

A Policy Research Workshop on Climate Change between Japan and China

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On Friday 6th January, a policy research workshop on climate change between Japan and China was held in Beijing, China. Reflecting on the result of COP17, policy makers and researchers of both countries exchanged their opinions on the current status and future prospects of climate change policies in Japan and China, and the future picture of cooperation in policy research.

A policy research workshop on climate change between Japan and China is the meeting that policy makers and researchers of both countries exchange their opinions on climate change issues of the research aspect of Japan and China. From Japan, officials from the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and researchers from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) attended the meeting. From China, researchers from the Energy Research Institute (ERI), the National Renewable Energy Centre, Beijing University of Technology, Tsinghua University, and the World Resource Institute (WRI) participated in it. MOE will continue to exchange opinions on climate change issues with China.

1. Venue: Beijing, China
2. Date: Friday 6th January, 2011
3. Agenda:
The current status of climate change policies in Japan and China, and the future picture of cooperation in policy research based on the result of COP17
4. Summary of the workshop
Researchers from the ERI (China) made presentation on review of the 11th

Five-Year Plan (FYP), low carbon development in the 12th FYP, the implementation plan of GHG emission reduction target, and evaluation and capacity development of basic statistical accounting system under the 12th FYP, pilot projects of emission trading system in the level of local governments, prospects of low carbon policy with 2 degree target in mind, and the current status of renewable energy development.

Officials from the MOE and researchers from the IGES introduced the updates of Japan' climate change policies, such as the status of target achievement on the Kyoto Protocol's first commitment period, consideration and implementation of climate change policies such as "Carbon Dioxide Tax of Global Warming Countermeasures", and monitoring and evaluation methods of support for developing countries' climate change measures.

Following on each presentation, participants had active and intensive discussion. At the last session of the meeting, based on the result of COP17, participants discussed a) the expected role of researchers for a promotion of future international negotiation, and b) the future picture of cooperation in policy research between Japan and China. As a result, participants confirmed that positive and concrete input from researchers would be essential to promote negotiation, and especially such input would be expected regarding questions on 1) how to realize low carbon society to achieve 2 degree goal, and 2) how to set ambitious GHG emission reduction target for the future framework. The workshop participants agreed to continue discussion to identify a few concrete topics for further research cooperation.

* For more details about the result, it will be published on the website of IGES (www.iges.or.jp/) in the near future.