CAI Newsletter

Clean Asia Initiative [CAI]

Japan's Initiative towards Expansion of Environmental Infrastructure

March 2018 vol.17

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Japan's Initiative towards Expansion of Environmental Infrastructure

To achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, there need to be extensive reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions worldwide. Efforts are also needed to reduce vulnerability deriving from climate change and ensure that contributions are made to establishing a resilient society. In addition, it is essential to pursue the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through economic growth, increased employment, infrastructure development and improved access to water, food and energy.

The Government of Japan announced "Japan's Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017 (Initiatives 2017)" before the opening of 23rd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP23) to the UN Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which aims to accelerate climate change measures and sustainable development in developing countries through "co-innovation" by collaboration with important state and non-state actors, and uptake of advanced technology and knowledge to address challenges.

The Ministry of the Environment, Japan also announced the Basic Strategy of the Promotion of Environmental Infrastructure in July 2017. Correspondingly, waste management was included in the government's "Infrastructure Export Strategy" (2017 revised ver.)in addition to climate change mitigation. The Strategy aims to strengthen the development of environmental infrastructure (social infrastructure that utilizes environmental technologies and systems) globally in a systematic and comprehensive way. The Strategy shows policy that contributes to mitigation of both environmental problems in developing countries and global environmental issues such as climate change through the introduction and dissemination of Japanese environmental technologies, knowledge and systems together with the private sector.

This issue introduces the contents of and the actions taken by Japan related to the initiative and strategy, showing the policy direction of international environmental cooperation by Japan including transfer of environmental infrastructure.

23rd Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Climate Change [COP23]

Promotion of the "Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-innovation" for improved transparency in basic information, development of institutions and measures to address climate change in developing countries

The 23rd Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Climate Change (COP23) was held in Bonn, Germany from 6-17 November 2017. The major outcomes of COP23 were: (1) In negotiations on implementation guidelines for the Paris Agreement, a document was prepared compiling the opinions of each country on the components of the guidelines, including mitigation (greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction), a transparency framework (mechanism for reporting and assessment of country emissions) and market mechanisms, and progress was made on the technical work that will form the basis for negotiations; (2) Concerning design of the 2018 facilitative dialogue (Talanoa Dialogue), a basic design for the Talanoa Dialogue (stock-taking on the state of global emissions reduction and dialogue to enhance ambition) that is to begin in January 2018 was presented by the COP23 President (Fiji); and (3) Numerous events were held introducing diverse initiatives that promote global climate actions, including the aforementioned, "Japan Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017".

1. Japan's statements at COP23

The Government of Japan, in a government statement given by Masaharu Nakagawa, Minister of the Environment, introduced Japan's global contributions to date and its initiatives both domestically and internationally, as well as the support initiatives of non-state actors and Japan's bid to host the 2019 IPCC General Assembly. Further, Japan announced the establishment of the Partnership on Transparency (Visualisation Partnership) to support improved transparency on climate change measures by various actors in developing countries. As a part of this initiative, five million USD has been contributed to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT), a fund to support technical capacity building, such as emission counting, to ensure transparency in GHG reduction measures in developing countries. Likewise, Japan announced the planned launch next year of GHG Observing Satellite "IBUKI-2" (GOSAT-2).

Statement by Masaharu Nakagawa, Minister of the Environment of Japan at COP23

Content of "Japan Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017"

- Promotion of "co-innovation" to create innovations through cooperation based on the issues and needs faced by developing countries, while utilising the advanced technologies and know-how of Japan
- Launch of the "Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-innovation (PaSTI)" (Visualisation Partnership) with governments of developing countries and international organisations to promote visualisation of GHG emissions and reductions from the private sector in developing countries.
- Specific initiatives
  - Improved infrastructure for visualisation of climate change risk information in developing countries
  - Support for adaptation measures in the disaster prevention and agriculture sectors and promotion of adaptation businesses
  - Promotion of research and development on innovative technologies such as hydrogen energy and gallium nitride
  - Dissemination of low-carbon technologies and environmental infrastructure in developing countries based on utilisation of public funds from the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) as well as private funds
  - Support for the initiatives of private industries and local governments in developing countries

2. Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-innovation (PaSTI) (Visualisation Partnership)

In order to ensure the Paris Agreement is a more effective framework to achieve long-term targets, it is essential to improve transparency in basic information, development of institutions and measures to address climate change in countries around the world. Moreover, through improved transparency, the potential and needs for measures in various countries, as well as the technologies and know-how of Japan's private companies and local governments, will be rendered visible, thereby facilitating engagement, investment and even more cooperation from the private sector, giving rise to opportunities for "co-innovation" with developing countries.

This Partnership will combine the following concrete initiatives to provide focused support on issues of high need and urgency in development countries, including the topics of "drafting, implementation and progress assessment of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)" and "enhancement and management of climate risk information to improve transparency in adaptation measures".

Event

Establishment of the Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-innovation (PaSTI)

15 November, at COP23 Japan Pavilion

At this side event, the establishment of Japan's new initiative, the "Partnership to Strengthen Transparency for Co-innovation" was announced. Representatives invited from the governments of Indonesia and Thailand and international organisations took place in discussions on bringing about co-innovations to support capacity building and institutional improvements for national and local governments, private sector engagement and implementation of the Paris Agreement.

2.1. Capacity building on formulation, implementation and progress assessment of NDCs

According to the Paris Agreement, all countries are obligated to prepare and submit an NDC and to enact domestic measures to achieve the reduction targets set forth in the NDC. Further, under the enhanced transparency framework to facilitate effective implementation, countries are called upon to take stock of and report upon the state of implementation of measures. Accordingly, developing countries will face an increased need for institutional improvements and capacity building to implement the Paris Agreement.

In cooperation with JICA, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) as well as international initiatives such as the NDC Partnership, Japan's experience and know-how will be utilised to support capacity building and enhancement of organisational structures. Issues to be addressed include preparation of GHG inventories that form the prerequisites for any measures, formulation of concrete plans to achieve country reduction targets and specification of measures, creation of the necessary institutions for goal achievement (institutions for public release of calculations and reporting on GHG emissions, formulation of emissions reduction plans by the private sector utilising International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and mechanisms for assessment and verification of these by governments), and progress assessment of plans. Accordingly, enhanced opportunities for global warming countermeasures by industry and local governments in developing countries will arise and incentive will be added for enacting measures.

Specifically, support for submission, updating and implementation of NDCs will involve workshops and trainings to support the creation of domestic institutions and improved accuracy to support GHG inventories, as well as designation of necessary programmes and technological countermeasures toward formulation of precise emissions reduction scenarios employing assessment models. Further, support will be provided through contributions to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) to facilitate improved transparency. Likewise, capacity building for developing countries to promote the effective utilisation of CBIT will be carried out based on cooperation with the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Additionally, continued observation on a global scale by the Greenhouse Gases Observing Satellite (GOSAT) "IBUKI" series and development and dissemination of monitoring methods utilising ICT will contribute to guaranteeing transparency in countries' emissions stock-taking and reduction initiatives.

COP23 Side Event

"Recommendations to capacity building activities on the national GHG inventory in non-Annex I parties, Preparing for the Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement"

11 November, at COP23 Japan Pavilion

At this side event sponsored jointly by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan and JICA, discussions took place on improved accuracy in the GHG inventories of developing countries and the current state of and issues surrounding organisations and capacity development, as well as ideal forms for these.

Meanwhile, the increasing need for coordinated support for related ministries and agencies in concerned countries was pointed out. Likewise, the point was made that continued improvement and international review measures for calculation methods were long-term issues that exceed project periods, and expectations were voiced that the "Workshop on Greenhouse Gas Inventories in Asia (WGIA)" of the National Institute for Environmental Studies Greenhouse Gas Inventory Office (GIO) would become a good platform.

2.2. Enhancement and management of climate risk information to improve transparency in adaptation measures

To implement appropriate adaptation measures, climate change impact assessment must be carried out based on scientific knowledge and reflected on adaptation plans, requiring innovation in the policy processes of both developed and developing countries. Based on a coming together of industry, government and academia, Japan will consolidate its cutting-edge technologies and know-how to date. Through their provision, Japan will support improved climate risk information and the establishment of impact assessment methods, as well as the formulation of adaptation plans.

Specifically, support will be provided based on bilateral or multilateral cooperation for climate change impact assessment and other activities which are needed for the formulation of adaptation plans and its implementation. For instance, promotion will be carried out for the establishment of long-term hazard assessment methods for storm tides and storm waves resulting from cyclones in Small Island Developing States such as Fiji, Vanuatu and Samoa and enhancement of the set-up for the Analysis and Mapping of Impacts under Climate Change for Adaptation and Food Security (AMICAF). Moreover, human resources development in the field of climate change will be promoted, including the establishment of the Pacific Climate Change Centre in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the enhancement of Climate Change International Technical and Training Center (CITC) in Thailand.

Further, in cooperation with the Asian Development Bank, the Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) will be created as an information platform for climate risk and adaptation information in the region. Likewise, partnerships with international organisations such as the Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation (GCECA) will contribute to enhanced global infrastructure for climate risk information. Continued promotion will be carried out for research and development, including the advancement of climate models that provide the basis for initiatives, and the creation of global environmental information platforms. Additionally, from the perspective of climate change and security, the report released in September 2017 entitled, "Analysis and Proposal of Foreign Policies Regarding the Impact of Climate Change on Fragility in the Asia-Pacific Region", will be utilised in various diplomatic arenas. Information and lessons learned from these initiatives will be widely shared via international networks, including the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), the Global Adaptation Network (GAN) and the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) Asia-Pacific Symposium, as stronger collaboration with countries around the world is employed.

COP23 Related Side Event

"Building up scientific knowledge to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of adaptation planning and its action"

15 November, at COP23 Japan Pavilion

This side event garnered the participation of Japan's Minister of the Environment Nakagawa and Mr. Bambang Brodjonegoro, Minister of the National Development Planning Agency of Indonesia, as well as representatives of Thailand's Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, United Nations Environment Programme, Asian Development Bank, APAN and NIES. Discussions involved ways to link science-based climate change risk information to execution of adaptation plans in countries and regions, as well as ways to create and provide scientific data.

Proposals were made at the side event, including the need to initiate activities wherever possible and work towards improvements, such as the compilation of local knowledge, the need to strengthen cooperation between existing networks and organisations and AP-PLAT, and the need for research institutes from all countries to collaborate to create long-term systems for knowledge sharing and collaboration on capacity building.

- Japan Assistance Initiatives to Address Climate Change 2017
http://www.env.go.jp/press/files/en/738.pdf

- COP 23 Japan Pavilion
http://copjapan.env.go.jp/cop23/

5th JCM Partner Countries' Meeting

At COP23, 17 signatory countries of the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) gathered for the "5th JCM Partner Countries' Meeting". Representatives of the 17 partner countries welcomed the progress of the JCM and shared the view to support further formulation and implementation of JCM projects.

Announcement of the Basic Strategy of the Promotion of Environmental Infrastructure

Outlines of the Basic Strategy

3 main activities

1. Top-level sales utilizing opportunities such as bilateral policy dialogue and inter-regional forums

2. Promotion of support as a package from system to technology and finance, and dissemination of economic and social impacts

Actions on Major Sectors

Climate Mitigation

- Provide financial support to individual project formulation, in addition to the Financing Program for Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) Model Projects, including cooperation with ADB.
- Support activities such as the capacity building for utilizing the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
- Support the climate change action plan formulation by utilizing Japanese knowledge, such as quantification of reduction amount by sector and specification of countermeasure technology considering cost effectiveness.
- Identify the needs of individual projects, such as preparing a master plan at city level, through collaboration with Japanese municipalities, and assist in formulating projects.

Climate Adaptation

- Implement climate change impact assessment for vulnerable sectors such as agriculture, water resources, natural disasters in developing countries, and support human resource development and adaptation action plan formulation.
- Collect and organize climate risk information, impact assessment and adaptation initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region, and build the Asia-Pacific Adaptive Information Platform (AP-PLAT), including through bilateral collaboration and project level cooperation with the Asian Development Bank (ADB),
- Promote the expansion of adaptation business overseas, reduction of investment risk in developing countries, and an appropriate response to climate risk, by providing information on AP-PLAT.

Johkasou – decentralized wastewater treatment system

- Propose a comprehensive wastewater treatment service for sewage system and decentralized treatment system (*Johkasou*) from the stage of master plan preparation.
- Support feasibility studies, establish a business model in developing countries, create standardized specifications, and collaborate with financial institutions such as ADB in project formation.
- Provide support to establish the maintenance and management system for *Johkasou* in the Asian region, including rules and regulations.
- Localize specifications of product and support the development of a fair treatment performance evaluation scheme, aiming to standardize *Johkasou* in the ASEAN region in collaboration with the private sector, government and academia.

Water Environment Conservation

- Support the formulation of a voluntary action program to solve concrete water environment problems, and share the results under the framework of the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA).
- Assist feasibility studies and field demonstration tests in Asian countries and also offer support to match the technologies studied with the needs for water environment conservation technology in each country.

In July 2017, the Ministry of the Environment, Japan developed the Basic Strategy of the Promotion of Environmental Infrastructure to contribute to the reduction of pollution damage and waste issues in developing countries that have been increasing according to economic development and urbanization, by transferring Japanese environmental technologies, knowledge and systems through public-private partnership. The strategy includes three major activities and also sets sector and regional strategies respectively. MOEJ will promote the expansion of quality infrastructure under the Strategy, aiming for "leapfrog" development that minimizes the total cost of pollution measures.

3. Strengthening of implementation structure by cooperating with private enterprises, municipalities, other ministries and agencies, as well as domestic and overseas donor organizations

Waste & Recycle

- Support feasibility studies and model projects implemented by Japanese business operators.
- Prepare the environment for the introduction of high-quality technology, and development and application of a finance model through the bilateral joint committee.
- Training to obtain residents' understanding, and on planning, bids, design and management of waste disposal/ recycling facilities.
- Establish and utilize multilateral cooperation bases, such as "Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific" and "African Clean Cities Platform"
- Analyze long-term reduction of environmental burdens and the economic effect by introducing advanced technology, and maintain and disseminate basic information data on recycling industry in the region.

Environmental Assessment

- Strengthen the network between administrative officials in charge of environmental assessment, to promote the development and execution of an assessment system in each Asian country., etc.
- Facilitate the overseas expansion of Japanese infrastructure through sharing of information to Japanese business operators.

15th ASEAN+3 Environment Ministers Meeting

Proposed the ASEAN-Japan Environmental Cooperation Initiative

The 15th ASEAN+3 Environment Ministers Meeting was held in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei on September 13, 2017. State Minister of the Environment Tadahiko Ito attended the meeting.

At the meeting, Japan proposed a new initiative "ASEAN-Japan Environmental Cooperation Initiative" as a comprehensive framework to accelerate ASEAN and Japan cooperation in environmental areas. In relation to the Initiative, Japan proposed support to the ASEAN SDGs Frontrunner Cities Program to be funded by the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF). Promotion of collaborative research in the areas of circular economy, and waste and recycling with the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) was also proposed to promote a recycling-based society for the region. The Initiative was widely supported by the countries participating in the meeting. The Initiative was also mentioned in a statement by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting in November 2017.

Global Expansion of *Johkasou* – Japan's decentralized wastewater treatment system

Contributing to SDGs through promotion of decentralized domestic wastewater treatment systems in both soft and hard dimensions and approaches

The need for adequate domestic wastewater treatment has been increasing in developing countries in Southeast Asia and others in order to address the deterioration of the water environment and public health caused by untreated or not adequately treated domestic wastewater due to rising population and improving living standards. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in September 2015 include a target to halve the proportion of untreated wastewater by 2030 to "ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all". To meet the target, there will be a growing demand for appropriate domestic wastewater treatment in suburban and rural areas, especially for decentralized systems such as *Johkasou* having advantages in shorter installation period and the cost.

Johkasou is a decentralized domestic wastewater treatment system developed in Japan, and the number of units and countries that have introduced *Johkasou* has sharply increased recently. China introduced the biggest number of *Johkasou*, with a share of about half of the total number installed overseas. In China, Japanese companies delivered the system, in collaboration with local companies, mainly for wastewater treatment in agricultural areas. In Viet Nam, more than 1,000 units of *Johkasou* have been installed mainly in government facilities aiming to meet strengthened wastewater treatment standards in the country. In Myanmar, more than 170 units of *Johkasou* have been installed into hotels and apartments. In both countries, demands have grown owing to acknowledgement of the technical performance of *Johkasou* through the installations into local Japanese affiliated companies and model projects conducted to government facilities in those countries. However, developing countries have yet to fully recognize the usefulness of decentralized domestic wastewater treatment

Projects to promote global expansion of *Johkasou*

Survey and Demonstration

Model Project for Improvement of Water Environment in Asia

from FY2011

To contribute to the improvement of water environment in Asia through overseas development of water treatment technologies held by Japanese companies, MOEJ is providing support for feasibility studies and field studies by private companies selected in an open call. To further promote business development, information and knowledge gained from the model projects is being transmitted to and shared with relevant stakeholders.

Model Project on *Johkasou* in Hungary

FY2017

The Project features performance demonstration of three units of *Johkasou* installed for households, and examination of infrastructural development for operation and maintenance. Expansion of the systems to Central and Eastern Europe is expected in the future.

RESEARCH

Integrated Approach for Dissemination of Decentralized Domestic Wastewater Treatment System in Southeast Asia

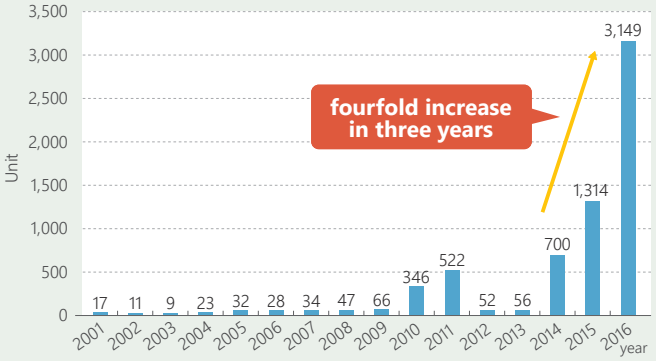
FY2016-2018

The research has been implemented to develop treatment performance testing methods on decentralized domestic wastewater treatment facilities as well as to test treatment performance of decentralized wastewater treatment systems including *Johkasou*, with an aim to establish standardized testing methods in the ASEAN region. This research is conducted under the Environment Research and Technology Development Fund of MOEJ was led by the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES).

Small scale *Johkasou* for households

systems, nor have they grasped the importance of operation and maintenance (O&M) including cost burden issues. To expand *Johkasou* systems globally, it is important to address the system applications in both soft and hard approaches, including technical developments suitable to local conditions, establishments of standards to achieve appropriate treatments, performance evaluation systems and rules and regulations for operation and maintenance (O&M) considering the cost sharing. It is also necessary to develop the awareness and capacity of both those who in charge of O&M and the users.

To address these challenges, the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) is expanding various projects shown in the boxes below. Networking with relevant stakeholders such as officers and experts on domestic wastewater treatment in Asia is also under progress. In Yangon, Myanmar in December 2017, MOEJ and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan organized a preparatory meeting of "the Asia Wastewater Management Partnership" (AWaP), which the Government of Japan has proposed at the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit and is expected to launch in FY2018. Based on the Basic Strategy of Promotion of Environmental Infrastructure (see p.6), MOEJ will continue to enhance international cooperation on *Johkasou* and explore collaboration with international organizations, with an eye to contribution to the enhancement of water preservation and public sanitation of the world.



Number of *Johkasou* installed in overseas (Source: MoEJ)

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Networking and policy dialogue for multi-stakeholders on integrated decentralized domestic wastewater management in ASEAN Member States

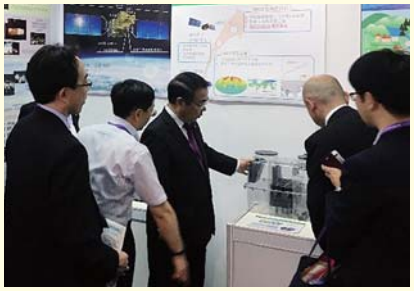
to start in 2018

The main purpose of this project is to create a platform of good practices on legislation, policies, programs and appropriate technology on decentralized domestic wastewater treatment. By sharing knowledge and experience through fact-finding missions, capacity building training in Japan, policy dialogues, and policy consultations, the project will promote discussion among stakeholders on domestic wastewater treatment in ASEAN member countries and help to find domestic wastewater treatment policies and technology appropriate to each country. This project will be implemented by the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Indonesia and supported by NIES utilizing the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund.

Workshop on Decentralized Domestic Wastewater Treatment

The 1st workshop was organized in 2013. The 5th workshop was held in Yangon, Myanmar in December 2017 on the occasion of the 3rd Asia Pacific Water Summit, where issues on rules and regulations, performance evaluation systems and on financial aspects of decentralized wastewater treatment systems were discussed. There were more than 100 participants from governmental offices, experts and private companies.

The 5th Workshop on Decentralized Domestic Wastewater Treatment in Asia (Myanmar)



Japan-China Green Expo 2017 (Beijing, China)

Promotion of *Johkasou* at International Exhibitions

Promoted *Johkasou* systems at international conferences and exhibitions such as Japan-China Green Expo 2017 (Beijing, China. June 2017) which featured exhibition of *Johkasou* model and explanations of *Johkasou*.

Japan-Myanmar Environment Week

Sharing information of Japan's environmental technologies and know-hows through series of events

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) of Myanmar and the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ) organized Japan-Myanmar Environment Week on January 15-17, 2018 in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The events were organized under the framework of the Basic Strategy of the Promotion of Environmental Infrastructure. During the Environment Week, a high-level policy dialogue on the environment as well as a seminar and events at the practical level were organized. Through the series of events, information on Japan's environmental technologies and experiences were shared with relevant stakeholders in Myanmar, and environmental issues of Myanmar and future bilateral cooperation were also discussed.

Events organized during the Japan-Myanmar Environment Week

● Environmental Policy Dialogue between MONREC and MOEJ

January 15, 2018. Nay Pyi Taw

With participation of H.E. Mr. Ohn Winn, Union Minister of MONREC, Myanmar and State Minister of the Environment, Japan Tadahiko Ito, the Dialogue reviewed environmental cooperation between the two countries in the areas of climate change including the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM), and water environment management. In addition, discussions featured the way forward for cooperation on waste management and environmental impact assessment (EIA), with both countries agreeing to promote human capacity development in these two sectors. In the Joint Statement of the Dialogue, MONREC and MOEJ reaffirmed their intentions to continue their efforts to promote cooperative activities including public and private sector activities, and to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of environment at the earliest possible time.

● Workshop on Waste Management

January 16, 2018. Nay Pyi Taw

The seminar was attended by H.E. Mr. Ohn Winn, the Union Minister of MONREC and State Minister of the Environment Mr. Ito, and by officials from national and local governments, and representatives from the private sector of both countries. The seminar covered topic such as institutional arrangements and technologies related to waste management and recycling, initiatives of local governments, and the status and challenges of waste management and master plan development in Myanmar. Following on from these discussions, the next workshop will be organized during 2018 to deepen collaboration on waste management.

Mr. Ito, State Minister of the Environment at the Workshop

Business Matching at the Seminar

● Seminar on Environmental Infrastructure and Technology

January 17, 2018. Yangon

The seminar introduced environmental infrastructure, technology and knowledge from Japanese companies to officers from national and local governments and to representatives of the private sector in Myanmar. There were presentations on city-to-city collaboration projects jointly implemented by Japanese local governments such as Fukushima City and Kitakyushu City and the private sector in Yangon, and JCM projects implemented in Myanmar, as well as collaboration projects on solid waste management and energy-saving. The seminar also provided a business matching opportunity for Japanese companies and participants from the Myanmar side.

The 19th Tripartite Environment Ministers' Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan (TEMM19)

The environment ministers of Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of Korea have been holding the Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on an annual basis since 1999. In this framework, the three countries play a leading role in environmental management of North East Asia, and endeavor to contribute to environmental improvement on a global scale. The 19th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM19) was held in Suwon, Korea on August 24-25, 2017.

Outcomes of TEMM19

1 Confirmed the progress in activities of nine priority areas* under the Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation 2015-2019 adopted at TEMM17 in 2015 and agreed to continue and expand the cooperative efforts among three countries.

2 Recognized the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and agreed to establish tripartite joint research for achieving SDGs from environmental aspects.

3 Shared the recognition that invasive alien species pose an urgent issue in East Asia, and confirmed to share the best practices of the countermeasures.

*Nine priority areas are air quality improvement; biodiversity; chemical management and environmental emergency response; circulative management of resources/3R/transboundary movement of E-wastes; climate change response; environmental education, public awareness and corporate social responsibility; rural environmental management; transition to green economy;

Major development in individual areas

1 Exchanged information on policies and technologies on air pollution including PM2.5. Promoted regional actions through sharing experiences and technologies of Japan to address VOC at source, a major source of PM2.5 and other pollutants.

2 Confirmed that information exchange among three countries on policies and study findings of marine litter has been promoted. The Third TEMM-NOWPAP Joint Workshop on Marine Litter would be held in Japan in 2017.

3 Exchanged information on environmental technologies at the first joint exhibition and the first environmental technology seminar held in June 2017 in Korea, under the framework of the Tripartite Cooperation Network for Environmental Pollution Prevention and Control Technologies launched at TEMM18 that aims to promote needs matching on environmental technologies among three countries, such as the needs of China with countries like Japan.

11th Policy Dialogue on Environmental issues between Japan and Mongolia

The 11th Policy Dialogue on Environmental Issues between Japan and Mongolia was organized by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ) and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia (MET) in December 2017. Chaired by Mr. Yasuo Takahashi, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs of Japan and H.E. Tserendorj BATBAYAR, Vice Minister of MET, the Dialogue shared and discussed policies and experiences of both countries on such issues as mercury management, waste management, climate change, and air pollution (dust and sand storm).

Ahead of the renewal of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) between the two countries, the Dialogue identified waste management as a new and additional area of cooperation and shared high expectation to promote cooperative relations between the two countries.

Example of
JCM
Model Project

Introduced high efficient pumps to a water treatment facility of Da Nang, Viet Nam

Under the support of the Financing Programme for JCM Model Projects, nine high efficiency pumps were introduced to the Cau Do Water Treatment Facility owned by the Da Nang Water Supply Joint Stock Company (DAWACO). This project has been implementing by the international consortium jointly formed by the Yokohama Water Co., Ltd. and DAWACO. By replacing the existing pumps with high efficiency ones that maximize design by considering the flow rate required in the facility, the annual reduction in GHG emissions is expected to be 1,145 ton-CO_2 in addition to reducing operational costs.

This project was formulated through the framework of collaboration between Yokohama city and Da Nang city, utilizing the City-to-City Collaboration Programs of MOEJ in 2015.

High efficient pumps introduced

Launching ceremony

Potal Site on Low Carbon Development

Ministry of the Environment's Web Portal for Low Carbon Development in Asia
http://www.env.go.jp/earth/coop/lowcarbon-asia/english/

Main information

- Trends in international negotiations and related systems
- Governmental agencies in Asian countries
- Low-carbon/environmental policies in Asian countries
- Governmental support systems for overseas business development

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