



Minamiminowa Village
Climate Emergency Declaration

Extreme weather events such as record-breaking heat, intense precipitation, and widespread droughts have been occurring more frequently than ever in various areas of the world today. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has announced that it is interlinked with the long-term global warming trends.

Typhoon Hagibis, which hit Japan last October, caused extensive damage in many parts of the country including Nagano Prefecture. It is said that the cause of these frequent weather hazards is the climate change.

The climate change threatens the continued survival of the human societies on the earth. I feel a sense of crisis that we will not be able to hand down sustainable societies to the next generations if we stand by doing nothing facing the state of emergency.

Our village is located at the area of alluvial fan in the northern part of the Ina Valley, which is surrounded by the Central Alps to the west and the Southern Alps to the east. It is an easy place to live thanks to abundant natural energy resources such as solar radiation, the amount of which is one of the best in Japan, and forests as well as water resources. Japan is struggling with a low birthrate, but our village is unique in that our population has been increasing naturally every year. Consequently, we have many children, who will lead our future. I feel it is the mission of those of us who live now to conserve and leave the rich natural environment of our village for the generations to come.

Responding to the Paris Climate Agreement adopted in December, 2015, the Japanese Government developed a long-term strategy aiming for a "Carbon-Free Society" as the final goal.

Nagano Prefecture has spearheaded the efforts to promote global warming countermeasures. Last June, Minamiminowa Village agreed to cooperate with the prefectural call for an action, "Nagano Declaration on Partnership for the Collaborative Action for Sustainable Development."

In order to protect the lives of the future generations, we hereby declare a climate emergency. Aiming for zero carbon emissions in 2050, we express our determination to fight against the global warming by measures such as switching to renewable energy with our full effort.

June 5, 2020

Village Mayor of Minamiminowa

Karaki Kazunao