Japan’s Contribution to Promoting Sustainable Management of the World’s Forests

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Forest Area in Japan

- Forest area: 24.8 mil. ha → 67% of total land area
- Relatively big population (approx. 120 mil.) → per capita forest area only 0.2 ha
- Steep topography, frequent heavy rains, floods, land slides ... → Importance of forests recognized

Non-forest (33%)  Forest (67%)

[Map of Japan with forest distribution highlighted]
Todaiji-temple, Nara
Multifunctionality of Forestry

Forestry, as an economic activity, produces timber and non-timber products, as well as creates values, both tangible and intangible, such as:

- Flood / landslide prevention
- Fostering of water resources
- Air purification
- Formation of scenic landscape
- Providing recreational sites
- Maintaining rural communities
- Carbon sequestration
Conservation of Watershed
Recreational site
Japan’s Commitment to Support Sustainable Forest Management

Why?

- Sustainable development of the world is a prerequisite to Japan’s social, economic and cultural stability and development
- Concern on global environment
- As a leading developed economy
  - Particularly as a major timber importing country
  - A lot of experiences to share regarding sustainable forest management
Commitments in UNFCCC / KP

UNFCCC Art. 4 para. 1 (d)
Promote sustainable management, and promote and cooperate in the conservation and enhancement, as appropriate, of sinks and reservoirs ... , including biomass, forests and oceans ...

KP Art. 2 para. 1 (a)
Implement and/or further elaborate policies and measures in accordance with its national circumstances, such as:
(ii) Protection and enhancement of sinks and reservoir ... ; promotion of sustainable forest management practices, afforestation and reforestation;
Japan’s ODA Philosophy

- Environmental conservation is part of Japan’s key ODA philosophy
- Launched “Environmental Conservation Initiative for Sustainable Development (EcoISD)” in 2002
  - Address Global Warming
  - Pollution Control
  - Fresh Water Issues
  - Conservation of Natural Environment
Japan’s International Cooperation to Support SFM

- Bi-lateral cooperation through JICA, JBIC, MOFA
- Multilateral cooperation through ITTO, FAO
- Forestry Agency’s own programs
- Participating in and enhancing international dialogues on SFM
- Cooperation through NGOs/private sector
Bi-lateral cooperation

**Technical cooperation:**
Presently 22 projects implemented in 15 countries, in natural / planted forest management, fire prevention, social forestry, etc.
Cooperative research activities with 4 countries to establish forest management plan.

**Financial cooperation:**
Grant aids of total \$330 mil.) provided for afforestation activities between 78-05.
ODA loans through Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), total \$2.4 bil.) funded between 88-05 in favored conditions.
Model Afforestation Project, Sichuan, China
Training for fire fighting, Java Island, Indonesia
Participatory Forest Management, Central Dry Zone, Myanmar
Plantation in coastal area, Grant aid, Senegal
Multilateral cooperation

International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO):

ITTO Objective 2000: Striving for trade of tropical timber from sustainably managed forests.

Japan has provided financial supports for about 600 projects out of 700 projects implemented since its foundation in 1985.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO):

Japan contributing to regular budget, personnel, and trust funds for project implementation;

Enhancing Sustainable Harvesting in Asia (02-07)
Strengthening MAR on SFM in Asia (05-09)
ITTO Council, Yokohama
Joint Meeting with FAO on Montreal Process, Sapporo, Japan
Illegal Logging

Generally understood as logging performed not observing legislation on forestry management of the country.

Hinders sustainable forest management in the country.

G8 Leaders addressed this issue in the Summit Meeting (Okinawa Summit, July 2000) Japan-Indonesia MoU (June 2003)
Climate Change Initiative of Japan

Combating Illegal logging identified as one of the strategies to mitigate climate change

Main tools; government procurement, voluntary “code of conduct”, cooperation with producing countries, G8 Action Program on Forests.

Through favoring sustainably produced wood products, promote sustainable forest management, key element for mitigating climate change
Asia Forest Partnership

Launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, in 2002.

Aims to promote SFM in Asia through addressing five urgent issues. Topic areas:

• Control of illegal logging
• Control of forest fires
• Rehabilitation and reforestation of degraded lands

Cross cutting issues:

• Good governance and forest law enforcement
• Developing capacity for effective forest management
Workshop of Asia Forest Partnership, Aug-Sep 2004
Lesson learnt
from a certain community forestry project in Nepal

Success cases indicate that all members of the group share their responsibility in the project and their ownership of the project.

Members of success side said “This is OUR project”, while ones of failure side said “This is THEIR project”.

Successes of the project provide various benefit to the communities and set up another platform to the community development activities.
Keys for realizing SFM

Ownership: by all the stakeholders; host, donor, local community, industry, NGO, ...

Partnership: sharing issues, responsibilities, benefits, burdens, ... through good communication, information sharing

Locality: social, economic, cultural conditions to be respected, needs to be met

Sustainability: continuity, consistency of actions to be taken ... never give up!
Japan will continue to work for SFM, domestically, in regional as well as in international cooperation.

Japan believes that SFM is one of the key elements for mitigation of global warming, as referred to in UNFCCC and KP.

Japan appreciates cooperation extended by our friends in terms of tackling global warming and realizing SFM.
Thank you for listening. 
Merci pour votre attention. 
Gracias por su atención. 
謝謝大家.