

JEO

JAPAN
Environment
Quarterly

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Japanese Pattern
Momiji



Climate Change Policies in Japan

SUPER COOLBIZ

COOLBIZ COOLBIZ

WARMBIZ

Global warming countermeasures in each area of the world may vary depending where the four seasons are clearly defined, there are two countermeasures “WARM BIZ” against cold winter. Please try to consider what can be global warming



“Uchimizu” : a custom of cooling down with evaporation effect of sprinkled water

In order to reduce CO₂ emissions from the residential / commercial sector that accounts for about 25% of CO₂ emissions, Japan has conducted various campaigns for changing the lifestyles of people (See Fig. 1). The following gives an overview of COOL BIZ and WARM BIZ among those campaigns.

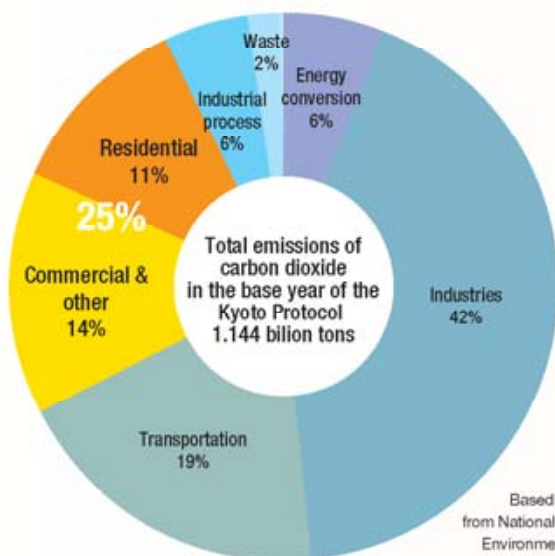
people to dress more casually without a tie and a jacket so that they can work comfortably even in a room at 28 degrees C. Japan started the “COOL BIZ” campaign in 2005.

Also, in response to the growing needs for power-saving in the aftermath of the 2011 East Japan Great Earth Quake, we have launched another “Super COOL BIZ” campaign to call for “recommendation to wear more casually” and “change in working styles”. With such growing needs, a most effective way to lead a life comfortably in the summertime in Japan – more humid than Europe and the US – is to try to choose clothing suitable to the hot weather. Fig.2 indicates the five actions we are promoting in the “Super COOL BIZ” campaign.

In addition, since 2012, we have called for “Cool Sharing” to share cool places instead of using air conditioners individually. Spending time in a room as a family or in places abundant with nature such as parks and watersides would be helpful to not only comfortably survive the summer but also strengthen family or community ties.

Japan is estimated to have achieved 1.56 million tons of CO₂ reduction by the Super COOL BIZ campaign in FY 2011.

Fig.1



Based on the data from National Institute for Environmental Studies

“COOL BIZ” is a coined term combining “cool” and “biz” (the abbreviation of “business”) in English, which signifies our campaigns to encourage

What are COOL BIZ and WARM BIZ?

on weathers, climates, customs, and cultures. In Japan devised: “COOL BIZ” against hot and humid summer and countermeasure suitable for your area.



Yoshifumi NAKASHIMA
Environmental Research Official,
Lifestyle Policy Office,
Global Environment Bureau



Fig.2

SUPER COOL BIZ —Five Actions—

COOL FASHION



Wear casual attire such as a karyushi or polo shirt to keep cool in the summer

COOL WORK



Shift to an efficient working schedule such as an earlier morning start

COOL HOUSE



Use heat shielding equipment such as blinds

COOL IDEA



Cool down with a little ingenuity such as by sprinkling water outside in the morning or evening

COOL SHARE

Gather together at a cool place

COOL SHARE

“WARM BIZ” is a winter version of the aforementioned COOL BIZ, which we have called for since 2005 with an aim to restraining excessive use of heaters so that people can comfortably lead their lives at a room temperature of 20 degrees C. There is a lot of wisdom of living in terms of food, clothing, and shelter that can be used in our lives as a means of staying warm even in cold winter (see Fig. 3). For example: wearing one more inner wear, sweater and cardigan made with functional materials that hold heat well, eating food such as root crops and ginger that warms the body from inside, and making good use of hot-water bags and pocket warmers to keep our bodies warm.

Also, the idea of “warm sharing” is part of the WARM BIZ campaign aiming for comfortably spending wintertime without depending too much on heaters, which is an energy saving approach by sharing the same room/place among people by gathering there. For example, holding a Nabe (a popular Japanese winter dish) party is an option involving the family and neighbors! This will serve a dual purpose, saving energy as well as enjoying meals together in a party with family members, friends or colleagues.



“Attamaru” – a member of “Warm Ninjas”
– who give you tips on how to warm up

Fig.3



International Conference on Climate Change and Coral Reef Conservation



Policy and Coordination Division, Nature Conservation Bureau
Policy and Coordination Division, Global Environment Bureau
International Cooperation Office, Global Environment Bureau

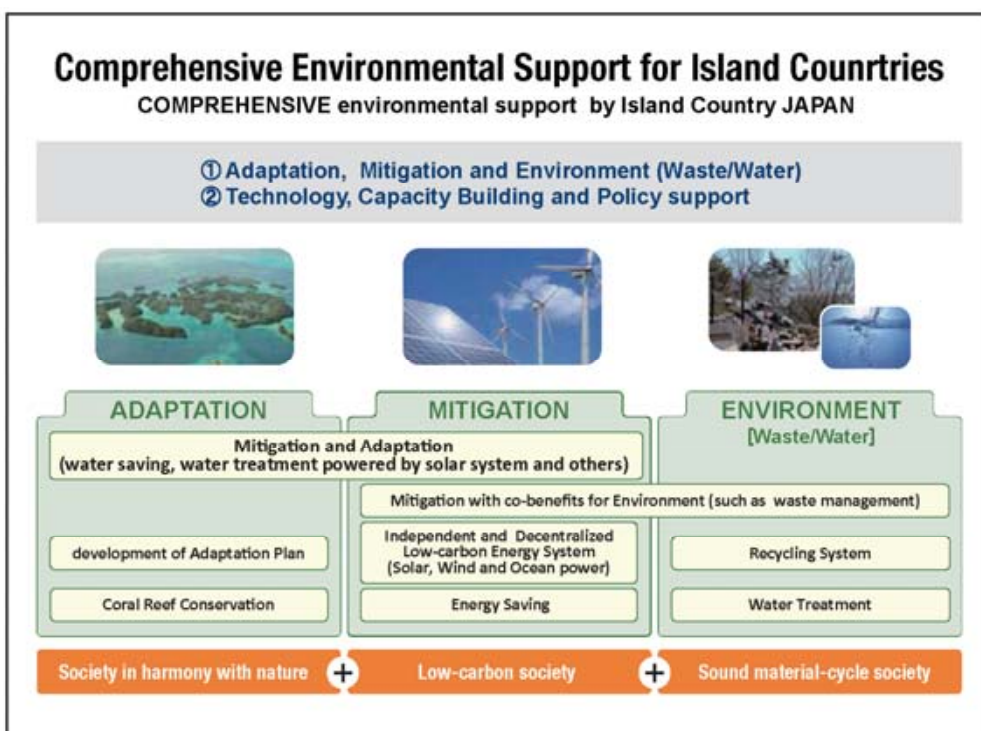
On 29-30 June 2013, the “International Conference on Climate Change and Coral Reef Conservation” (hosted by Ministry of the Environment and Okinawa Prefecture) was held at the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST). Relevant knowledge was shared and opinions were exchanged at the Conference with the participation of government officials and experts from 14 countries and regions, including Minister of the Environment of Japan, Mr. Ishihara, and Minister of the Environment and Energy of Maldives, and Minister of the Finance of Palau, and the IPCC Chairman, Dr. Pachauri, and experts in a broad range of fields such as global warming countermeasures and coral reef conservation in island countries. At the Conference, the plenary session, four section meetings and side events were held during the two days. Minister Ishihara started the session by announcing the “Comprehensive Environmental Support for Island Countries”, followed by broad discussions on ecotourism and adaptation measures to climate change, and finally the confirmation that Japan and other island countries will continue the Okinawa-based cooperation and discussion.



Rich coral reef in Yonara Channel

What is Comprehensive Environmental Support for Island Countries?

This is Japan’s comprehensive environmental support for adaptation to climate change, global warming mitiga-



tion measures, and other environmental measures such as waste management and water treatment. It utilizes the acquired experience and technologies of Japan as an island country. In particular, this aims to achieve a low-carbon and sound material-cycle society that is in harmony with nature through the introduction of renewable energies such as solar and wind power alongside coral reef conservation, making use of the experiences in Okinawa.

Four themes discussed in the Conference

1. Coral reef conservation
2. Mitigation measures on climate change in islands
3. Current Status and Prospects of Ecotourism in Coral Reef Islands
4. Adaptation to climate change

MORE Information

The official conference website in English
<http://www.env.go.jp/en/nature/npr/icccccc2013/>

Amending the Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora (LCES) and the Invasive Alien Species Act (IAS Act)

~Towards further promotion of wildlife protection and management in Japan~



Yosuke TAKATSUJI

Official,
Wildlife Division,
Nature Conservation Bureau



Yasunari HATTORI

Official,
Office for Alien Species Management,
Nature Conservation Bureau



Outline of the LCES

- In order to conserve endangered species of wild fauna and flora, the Act is intended to take measures such as the prohibition of capture and transfer of such species.

Outline of the IAS Act

- In order to prevent damage to Japan's ecosystems caused by IAS, the Act is intended to take measures including mitigation as well as to regulate handling, including raising and import of IAS.

Main reasons for amendment

- Individuals of endangered species of wild fauna and flora are traded at high prices due to their scarcity; mild penalties under the existing law have allowed malicious, illegal trades.

Examples of prices of illegally traded items

Ivory (entire shape)
17 mil. yen for 47 pieces



Astrochelys yniphora
7 mil. yen for 2 tortoises



- Hybrids of IAS are unregulated.



Japanese monkey
(domestic species)



Rhesus monkey (IAS)



Hybrid monkey

Photo taken and provided by
Daisuke Shiratori

- Release of IAS is prohibited, which has precluded any studies involving release that are designed to develop methods of mitigation (e.g. by tracking the individuals of IAS).
- There is no provision to require importers to take necessary actions such as disinfection even in cases where IAS are attached to or mixed in imported goods.

Main details of the amendment

- Significantly strengthened the penalty for illegal transfers.

- Individual: imprisonment of up to one year or a fine of not more than one million yen

[Amendment] Imprisonment of up to five years or a fine of not more than five million yen

- Juridical person: a fine of not more than one million yen

[Amendment] A fine of not more than 100 million yen

- Hybrids of IAS also became subject to control.

- Instituted a permission scheme for the release of IAS for academic research that is conducive to promoting their mitigation.

- Set the standards for the disinfection method for IAS that are attached to or mixed in imported goods; the competent ministers may order importers to take measures such as disinfection.

UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development 2014

The End-of-DESD Conference (DESD: Decade of Education for Sustainable Development) will be held in Japan.



Yuki MIYAZAWA

Deputy Director,
Office of Environmental Education,
Environmental Policy Bureau



The official logos of the World Conference designed by the UNESCO and Japanese government



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Education for Sustainable Development 2014
World Conference, Aichi-Nagoya, 10-12 November
Stakeholder Meetings, Okayama, 4-8 November



Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) means education for purposes that encourage each individual to recognize that everyone has a relationship with people around the world, future generations, and the environment, and to change behaviors towards realization of sustainable society.

In 2005, the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development was launched. In November 2014, the final year of that UN Decade, the "UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)" will be co-hosted by UNESCO and the Government

of Japan in Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture and Okayama City, Okayama Prefecture.

This Conference will celebrate the Decade's achievements and discuss the Agenda for ESD beyond 2014. The High-Level Segment and the Plenary sessions will take place in Nagoya, while several stakeholder meetings such as the Global RCE Conference (RCE: Regional Centres of Expertise), the International Forum on UNESCO ASPnet (Associated School Project Network), and the Youth Conference in Okayama.

To ensure a successful World Conference, the Ministry of the Environment has made efforts to achieve a sustainable society through boosting ESD efforts both inside and outside Japan, by increasing ESD efforts and improving their quality in cooperation with related Ministries including the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

MORE Information

UNESCO World Conference on ESD 2014

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco-world-conference-on-esd-2014/>

UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) – Current Schedule

	2014 October	11/1	11/2	11/3	11/4	11/5	11/6	11/7	11/8	11/9	11/10	11/11	11/12	11/13
		Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
Okayama	Kominkan - CLC Conference on ESD (TBD)						International Forum on UNESCO ASPnet							
								Youth Conference						
					Global RCE Conference (RCE: Regional Centres of Expertise)									
Aichi-Nagoya											The High-Level Segment and the Plenary sessions		Follow-up Meeting	

Note: The above events are the ones currently planned; others, including those by NPOs, are under consideration. e.g. Kominkan -CLC Conference on ESD will be held by Okayama City in conjunction with the World Conference.

Efforts towards Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

Aiming to establish an integrated model of adaptation and mitigation suitable for island countries



Kumiko KAJII

Senior Researcher,
PC-Institute for Global Environment Research,
Overseas Division,
Pacific Consultants Co. Ltd. (OECC member)



Since 1989, Pacific Consultants Co. Ltd. has been engaged in impact assessment and adaptation measures towards global warming / climate change, as well as in mitigation measures for GHG emissions reduction. In 1994, we participated in the joint study project of the Ministry of the Environment and South Pacific Island countries to conduct sea level rise vulnerability assessments for Tonga to begin with, and then for Fiji, Samoa, and Tuvalu. In 2004, we carried out comprehensive CDM feasibility studies in 14 South Pacific Island countries such as Samoa.

In 2012, our company established an Overseas Division and made a new start with an eye on the expansion of international businesses involving private enterprises. In this regard, we have just launched a formative feasibility study on a JCM large-scale project that intends to ensure the integration of adaptation and mitigation measures in the South Pacific island nations, especially focused on Palau.

In this study, we aim to establish a low-carbon model integrating both adaptation and mitigation measures in island countries where adaptation tends to be focused on than mitigation. In the model, we will consider the whole concept of a highly feasible business scheme by combining advanced Japanese technologies in the fields of disaster prevention and infrastructure for adaptation, and renewable energy (e.g., solar power) generation for mitigation.



Shore erosion by a typhoon and its recovery status (Palau)

Towards UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development

Establishment of Asian NGO Network on ESD (ANNE) towards post DESD



Katsunori SUZUKI

Member, Board of Directors,
Japan Council on the UN Decade of
Education for Sustainable Development (ESD-J)



As Japan was a proponent of the "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DSED)," the Japan Council on the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD-J) was established in 2003 as a civil society organization for promoting ESD in Japan and the world, especially for empowerment in local communities.

ESD-J is currently engaged in establishing a framework to promote ESD through multi-stakeholder collaboration and, as part of it, forming a network of Asian NGOs working on ESD. With cooperation from NGOs in Asia, ESD-J has documented and shared the ESD's good practices in Asia, and compiled messages from Asian NGOs to draw international attention at COP10 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and at the Rio+20 summit, among other events.

Based on those achievements, ESD-J is planning to formally launch the Asian NGO Network on ESD (ANNE) to coincide with the UNESCO World Conference on ESD to be held in 2014.

MORE Information

Japan Council on the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD-J)

<http://www.esd-j.org/e/>



Field tour during the international ESD workshop in Surabaya

National Parks of Japan

Efforts in Oki Islands Area in the Daisen-Oki National Park

Towards the progress in both the local development by the Geopark project and the conservation and management of the National Park

Oki Islands have gorgeous landscapes such as grand cliffs, various sizes of islands, and natural forests of Japanese cedar, while being surrounded by the very clear sea with abundant fish and shellfish.

In those Islands, the Geopark project is under way aiming to achieve sustainable local development by making use of their geologically significant local nature and culture for the purposes of conservation, education and tourism.

The concept of Geopark is compatible with that of National Parks (i.e. "compatibility of conservation and use"); therefore, in cooperation with the Geopark project, we have set up information signs and provided opportunities of environmental learning in the local areas since 2011.

Oki Islands Geopark was added to Global Geoparks Network in September 2013, which is thus expected to increase visitors from inside and outside Japan in the future. In this regard, it has been decided that a Ranger Office for Nature Conservation will be newly established in Oki islands in October, and thus rangers for nature conservation of the



A view of the Kuniga Seaside in Nishinoshima Island.

Ministry of the Environment will for the first time be stationed there.

With a view to informing the value of the nature in Oki to the children in the Islands and tourists, I am hoping to create education programs and a framework for human resources development in cooperation with the local people while further strengthening the tie with those involved in the Geopark.



Yoshiyuki SUZUKI

Ranger,
Matsue Ranger Office,
Chugoku-Shikoku Regional Environment Office



Oki Islands

Voice of MOE's Staff in foreign country

Tips on Enjoying the International Conference in Nairobi



A view of Nairobi City from the Nairobi National Park

Nairobi is an interesting city. Nearby this large city with a population over three million, there lies a National Park with its extensive savanna ecosystem. The scenery in which giraffes and zebras leisurely stride against the background of lofty buildings is uniquely Nairobi. Located here is the head office of the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP), in which many international meetings are held every year.

Some people say, "You can see giraffes from the airport." This is not an exaggeration, but a fact. If you are lucky, you can see them from the airport access road. When I encountered a lion cub, I was surprised to see that large predators and humans were living close at hand. Also, when I saw a zebra that had been killed by a car, I was simply amazed that such an accident is not uncommon. If you have a chance to visit Kenya for a conference, why don't you try to catch a glimpse of animals on the way to your meeting room?



Yukihiro HAISA

First Secretary/Deputy Permanent Representative to UNEP,
Embassy of Japan in Kenya

Next Feature

The Diplomatic Conference of the Minamata Convention on Mercury was held in Minamata and Kumamoto, from 9 to 11 October 2013. More than 1,000 people from 139 countries and regions (including more than 60 ministers and vice-ministers) participated. More detail in the next number!



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