



Ministry of the Environment

Good Practice on ACE policy in Japan

National Plan and Measures for Climate Change Education & Public Awareness

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Japan's Policies for Climate Change Countermeasures and Education



National policy

International framework

1995

2000

2005

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

- **Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures**
enacted in 1998

- **Kyoto Protocol Target Achievement Plan**
approved by the Cabinet in 2005

- **INDC**
submitted to UNFCCC in 2015

- **Global Warming Countermeasure Plan**
approved by the Cabinet in 2016

- **SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles**
decided by SDGs Promotion Headquarters headed by Prime Minister in 2016

- **The 3rd Basic Plan for the Promotion of Education**
approved by the Cabinet in 2018

- **The Long-Term Growth Strategy under the Paris Agreement**
approved by the Cabinet in June 2019

- **2nd NDC**
submitted to UNFCCC in March 2020

• **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**
adopted in 1992

Kyoto Protocol
adopted in 1997
entered into force in 2005

Paris Agreement
adopted in 2015
entered into force in 2016

ESD (Education for Sustainable Development)

- **The UN Decade of ESD** (2005-2014)
- **Global Action Program on ESD** (2015-2019)
- **ESD for 2030** (2020-2030)

SDGs

The 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) Target 4.7:ESD (2015-2030)

◆ The Global Warming Countermeasure Plan

“...It is important to have learners understand the mechanism of global warming scientifically, and to have them think about concrete solutions for themselves and for their communities with expert perspectives of environment education.

...we will train and support leaders to teach global warming issues and develop learning programs in order to implement more effectively, not only in schools, but also in workplaces, homes, and communities.”

◆ Measures

- Supports the formation of regional collaborative projects, training for teachers and staff members and those involved in environmental conservation activities
- Creates environmental education programs, etc.

⋮

*Above is not an official translation.

National policies for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)



◆ ESD for 2030 (2020-2030) and ESD in SDGs

- As the follow up to the UN Decade of ESD (2005-2014) and GAP (2015-2019), new global framework of “ESD for 2030” was approved by the UNESCO General Conference at its 40th Session and acknowledged by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) at its 74th Session in 2019.

(Source: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 40th General Conference (40 C/23) <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000370215>
United Nations Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2019(A/RES/74/223), <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/223>)

- ESD is positioned as Target 4.7 of SDG4 (Education). As affirmed in the above-mentioned UNGA resolution in 2019, ESD is an integral element of SDG on quality education, and a key enabler of all the other SDGs. Promotion of ESD is clearly defined in SDGs national policies in Japan as well.

- ✓ SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles (decided by SDGs Promotion Headquarters headed by Prime Minister in 2016)
- ✓ SDGs Action Plan (decided every 6 months since Dec. 2017)

(Source: United Nations Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015 (A/RES/70/1) https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, <https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/oda/sdgs/effort/index.html#promotion>)

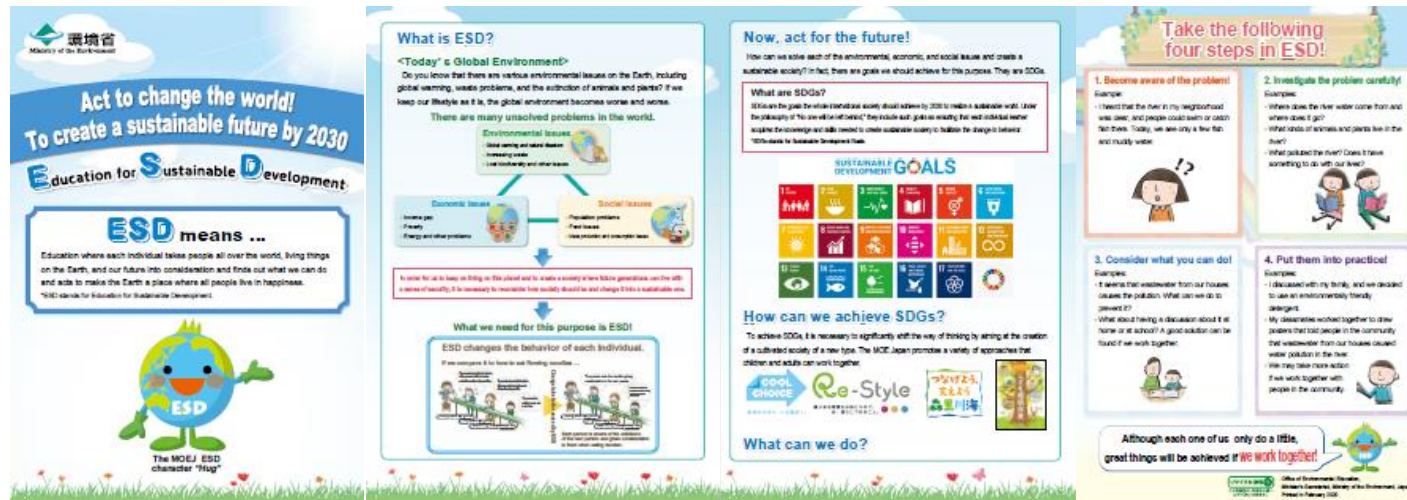
◆ ESD in Education policy

- Japan has been promoting ESD in all educational levels from elementary to universities. The idea of fostering “builders of a sustainable society” is incorporated into the new National Curriculum Standards and Basic Plan for Promotion of Education as a key theme.
- ✓ New National Curriculum Standards (Notification of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in March 2017)
- ✓ The 3rd Basic Plan for the Promotion of Education (approved by the Cabinet in June 2018)

(Source: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/new-cs/1384661.htm, https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/keikaku/index.htm)

◆ ESD implementation structure

- ESD has been implemented by multiple stakeholders based on the national implementation plans decided by the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee on ESD



Download link: <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2435.html> (Created by the Ministry of the Environment)
 *Translated in English, China, Korea, Spanish

◆ Practical use

- Training for local board of education and teachers
- Add to the list of educational materials designated by the local board of education

◆ Announcement

- On websites and mailing lists of government agencies and environmental education organizations
- Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN) among China, Japan and Korea

Source:

Ministry of the Environment Japan.(March, 2020) Press Release " Publication of the ESD/SDGs brochure for children". <http://www.env.go.jp/en/headline/2435.html>

ACE listed in NDC

- ✓ Japan's NDC has listed measures to reduce CO₂ that includes promotion of nationwide campaigns such as Cool Biz and Warm Biz, etc.

Sector		FY2030 emission targets (million t-CO ₂)	FY2013 (FY2005) (million t-CO ₂)	Measures
Energy-originated CO ₂		927	1,235 (1,219)	
	Commercial and Other sector	168	279 (239)	• <u>Promotion of nationwide campaigns</u> (thorough promotion of Cool Biz, Warm Biz, repair of local government building), etc. •
	Residential Sector	122	201 (180)	• <u>Promotion of nationwide campaigns</u> (thorough promotion of Cool Biz, Warm Biz, and encouragement of purchase of upgraded, Home CO₂ advisor), etc. •

Source:
UNFCCC. NDC Registry. Japan's NDC. P.15-17.

[https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Japan%20First/SUBMISSION%20OF%20JAPAN'S%20NATIONALLY%20DETERMINED%20CONTRIBUTION%20\(NDC\).PDF](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Japan%20First/SUBMISSION%20OF%20JAPAN'S%20NATIONALLY%20DETERMINED%20CONTRIBUTION%20(NDC).PDF)

◆ The Global Warming Countermeasure Plan

“...Relevant ministries and government agencies will work together to raise public awareness more effectively through cooperation and collaboration with industry, labor, academia, local governments, and.....other entities involved in global warming prevention activities.”

◆ Measure

- Promote Cool Choice, nationwide actions to encourage citizens to make a wise choice for global warming countermeasures (e.g. Cool Biz, Warm Biz)
- Switch to energy-saving equipment
- Promote eco-driving
- Promote use of public transportation and bicycles
- Choose electricity with low emission intensity of electricity, etc.

⋮

Nudge*¹ with BI-Tech*²
is efficient!

*1 Nudge: To gently persuade or encourage someone to take a particular decision or action

*2 BI-Tech: Government of Japan has been implementing experimental projects in which Behavioral Insights are combined with advanced Technologies such as AI / IoT to provide personalized approaches to each individual.

Source:

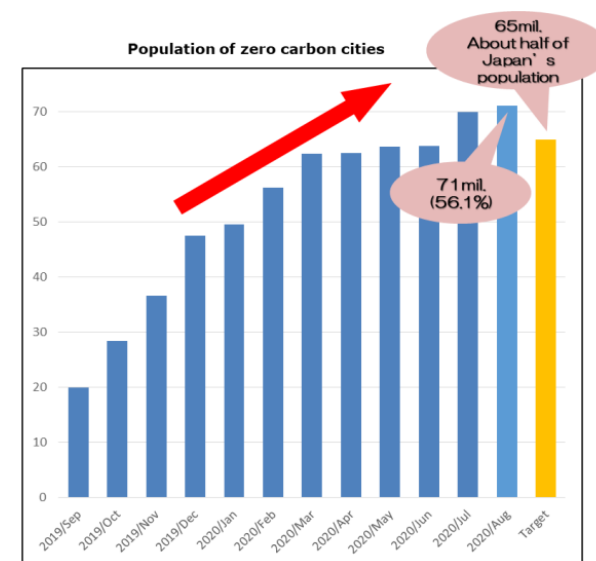
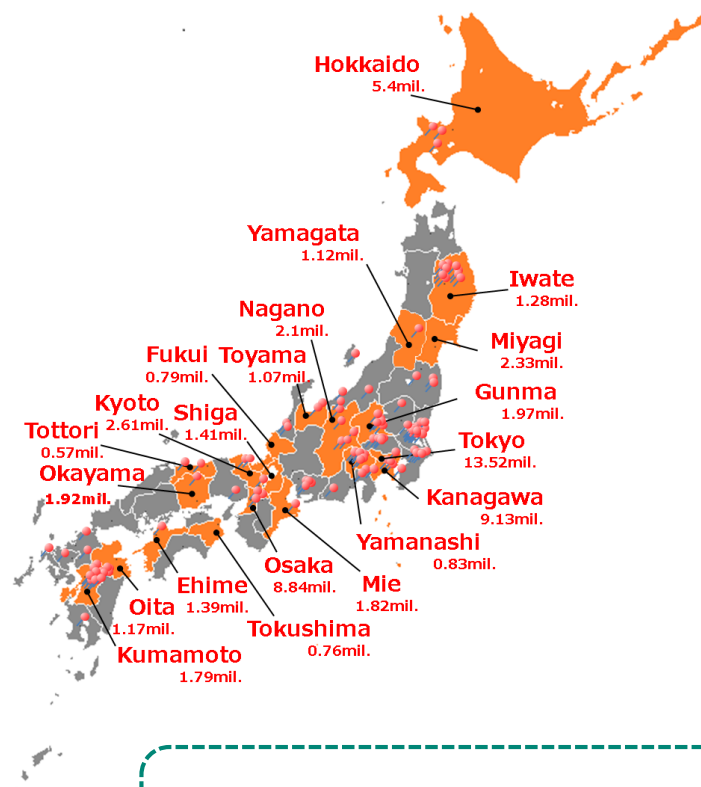
*Above is not an official translation.

Ministry of the Environment Japan. (May, 2016). The Global Warming Countermeasure Plan. p.15-17. <http://www.env.go.jp/press/files/jp/102816.pdf>

Ministry of the Environment Japan. (March, 2019). Annual Report 2017-2018 of Behavioral Science Team. http://www.env.go.jp/earth/ondanka/nudge/report1_Eng.pdf

2050 Zero Carbon Cities

- ◆ Minister Koizumi called for local governments to declare net zero carbon emissions by 2050.
(*As of 6th August, 2020)
- ◆ 151 local governments that represent more than half of Japan's population announced their commitment to net zero carbon emissions.



(*As of 6th August, 2020)

Local governments' initiatives to raise awareness of zero-carbon among citizens have been spontaneously spreading.

Source:

Ministry of the Environment Japan. 2050 Zero Carbon Cities in Japan. http://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/cc/2050_zero_carbon_cities_in_japan.html

Platform for Redesign 2020

Online Platform on Sustainable and Resilient Recovery from COVID-19



Objectives:

- Exchange information among all countries on climate and environmental actions in their recovery
- Keep momentum through opportunity of high level dialogue, including voices of local governments and young people

**Ministerial Online Meeting (a live stream)
on 3 September 2020 (1pm - 4pm CEST)**

<https://platform2020redesign.org/>

- ✓ Web-based platform of countries' policies/measures/actions on climate and environment in the COVID19 Recovery

Recommendations



- ✓ Ensure that measures for education and awareness are included in a core national implementation plan and a national education curriculum, and support implementation of the measures.
- ✓ Engage stakeholders from wide range of sectors to gain cooperation of influential organizations and leaders, and build win-win relationships.
- ✓ Utilize IT tools to change behaviors and minds of mass numbers of people.

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