

cannot be taken for granted, and that scientists, engineers, industrialists and politicians must pay greater attention to the needs of society and the importance of building public trust and acceptance.

The UK has a strong and mature relationship with Japan and many links at expert level. We have been able to help in

many ways. During the crisis the Nuclear Decommissioning Agency and UK industry provided protective radiation equipment and monitoring equipment, while others offered to provide technical support and expertise. The UK science base offered practical support to Japanese researchers affected by the disaster by making

available additional time on UK research facilities – the supercomputer HECTOR and the ISIS neutron scattering facility for example – and British scientists are participating in research programmes to look at the impact of radiation releases into the marine environment, drawing on experience from Sellafield. But when the UK-

Japan Joint Committee on Science and Technology next meets in London this Autumn, one of the most important areas for discussion will be the provision of science advice in emergencies and what we can do jointly to help the world learn from the terrible crisis experienced by Japan.

The Global Experiment, the world's largest-ever chemistry experiment

On Wednesday 22nd June children from Oasis Academy and Trinity School, both in Croydon, went to Portcullis House to test the water quality there.

The Global Experiment will be the largest single collection of data on water quality ever undertaken at one time and will be achieved by hundreds of thousands of school children from around the world becoming scientists for a day.



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Deesee (13) from Oasis Academy, and Khizr (13) from Trinity School are seen here with Professor David Phillips, President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and Gavin Barwell, MP for Croydon central, at Portcullis House in Westminster, checking the pH level as part of The Global Experiment.



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Children from Oasis Academy and Trinity School, both in Croydon, meet Gavin Barwell, MP for Croydon central, Professor David Phillips, President of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and Stephen Benn from the Royal Society of Chemistry, taking part in The Global Experiment at Portcullis House.