

Healthy Oceans for Our Future



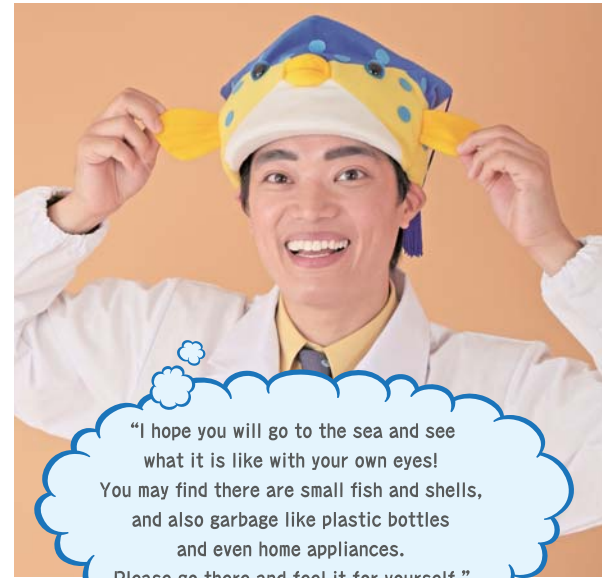
A Message from "Sakana-kun"

A discussion session with "Sakana-kun" ("Mr. Fish"), a celebrity who knows a lot about sea creatures and the environment, was held on January 6. He talked about SDG 14, "Life Below Water," saying that the garbage people throw away is harming the creatures of the sea. For example, some fish are injured when they eat or get caught in plastic garbage.

to Sakana-kun. Garbage is blown into rivers and the sea by the wind. We learned that this means it is also a problem for people who live in mountains and towns.



Student reporters covering Sakana-kun's discussion session



"I hope you will go to the sea and see what it is like with your own eyes! You may find there are small fish and shells, and also garbage like plastic bottles and even home appliances. Please go there and feel it for yourself."

Sakana-Kun
Honorary Doctorate and Visiting Associates Professor of Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology.



Sea creatures are being threatened by sea pollution and global warming. Also, experts worry that if we continue to catch too many fish, we will not be able to catch enough of them in the future.

Creating Sustainable Cities



An Interview with 20-Year-Olds



Student reporters interviewing 20-year-olds

At the Coming of Age Ceremony held in Shizuoka City on January 3, the Coming of Age Planning Committee talked about the SDGs and made an appeal for SDG 11, "Sustainable Cities and Communities." After the ceremony, we interviewed some of the 20-year-olds.

One student at Aoyama Gakuin University said that she is interested in SDG 2, "Zero Hunger," saying "We do not have problems with food here, but other people in the world are suffering from starvation." Ms. Ishii, Chair of the committee, did not know about

the SDGs before joining the committee, but soon learned their importance. Ms. Ishii is also a rugby player and feels that she sometimes receives discrimination because she is a woman, so she thinks that SDG 5, "Gender Equality," is important.



Cities have problems with air pollution, garbage, housing, and energy. Houses destroyed due to disasters have increased greatly since 1990, so urban planning needs to aim for "resilient" cities that can recover from disasters.

Music to Create a Sense of Unity



A Concert by the "SDGs Wind Orchestra"

On January 8, a concert by the "SDGs Wind Orchestra" was held. The SDGs Wind Orchestra was created to make people think about the world through music, and to inspire people to take individual action to achieve the SDGs. Junior high and high school students from Shizuoka City joined for the second half of the concert, and about 100 people played two songs with a sense of unity fitting the SDGs' keywords "no one will be left behind."



school in a country where music is not taught in public elementary schools, and children do not have a chance to sing or listen to music. When she sang and played the piano there, the children said "Music is fun!" Even people who were not good at singing found they could sing with others in a chorus. Another speaker told how Japan's "motherhood diary"

system is getting attention around the world as a way to protect pregnant women and babies' health. When the host asked, "Do you know what the SDGs are?" 20% of the audience was aware of them. It is wonderful that the other 80% were able to learn about them from this performance.

A student reporter learned about the SDGs through a card game in December 2018. In the game, each team comes to understand the importance of finding the right balance between economic, environmental, and societal factors.

Shizuoka City promotes the SDGs because they are the same as the city's future aims. Mayor Nobuhiro Tanabe made a speech at United Nations Headquarters in New York in May 2018. Shizuoka is one of 29 municipalities in Japan that are designated as "SDGs Future Cities."

Be Yourself, Act Now



An Interview with Riyo Mori, Miss Universe 2007

At an event held on January 6, students of a dance school instructed by Ms. Riyo Mori, who is Shizuoka City's Tourism Goodwill Ambassador, expressed the SDGs in dance. The dance team was all young women, from primary school students to university students. They performed graceful dances like ballet, and also more energetic ones. Some scenes were danced by one person, and other scenes had a large number of people dancing together. According to Ms. Mori, the dances expressed SDGs 5, "Gender Equality," and 17, "Partnerships for the Goals."

Ms. Mori. She said, "Some people can express themselves by dancing rather than with words. Young people like you should value your own individuality to find your own way." Ms. Mori won the Miss Universe pageant in 2007 and has visited many countries. She saw that in some countries, children and women cannot receive adequate education or live a healthy life. Ms. Mori says, "In Japan we can receive a good education, so we should go to help. If we do not act now, the earth and our human rights are in danger. It is important for young people to take action."



Ms. Mori with the student reporters



Around 60% of children and adolescents in the world are considered to have not gained the minimum abilities in reading and mathematics. In particular, girls have fewer opportunities to receive education than boys.

Discovering Ideas to Realize the SDGs



Fair Trade Bananas and Chocolate; Ethical Consumption



Student reporters tasting

health of workers and consumers. They cost a little more, but this makes more income for workers. This kind of mechanism for protecting vulnerable producers and workers is called "fair trade". Students at Shizuoka Agricultural High School were selling cakes and candies using pine needles from Miho-no-Matsubara, which is a World Cultural Heritage Site. Activities began in 2011 to revitalize the area. So-called "ethical consumption" includes choosing fair trade products, traditional products, products made with consideration for the natural environment, products that produce donation money, and products that lead to support for the disabled.



"Eco Bananas" Shizuoka Agricultural High School students selling sweets made with pine needles

An event to inform citizens about the SDGs was held on January 12, and about 50 companies and schools exhibited. We visited the Palsystem Consumers' Co-operative Union booth and asked them to explain Balangon "Eco Bananas". These are produced by making contracts with small farmers in the Philippines, without using pesticides in cultivation and shipping to protect the

We learned that various companies are also working on the SDGs. Students of Suruga Sogo High School, Fujieda Kita High School, and Shimizu Nishi High School are using games and similar things to communicate the SDGs. We were moved by the actions of young people close to our age.



Those living below the poverty line, at less than \$1.90 per day, have drastically decreased in the last 20 years, yet one out of every ten people in the world is still considered to be in poverty.