

Youth Forum of TEMM15

Final Summary

We, youth representatives from Korea, China and Japan, gathered for Youth Forum of the 15th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting. During the forum, we exchanged our views on Environmental Sustainable Cities. On behalf of the youths, I would like to present the summary of this youth forum.

From the presentations, we fully agree that three pillar of environmental sustainable city are economy, environment and society. With respect to economy, Korea introduced the example of eco-driving. There is the eco-driving zone in the city of Incheon in Korea, in where drivers do not accelerate. Therefore the eco-driving is beneficial not only for green house gas emission reduction but also for saving energy. In the aspect of environment, Japan shared the traditional wisdom of sustainably using “*satoyama*” which plays an important role in the suburbs to balance the life and conservation. In terms of society, China has developed the project called “Environment-Friendly Youth Ambassador”, which aims to train the ambassadors to facilitate more and more volunteers to take part in environmental protection.

We believe that in order to sustain and expand the ESC, there should be a strong connection and cooperation among the government, communities and, additionally, the youths. We strongly recommend, firstly, that the government should be supportive in positive rewards. Secondly, the local communities should be aware of their own issues and be creatively active. Lastly, which is our biggest interest, youths should be passionate in such activities to enhance the overall quality of city life.

With the great experience of the TEMM15 Youth Forum in Kitakyushu, we will spread and share our achievement to the governments, academics and societies

including the peers at universities or NGOs, go outside and act something, and get involved in cultural events such as environmental film festivals and local food markets.

Finally we come up with the suggestions to the society, namely, “REPLY”: Reward, Education, Participation, Local Community and Youths. As an Ideal action plan for the ESC, we need reward from the government, strengthen the environmental education and ESD, and encourage participation of local community and the power of youths. Throughout the forum, we also learned the importance of cooperative work, care about others, necessity of action, and sharing each other’s view by the network among three countries.

All of our delegates would like to extend our appreciation to the TEMM15 for providing such a great opportunity for us to share our experience and learn from each other.