

Joint Cooperation Plan
on Climate Change toward Carbon Neutrality by 2050
between the Minister of the Environment of Japan
and the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Viet Nam

The Minister for the Environment of Japan, H.E. Yamaguchi Tsuyoshi, and the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Viet Nam, H.E. Tran Hong Ha,

Recognizing the statement by the Viet Nam Prime Minister, H.E. Pham Minh Chinh at the 26th session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26) in Glasgow, UK in early November 2021, which expressed Viet Nam's intention to become carbon neutral by 2050;

Emphasizing the ASEAN-Japan Climate Change Action Agenda 2.0 on October 27, 2021 and the renewal of Memorandum of Cooperation on Low Carbon Growth between Japan and Viet Nam on October 14, 2021;

Fully aware of the comprehensive cooperation for advancing transition towards decarbonization in Viet Nam confirmed in the sixth Viet Nam - Japan Environmental Policy Dialogue on August 24 and 25, 2020; and

Recognizing the importance of enhancing environmental business between two countries towards realization of sustainable and decarbonized society in Viet Nam,

Have consented as follows:

1. The Ministry of the Environment of Japan and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Viet Nam will strengthen further their bilateral cooperation on climate change responses toward carbon neutrality by 2050, in line with Viet Nam's Nationally Determined Contribution which extends from 2021 to 2030, as well as other fields including environment and plastic pollution.
2. The two Ministries will enhance their cooperation in the following areas:
 - a. The development of National Strategy on Climate Change for the period to 2050 including the Long-Term Strategies (LTS) as required by Paris Agreement especially through analysis of future emission scenarios utilizing Asia-Pacific Integrated Model (AIM);
 - b. The development of city-level LTS especially through analysis of future emission scenarios utilizing AIM and formulation of decarbonizing projects through City to City collaboration such as Hai Phong City and Kitakyushu City;
 - c. Improving monitoring, evaluation and reporting system and facilitating private sector engagements in climate actions through Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for co-Innovation (PaSTI);

- d. The development of joint projects on decarbonization through the implementing the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) under the renewed of Memorandum of Cooperation on Low Carbon Growth between Japan and Viet Nam;
 - e. The promotion of transferring leading decarbonizing technologies from Japan to Viet Nam under the JCM, including hydrogen, and CCUS/carbon recycling to help Viet Nam to achieve its more ambitious GHG emission reduction targets;
 - f. The support for Viet Nam to develop and operate effectively its domestic carbon market, linking with the international markets, and carbon pricing tools;
 - g. Building capacity for officials of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Viet Nam on GHG inventories, GHG reductions certification;
 - h. The mobilization of and support for the participation of the private sector in Japan and Viet Nam in mitigation projects in Viet Nam;
 - i. Enhancing policies on waste to energy through Joint Committee on Waste Management and 3Rs, drawing lessons from ongoing flagship projects; and
 - j. Supporting formulation of regulations, capacity development of policy makers and technicians, and continued utilization of the JCM for advancing lifecycle management of fluorocarbons, based on the partnership under the Initiative on Fluorocarbons Life Cycle Management.
3. Other related areas include enhancing the management of marine plastic pollution, which should go hand in hand with decarbonization, particularly through contributing to the discussion on development of international legal instrument towards UNEA 5.2. and beyond, as well as strengthening the cooperation on the monitoring of marine plastic litter, and reaffirming the "Osaka Blue Ocean Vision".
 4. Contributing to 2-h above, both ministries will organize seminars, exhibitions, and business-match as a part of the 2nd Viet Nam – Japan Environment Week in December 2021, with the aim of further advancing cooperation based on the direction above and enhancing environmental business between two countries towards realization of sustainable and decarbonized society in Viet Nam.
 5. A Joint Working Group will be set up by the two Ministers, co-chaired by senior officials of both sides, and, in support of the Ministers, meet regularly to review and discuss the implementation of the Joint Cooperation Plan.
 6. The Joint Working Group may be organized back-to-back or as a part of Policy Dialogue between the two Ministries.

Signed in Tokyo on 24 November 2021, in duplicate in the English language as a non-legally-binding document.

Yamaguchi Tsuyoshi
Minister of the Environment
of Japan

Tran Hong Ha
Minister of Natural Resources
and Environment of Viet Nam