

Activities Policy in This Area

The Kurita Group will strive as necessary to improve issues with freshwater resources such as rivers, lakes and marshes, and seas and oceans, including initiatives in the Water Resilience Coalition. The Kurita Group will also contribute to improvement of water access and preventing the spread of infectious diseases by providing support for the construction and repair of sanitation facilities for people facing problems with water, sanitation and hygiene.

Achievements in FY2021

Participation in Water Resilience Coalition

Kurita is a co-founder of the Water Resilience Coalition (WRC). The WRC is a new organization established under the CEO Water Mandate, a United Nations Global Compact initiative. It will launch industry-driven initiatives for the preservation of water resources in basins facing serious water resource problems all over the world. Through its participation in the WRC, the Kurita Group works with other companies and organizations to preserve and restore the world's water resources with the aim of achieving the SDGs and realizing its corporate philosophy. The Company has also participated in the UN Global Compact and has endorsed the CEO Water Mandate.



Logo of the Water Resilience Coalition

Support for New Construction and Restoration of Water and Sanitation Facilities

Support for the activities of Reach Alternatives (REALs)

Kurita has continued to provide financial support for this organization since fiscal 2019. Kurita's support fund in fiscal 2020 was used to improve water and sanitation conditions such as repair work for toilets and wells, and facility maintenance at the Mangateen IDPs site for internally displaced persons in Juba, the capital of the Republic of South Sudan, as well as for conflict prevention training. The funds which Kurita provided in fiscal 2021, will be used for similar activities to provide conflict-affected people with access to clean water and sanitary conditions in the Mangateen IDP site, as well as for the distribution of supplies and hygiene training for the preventing the spread of COVID-19.



Using a well installed at the Mangateen IDP site.

Support for the activities of WaterAid Japan

Kurita has continuously provided financial support to this organization since fiscal 2019. In fiscal 2020, Kurita's support fund was used to build a well in the Hhohho region of the Kingdom of Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), so that people can live in a sanitary environment with access to clean water. The new well provided clean water to 106 households. The funds which Kurita provided in fiscal 2021, will be used for similar activities to provide Hhohho residents with access to clean water and sanitary conditions, as well as for the distribution of supplies and hygiene training for the preventing the spread of COVID-19.



Construction of a well in Hhohho
(Thandeka Ngobe/WaterAid Eswatini)

Fostering the Next Generation

Activities policy in This Area

The Kurita Group will foster awareness of water-related issues and stimulate interest in science among children and students who will lead the next generation by holding hands-on learning events, providing on-site classes, and sponsoring contests.

Achievements in FY2021

Contest Sponsorship

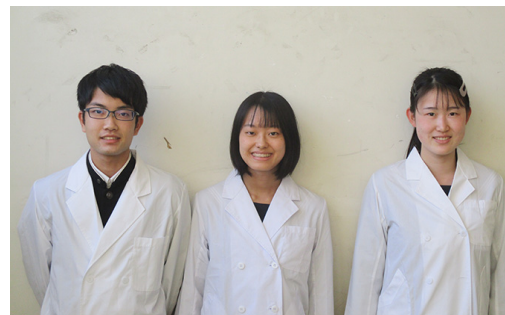
18th Japan Science & Engineering Challenge (JSEC 2020)

The Japan Science & Engineering Challenge (JSEC) is a free-study research contest in science and engineering for high school and technical college in Japan that has been held annually since 2003. Following on from 2019, Kurita sponsored JSEC 2020. At the event, Kurita presented the Kurita Water Industries Award to Ms. Yuri Muto, Ms. Nanami Kanzaki, and Mr. Kazuki Toida of Ichinomiya High School (Aichi Prefecture) for their research project "Improvement of Hydrolysis Efficiency of Cellulose Using Ionic Liquids for Efficient Bioethanol Production."

This was followed by an online exchange meeting between Kurita Global Technology Center (Japan), Kurita R&D Asia Pte. Ltd. (Singapore) and Ichinomiya High School. In the meeting, three winners of the Kurita Water Industries Award presented their award-winning research in English as preparation for the international competition ISEF^{*1}. At ISEF, which was held online from May 16 to 21, the students' research also received a Certificate of Honorable Mention from the American Chemical Society^{*2}, one of the sponsors of ISEF.

^{*1} ISEF (International Science and Engineering Fair): Organized by the Society for Science & the Public, a U.S.-based non-profit organization, ISEF is one of the world's largest international competitions of free science-related research, involving approximately 1,800 high school students from more than 80 countries and regions.

^{*2} The American Chemical Society: Founded in 1876, the American Chemical Society is one of the world's largest academic organizations with 155,000 chemical professionals from 150 countries.



The students of Ichinomiya High School (Aichi Prefecture) received the Kurita Water Industries Award (from left: Mr. Kazuki Toida, Ms. Nanami Kanzaki and Ms. Yuri Muto)

<Comment from Ms. Muto on receiving a Certificate of Honorable Mention from the American Chemical>

I am very honored to receive this prestigious award at the international competition. While it is unfortunate that we were not able to win the Grand Award presented by the organizers, we are deeply honored just to be able to compete on the big stage of ISEF.

This has been a valuable experience. It would not have been possible without the support of our teachers and seniors at school who have supported us so far, or without the people at Kurita Water Industries, who gave us this opportunity to take part. I cannot express in words how grateful I am. I hope to use this experience toward the next step in developing my career on the international stage.

On-Site Classes

JAXA Space Education Center's Support for Formal Education Program

Kurita took part in planning classes for elementary, junior high, and high schools conducted by the Space Education Center of Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), and conducted on-site classes.

This year's event was held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students who participating in the course shared various comments including that they had had no idea that reusing water in space was so difficult.



Taking part in class at Shimonoseki-Nishi High School (Yamaguchi Prefecture)

The "Future Academy" STEAM Library Project of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

Kurita collaborated with JAXA on the creation of online content "STEAM Series: Water." The content was produced by the creative agency Barbara Pool Ltd. (STEAM JAPAN) for METI's "Future Academy" STEAM Library Project. Based on this content, the Oita Prefectural Board of Education participated in the "STEAM Festa" (managed by Barbara Pool Ltd.), an online lecture series on space and advanced technology for high school students in Oita Prefecture. Kurita employees taught classes together with instructors from the JAXA Space Education Center.



Logo for METI's "Future Academy" STEAM Library Project, a platform for learning how to solve various social issues through STEAM education



Original STEAM library content based on the SDGs "Water" theme, "STEAM Series: Water" icon (developed by Barbara Pool Ltd.)

<https://www.steam-library.go.jp/content/30>

Recovery and Reconstruction of Disaster-Stricken Areas

Activities policy in This Area

In the event of a disaster or conflict that has a significant impact on people's lives and economic activities, the Kurita Group will provide support for disaster-stricken areas.

Results for FY2021

Support for the Victims of the Torrential Rains in July 2020

In July 2020, Kurita made a donation through the Japanese Red Cross Society to provide relief to the victims of torrential rains in July 2020 and to support restore the affected areas.

Support for Measures to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

To support the fight against COVID-19 and to support frontline healthcare workers, Kurita made donations to three NPOs: Médecins Sans Frontières Japan, Reach Alternatives (REALs), and WaterAid Japan.



Letter of appreciation from Médecins Sans Frontières Japan



Letter of appreciation from WaterAid Japan

Revitalization of Local Communities

Activities Policy in This Area

As a member of the local community, the Kurita Group will contribute to the revitalization of the local community by participating in and supporting community activities such as cleaning, tree planting, and sports events.

Achievements in FY2021

Kurita Water Gush Akishima Holds Rugby Trial Session

Our company's rugby team, Kurita Water Gush Akishima, holds rugby trial sessions as part of its contribution to the community.

In fiscal 2021, a total of four rugby trial sessions were held at Kurita Water Industries' Akishima Ground for sixth-grade elementary school students from Akishima City and Haijima City and third-grade junior high school students from Akishima City.

A total of 220 sixth graders from three elementary schools in Akishima City and Haijima City and 160 third graders from one junior high school in Akishima City were welcomed to the event. The students, whose school trips had been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, practiced kicking and scrumming, and played tag rugby*.

A teacher from one of the participating elementary schools expressed her delight with the event, saying "I wanted to give the children a chance to make some fun memories even during the pandemic."

* Tag rugby: A sport based on rugby, with the rules modified to reduce the risk for younger players and beginners.



Rugby trial session

Cleanup Activities at Business Sites

The Kurita Group engages in cleanup activities to help create more beautiful communities in areas where its business sites are located. On November 10, 2020, 23 employees of Kurita (Taiwan) Co., Ltd. held a beach cleanup activity at Keziliao fishing harbor in Kaohsiung City. Among the various comments from the participants, one said, "Even if we conduct beach cleanup activities, we cannot completely solve the problem of marine debris and environmental pollution. But I do think that these activities are an important way to cultivate the feeling of reducing waste and not littering."



Beach cleanup by employees of Kurita (Taiwan) Co., Ltd.