the future



Bright shining eyes, Friendly smile
Wishing "Blessing", "Peace" and "Prosperity"
We want to spread Kiribati's culture of respect for people to the world



Nippon Causeway:
Reclaimed roads connecting an island to the another, Japan's international cooperation with its superior technology.



Anene*
Manaeba
Kiribati dance

We want to pass on Kiribati culture to next generation



TARAWA,
Republic of Kiribati



Bonriki International Airport:
It is small, yet, an international airport. Important air links between island states.

Signboard in Eita Village:
3m height from the sea level!



Sendai UNESCO Association

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*Anene = Kiribati songs. When people get together, they sing a cappella or with a single guitar. It's in harmony, but there's basically no sheet music.

Towards a Future Together

Considering a sustainable society from the current situation in the Republic of Kiribati, a country at the forefront of the climate crisis.

The Republic of Kiribati consists of a group of coral atoll islands in the South Pacific. Emerald green lagoons, white sand beaches, palm trees... Did you know that this beautiful country with its dreamlike scenery is predicted to become uninhabitable in the not too distant future? The country is only 3 metres above sea level and is in danger of erosion due to the rising sea level caused by global warming. Everyone on the planet in this modern society is complicit in this cause, which may result in the loss of beautiful nature, people's livelihoods, and the unique traditions and cultures they have nurtured. On the other hand, the climate crisis is not just a Kiribati problem. Sendai UNESCO Association has visited Kiribati to learn about this situation from Kiribati to act together with the people of Kiribati and confirmed with the Mayor of South Tarawa the establishment of a non-governmental UNESCO association called "Tungaru UNESCO Association*", which will be the main body the non-governmental UNESCO movement in Kiribati. At this symposium, we will present video footage of the landscapes and children we met during our visit, and the Mayor will give us a message in real time. Furthermore, through lectures and discussions by experts in meteorology and disaster management, the symposium will consider sustainable lifestyles and behaviours.

*Tungaru = The name used by the people who lived there before the country was named the Republic of Kiribati. Named in the hope of preserving their identity.

Relay Talk I

Observations of climate change with regard to coastal areas and the future.

Mr FUKUSHIMA Hideaki Climate Change/Maritime Information Coordinator
Meteorology and Disaster Prevention Department, Sendai Regional Headquarters, Japan Meteorological Agency

After explaining the mechanisms of global warming, he spoke about the results of observations and future projections, including background factors and mechanisms.

[Observation results] Annual average temperatures of the world and Japan

- Japan's rate of temperature increase is higher than the global average.
- There is no doubt that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, oceans and land.

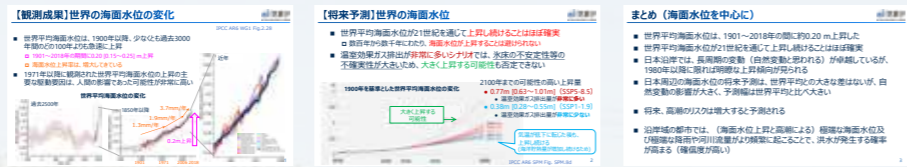
[Observation results] Increase in sea surface temperature

- The rate of temperature increase in the seas around Japan is higher than the global average.

[Future projections] Global average air temperature and ocean heat storage

- The global average temperature will continue to rise at least until the middle of this century.
- Ocean warming will continue until at least 2300.

*The following slides show [Observations] and [Future projections] of global sea level affecting the coastal areas of the Republic of Kiribati are attached hereby.



Message from the Mayor of South Tarawa, Baraniko Baaro

Nakon te Beretitenti n te Sendai UNESCO Association ae Dr. Kazuyuki Mikami, te Kauoman ni Beretitenti ae Ms Keiko Naito, Mr. Kouzou Matuzaka; Kaain ami Taibora ni Babaire, Mr. Kentaro Ono ma am utu ni bane, ao ai ngkami ni kabane ake a reke rokomi ni iira te zoom meeting aei; Kam na bane ni mauri.

E rota nanou te kukurei ae moane te bati n taetae ibukia Founding Members of Tungaru UNESCO Association ake a reke rokoia ao ake aki reke naba rokoia n te tai aei ibukin kanganga tabeua ma karaaoan tabeua itinanikun Tarawa Teinainano. Aikai araia Founding Members aika a reke rokoia n te tai aei: Ms. Ruth Cross, Mr. Taabia Kabaua, Dr. Mareko Tofinga ao ai bon ngai ae Baraniko Baaro.

I rimoa n tabeka te bwanaa n nebo nakon Uean te Maiu ngkai e konna ni kariaia bwa e na reke ara tai ni marooro n te bong aei ma tarira ao mwanera mai iaon Sendai iTiaban. I reita naba te bwanaa ni kakaitau aei nakon Kentaro ma ana utu iaon Tiaban ao iaon Tarawa ikai are a tia n anga nanao ma aia tai ao aia tabo bwa ti na kona ni karaoa te aro n reitaki ae e rangi ni kakawaki aei ma ngkami. I a karabwa riki Nei Anita ibukin karaaoan rairan au marooro nakoimi.

I kukurei n taekinna bwa e a kaan tabwanin raori ana Oin Tua te Tungaru UNESCO Association are tao kam a tia n noora katotoona. I a tia ni karaoa te reitaki nakon MOE ao MIA (te Umanibong) ibukin karinakiia bwa Founding Members ma a tuai moa n tauraoi n rinnako n te tai aei. A tauraoi n rinnako n tian raori baarongaana ma katean te NGO aei. Man ana Oin Tua Tungaru UNESCO Association ao I kona ni kangai bwa ana kai-ni-kataratara ke kanoan miin te NGO aei n reitakina ma Sendai UNESCO Association bwa a na raanga buoka ibukin kakoroan nanon ana kainibaire UNESCO iaon Kiribati; bwa e na katauraioa te nati ma te roronkirake iaon Kiribati nakon kangaanga ao kabuanibwai ake a kona n riki

man bibitakin kanoan boong ao man aoraki nako aika a kakamaaku n te aonnaba n aron te Covid-19 ake a kona ni buti inanon te tai teuana ma teuana nakon taai aika a na roko. Kaungaan kateimatoaan ara katei aika a raroai man bongana bwa a na aki bua ao man kinaaki iai ara botanomatana n anuaia ma rikiaia ae te I-Kiribati ngaia ni koaua. Kateimatoaan ara taetae, ara anene, ara maie, bainaoraki ni Kiribati, rabakau ni Kiribati n aekai nako (eg kaban te waa, koro karewe, te uu rabano ao akawa riki tabeua, etc) ma ara katei ae te momoaomata, te ikarinerine ma te nano n akoi ao n tangira.

E rangi ni kakawaki naba bwa are e kona ni karaoia te NGO aei, Tungaru UNESCO Association, e na aki kauntabaa are e waakinna MOE ma a na riari ni uaia ni waaki ibukin kakoroan nanon ana kantaninga te UNESCO. Tao e bon riari are e na kaitiakaki raori ana TOR te NGO aei ma ana TOR MOE ni irekereke ma kakoroan nanon ana kainibaire UNESCO n totokoi kauntaba ke okiokiran te mwakuri ae ti teuana irouia rabwata aikai uoua aikai; NGO ao MOE. (Prevention of duplication) Ao aei bukin ae e riari ni kaainaki te Tungaru UNESCO Association iroun temanna man te MOE ao temanna man te Umanibong (MIA).

Aikai ake I a kona n taekin man au itera n te tai aei ao I a kaungai Founding Members ake raou n reitii ao man kamataatai riki ake I aki rangi ni kabwarabwai raori man au marooro ao ni bon taekin naba ake I tuai n taekin ma a nooraki bwa a riari ni karinaki. E rabwa te ongora ao ko bati n rabwa riki Anita n am Raitaeka. Kabwara buren te marooro ngkana iai ao Ara bau ma ngkami: te Mauri, te Raori ao te Tabomoa iriara n taai nako.



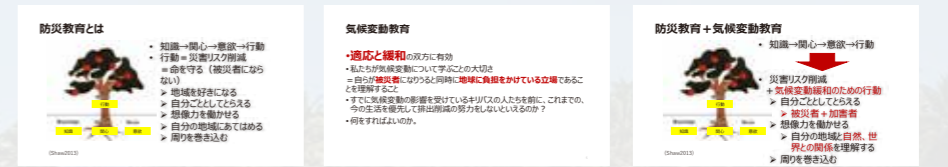
Photo from left: Mr Taabia Kabaua, Mayor Mr Baraniko Baaro Dr Mareko Tofinga

Relay Talk II

Dr SAKURAI Aiko Cross Appointment Professor,
International Research Institute of Disaster Science/Tohoku University, International Cooperation Studies/The Graduate School of Toyo Eiwa University

- She has been active in the fields of international cooperation and education.
- After the Great East Japan Earthquake, she supported Save the Children and is still involved in school disaster management.
- It is important to look at climate change not only from the perspective of natural science, but also from the perspective of social science.
- The SDGs should not be seen as mere goals, but as an 'action plan for people, planet and prosperity'.
- The imbalances on the planet and social imbalances are critical for all life forms, including human beings.
- Imbalances are the result of human choices and the need to change existing institutions and values.
- The SDG Wedding Cake Model provides a structural view of the problem, but the political perspective is weak.
- Education is an important tool for promoting climate change action.

*Disaster risk reduction education and climate change education are discussed in the following slides



Panel Discussion

- The meteorological observatory is a specialised agency for the climate change adaptation.
- Disaster prevention information is intuitive and easy to understand.
- The Government is working to disseminate and raise awareness of disaster prevention and meteorological information. Mobile lectures to schools and the general public, and workshops using hazard maps are being done.
- Even if you have it as knowledge, it is important to know through personal connections whether you see it as your own business.
- After a month of heavy rainfall or other damage, people tend to forget the damages caused. It is important to keep the memory of disasters alive.
- The frequency of heavy rainfall in Japan cannot be stopped from doubling in the future, but it can be delayed.
- The accuracy of forecasts is improving thanks to scientific technology. It is important to convey information, the power of the mass media + the use of smartphones.

- I teach at an urban university as well. I bring my students to Tohoku region as an opportunity for them to experience the bounty of nature.
- Students respond to the situation of animals affected by global warming and waste, but do not take action themselves.
- The action to achieve SDGs are polarising and need to be broadened.
- The COVID pandemic turned people inwards, in the opposite direction to the SDGs.
- Concrete actions that individuals can take must be made.
- The most important thing now is to choose energy. We want to think and make choices. Education is needed for this.

- The very fact that UNESCO, with its philosophy of peace, is working on the SDGs is indeed a current achievement.
- The SDGs are sustainable development goals, not endurance initiatives.
- There is a fixed point of observation in Kiribati very time I return: the buildings have gone in 30 years.
- People tend to think that the survival of polar bears are a concern, but we don't think about Kiribati because it's not about us.
- The people you actually meet become your own business, and in that sense it is important to interact with them.
- The future I hope for is that when we talk about Kiribati, we don't have to talk about climate change anymore.
- Plastic products - plastic bottles, etc. - should be reduced, not eliminated.
- Sendai has made the Umeda River clean and stopped using spiked tyres to clean the air. Nature responds to human efforts. We don't want to give up hope.
- We look forward to face-to-face exchanges between Sendai UNESCO Association and Tungaru UNESCO Association.

- The concept of ESD has been clearly stated in the National Courses of Study and is gradually spreading in school education.
- The SDGs are also being taken into account by companies.
- I want to encourage behavioural changes in the future.
- I have gradually started to think about the issues surrounding.
- The Japanese people have overcome pollution. The ozone layer is recovering. We must work together, little by little.
- Sendai UNESCO Association would like to create such opportunities, even though it is a small effort.

- Proposed to consider the current reach of the SDGs adopted in 2015.
- For example, no one smokes in public anymore.
- People in Europe no longer eat meat. 80% of restaurant menus are alternative meats.
- These are because people's attitudes have changed. Can't we change the people's attitudes in climate change in the same way?
- The goal is 2030, and we must imagine a bright future.
- The importance of connecting with people, involving the people around us, the progress in countermeasures through science... I gained a lot of good things from this panel discussion. Thank you very much.

