

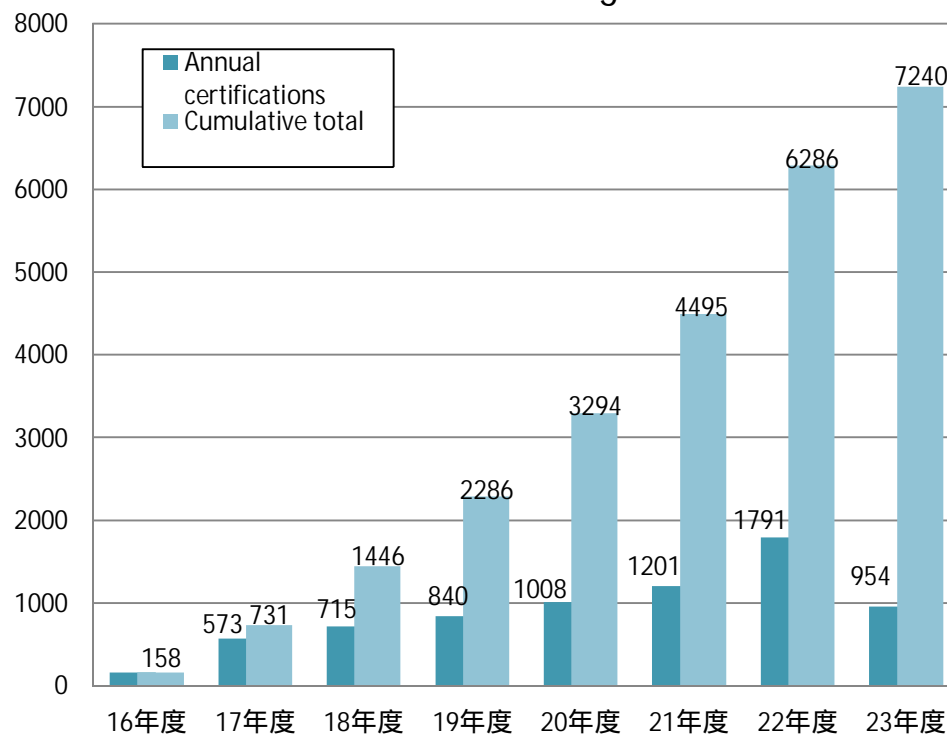
EMS promotion for SMEs (Eco Action 21)

The MOE has formulated Environmental Management Systems (EMS) guidelines for medium and small-sized companies.

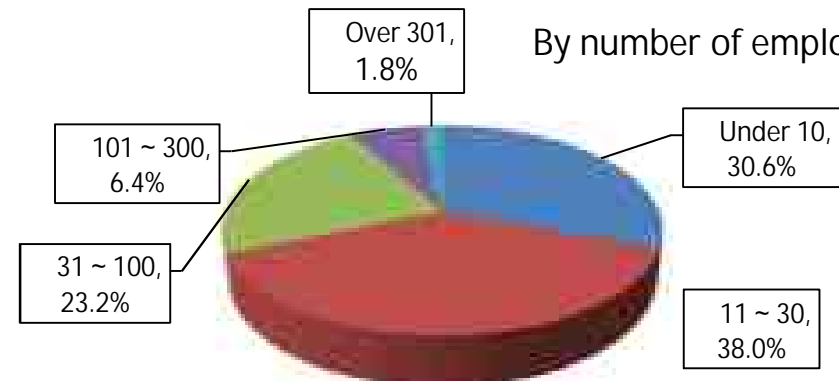
To implement Eco Action 21, the MOE formulates guidelines explaining requirements and a checklist .

In addition to controlling and reducing use of greenhouse gases (GHG), waste and water use, and control of chemical substances, green purchasing and reduction in environmental load released from products are promoted. EA21 also allows companies to publicly report environmental results.

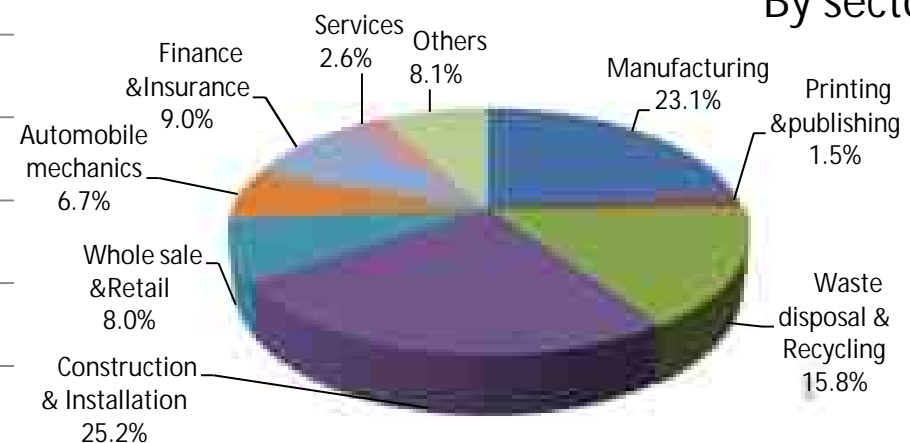
Current status of Eco action 21
certification and registration



By number of employees



By sector

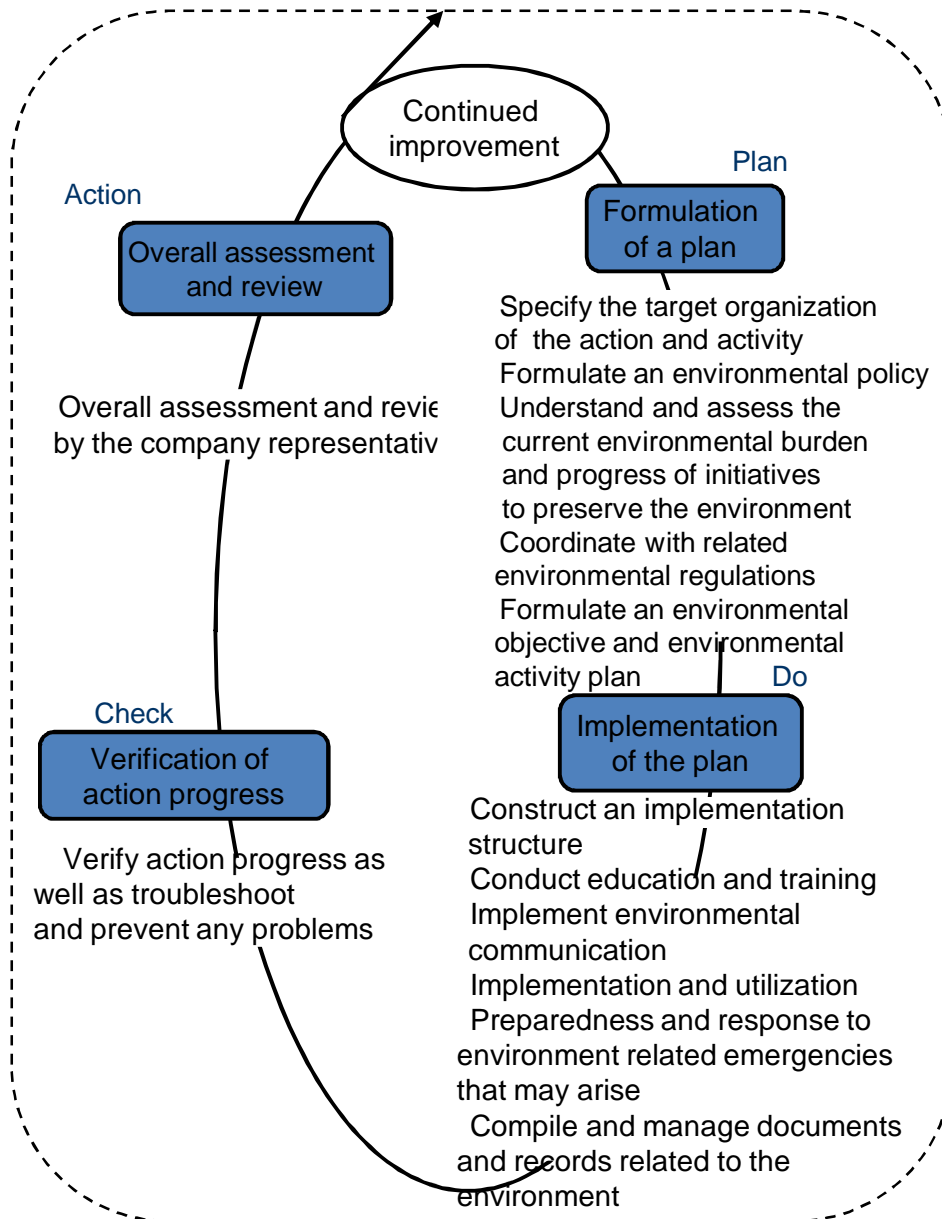


エコアクション21の特徴 Features of Eco Action 21

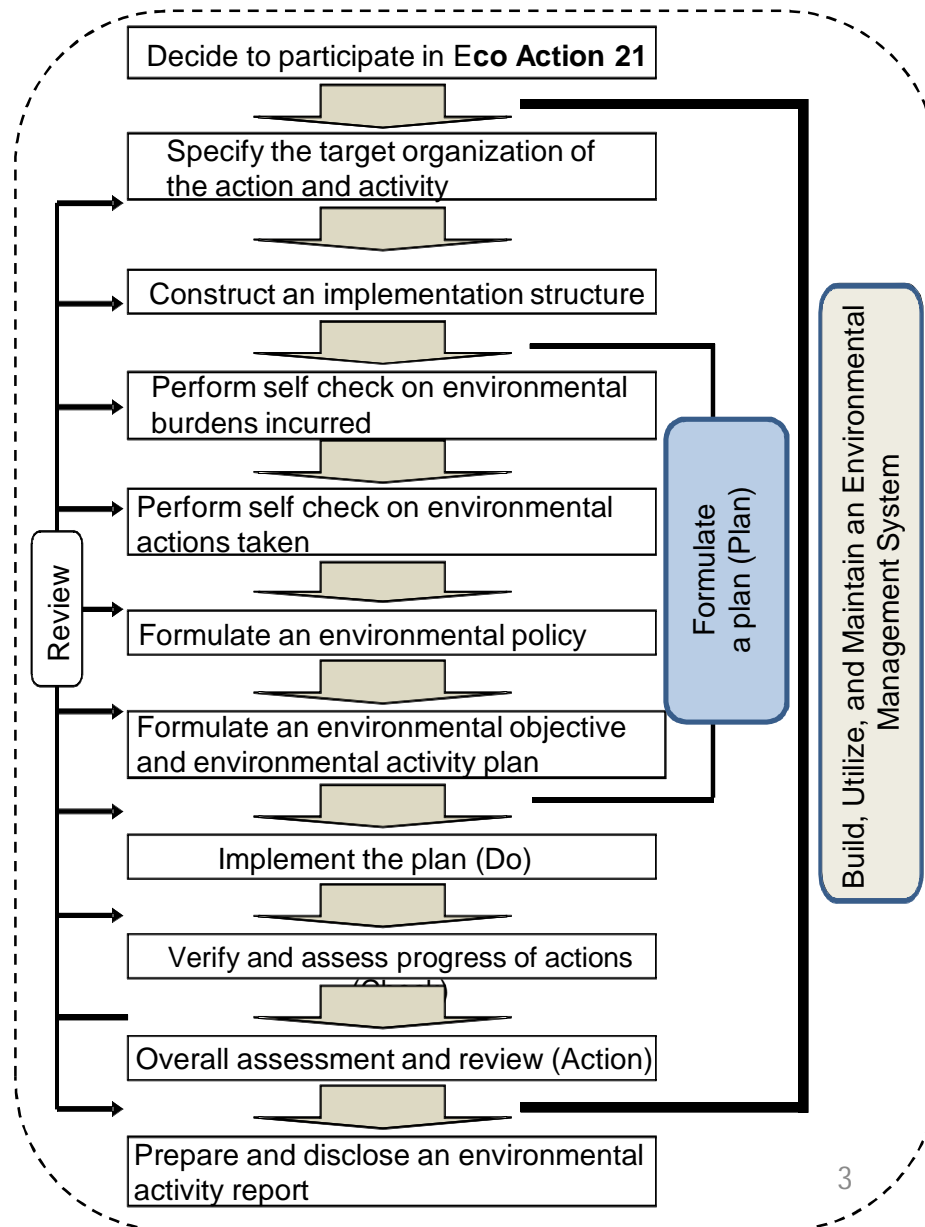
- Narrows down EMS points for easy implementation by small- and mid-sized businesses at a low cost.
- Follows efforts on reducing actual environmental burdens. (also focuses on performance)
(sets goals for the amount of carbon dioxide emissions, waste product disposal, and total water discharged, keep track of and lower the amount of chemical substances used, green purchasing, and the company's own products / service)
- Disclosure of annual environmental activity report is required
Nine items are stipulated for disclosure, including organizational summary, environmental policy, environmental objective, environmental activity plan and its result, as well as an overall assessment by a company representative.

Summary of Eco Action 21

- 13 Requirements and the PDCA Cycle -

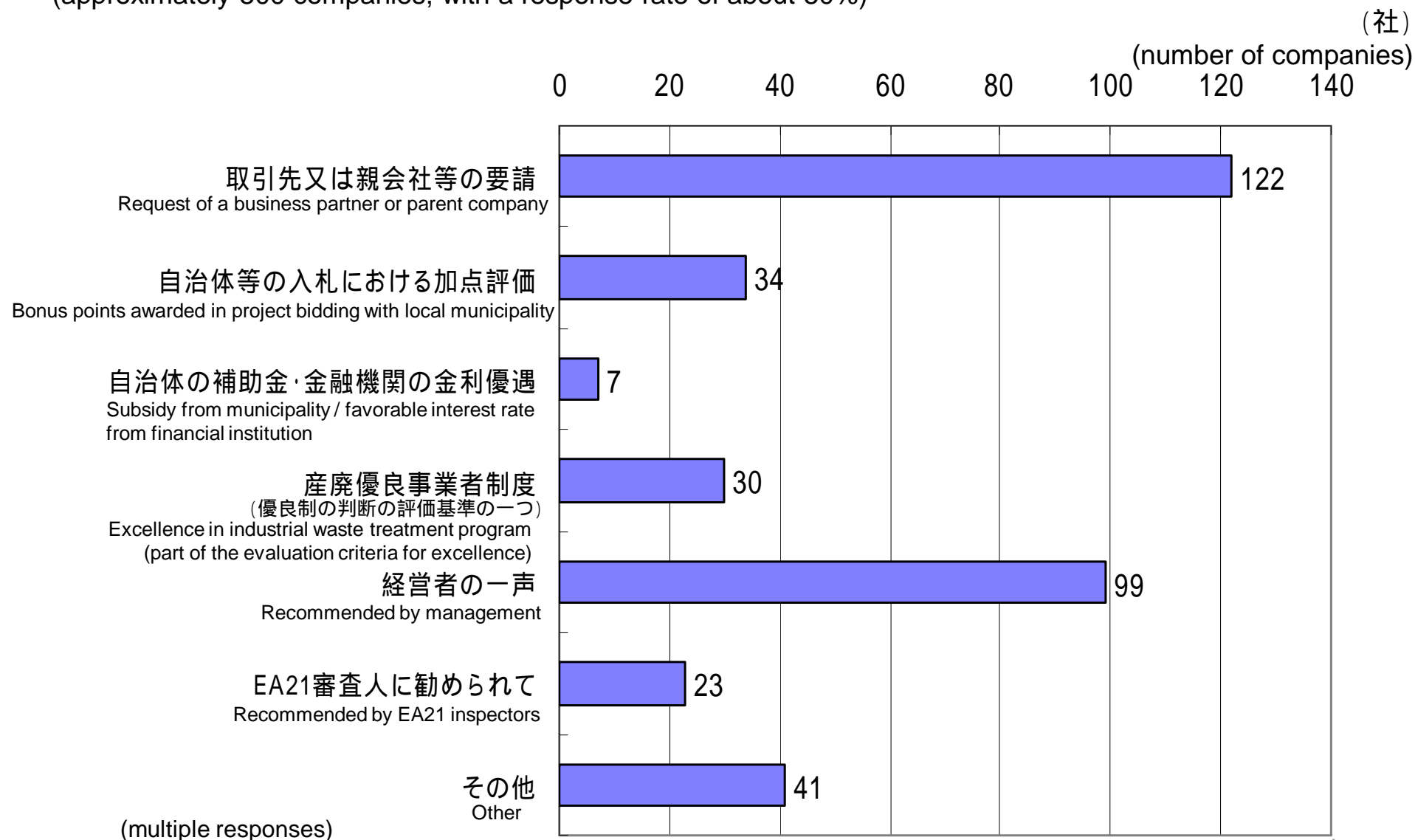


Eco Action 21 Action Procedures -



Reason for Becoming Involved with Eco Action 21

Based on a survey conducted by the MOE in February 2008 targeting Eco Action 21 certified businesses (approximately 500 companies, with a response rate of about 50%)



Benefits Gained by Participating in Eco Action 21

Based on a survey conducted by the MOE in February 2008 targeting Eco Action 21 certified businesses (approximately 500 companies, with a response rate of about 50%)

