

## **The Experimental Trial for Making Citizens Orientated Environmental Indicators for the Ise Bay Area. (Holding the Ise Bay Area Environmental Policy Assessment Meeting)**

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The “Ise bay area environmental policy assessment meeting” was based on an idea made by our research department. We invited people from the public, local government and researchers to form a work group to work together in creating indicators for measuring the degree of satisfaction for the people living within the bay area. Also to examine the lessons learned which arise during the process and to make proposals and tackle policies for the management of the Ise Bay area. The experimental trial period was conducted from December 2000 to April 2001, a total of 5 months.

#### **1. The group’s characteristic**

##### 1) The Implementation committee

This committee consisted of 9 members (3 public citizens, 3 governmental officials, 3 researchers), playing as a “commander”. Four meetings were held during the term.

##### 2) The committee for making indicators

This committee consisted of the 9 Implementation committee members plus 16 public citizen participants. At the beginning of January, we invited public citizens who are interested in the sea, river or domestic waste affairs. Three meetings (which included workshops, lectures, and discussions etc.) were held during this term.

#### **2. The rule which participants must obey**

1) Participants were requested to propose their individual desires or hopes, and then propose an indicator to measure how their desire will be attained.

2) Participants must show the indicator is not merely their individual desire, but it is the one with universal logic. If there isn’t enough data or they cannot find appropriate data, we suggested that they might make a proposal saying that this kind of monitoring must be continued.

#### **3. The purpose of the activity**

- 1) To make “comprehensive indicators” from the standpoint of citizens.
- 2) To make “comprehensive indicators” from a collaborative relationship.
- 3) To evaluate the ways of providing the environmental information
- 4) To provide strength to citizens and provide them with persuasiveness
- 5) To confirm the process we can make collaborative indicators

#### **4. Reflection**

As a result of our efforts we were able to finally come up with 16 proposals. We thought that the indicators citizens made ought to be derived from their profound desire not from already made data. The indicator must work as a tool, which function is to make citizens realize their true desires.

In the future, the time for local collaborative management, the method of making indicators must change from the enlightenment of citizens (the administration-oriented indicators) to creating the citizen-oriented indicators.

Unlike western countries, experts are rarely involved in citizen groups so the need for a support system to help persuade citizen’s to work from their desires. We were able to show one way of how it is possible to do such.