

Towards a “Sustainable East Asia”

Japan’s Environmental Cooperation Initiative announced at the 3rd EAS

1. Building a Low Carbon and Sound Material-Cycle Society:

Creating Synergy between Measures to Tackle Climate Change and Environmental Pollution, and Economic Development

(1) In line with its “Cool Earth 50” proposal, Japan will:

- Promote energy efficiency and conservation and other cooperation initiatives as announced in January 2007 at the 2nd EAS; and
- Extend policy support and cooperation in mitigation of and adaptation to climate change and in promotion of use of clean energy, utilising a new financial mechanism, to developing countries working towards attaining compatibility between reduction of GHGs emissions and economic growth.

(2) In building a sound material-cycle society, Japan will:

- Establish an “Asia 3Rs Research and Information Network” with a view to assisting 3Rs-related activities in each country through sharing of policies and good-practices; and
- Conduct capacity-building for more than 500 trainees from countries in the region in the next 5 years towards promotion of 3Rs and proper waste management.

(3) Japan will provide financial assistance totalling USD2.0 billion and conduct capacity-building for more than 500 trainees in the next 5 years for promotion of measures against air, water and other pollution.

2. Conservation of Rich and Diverse Nature

(1) Towards conserving forests in East Asia, Japan will

- Assist forest resource management by utilising satellite images such as those from the Japanese land observation satellite for the countries in the region; and
- Contribute up to USD 10.0 million to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank, with a view to conserving forests in developing countries in the region working towards compatibility between reduction of GHGs emissions and economic growth.

(2) In cooperation with other countries, Japan will develop “Coral Reef Network Strategy” for conservation of coral reefs.

(3) With ASEAN as a driving force of the EAS, Japan will launch an “ASEAN-Japan Dialogue on the Environment” and promote cooperation with possible utilisation of Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) for projects such as:

- Contribution to the “ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable City Awards”;
- Promotion of eco-tourism aimed at compatibility between nature conservation and development; and
- Assistance to projects for conservation of biodiversity within ASEAN.

3. Developing an Intellectual Infrastructure for Environmental Conservation towards the Future

In developing an intellectual infrastructure for environmental conservation towards the future, Japan will:

- (1) Launch a GHGs Observing Satellite (GOSAT) in FY2008 and share observation data for countries in the region;
- (2) Establish a network among environment-related graduate courses in East Asia in partnership with Japanese graduate schools with a view to fostering future environmental leaders in the region;
- (3) Contribute to environment education, through utilising the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) Programme for:
 - Receiving more than 500 graduate students majoring environment-related subjects from East Asia in the next 4 years;
 - Offering an opportunity for Asian high school students visiting Japan under the Programme to experience at first hand environment measures taken in Japanese municipalities; and
- (4) Establish an Environment Expert Team to be dispatched upon request to sites of serious environmental degradation in East Asia, and to consider formulating measures to be taken, in cooperation with the countries concerned.

