

**Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.**

**1. Understanding of the present situation**

**(1) Why is it necessary to take climate change measures?**

Climate change poses a threat to human security, stability and prosperity in every country of the world. The Paris Agreement was adopted at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in December 2015, which aims at holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and striving to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Moreover, the Agreement also established the global goal on adaptation to enhance adaptive capacity, to strengthen resilience, and to reduce vulnerability to climate change.

Unless international society promptly takes appropriate and sufficient climate change measures, climate change is highly likely to deliver a solid blow to the global economy and society through increased damage from natural disasters and infectious diseases, a depletion or a shortage of natural resources and food, a decrease in or loss of species and natural ecosystems, the loss of coastal land due to sea level rise, and so forth. Taking climate actions is one of the most essential requirements to achieve sustainable development.

**(2) Japan's efforts**

To contribute to achieving the common goals of the international community, the Government of Japan announced 'Actions for Cool Earth (ACE) 2.0', an initiative that has committed to increasing Japan's public and private climate finance to approximately ¥1.3 trillion in 2020, which is about 1.3 times more than the current level.

**(3) JICA's strength**

To date, JICA has been providing developing countries with assistance to address climate change as an integral part of its development projects, utilizing a range of modalities, and has achieved significant outcomes in many countries. However, considering the new international framework and global goals to address climate change as well as Japan's related initiatives and commitments, JICA will further expand and showcase its assistance to developing countries for climate action to ensure human security and realize JICA's vision of "Inclusive and Dynamic Development". JICA will utilize the technology and knowledge applicable to climate change measures that has been developed by administrative agencies, the private sector, research institutes, and civil society in Japan.

## 2. Priority targets

Goal 13 consists of five targets, including those related to the means of implementation. Because all the targets are important from the viewpoint of; strengthening resilience to climate risks (13.1); mainstreaming climate change measures (13.2); human resource development, and development of organizations and institutions (13.3); expanding climate finance (13.a); and special considerations and support for vulnerable countries and groups (13.b), JICA will endeavor to contribute to the achievement of all the targets.

- 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
- 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- 13.a Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible
- 13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

## 3. Priority efforts to achieve the goals

### (1) Promoting low-carbon, climate-resilient urban development and infrastructure investment (\* also contributing to Goals 7, 9, 11)

In order to achieve transformation to a low-carbon, climate-resilient society, the infrastructure must become low-carbon and climate resilient. For global climate action, it is critically important to ensure this in developing countries where economies are growing rapidly and the demand for infrastructure investment is enormous. Recognizing this, JICA will strengthen its assistance for the following issues in conjunction with the related Japanese government initiatives, such as the “Partnership for Quality Infrastructure”, and in line with the concept of “quality growth” set forth in Japan’s “Development Cooperation Charter”:

- ① More efficient use of energy (e.g., high-efficiency thermal power, reduction of electricity loss, and energy saving), adequate development and use of

renewable energy

- ② Development of public transport systems
- ③ Climate risk<sup>1</sup> assessment in the planning stage of urban development and the construction of infrastructure, and subsequent incorporation of risk avoidance, prevention and reduction measures

**(2) Enhancing comprehensive climate risk management (\* also contributing to Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, and 11)**

The effects of climate change have been materializing in every part of the world which makes consideration of climate risks essential for all future development projects. In the “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030”, climate change is regarded as a significant factor that increases disaster risks. JICA will cooperate with developing countries to strengthen their comprehensive climate risk management with a special emphasis on risk prevention and reduction. To that end, JICA will address the following issues, taking into account the fact that climate risks may affect various aspects including natural disasters, agriculture, food security, water, and infectious diseases.

In implementing the assistance, particular attention is paid to the fact that the effects of climate change have different impacts on the respective countries and people depending on their unique circumstances, including the level of control measures in place against the existing risks. With a view to ensuring human security, special consideration will be paid to countries particularly vulnerable to climate change, such as Small Island Developing States (SIDS) (e.g., the Pacific and Caribbean island countries) and least developed countries (LDCs), as well as to poor and socially vulnerable people and gender. JICA will also provide the necessary support to facilitate the participation of women in actions supported by JICA:

- ① Climate risk assessment/prediction, early warning, and development of coping capacities and physical facilities in preparation for prompt action in the event of an emergency
- ② Pre-investment in climate risk prevention and reduction as well as enhanced resilience of facilities/infrastructure for reconstruction (“build back better”)
- ③ Risk finance in preparation for climate risks materializing

**(3) Supporting climate policy and institutional development**

Long-term commitment and efforts are required to address climate change, and

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<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of this document, “climate risk” is considered as a concept that represents the magnitude of threat determined by the combination of the probability and severity of impacts resulting from climate/weather phenomena (e.g., heat wave, heavy rain, drought, windstorm) and their secondary phenomena (e.g., flood, tidal surge, sea level rise). Climate risk includes both existing climate-related risks resulting from natural causes and additional risks resulting from the effects of anthropogenic climate change.

developing countries need to develop their capacity to plan, implement, monitor and improve climate actions. In accordance with the Paris Agreement, developing countries are required to prepare, implement, monitor and report their Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in five-year cycles, and progressively raise the level of ambition. However, many countries, LDCs and SIDS in particular, have limited capacity to adequately undertake this process.

At the national level, the appropriate policy framework and implementation/monitoring capacity to undertake climate actions are required. At the city/regional level, urban planning for a low-carbon and sound material-cycle society as well as enabling the regulatory framework and human resource development for implementation are required.

For these reasons, JICA will strengthen its support for capacity enhancement and human resource development in relation to the following issues:

- ① Formulation and improvement of climate action plans and institutional/capacity development for implementation as well as integration of climate change mitigation and adaptation into development policies/plans at national and local levels
- ② Capacity development to undertake the processes for NDC preparation, monitoring, reporting and review as provided in the Paris Agreement
- ③ Improvement of policies and institutions to encourage private-sector activities and investments to address climate change
- ④ Improved access to climate finance for national governments and cities

**(4) Enhancing conservation and management of forests and other ecosystems (\* also contributing to Goals 1 and 15)**

Land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF), which is often accompanied by degradation and loss of forests and other ecosystems, accounts for about 30% of global cumulative anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The reduction of emissions in the LULUCF sector is urgently required. The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicates that the scenario most likely to be able to limit the temperature rise to below 2°C compared to the pre-industrial level will require the reduction of the net anthropogenic GHG emissions to zero or below by the end of this century. This confirms the importance of fostering forests and other ecosystems as GHG (CO<sub>2</sub>) sinks. The Paris Agreement acknowledges the importance of this, and specifically refers to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+). Enhancing ecosystems is also considered effective for adaptation measures through the provision of enhanced ecosystem services to local communities. JICA has supported and will continue to provide assistance for capacity development and investment promotion in relation to the following issues:

- ① Enhancing mitigation measures through sustainable forest management with,

among others, REDD+ and sustainable natural resources management by communities

- ② Enhancing adaptation measures through, among others, the promotion of disaster risk reduction by using enhanced ecosystem services (Eco-DRR), and resilience enhancement (combatting desertification) in Sub-Saharan Africa
- ③ Promotion of public-private partnership centered on the “Japan Public-Private Platform for REDD+”
- ④ Development of innovative technologies such as forest monitoring using advanced satellite technology through a JICA-JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) partnership