環境省
Ministry of the Environment

# JEQ JAPAN Environment Quarterly

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Japanese Pattern
*Sakurawari Monyou*
春
Spring

Suirennuma Pond of spring in Towada-Hachimantai National Park

# Warsaw Climate Change Conference, November 2013

# ワルシャワ気候変動会議

Global Environment Bureau

The 19th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP19) was held in Warsaw from 11th to 23rd November 2013. From Japan, the Environment Minister Mr. Ishihara and officials from relevant ministries attended the meeting.

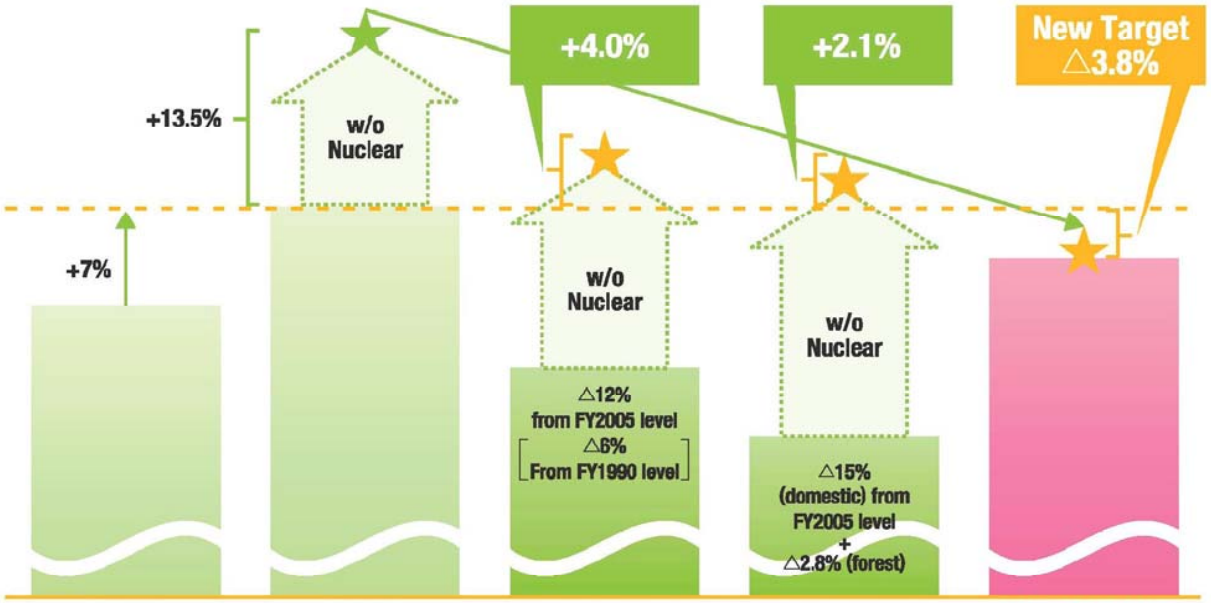
Japan brought two key messages to the Conference.

The first message was a new emission target by 2020. In January 2013, the government started a zero-base review of the earlier 25% reduction target established in 2009 before the Great East Japan Earthquake. At COP19, Mr. Ishihara put forward a new 2020 reduction target of 3.8% from 2005 level in his national statement. This new target, which may appear to be less ambitious, is a target for the time being, determined without taking into account the emissions reduction effect by nuclear power. A firm target will eventually be set, based on further review of the consideration on energy policy. This is an ambitious target that requires improving its energy efficiency by 20 percent, which is already at the world's top level.

The second message is a proactive diplomatic strategy for countering global warming, entitled "ACE: Actions for Cool Earth". Toward the goal to reduce emissions by 50 percent at the global level and by 80 percent in the developed world by 2050, Japan will promote further technological innovation. Japan will promote emission

## New Target vs. Past Targets

**If these targets are compared without the assumed emission reduction by nuclear power...**




Japan's earlier emission targets had taken into account the emissions reduction effect by nuclear power. By comparing the reduction rates without this effect, it can be understood that the new target has higher ambition than earlier targets.

## At COP19 in Warsaw in November 2013, Environment Minister Mr. Ishihara put forward Japan's new emission target and a diplomatic strategy "Actions for Cool Earth". Japan will take the lead in international discussion toward agreeing to a new international framework applicable to all countries in 2015.


The Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) is a mechanism in which Japan facilitates the dissemination of advanced low-carbon technologies, etc. Credit will be issued by appropriately evaluating the contribution to GHGs emission reductions or removals in developing countries, Japan will use them to achieve its reduction target. On the margins of COP19, all the eight countries that signed a bilateral document on the JCM gathered at the JCM Partners Roundtable upon which Minister Ishihara addressed the members as the "ACE Club".

reductions in developing countries by disseminating advanced low-carbon technologies, through the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM). Furthermore, in the area of mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, Japan will provide support to developing countries totaling 1.6 trillion yen, about16 billion US dollars, during the 3-year period from 2013 to 2015, making use of ODA, OOF and private flows.

With these messages, Japan contributed to the negotiations toward the agreement at COP21 in 2015 on the new post-2020 legal framework, aiming at the deliberations on the elements of the future framework and the clarification of the work plan toward 2015. The negotiations resulted in decisions that all Parties should initiate or intensify domestic preparations for their intended nationally determined contributions, and communicate them well in advance of COP21 (by the first quarter of 2015 by those Parties ready to do so), and that the information that Parties will provide when putting forward their contributions should be identified by COP20 in 2014. The conference also adopted decisions on climate finance, and on the establishment of the Warsaw international mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts.

Further international meetings are scheduled in March and June 2014, followed by the UN Climate Summit in September, and COP20 in Lima in December. Japan will take the lead in further negotiations toward a 2015 agreement.

***MORE Information***
*Warsaw Climate Change Conference, November 2013*
http://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/cc/cop19_summary.html

# The First Asia Parks Congress

**Keisuke TAKAHASHI**
Assistant Director,
National Park Division,
Nature Conservation Bureau

Passing the outcomes on to the World Parks Congress host organizations

From 13 to 17 November 2013, "the 1st Asia Parks Cogress" was jointly organized by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture. The congress attracted about 800 participants including government officials, researchers, international organizations and NGOs from 40 countries and regions, mainly in Asia. Over the course of the Congress, there were keynote addresses, plenary, working-group and poster sessions, and side events, in which more than 300 presentations were delivered concerning protected areas. Also, there was an on-site inspection tour of the Sanriku Fukko National Park and others.

1ST ASIA PARKS CONGRESS
JAPAN 2013 | PARKS CONNECT

As the outcomes of the Congress, participants agreed to the "Asia Protected Areas Charter (Sendai Charter)" which includes eight commitments and could be said as basic principle of protected areas in Asia. The participants also formulated the "Message from the 1st Asia Parks Congress to the 2014 IUCN World Parks Congress," based on discussions in working groups on respective six themes including "Natural Disasters and Protected Areas," and the "Asia Parks Congress Youth Declaration," based on presentations and discussions by young researchers.

These outcomes will be utilized as guidelines for Asian countries to promote respective and cooperative efforts for protected areas. In addition, they will be reflected in the discussions and outcomes of the "6th World Parks Congress" to be held in Sydney, Australia, in November 2014.

***MORE Information***
*1st Asia Parks Congress*
http://asia-parks.org/

## Asia Protected Areas Charter
### Our Commitments

We affirm our commitment to:

- **Broaden understanding of the important role of protected areas in disaster risk reduction, prevention and recovery.**
- **Increase the potential of protected areas to provide opportunities for responsible tourism and environmental education in a way that is participatory, sustainable and beneficial to local communities.**
- **Enhance protected area networks and cooperation through stronger engagement with central and local governments, business, indigenous peoples, NGOs and youth, and increase financial and technical support for protected areas.**
- **Respect and integrate local cultures and traditions, and listen to the voices of those practicing them, in the designation and management of protected areas.**
- **Reduce the threats to biodiversity and the ecosystem services, and contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.**
- **Increase protected areas collaboration to improve governance and management capacity, and to champion the value of protected areas.**

Through these commitments, we will work toward a future where protected areas enhance human progress, resulting in people living in harmony with nature.

# Eco Driver Project

## Drive Ecologically to Save the Earth!

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

"Eco driving" is the "use of cars that takes reduction of environmental load into consideration." As well as reducing $CO_2$ emissions, it improves the fuel efficiency, reduces traffic accidents, and gains a high confidence from passengers and others. The Eco Driver Project is a campaign since December 2013 to urge the public to be aware that "Eco Driving" has now become the driving manners for everyone.

In Japan, the annual $CO_2$ emissions from family cars amount to about 0.1 billion tons. It is said that carrying out eco driving could improve fuel efficiency by about 10%; that is, if we all become eco drivers, it will result in decreasing $CO_2$ emissions by about 10 million tons. Also, the 10% fuel efficiency improvement is economical as it will reduce your gasoline costs by about 10%.


The first step to becoming an eco driver is to "know yourself." First be aware of the "fuel efficiency in your driving" and "reputation of your driving from other people," and then practice of 10 eco driving tips as shown in the figure below. Be an eco driver, as an adult and a car lover, by driving ecologically to save the Earth!

## 10 Eco-Driving Tips

1. Press Accelerator Softly for "e-Start"


2. Drive with Moderate Acceleration / Deceleration


3. Release Accelerator Early


4. Use Air Conditioner Moderately


5. Stop Idling


6. Use Traffic Information to Avoid Congestion


7. Check Air Pressure Frequently


8. Avoid Unnecessary Loading


9. Beware of Parking Space


10. Consider Fuel Efficiency

# Progress on Treatment of Disaster Debris from Great East Japan Earthquake

**Takuya KIRIKAWA**
Section Chief,
Waste Management Division,
Waste Management and Recycling Department

Disaster Debris at the time (Ishinomaki, Miyagi, in May 2012)

The earthquake and tsunami caused damage to 239 municipalities in 13 prefectures, generating about 20 million tons of disaster debris and about 10 million tons of tsunami deposits. Ministry of the Environment has set the target to complete their treatment within three years from the time the earthquake struck, and encouraged the treatment of debris through the cooperation with regions not affected by the disaster (so far accepted by 18 prefectures) as well as installation of temporary disposal facilities, towards recovery and reconstruction as early as possible.

As of the end of September 2013, the disaster debris treatment has been completed in 174 municipalities, more than 70% of the damaged areas. 90% of the entire debris has been disposed of so far, out of which 80% has been recycled. Also, 70% of tsunami deposit treatment has been finished by means of recycling almost all of them. The treatment of both disaster debris and tsunami deposit is estimated to be completed by March 2014.

In addition, although our disposal efforts are partially delayed in Fukushima, we will try our best to complete them as soon as possible.

***MORE Information***
*Progress on treatment of debris from the Great East Japan Earthquake*
https://www.env.go.jp/en/recycle/eq/ptd20131025.pdf

## Table: Treatment Status of Disaster Debris and Tsunami Deposits in 13 Prefectures (as of end-September 2013)

| | Number of prefectures | Number of municipalities | Number of municipalities where treatment is completed | Estimated amount of debris (1,000 tons) | Treated amount (1,000 tons) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Recycling | Incineration | Landfill | Total |
| Disaster Debris | 13 | 239 | 174 (73%) | 19,387 | 13,438 [81%] | 2,087 [13%] | 1,021 [6%] | 16,547 (85%) |
| Tsunami Deposits | 6 | 36 | 15 (42%) | 10,436 | 7,191 [99%] | — | 80 [1%] | 7,271 (70%) |

Note 1: The lower figure (%) for the number of municipalities where treatment is completed and the treated amount total indicates the progress ratio out of the total number of municipalities where debris occurred and total amount of debris/deposits.
Note 2: The lower figure [%] for the breakdown of treated amounts indicates the percentage of the total treated amount.

# Tackling with POPs* Using Simplified Assay Method for Dioxins

## "There is no Borders to Environmental Problems" – Hiyoshi's Overseas Business Expansion

**Shunkei KO**
Manager,
International Business Project Office,
General affairs department,
Hiyoshi Corporation (OECC Member)

Hiyoshi Corp. is soon celebrating its 60th anniversary. Under the philosophy of "there is no border to environmental problems," we have made international contributions mainly in developing countries for nearly 30 years since the 1980's.

Especially in recent years, we have focused on spreading CALUX® Bioassay, a simplified assay method, as part of POPs measures. We introduced the method in 1998, which was then approved as an official method in Japan in 2005. While dioxin issues have been almost resolved in Japan, in developing countries it has grown into serious contamination problems around incineration and dumping sites.

However, no sufficient measures have been taken due to economic and technological constraints, thereby causing growing concerns about damage to the health of residents living in the vicinity of those facilities. In 2007, we carried out a project to support the POPs capacity development program in India under the OECC Environmental Project Finding Study, utilizing our past experience as well as a method that is more economical and simpler than conventional methods. Also, we have established a joint laboratory with the National Research Center for Environmental Analysis and Measurement, China, so that the method can be approved as an official one in China. We are dedicated to deal with global environmental issues through the technology of measuring.

***MORE Information***
*About CALUX Assay*
http://www.calux-jp.com/english/

The opening ceremony of the joint laboratory with the National Research Center for Environmental Analysis and Measurement, China.

*POPs are materials that are persistent, highly accumulative, potentially moving over long distances and harmful (to human health and ecosystems).

# Japanese Youth Participation in International Negotiations

**Shoya HIROSE**
Support Staff (Founder),
Climate Youth Japan

Climate Youth Japan(CYJ) is a Japanese youth organization that works on climate change involving Japanese young activists. CYJ was established in 2010 after COP15 where Japanese youths worked together for the first time and now has a vision of creating a fair and sustainable society with the following four missions – 1. To raise young people's awareness on climate change, 2. To build a network of young activists, 3. To speak up on behalf of young generations, 4. To cultivate young activists at an international level. Under those missions, CYJ organizes workshops, sends statements to ministries, dispatches youths to COP and so on.

Currently, some activists participated in COP19 in Warsaw for the first time. They hosted Model COP together with Asian youths and learned a lot during COP about how COP works. At the same time they got motivated to work even harder to make a change in those complex climate change issues including negotiations.

Throughout those activities over the past four years after its foundation, we have realized what important roles youths can play at national and international levels. It may seem impossible for youths to make a good influence to negotiations, but we believe it is possible. We will continue to work hard to make a change for our brighter future.

***MORE Information***
*Climate Youth Japan*
http://climateyouthjapan.jimdo.com/english/

A picture taken at Model COP

# National Parks of Japan
## *Kerama Islands to be a National Park*

**Naha Nature Conservation Office**

The Kerama Islands (Tokashiki and Zamami villages) Area is located 20-40 km west of the main Okinawa Island and composed of about 30 islands in various sizes and of many rocks.

The archipelago's landscape from Tokashikijima Island

This area, with its diverse coral reef ecosystems, breeding range of humpback whales, highly transparent water called the Kerama blue, archipelago formed by tectonic subsidence and beaches mainly made of white corals, boasts a diverse landscape ranging continuously from the sea to land, which is just superb and representative of Japan. Integrated with the landscape are the terrain and geology that suggest the long history of the earth and the subtropical island ecosystem created thereon, as well as the human landscape that clearly reflects its folk culture formed over a long period of history. In this regard, this area was designated as the 31st National Park in March 2014. It was the first new national park designation since 1987 that was neither by division nor extension of an existing national park.

We will work together with the local community to promote measures for conservation of this national park and for its proper use.


Coral reefs set in Kerama (Akajima Island)

## Voice of MOE Family in the World

# Packed Lunch Diversity at the Biodiversity Secretariat

Contributing to Packed Lunch Diversity with my Japanese-style one!

At the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity held in Japan in 2010, historical decisions such as an international strategic plan for 2011-20 were adopted. Japan has contributed via the Japan Biodiversity Fund to support the implementation of those decisions in developing countries. I have been engaged in the implementation management of the Fund at the CBD Secretariat in Montreal.

In the meantime, the biggest culture shock I have ever experienced here is about my colleagues' packed lunches. The other day, Washoku, Japanese cuisine, was added to the UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list. When it comes to Japan's packed lunch, it is one of Japan's beautiful traditions developed as meals associated with cherry-blossom and Kabuki viewings, and so there seems to be an atmosphere in which a poorly packed lunch would make one feel embarrassed. However, packed lunch ideas of my colleagues from different parts of the world are quite flexible and practical. For example, while some have lunches packed in a container with a heap of boiled pierogis or with only raw vegetables, or a sandwich filled with a ready-made hamburger only, others eat a variety of food on a dish. While it is true that I miss Japan's delicately packed lunch, it is also fun to have lunchtime of such an unconventional and diverse atmosphere.

***MORE Information***
*Japan Biodiversity Fund*
http://www.cbd.int/jbf/

**Kyoko NODA**
Associate Programme Officer,
Japan Biodiversity Fund and NBSAP team,
Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity