



PRESS RELEASE (2018/2/16)

Announcing the establishment of **The Design Unit for the SDGs**, which will “contribute in the realm of design” to the SDGs set by the UN.

The Faculty of Design at Kyushu University will establish The Design Unit for the SDGs in April 2018 to contribute in the realm of design towards the “Sustainable Development Goals” (SDGs) set by the UN to be achieved by 2030.

■ **The Design Unit for the SDGs Overview**

Although none of the SDGs can be easily achieved and demand various approaches from a national to an individual level, this unit will be focused on “solutions through design.” By collaborating with Center for Designed Futures of Kyushu University (Centers for Common Education and Research), we will promote activities towards achieving goals by “cross-sectoral” collaboration with other departments.

Also, since the SDGs are goals cannot be solved by academism alone, the unit will be positioned as a “social platform” to explore solutions together with industry, citizens, etc., and will promote specific projects for implementation in society. We will also cooperate with international institutions and overseas universities with design departments—such as the Royal College of Art (UK), Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands), Polytechnic University of Milan (Italy), and Aalto University (Finland)—that are affiliated with the Faculty of Design at Kyushu University, to develop a “Global Design Movement.”

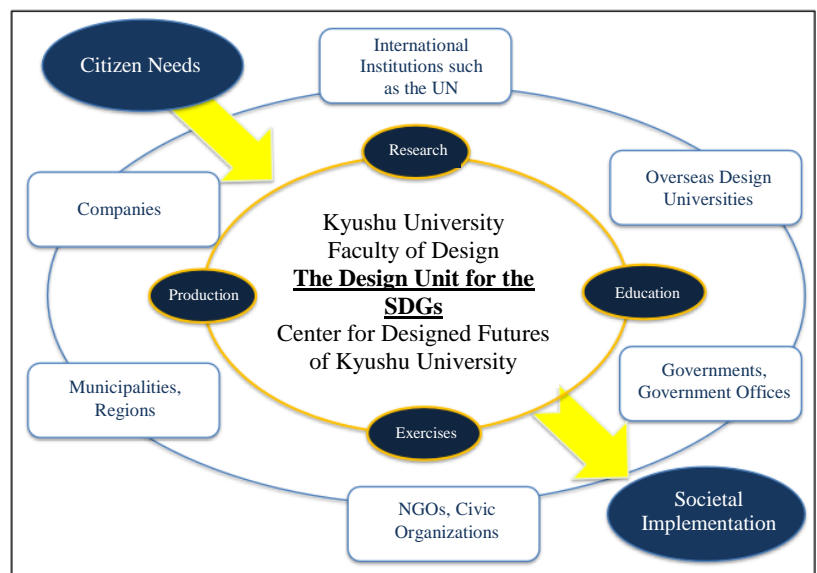
■ **The Design Unit for the SDGs Members**

We will promote activities centered on 10 faculty members, which will include multinational teachers from different fields of expertise such as cultural anthropology, philosophy, mathematical biology, in addition to design-related university faculty members specializing in design research, education, and production. The Unit Head will be Professor Shigeki Inoue of the Faculty of Design. We will also be recruiting student to run the “The SDGs Design Club”, which will be launched at the same time, to promote activities in cooperation with the local area.

■ **The Design Unit for the SDGs**

Activities

We aim to provide “creative, specific output” to the world with “activities” cooperating with organizations and individuals inside and outside the university, on mutually related issues such as “educational activities” by opening the “SDGs Design School” for students and members of society, “research activities” such as developing methods to research and solve issues related to SDGs, “production activities” such as product development through collaborative research with companies, and “social system construction” in cooperation with government.



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