

# Towards COP17: Frequently asked Questions

**Q1. What are the focal issues of COP17 in Durban, South Africa this year?**

**Q2. What contributions will Japan make in order to make progress in the climate negotiation?**

**Q2-1. What is “Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism”?**

**Q2-2. What is “East Asia Low Carbon Partnership”?**

**Q2-3. What kind of assistance is Japan doing to support developing countries vulnerable to climate change?**

**Q3. Why is Japan opposing to setting the second commitment period or “extension” of the Kyoto Protocol? Doesn’t such attitude “kill” the Kyoto Protocol?**

**Q4. Although the use of nuclear energy has become difficult because of the Great East Japan**

**Earthquake, can Japan achieve its goal of “minus 6%” under the Kyoto Protocol?**

## Q1. What are the focal issues of COP17 in Durban, South Africa this year?

(A) • The first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, in which developed countries (except the U.S.) have obligations on GHG emission reduction, expires at the end of 2012. So, legal format of the international framework beyond 2012 would be one of the focal issues.

• In addition, it is equally important to operationalize the Cancun Agreements adopted last year at COP16 . In this regard, the establishment of a new fund (" Green Climate Fund") for supporting developing countries, as well as of a system of MRV(Measuring, Reporting and Verification ) for checking countries' measure against global-warming, are particularly important issues.

### 【brief history of climate change negotiation】

**1992 Adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)(entered into force in 1994)**

**1997 Adoption of the Kyoto Protocol(COP3)**

**2005 the Kyoto Protocol entered into force**

• Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) was established.

**2007 "Bali Action Plan" (COP13)**

• Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA) was established.

**2009 "Copenhagen Accord" (COP15)**

• although agreed to list the reduction objectives and obligations of developed/developing countries, could not reach the official COP decision and just "took note" those objectives and obligations.

**2010 "Cancun Agreements" (COP16)**

• COP decision was adopted which anchors the reduction objectives and obligation submitted by Parties based on the Copenhagen Accord, and decides the development of the general guidelines for MRV and the establishment of the Green Climate Fund.

## Q2. What contributions will Japan make in order to make progress in the climate negotiation?

(A)

- At COP17, it is important to make a significant progress through defining clear steps toward a future comprehensive framework. Japan has already made a concrete proposal.
- Especially, Japan itself will make serious efforts to achieve the “minus 6%” goal under the Kyoto protocol up to next year, and will continue to make emission reduction efforts beyond 2012 without any gap. As a part of these efforts, Japan has enacted “a feed-in tariff scheme for renewable energy ” this August. Japan also achieved electricity saving by more than 15% in Tokyo and Tohoku region this summer.
- At the same time, Japan will also make contributions to achieving global mitigation by fully utilizing “technology”, “market” and “finance”.

### **Japan’ proposal at pre-COP (20-21, October 2011)**

(official submission to UNFCCC on 25 October <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/index.html>)

- **Highlights the necessity to define clear steps toward a fair and effective international framework in which all major countries participate.**
- **Propose the following points to be agreed at COP17.**
  - Operationalization of the Cancun Agreements as a basis for post-2012 climate regime and a comprehensive framework.
  - Mitigation efforts: all major emitters should steadily implement their pledge without waiting for the establishment of a comprehensive framework.
  - Enhanced MRV: a robust MRV system is indispensable to ensure transparency of mitigation efforts of all major emitters.
  - Rule-based mechanism: discussion on rule-based mechanism in a post-2012 climate regime should be initiated at AWG-LCA.
  - Toward comprehensive framework: discussion to this end should be initiated as soon as possible.
  - Other key drivers in achieving global mitigation: technology, market, finance (see next page for detail)

**Japan's Initiative (draft):  
Technology, Market Mechanism and Assistance for Developing Countries**

Attached 1

Cooperation among developed countries :  
efforts for technological innovation toward further emission reduction

- the initiative for innovative low-carbon technologies  
( e.g. the development of the innovative technologies such as quantum dot solar cells and lithium-air battery )

Cooperation among major countries :  
the establishment of a new market mechanism to disseminate and promote low-carbon technologies

- ◆ Achieving an outcome of COP17 toward the establishment of a new market mechanism to promote low-carbon growth through technology transfer
- ◆ Sharing Japan's technologies and experiences (energy saving and renewable energy) to establish a low-carbon society
- ◆ Promoting bilateral cooperation (e.g. Bilateral Offset Credit System) and regional cooperation ( e.g. East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership) to realize as concrete example of a new market mechanism

Care for vulnerable countries: implementing seamless support for developing countries

- ◆ Robust implementation of Fast-start Finance (Japan has implemented more than 11.3 of 15 billion dollars)
- ◆ Reaffirmation of the steady implementation of Fast-start Finance (15billion dollars) until 2012
- ◆ Building common understanding that international support should be continued beyond 2012, and contributing to the early establishment of the Green Climate Fund.
- ◆ Enhancing support for vulnerable countries as a policy beyond 2012:
  1. Focusing on adaptation, 2. Strengthening public-private partnership, 3. Enhancing assistance toward low-carbon society (e.g. Low-Carbon Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy in Africa) and enhancing political dialogue with countries vulnerable to climate change (e.g. Policy dialogue with Africa ) 4. Promoting capacity building (including human resource development)

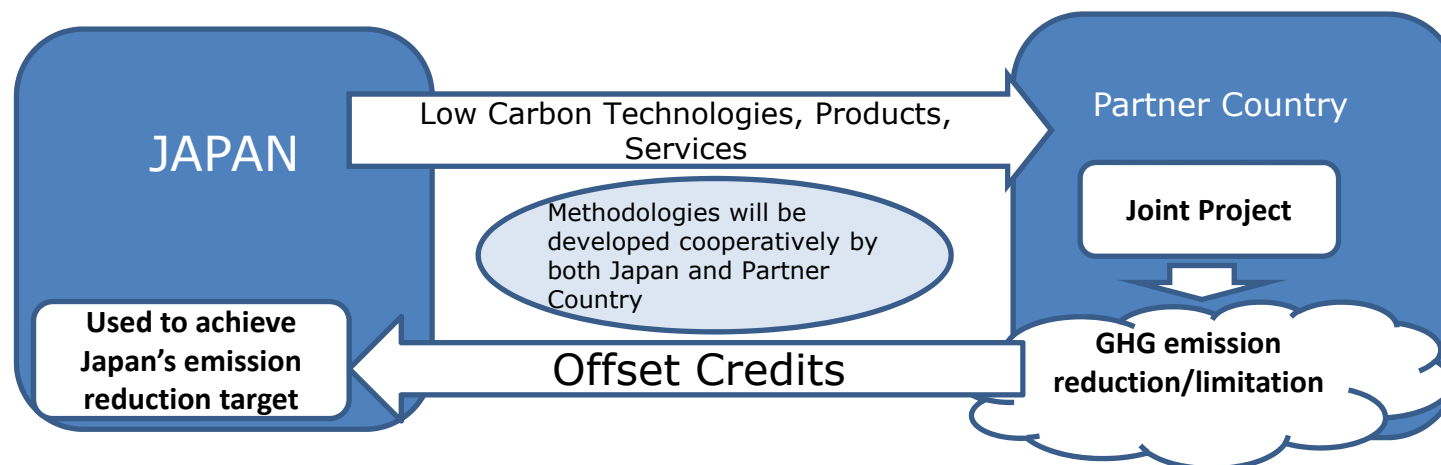
## Q2-1. What is “Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism”?

(A)

- In order to help diffuse various low carbon technologies which Japan possess, Japan proposes to establish a “Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism” which complements Clean Development Mechanism“(CDM).
- Japan has so far implemented feasibility studies in various sectors in 28 countries. In addition, Japan has started the consultations on this mechanism with countries like India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia. Japan will continue to have consultations with these countries and other interested countries.

### Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism

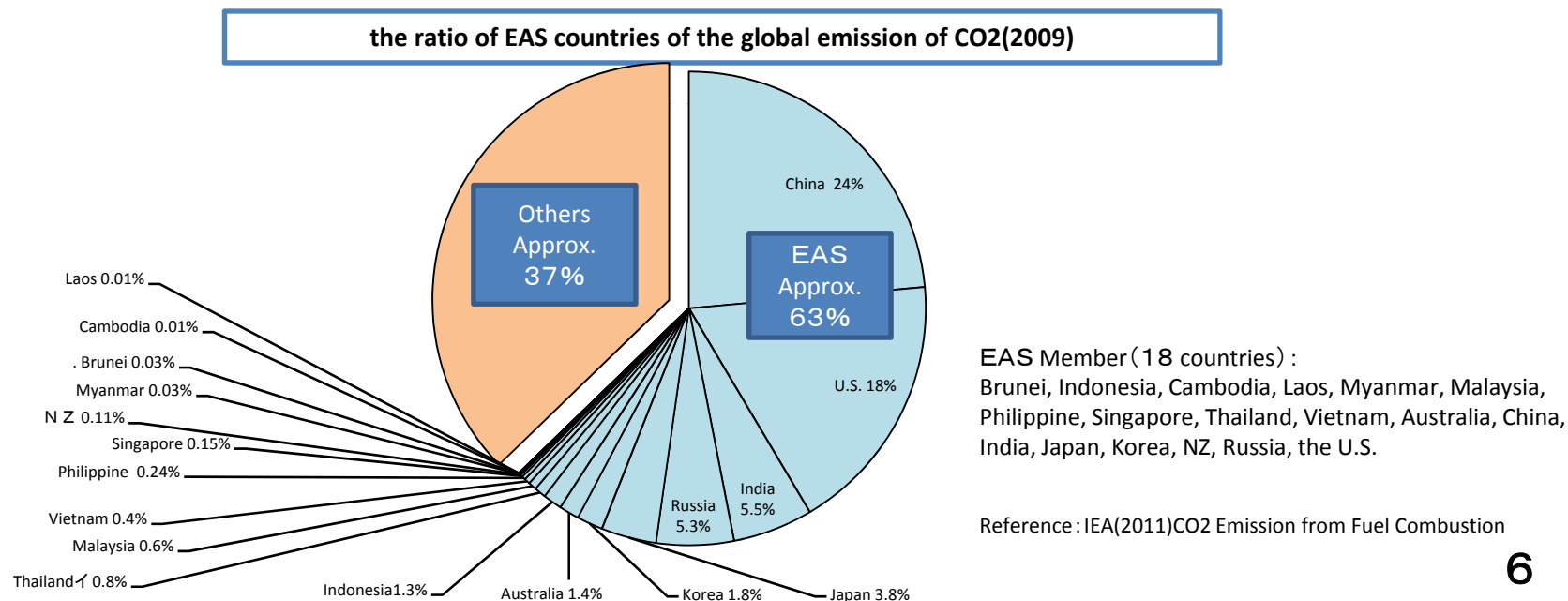
- ◆ *Contribute to the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC through promotion of mitigation activities globally.*
- ◆ *Facilitate the bilateral cooperation in the field of climate change in such a way that best suits each country's national circumstances.*
- ◆ *Contribute to the sustainable development of developing countries.*
- ◆ *Appropriately evaluate the contribution to GHG emission reductions or removals.*
- ◆ *Facilitate diffusion of low carbon technologies, products and services and enhance capabilities to utilize them.*



## Q2-2. What is “East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership” ?

(A)

- East Asia is the growth center of the world economy and the largest greenhouse gas emission area in the world which includes the U.S, China and India. Promoting the diffusion of low carbon technologies to achieve a good balance between economic growth and measures to tackle climate change in this regime would help global efforts.
- As a framework of regional cooperation, Japan has proposed to use East Asia Summit(EAS). Japan plans to hold a dialogue meeting with participation from both governments and private sectors from EAS member countries in April.



## Q2-3. What kind of assistance is Japan doing to support developing countries vulnerable to climate change?

(A)

- In order to support climate change negotiation, Japan announced 15 billion dollars assistance for developing countries during three years up to 2012 at COP15(Copenhagen). Japan has so far implemented approximately 11.3 billion dollars(as of July, 2011). These assistances are highly valued by many developing countries and Japan will continue to make efforts for the implementation of its commitment.
- It is necessary to support developing countries beyond 2012\* ceaselessly. In this regard, Japan actively supports the design of "Green Climate Fund" for its early establishment. In July this year, Japan hosted the second meeting of the "Transitional Committee" and made a significant contribution the design process of the fund.
- In addition, those supports need to be focused on the vulnerable countries such as Africa and small islands States. As for Africa, Japan is now cooperating to elaborate the "Low-Carbon Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy in Africa\*\*", with a view to the TICADV in 2013.

\*Japan's Fast Start Financing ... attached 2

\*\* Low-Carbon Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy in Africa ...attached 3

# General Policy of Japan's Fast-Start financing

Attached 2

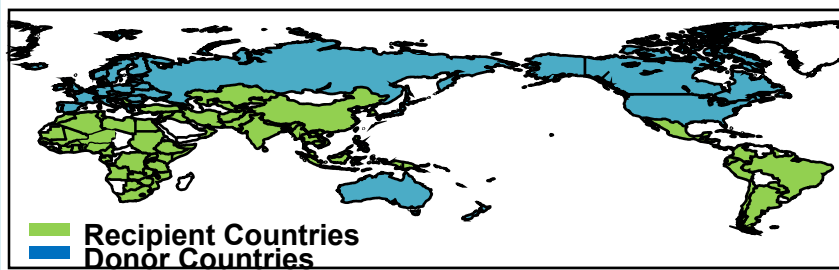
- Assist developing countries, especially those making efforts to reduce emission and/or being particularly vulnerable to climate change.
- Announced the assistance of approximately USD 11 billion comprised of public financing ( approximately USD 15 billion including public and private financing) as Japan's Fast-Start Financing.

More than **USD 11.3 billion** has already been implemented as of 31 July 2011. On the other hand, the amount of implemented assistance is more than **USD 7.9 billion** if limited to public financing and from January 2010 onward

**taking into account developments in the international negotiations and domestic situations on reconstruction**

## 1. Various types of assistance in a wide range of areas

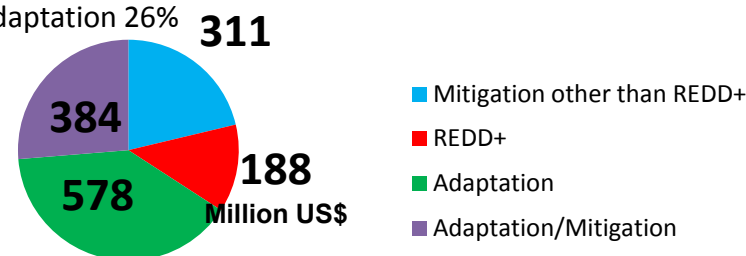
**555 projects** have been implemented in as many as **92 countries**. Japan has been providing assistance through various channels, taking into account local economic situations and content of projects.



## 2. Prioritizing in the area of adaptation

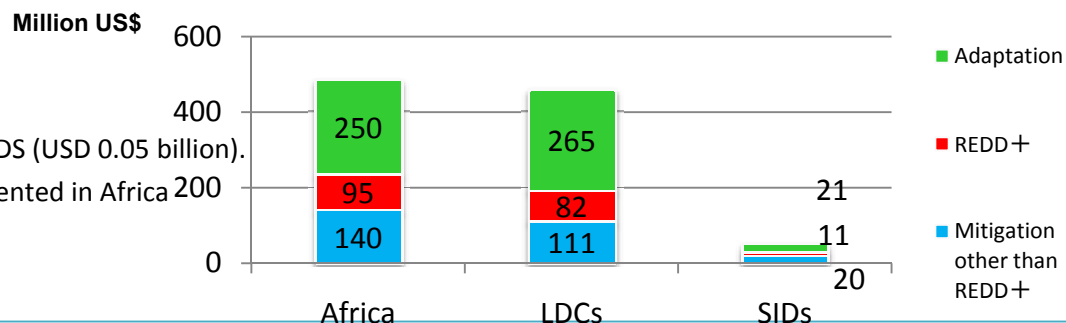
Reflecting **the needs of vulnerable countries in relation to adaptation**, the grant aid has been implemented as follows:

- Mitigation (other than REDD+) 21%
- REDD+ 13%
- Adaptation 40%
- Mitigation/Adaptation 26%



## 3. Focusing on vulnerable countries

Japan has implemented the assistance focusing on vulnerable countries such as Africa (USD 1.27 billion), LDC (USD 0.80 billion) and SIDS (USD 0.05 billion). Over 50% of the total amount of the grant aid implemented in Africa and LDC is allocated to the area of adaptation.





## Adaptation: USD 931 million

### Disaster Prevention

Strengthening capabilities to cope with natural disasters caused by climate change, by providing necessary equipment and capacity building.

- Program for the improvement of capabilities to cope with natural disasters in Africa (17 countries), LDCs (16 countries) and SIDS (1 country)
- The research on climate simulation in South Africa
- The plan of promoting meteorological observation and measures for natural disasters in Samoa



### Water Supply

Improving the access to safe water and ensuring sufficient water supply, to cope with drought and desertification caused by climate change.

- Water Supply Project in Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Pakistan and Zambia
- The project for groundwater desalinization in Tunisia
- Research and technical cooperation on Water Supply in a number of countries



## Mitigation: USD 5.86 billion

### Construction of Electric Power Transmission Facilities

Introducing efficient electric transmission facilities, along with promoting renewable energy, in order to improve the energy-access and stabilize energy supply. The projects in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia are being implemented to encourage mitigation.



### Introduction of Renewable Energy

Promoting renewable energy, including solar and wind power with advanced technology, to contribute to reducing GHG emissions.

- Solar Energy Projects in Africa (8 countries), LDCs (8 countries) and SIDS (3 countries)
- Wind power plant Project in Egypt
- Geothermal power plant Project in Kenya



## REDD+: USD 491 million

### Forest Conservation

In order to contribute to encouraging REDD+ efforts and reducing GHG emissions in Africa (9 countries), LDCs (9 countries) and SIDS (3 countries), Japan provided technical support to analyze satellite images and financial support for monitoring systems and related equipment in the following actions; making forest distribution map, preventing excessive logging, taking countermeasures against forest fire and ensuring alternative energy to firewood.



## Mitigation/Adaptation: USD 711 million

### Contribution to GEF

Japan has made a contribution to the 5<sup>th</sup> replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), which is a multilateral financial mechanism to support developing countries' efforts to preserve and improve global environment.

### Capacity Building

Enhancing the capacity of policy planning and operation in the area of adaptation and mitigation.

- Workshops and seminars to be organized
- Dispatching experts in developing countries and providing training programs in Japan

## 1. Background

- The necessity of strengthening the cooperation with African countries toward “African COP” at the end of this year
- The gran effect of climate change in Africa and its potential for green growth including renewable energy area(water, thermal , solar etc.)
- The importance of the model of green growth/ sustainable development strategy (African Green Growth)



- **In May 2011 during the Third TICAD Ministerial Follow-up Meeting in Dakar, Japan proposed to formulate this strategy with African countries, and the participants agreed to commence this work.**

Communiqué of the Third TICAD Ministerial Follow-up Meeting (May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dakar)

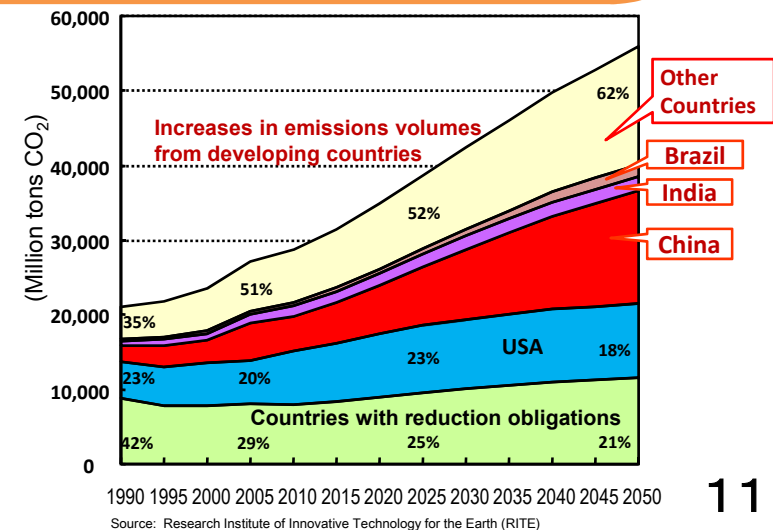
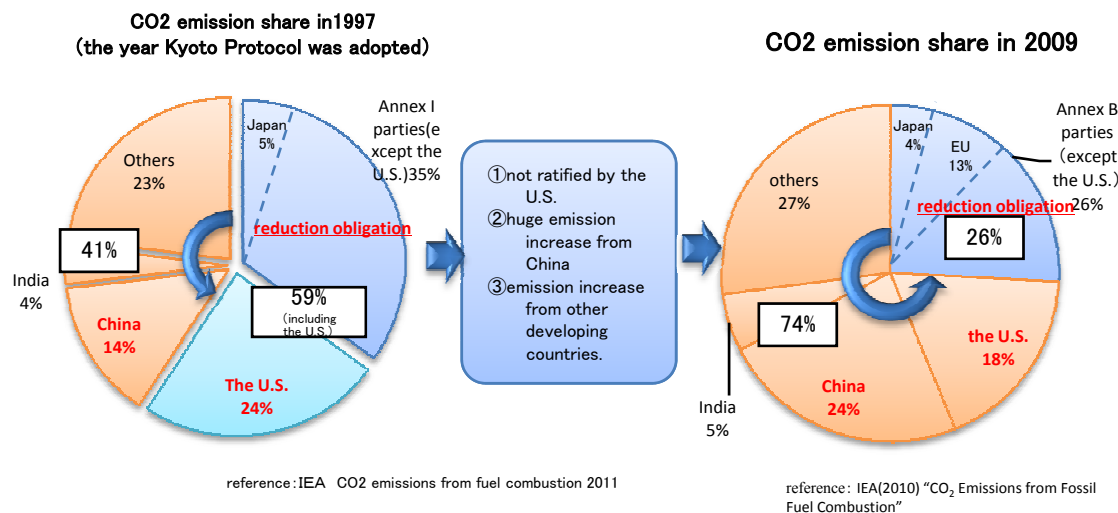
(para.18) The Participants recognized the value of building a shared medium- and long-term vision to promote sustainable and low-carbon growth in Africa, and are determined to commence work to prepare a “Low-Carbon Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy in Africa.”

## 2. Objectives

- **To establish a common regional mid/long-term vision** based on each need.
- **To serve as a guideline for the assistance/investment through international organizations, multilateral funds and private sector.** To promote the diffusion of low carbon technologies which Japan possess. To contribute to attract investment and assistance utilizing public finance.
- **To share the draft elements of this strategy at COP17, prepare the midterm report at the next TICAD Follow-up Meeting to be held next year and the final report within the next year.**

### Q3. Why is Japan opposing to setting the second commitment period or “extension” of the Kyoto Protocol? Doesn't such attitude “kill” the Kyoto Protocol?

- (A) • Compared to the 1990s when the UNFCCC('92) and the Kyoto Protocol('97) were adopted, the structure of the international community has significantly changed. The share of GHG emission from emerging countries has been increasing. In addition, the U.S. didn't ratify the Kyoto Protocol, although it signed the protocol.
- As a result, the coverage of the current Kyoto Protocol over the GHG is less than 27% of overall in the world. China(the 1<sup>st</sup> largest emitter ), the U.S.(2<sup>nd</sup>), India (3<sup>rd</sup> ) and other developing countries do not have the obligation on their emission reduction.
  - Thus, Japan maintains its position that it does not participate in setting the second commitment period of the Kyoto protocol in which only limited number of countries have obligations, because it will not lead to the establishment of a fair and effective international framework.
  - On the other hand, some elements of the Kyoto protocol such as Clean Development Mechanism(CDM) should be continuously used with necessary improvement. In order to make good use of the experience of Kyoto Protocol for a new framework, Japan will make positive contributions. Japan is NOT “killing” Kyoto Protocol.



Q4. Although the use of nuclear energy has become difficult because of the Great East Japan Earthquake, can Japan achieve its objective of “minus 6%” under the current Kyoto Protocol?

(A)

- As promised the “Minus 6%” goal under the Kyoto Protocol, Japan has made serious effort for its achievement in spite of the effect of the disaster. As a concrete example, Japan has achieved electricity saving by more than 15 % in Tokyo and Tohoku regions this summer.
- “Minus 6%” goal is counted by the average of 5 years between 2008 and 2012. All the data will be available in 2015. Currently, the data up to 2009 is available and Japan is on track so far in achieving the goal at the moment.
- With regard to the impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake on the emission of GHG, although there are various factors ( more thermal electric power generation substituting nuclear energy may increase GHG while promotion of energy-saving and renewable energy may decrease it, and impact of economic situation on energy demand is unclear) , Japan continues to make serious efforts toward the achievement of its goal.

Trajectory of the GHG emission amount of Japan

