



Focus of Japan's Environmental Policies

Trilateral Symposium on Environmental Education and Public Awareness

Yoshihiro Mizutani

Director for International Cooperation for Transition to
Decarbonization and Sustainable Infrastructure,
Global Environmental Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan

19th August 2022



Major Environmental Policies (Contents)

- 1. Climate Change**
- 2. Marine Plastic Litter**
- 3. Biodiversity**

1. Climate Change

1. (1) Goal of the Paris Agreement

- Carbon neutrality is a globally shared goal.
- The COP26 Decision recognizes the importance of parties to **achieve net zero by the middle of this century** in order to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C.

Paris Agreement

- Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels
- Parties aim to undertake rapid reductions thereafter so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century.

Glasgow Climate Pact

- The final decision calls on all Parties to accelerate their efforts towards the phasedown of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.
- There is an urgent need for countries to set ambitious targets and step up their efforts to reduce emissions through the implementation of mitigation measures.



Prime Minister KISHIDA delivering a speech
at the World Leaders Summit

Retrieved from the Prime Minister's Office website

1. (2) Report of IPCC

IPCC — Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

The IPCC Special Report: “Global warming of 1.5°C” (October 2018)

- Human activities are estimated to have caused increase of approximately 1.0°C of global warming, and the global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate.
- In model pathways with **no or limited overshoot of 1.5°C**, global net anthropogenic CO₂ emissions decline by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching net zero around 2050.

The Working Group I contribution to the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) : “Climate Change 2021:Physical Science Basis” (August 2021)

It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.

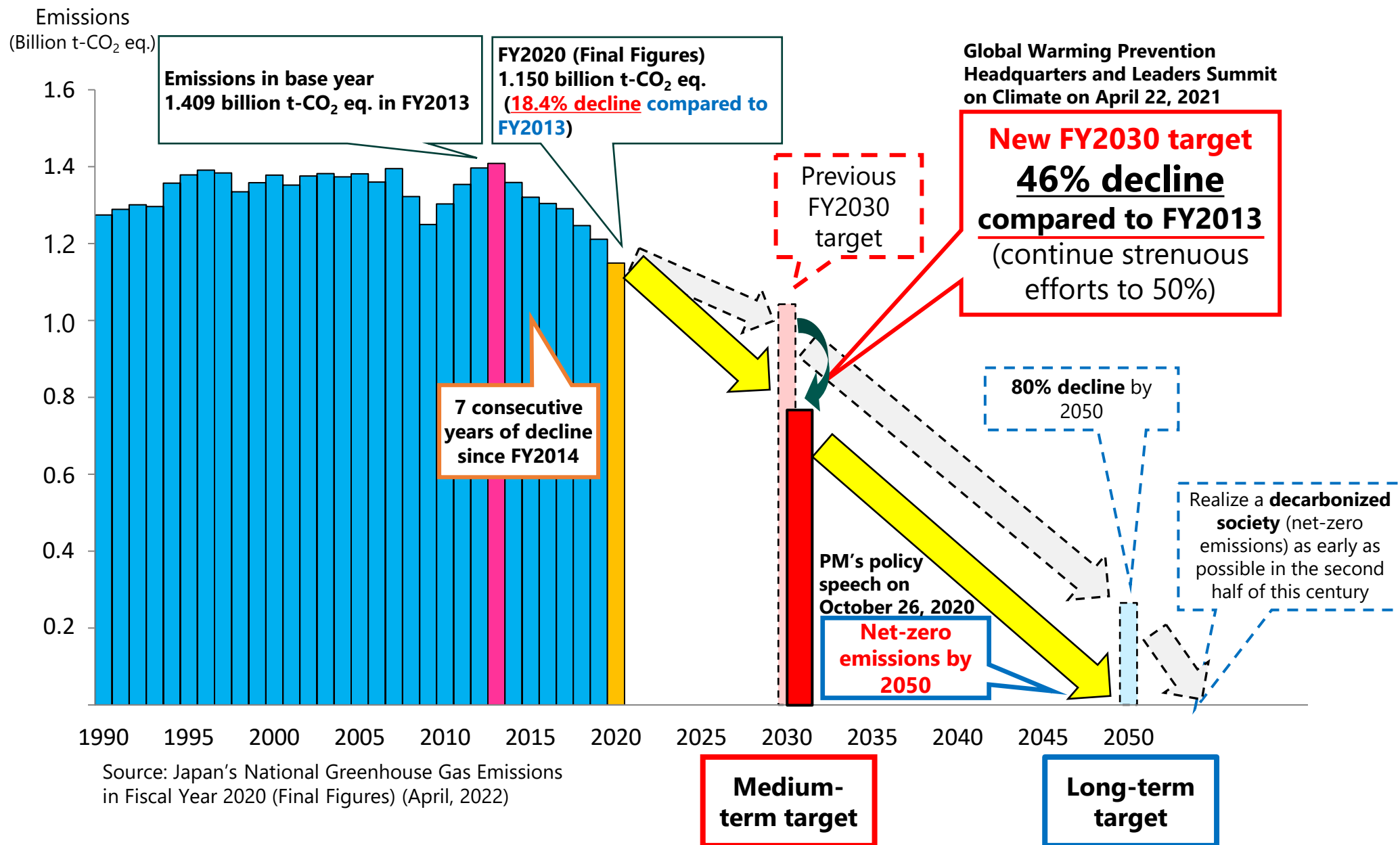
The Working Group II contribution to the IPCC AR6 : “Climate Change 2022 : Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability” (February 2022)

Human-induced climate change, including more frequent and intense extreme events, has caused widespread adverse impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people, beyond natural climate variability.

The Working Group III contribution to the IPCC AR6 : “Climate Change 2022 : Mitigation of Climate Change” (April 2022)

Global GHG emissions are projected to peak between 2020 and at the latest before 2025 in global modelled pathways that limit warming to 1.5°C with no or limited overshoot and in those that limit warming to 2°C and assume immediate action.

1. (3) 2050 target and Long term strategy



1. (4) Revised Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures (fully enforced on April 1st, 2022)



Stipulated the GHG net-zero target by 2050 as the basic principle, in order to clarify its legal ground and ensure its policy continuity.



Legislate a long-term direction and promote efforts and investments towards decarbonization

- Stipulates the long-term commitment of achieving GHG net zero by 2050 enables all stakeholders to accelerate their actions to combat climate change.
- Places “Citizens” at the top of the list that enumerates “the parties involved”, making this basic principle an unprecedented one. This also clarifies that public understanding and cooperation is a prerequisite to reach net-zero.



Promote the introduction of renewable energy that will lead to regional development

- Allows municipalities to establish areas where “Regional Decarbonization Promotion Projects” are promoted, which are certified from the local government.
- Introduces special measures to such projects, such as a one-stop system for related administrative procedures to facilitate smooth consensus building in the region and promote the introduction of renewable energy that contribute to the region.



Open data on corporate emissions, leading to EGS investments

- Digitalize the reporting system and abolishing the data disclosure request makes the period which takes to publicize the data shorter, from about two years to less than a year.
- Swift data disclosure enables for the corporate data to be utilized more often, and lead to companies’ efforts to decarbonization in corporate management.

1. (5) Revision of the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures

Cabinet Decision on Oct 22, 2021



■ (Government's comprehensive plan based on Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures)

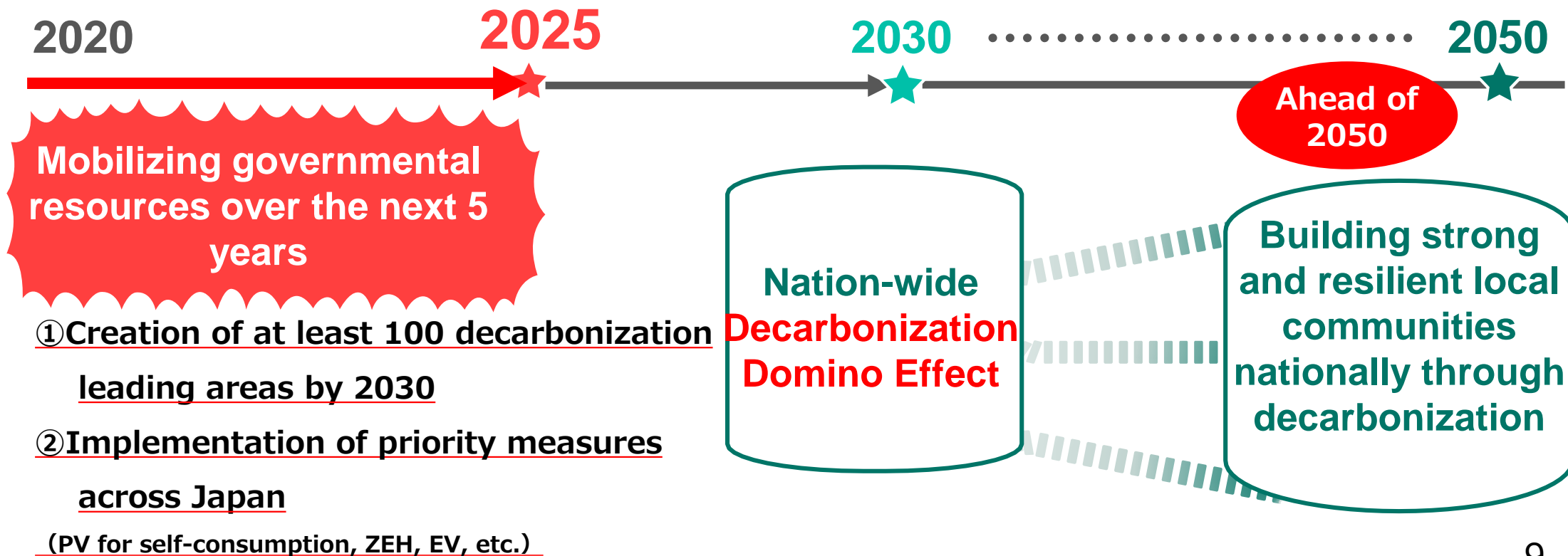
Plan was revised to achieve the **declaration of "carbon neutral by 2050" and 46% reduction target** *for FY2030.

※Japan's mid-term goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 46% from FY2013 levels by FY2030. We will also continue to take on the challenge of achieving 50% reduction.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Removal (Unit: 0.1 billion t-CO ₂)		2013 Emission Results	2030 Emissions	Reduction Rate	Previous goal
		14.08	7.60	▲46%	▲26%
Energy-derived CO ₂		12.35	6.77	▲45%	▲25%
Sector	Industry	4.63	2.89	▲38%	▲7%
	Business & others	2.38	1.16	▲51%	▲40%
	Household	2.08	0.70	▲66%	▲39%
	Transportation	2.24	1.46	▲35%	▲27%
	Energy conversion	1.06	0.56	▲47%	▲27%
Non-energy-derived CO ₂ , methane, N ₂ O		1.34	1.15	▲14%	▲8%
HFC and other 4 gases (CFCs)		0.39	0.22	▲44%	▲25%
Removal		-	▲0.48	-	(-0.37 bn t-CO ₂)
Joint Credit Mechanism (JCM)		We aim to achieve international emission reductions and removal of about 100 million t-CO ₂ cumulatively by FY2030 through public-private partnership. The credits acquired by Japan will be counted appropriately to achieve Japan's NDCs.			-

1. (6) Regional Decarbonization Roadmap

- As of November 2021, 492 local governments including Metropolitan Tokyo, Kyoto City and Yokohama City (295 cities, 14 special wards, 119 towns and 24 villages across 40 prefectures) announced their commitment to “Net zero CO2 emission by 2050” (zero-carbon cities).
- The Council for National and Local Decarbonization, which was held in June 2021, adopted a roadmap to realize the decarbonized society by 2050 through cooperation and collaboration between the national and local governments.



- ## ZEH and thermal insulation renovation support

The diagram illustrates the process of window replacement. It shows an existing window frame (orange) and a new window unit (grey). The new unit is then installed into the frame, resulting in a completed window.

Subsidy for purchase of renewable energy + EVs, etc.

Last Mile Delivery Electrification



**Support for electrification
of 2,000 motorcycles used
for pickup and delivery by
Japan Post (R2 fiscal year)**

1. (8) "COOL CHOICE" and Zero Carbon Action



- Practicing decarbonization actions with “ **COOL CHOICE**”
- Promoting people's lifestyle changes with specific "Zero Carbon Action 30 "

Examples of Past Initiatives

5 Star Appliance Replacement Campaign

Replacement with 5-star energy-efficient appliances and Promote replacement with LEDs



Choice! Eco Car Campaign

Promote replacement of eco-cars



Eco-Housing Campaign

Promote insulated homes, energy-efficient building materials, etc.



Home Comfort Challenge Campaign for Everyone

Promote insulation renovation, ZEH conversion, and replacement of energy-efficient home appliances



Eco-drive

Encouragement driving with less environmental impact

ECO DRIVE

smart moves

Public transportation, bicycles, Walking and other eco-friendly transportation methods are encouraged.



Take it in one session as much as possible.

Promoting the prevention of redelivery of parcels



Cool Biz & Warm Biz

Summer and winter heating and cooling
Calls for proper use

COOLBIZ

WARMBIZ

1. (9) Heavy rains and typhoons in recent years



Heavy rain in July 2018

The Japan Meteorological Agency said, "It is thought that 6.7% increase in rainfall **due to global warming** (Meteorological Research Institute Kawase et al. 2019)"

Typhoon No.21 in 2018

Landed in the Shikoku and Kansai regions

Maximum wind speed 46.5 meters Maximum at Kansai Airport, 329cm

Typhoon No.15 in 2019

Proceed through Tokyo Bay with a strong force and landed in Chiba Prefecture

Maximum wind speed **35.9m** Maximum in Chiba City

Typhoon No.19 in 2019

Landed in the Kanto region with a large and strong force

the total rainfall exceeds 1000mm in Hakone-machi

Heavy rain in July 2020

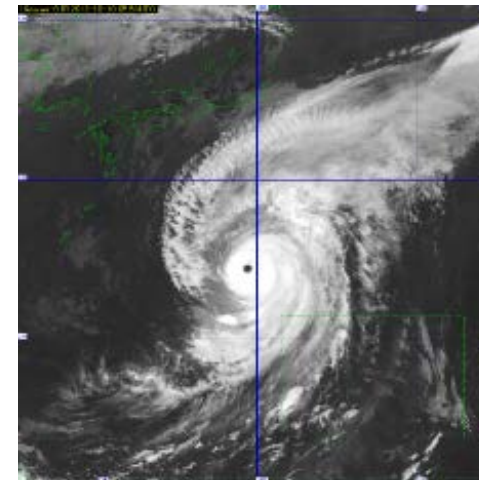
An seasonal rain front stagnate for a long period of time, causing record-breaking heavy rains over a wide area from western Japan to eastern Japan.



Asakita, Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture



Typhoon No.21 in 2018
Vehicle damage around Osaka Prefectural Sakishima Office



2019
(Himawari-8 infrared image, provided by the Japan Meteorological Agency)



Heavy rain
The washed away bridge in Hita City, Oita Prefecture

Concern about increased risk of heavy rains and typhoons due to climate change
Preparing Now for Intensifying Disasters

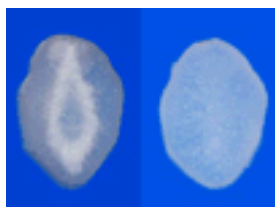
* With the exception of the
There are predictions that the proportion of strong typhoons will increase in the future due to climate change.

1. (10) Already occurring / potential impacts of climate change

Agriculture

Quality deterioration due to high temperature

- the quality of rice has deteriorated due to high temperatures, such as white immature grains



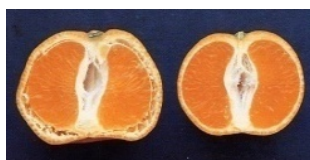
Cross-section of "white immature grain" (left) and "normal grain" (right)

(Photo provided by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

- the peel and pulp separate and the quality deteriorates.

Fig. Unshu mandarin peel

(Photo provided by Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)



natural ecosystem

Coral bleaching Habitat loss of Japanese rock ptarmigan



Fig. Coral bleaching

(Photo provided by Ministry of the Environment)

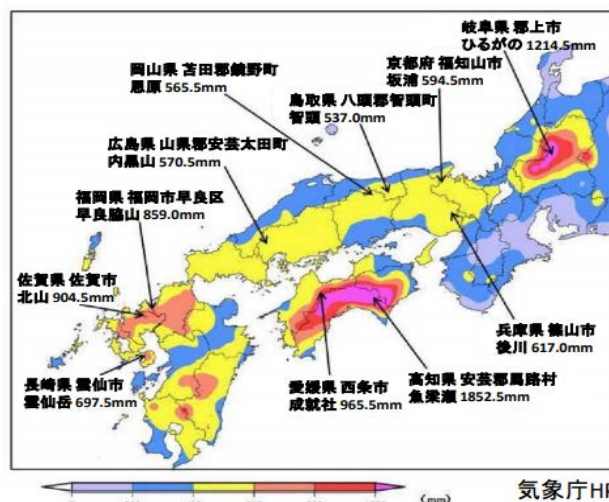


Fig. Japanese rock ptarmigan

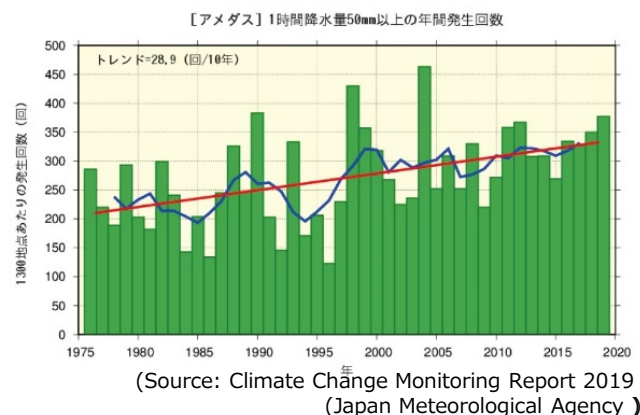
(Photo provided by Ministry of the Environment)

Natural disasters

In July 2018, record - **breaking heavy rains hit a wide area in western Japan**



Observations of short-term heavy rain show a clear increasing trend



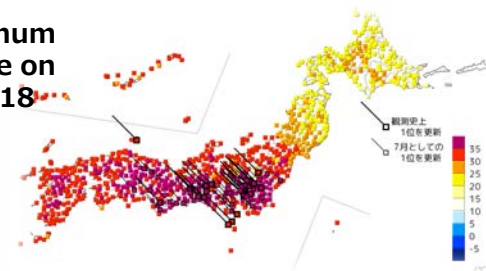
Concern about further increasing frequency and intensity of heavy rain disasters in the future

Health

Kumagaya City, Saitama Prefecture recorded the **highest ever** recorded temperature of **41.1°C**.

Daily maximum temperature on July 23, 2018

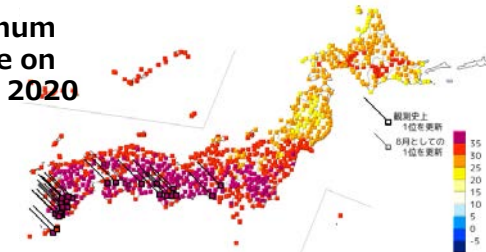
(Source: Japan Meteorological Agency)



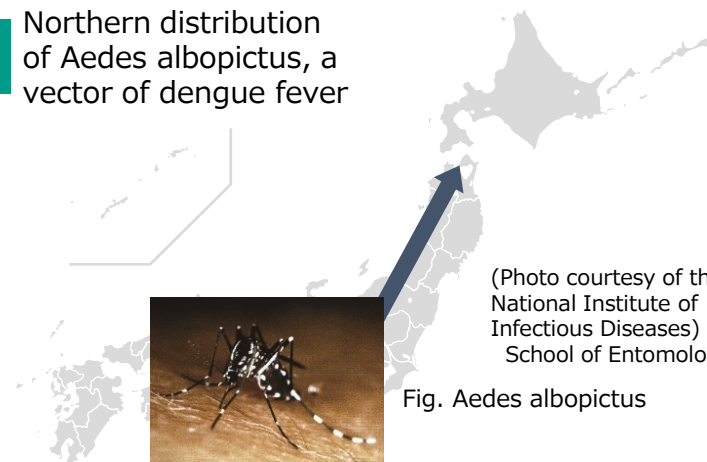
Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Prefecture recorded **41.1°C**, which is the **highest ever** recorded.

Daily maximum temperature on August 17, 2020

(Source: Japan Meteorological Agency)



Northern distribution of *Aedes albopictus*, a vector of dengue fever



(Photo courtesy of the National Institute of Infectious Diseases School of Entomology)

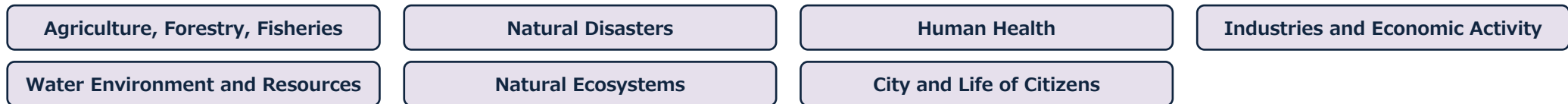
Fig. *Aedes albopictus*

1. (11) Climate Change Adaptation Act (enacted from Dec.2018)

Comprehensive Adaptation Programme

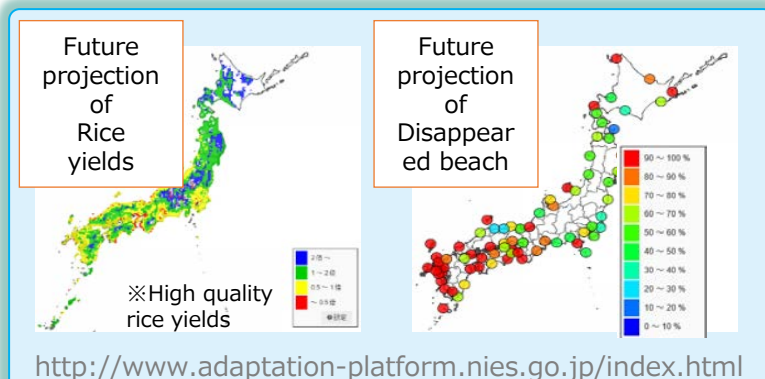
- Decide roles of national and local governments, private sectors, and citizens to promote climate change adaptation.
- National government shall formulate **National Adaptation Plan (NAP)** to promote adaptation in all sectors.
- MOE shall implement **climate change impact assessments, every 5 years**. The NAP needs to be revised accordingly.

Promote effective adaptation measures in various fields based on reliable scientific information



Information Platform

- The National Institute for Environmental Studies (**NIES**) operates Climate Change Adaptation Platform (**A-PLAT**) as center of excellence.
- **NIES gives technical advice and assistance to local gov'ts and centers**



Adaptation in Local Areas

Local gov'ts are asked to;

- Formulate **Local Adaptation Plans**.
- Designate **Local Adaptation Center** for climate change data collection and provision locally.
- Organize **Regional Councils** to promote adaptation measures in a cooperative manner with neighbor local governments.

International Actions and Business

- Promote International cooperation.
- Promote adaptation business.

1. (12) Examples of specific adaptation measures



Agriculture

■ Paddy rice

- Development high temperature tolerant varieties



"Koi no Yokan"

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

■ Fruit trees

- Conversion to oranges that prefer warmer climates



"Shiranuhi"

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Natural ecosystem

■ Terrestrial ecosystem

- Priority implementation and evaluation of monitoring
- Promoting the formation of a forest ecosystem network integrated with riparian forests, etc.

■ Coastal ecosystem

- Priority implementation and evaluation of monitoring of coral reefs, etc.
- Promote the formation of ecosystem.



Coral that has grown attached to the implantation tool

Source: Ministry of the Environment

disasters/coastal

■ River

- Review of flood control plans based on the impact of climate change
- Promotion of "basin flood control", which is a combination of hard and soft measures

■ Landslide disaster

- Priority development of facilities to protect "life" and "living"

■ Storm surge, high waves

- Maintenance of coastal disaster prevention forests, etc.



Image of measures for "basin flood control"

Source:

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

health

■ Heat of summer

- Provide weather information and heat
- Provision of information related to the occurrence of heatstroke, etc.

■ Infectious disease

- Accumulation of scientific knowledge
- Continuous fixed-point observation, countermeasures against the source of larvae, measures such as extermination of adult worms, grasping trends in the outbreak of infectious diseases



Heat stroke caution alert (poster)

Exhibitors: Ministry of the Environment, Japan Meteorological Agency

2. Marine Plastic Litter

Outcomes of the G20 Osaka Summit (Marine Plastic Litter)



Osaka Blue Ocean Vision (OBOV)

- G20 leaders shared the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision **as a common global vision**
- They also called on other members of the international community to also share this vision for protecting the world's oceans

“We aim to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050 through a comprehensive life-cycle approach that includes reducing the discharge of mismanaged plastic litter by improved waste management and innovative solutions while recognizing the important role of plastics for society.”

G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter

- Adopted in the G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth
 - (1) Facilitate effective implementation through encouraging **voluntary actions by the G20 members, and their information sharing and continued updating with peer learning.**
 - (2) Engage in collaborative actions among the G20 members and outreach activities beyond the G20 through ① Promotion of international cooperation, ② Promotion of innovative solutions, ③ Sharing scientific information and knowledge, ④ Multi-stakeholder involvement and awareness raising.
- These have also been endorsed by G20 Osaka Summit

“We also endorse the G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter. ”



Resolution 5/14 adopted at UNEA 5.2: End Plastic pollution



United Nations
Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment
Programme

UNEP/EA.5/Res.14

Distr.: General

7 March 2022

Original: English

United Nations Environment Assembly of the United
Nations Environment Programme
Fifth session

Nairobi (hybrid), 22 and 23 February 2021
and 28 February–2 March 2022

Resolution adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 2 March 2022

5/14. End plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Noting with concern that the high and rapidly increasing levels of plastic pollution represent a serious environmental problem at a global scale, negatively impacting the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development,

Recognizing that plastic pollution includes microplastics,

Noting with concern the specific impact of plastic pollution on the marine environment,

Noting that plastic pollution, in marine and other environments, can be of a transboundary nature and needs to be tackled, together with its impacts, through a full-life-cycle approach, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities,

Schedule

(TBC. From summary of Open Ended Working Group in May-June 2022)

2022

First Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee Meeting (INC1):
Week of 11/28

2023

INC2: End of April
INC3: End of November

2024

UN Environment Assembly:
Week of 2/26 (report on the status of INC consideration)
INC4: Early of May
INC5: Early of December (compilation of draft convention)

2025

Diplomatic Conference
(Adoption of the Convention, start of signature by each country)

Global development on Action against Marine Plastics Litter



The OSAKA Blue Ocean Vision that aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050 has been shared among G20 and beyond, including ASEAN, G20 and UNEA. (87 countries and regions as of Sep 2021)



2025

Goal: Adoption of the Convention, start of signature by each country

End of 2024

2022~

Negotiations begin
Bureaus and Presidencies

UN
(**UNEA5.2**)
Feb/Mar 2022

UNEA5/14 on
establishment of
INC adopted

G20
(Italy)
July 2021

Continuous
follow-up

G20
(Saudi Arabia)
Sep/Nov 2020

Continuous
follow-up

ASEAN
TEMM
Nov 2019

Sharing vision
Strengthening
International
Cooperation

Follow up Mtg
Oct 2019

Sharing
countermeasures

G20
June 2019

Vision
Implementation
Framework

UN
(**UNEA 4**)
March 2019

Potential options
analysis resolution

Expand to all global initiatives

Agreement on International Instrument



End Plastic pollution:

towards an international legally binding instrument

2. (4) Domestic measures against marine plastic litter

National Action Plan to tackle Marine Plastic Litter

Marine Debris Collection and Processing Act

Resource Circulation Strategy for Plastics

Act to promote resource circulation etc. concerning plastic products

Life cycle approach

Environmentally conscious design
Reducing “one-way” plastic products

3 R

**Reduce
Reuse
Recycle**



Less material input



Repairability

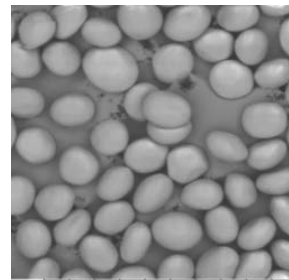


secondary plastics

Thorough recycling plastic waste & Appropriate treatment



Innovation



Stakeholders' voluntary actions



Building scientific knowledge



Realizing “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision”

3. Biodiversity

3. (1) Contribution to “Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) ” ①

1 Expectation for the new GBF

To halt and reverse the biodiversity loss, we need to reach an agreement on the new ambitious global framework at CBD(Convention on Biological Diversity)-COP15.

Important components: 30by30, Nature-based Solutions, virtuous cycle between biodiversity and economic growth and PDCA Cycle

2 Japan's contribution towards the new GBF

- Japan has already been working on its next NBSAP※.

- International efforts:

The 2nd phase of “Japan Biodiversity Fund (JBF)” with around US\$17 million,

Further development of the Satoyama Initiative,

Support developing countries for revising their “National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)”.

Satoyama Initiative;

A global effort to realize “societies in harmony with nature”

Promotes conserving areas where natural resources were sustainably used, supporting mutual benefits between human production and nature

COP15 Part I High Level Segment

※National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

3. (2) Contribution to “Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) ” ②

The Satoyama Initiative under Aichi Biodiversity Targets



458 projects have been implemented in 43 countries/regions in collaboration with UN University, UNDP, GEF and other organizations

Further developing the Satoyama Initiative

Contribution to GBF

- Contributions to **30by30** (especially, OECMs※).
- Contributions by **Nature-based Solutions (NbS)** to Climate Change, Recovery from COVID-19 and Prevention of Pandemic.
- Support for revising NBSAPs ※※ in developing countries.

※Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures

※※National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

3. (3) Contribution to “Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) ” ③

NbS will be promoted through healthy ecosystems secured by 30by30 in Japan.



A “30by30 Roadmap” was developed ahead of the adoption of GBF.

- Further expansion and management of protected areas (e.g. national parks)
- Certification of sites that contribute to biodiversity conservation through the private sector's initiatives. ➡ OECMs[※]

※Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures



3. (4) Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA)



- Native to South America. Highly toxic, sting causes severe pain like a burn.
- Designated as invasive alien species under the Invasive Alien Species Act due to concerns on damaging ecosystems, agriculture, forestry, and fishery industries, and human health.
- In the U.S., the economic cost of damage is 600-700 billion yen/year.
- In Japan, 90 cases (2017-2022 July) have been confirmed, but countermeasures have been promptly implemented to prevent their establishment.

Large-scale nesting sites confirmed near ports with high international container handling volumes every year since 2019



- In May 2022, we amended the Invasive Alien Species Act to strengthen border measures, such as expanding the scope of on-site surveys and inspection and prohibiting the movement of items that may have those species on.
- Relevant ministries and agencies will continue surveys and control at the border, and implement early detection and early control to prevent establishment.
- Relevant ministries and agencies will work together to thoroughly implement measures to prevent the establishment of the species.

Tripartite cooperation on RIFA

Strengthening tripartite cooperation through RIFA control, such as sharing the latest infestation information and on-site countermeasure methods, as well as reinforcing countermeasures at the time of import/export in each country measures to prevent unintentional introduction.

Reference

Impacts of Marine Plastic Pollution



Plastic Pollution (rivers, coasts, and oceans)

*Samples of drifted wastes



Tobishima, Sakata, Yamagata



Tsushima, Nagasaki



Plastic container



Fishing gear



Detergent container

Negative impacts

- Concerns regarding marine life
- Obstruction for ship sailing
- Impacts on tourism and fishery
- Impacts on the residential environment along the coast

Bad effects on . . .



Photograph by Saeed Rashid



*A whale has died after swallowing more than 80 plastic bags
Source: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand*

By 2050, the oceans could have more plastic than fish



○ Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean.

Jambeck *et al.* (2015) Science

Global map with each country shaded according to the estimated mass of mismanaged plastic waste [millions of metric tons (MT)] generated in 2010 by populations living within 50 km of the coast. (Estimation of runoff from **land to sea**)



○ More than 1000 rivers account for 80% of global riverine plastic emissions into the ocean.

Meijer *et al.* (2021) Sci Adv.

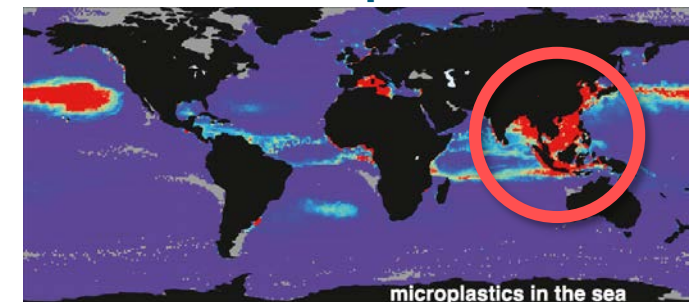
Global emissions of plastic into the ocean. Total emitted plastic into the ocean ME (MT year⁻¹) per country in 2015. (Estimated runoff from **rivers**)



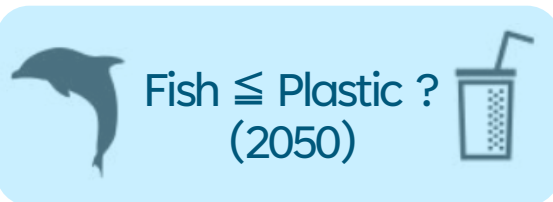
○ The fate of missing ocean plastics: Are they just a marine environmental problem?

Isobe *et al.* (2022) Sci Total Environ.

Ocean plastic abundance computed in the PTM (particle tracking model) with fragmentation and removal timescales of 3 years. ... Average masses in 2017 are shown in panels...



**No internationally agreed statistics exist,
but Asian countries are considered to be a major source of plastic runoff into the ocean.**



We must change how we design, use, and reuse plastics. We cannot simply recycle or reduce our way out of the plastic pollution crisis. **If we don't act now, by 2050 there could be more plastic than fish in the oceans.**

[Plastics and a circular economy | Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#)

Japan's "MARINE Initiative" toward Realization of the OBOV



Japan has launched the "**MARINE Initiative**" to advance effective actions to combat marine plastic litter at a global scale focusing on;

- (1) **Management** of wastes
- (2) **Recovery** of marine litter
- (3) **Innovation**
- (4) **Empowerment**

Under this initiative, Japan will support empowerment in developing countries, through the following concrete policy measures.

1. International Cooperation including bilateral ODA and assistance through international organizations
2. International Operations by Japanese Companies, NGOs, and Local Governments
3. Dissemination and Sharing of Best Practices of Measures to combat marine plastic litter



Technical Cooperation



Capacity Building



Waste-to-energy plant



Marine biodegradable plastics

Training program on marine litter monitoring methods



Outline of the training

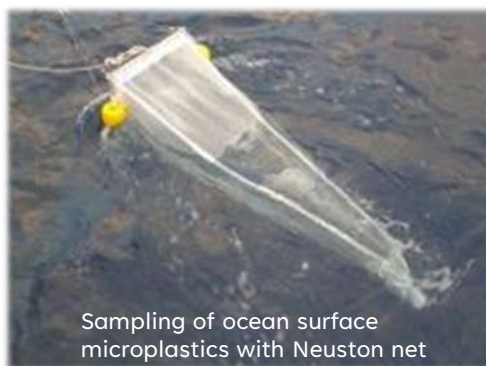
- Since FY2016, as an effort for human resource development, MOEJ has conducted a training program every year on monitoring methodologies of marine litter (floating litter, ocean surface microplastics, seabed litter, and beach litter) for governmental officials and researchers.
- The training period has been about 2 weeks. From FY2016 to 2019, participants received training on research vessels and in labs in Japan. As for FY2020 and 2021, the programs were implemented online due to COVID-19.

Number of participants

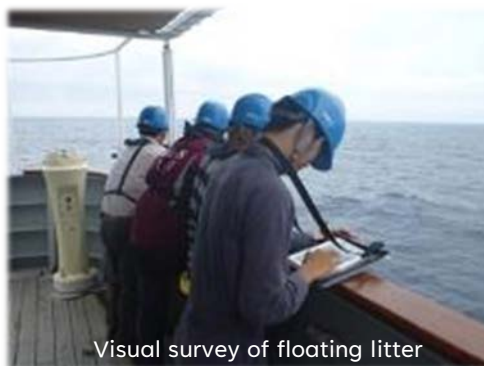
FY2016		FY2017		FY2018		FY2019		FY2020		FY2021	
Russia	2	Indonesia	1	Indonesia	1	Indonesia	4	Indonesia	5	Indonesia	10
P.R. China	1	Thailand	2	Thailand	1	Vietnam	3	Vietnam	4	Vietnam	6
		P.R. China	2			Cambodia	1	Thailand	4	Thailand	6
						Thailand	1	Myanmar	4	Myanmar	5
Total	3 persons	Total	5 persons	Total	2 persons	Total	9 persons	Total	17 persons	Total	27 persons

Online

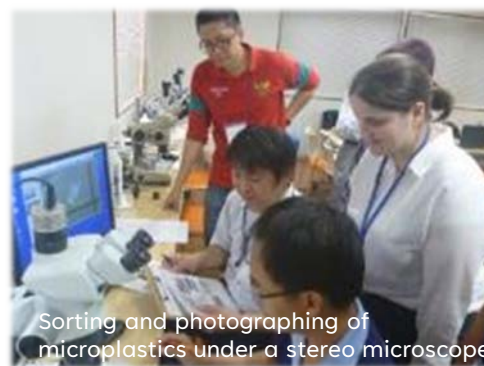
Snapshots of the training



Sampling of ocean surface microplastics with Neuston net



Visual survey of floating litter



Sorting and photographing of microplastics under a stereo microscope



Material identification using FT-IR

Japan contributes to harmonization of monitoring methods :

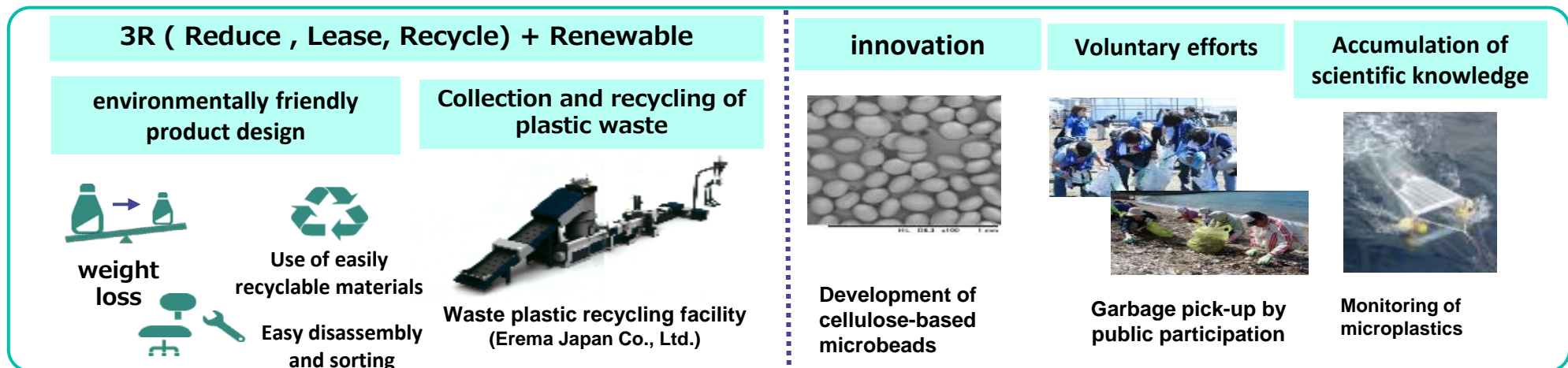
Guidelines for Harmonizing Ocean Surface Microplastic Monitoring Methods

Marine plastic pollution countermeasures

Domestic measures

- In May 2019 , the “**Marine Plastic Litter Countermeasures Action Plan**” was formulated, the basic policy was changed **based on the Act on Promotion of Coastal Debris Treatment** , and the “**Plastic Resource Recycling Strategy**” was formulated.
- In April 2022 , the “**Law Concerning Promotion of Resource Circulation Related to Plastics**” will be enacted.

life cycle approach



International correspondence

- Establishment of the Marine Initiative to realize the Osaka Blue Ocean Vision and expressed support for **capacity building** and **infrastructure development**, including the development of human resources for waste management in developing countries (target of 10,000 by 2025).
- **Support for the formulation of national action plans**, with a focus on ASEAN countries
- **Strengthening of marine litter monitoring capacity**, including introduction of harmonized methods, and **collection of scientific knowledge** on marine litter distribution, etc.
- Building cooperative relationships through bilateral policy dialogue, including at the ministerial level
- Establishment of a Regional Knowledge Center on Marine Plastic Litter under the East Asia-ASEAN Economic Research Center

(5) (6) Domestic Initiatives

On May 31, 2019, the "Action Plan for Marine Plastic Litter Countermeasures" was formulated, the "Basic Policy for the Promotion of Countermeasures against Coastal Drift" was changed, and the "Plastic Resource Recycling Strategy" was decided on regarding Japan's initiatives.



(5) (vii) Visualization of measures against marine plastic litter in the Seto Inland Sea area

Based on the enactment of the Law Concerning the Promotion of Resource Recycling of Plastics and the revision of the Law Concerning Special Measures for Environmental Preservation of the Seto Inland Sea, we will accelerate measures against marine litter through visualization of marine plastic litter measures in the Seto Inland Sea, a closed sea area.

Under consideration

In collaboration with Setouchi municipalities, the Nippon Foundation, and corporate and industry groups, a PET bottle collection campaign will be launched in the Setouchi area starting with the kick-off of the Autumn Marine Litter Zero Week (September 18-26) to promote behavioral change among local residents.

For example, based on past results, set a target number of plastic bottles to be collected in the community, measure it over a set period of time, and share the results widely to prevent further littering of plastic bottles.

In the mid- to long-term, the visualization of marine litter countermeasures in the region will be promoted in conjunction with the survey of beach debris.



Automatic PET Bottle Collector
© Seven & i Holdings Co.

× 海ごみゼロ
ウィーク ×
UMIGOMI Zero WEEK



