

Japan's National Experience from Treatment of Forest under KP

FOREST CARBON SINK STRATEGY OFFICE, FORESTRY AGENCY



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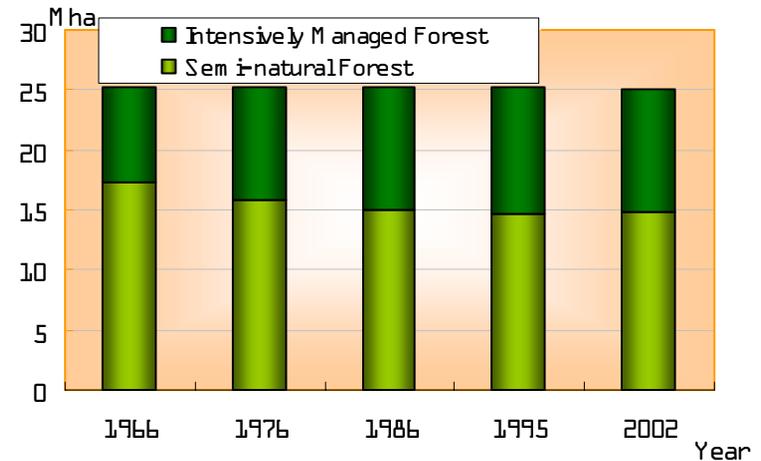
Forest area and land use change

- High forest cover ratio; land use change is comparatively rare
 - ◆ Forest area: 24.8 million ha → 67% of total land area
 - ◆ Total LUC between FL and NonFL is less than 0.2Mha during last 40 years

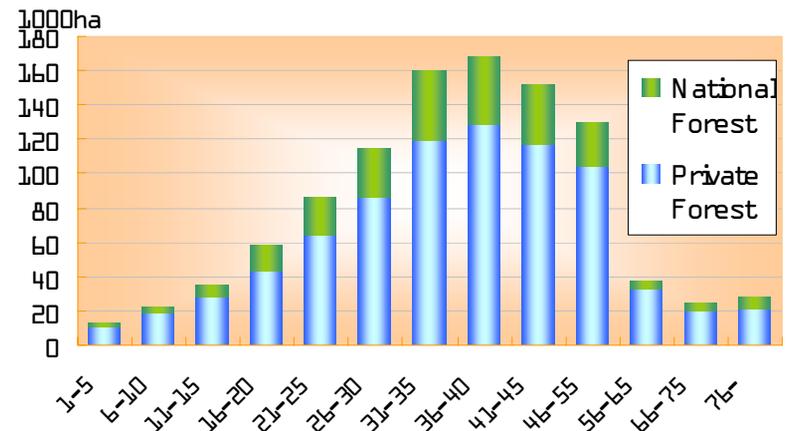
- Considerable parts of forests have been planted since 1950s (10Mha)

- 80% of planted forest area is immature and requires adequate care (tending, weeding, thinning etc.)

Forest Area

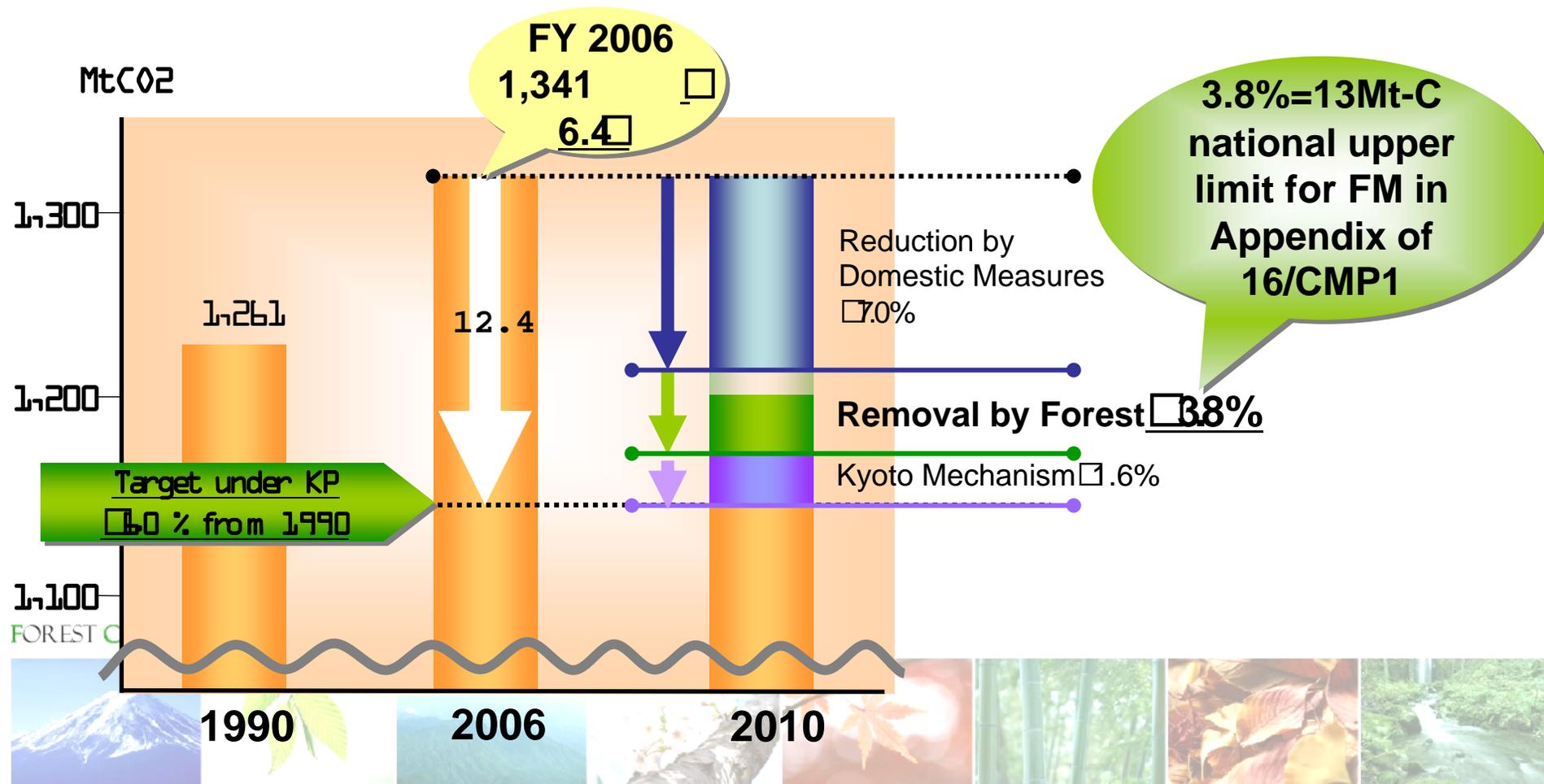


Age Structure of Planted Forest



Kyoto Target Achievement Plan and the role of forestry sector

- National target for Forest C Sink is 13Mt-C(=47Mt-CO₂)
- Reduction by forest is significant to achieve the Kyoto Target.



Rules of LULUCF sector

- In First Commitment Period, 'Forest Management' under Kyoto Protocol article 3.4 was defined as follows;
 - ◆ *'Forest management' is a system of practices for stewardship and use of forest land aimed at fulfilling relevant ecological, economic and social functions of the forest in a sustainable manner;* (16/CMP.1)
- Considering the concept of definition above, Japan has been enhancing forest management practices focusing on both sustainability of forest productivity and environmental integrity.



Policy and measures to enhance forest C sink

- Aiming at achievement of the Kyoto target, a number of additional domestic measures have been introduced to forestry sector
 - ◆ 10-year Forest Sink Measures to Prevent Global Warming (2002-2011)
 - ◆ Promotion of “Utsukushii Mori Zukuri” (National Movement for Fostering Beautiful Forests) (2007-)
 - ◆ Enhancement of reporting and verification system for forest carbon accounting (2002-)
 - ◆ Special Measures Law for Promotion of Thinning (submitted to the ongoing Diet session)



Promotion of “ ” (National Movement for Fostering Beautiful Forests)

- Aiming to achieve the Kyoto Target and hand over beautiful forests and nature-rich land to future generations, this movement enhances forest management practices and enriches forest diversity

Target

1. Implement thinning for 3.3Mha (2007-2012)

0.55Mha/yr (trend base ×1.6)

Additional measures and budgets have been introduced to reduce forest owners burden since 2007

2. Improve forest diversity looking 100 years ahead
through introducing longer rotation period and conversion to broad-leaf forests

Administration

Relevant Cabinet Ministers Meeting



Cooperation

National People's meeting

Actions

Facilitation of forest owners

Promotion of broader participation
(includes private companies, NPOs)

Promotion of utilization of wood products and woody biomass

Toward the Future

- The FM concept for 1st CP is consistent with following description in IPCC AR4.
 - ◆ *“In the long term, a sustainable forest management strategy aimed at maintaining or increasing forest carbon stocks, while producing an annual sustained yield of timber, fibre or energy from the forest, will generate the largest sustained mitigation benefit.”*
- In consideration of rules for the treatment of forest, particular attention should be paid to this description.
- The approach realizing SFM and the above concept requires coherent efforts of the Parties.

