



# **JICA's Initiative to tackle Plastic Pollution**

**Koji MAESHIMA**

Environmental Management and Climate Change Group,  
Global Environment Department  
JICA

# Data on Plastic Pollution and Where It Is Coming from

Approximately 22 million tons of **plastics** leaked into the environment \*

ASEAN is the main emitting countries, accounting for approximately 50%



80% of total marine plastic waste inputs from **LAND** through rivers etc. \*\*

Promotion of appropriate waste management on land is essential

Weight of marine plastic waste **exceeds** Weight of **FISH** in 2050 with no countermeasure \*\*\*



Source:

\* OECD Global Plastic Outlook (2022)

\*\* Ocean Conservancy & McKinsey & Company (2015) Stemming the Tide: Land-based strategies for a plastic-free ocean

\*\*\* World Economic Forum (2016) The New Plastics Economy: Rethinking the future of plastics

Source: [Steven Guerrisi/Flickr](#)

# Current Status of Negotiation on Plastic Treaty

## Timeline

- **UNEA5.2**, Kenya Mar, 2022: Adopted to establish the INC to develop International Legally Binding Instrument on plastic pollution
- **INC-1**, Uruguay Nov-Dec, 2022: Decided countries and various stakeholders would be invited to submit their views of the Convention
- **INC-2**, France May-Jun, 2023: Requested the INC Chair to develop a zero draft
- **INC-3**, Kenya Nov 2023: Developed a revised zero draft
- **INC-4**, Canada Apr 2024: Discussed the revised zero draft on INC3 discussion.
- **INC-5**, Korea Nov-Dec, 2024: Negotiations aimed at an agreement were held, but no agreement was reached, and a resumed session will be held in the future.

At INC-5, **Japan** pointing out the importance of the following:

1. Promotion of measures throughout **the full lifecycle of plastics**,
2. **Clarification of common criteria** for plastic products and chemical substances used in plastic products,
3. Promotion of **plastic resource circularity** in each country,
4. Promotion of **environmentally sound product design and reduce, reuse, and recycle**,
5. Obligations of each country for **sound waste management** (including Extended Producer Responsibility (**EPR**) system),
6. Developing, updating, reporting and reviewing **National Action Plans**,
7. **Resource mobilization** from all sources.

# Prevent environmental pollution to create clean cities for the healthy lives of people

JICA addresses waste, water and air pollution, and other environmental problems that cause health problems to create clean cities.

In many developing countries, industrialization and urbanization are progressing without environmental measures, causing serious contamination of water, air, and soil, and damaging people's health.

Through measures such as waste management and the prevention of water and air pollution, we work together in creating “clean cities” and aim to build sustainable societies.





To benefit **500 million** citizens in **50** countries by **2030** !

## To Developing Countries;

- ◆ **Human Security:** Ensure **safe and healthy living environment**
- ◆ **Quality growth:** Realize economic growth which is inclusive, sustainable and resilient
- ◆ **With/Post COVID-19:** Reduce infection risk through maintenance & improvement of sanitary urban environment

## To SDGs



## To Global Environment;

- ◆ **Marine Plastic Pollution:** Prevent the discharge of plastic waste into rivers / oceans, toward realization of “**Osaka Blue Ocean Vision**” (aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050 )

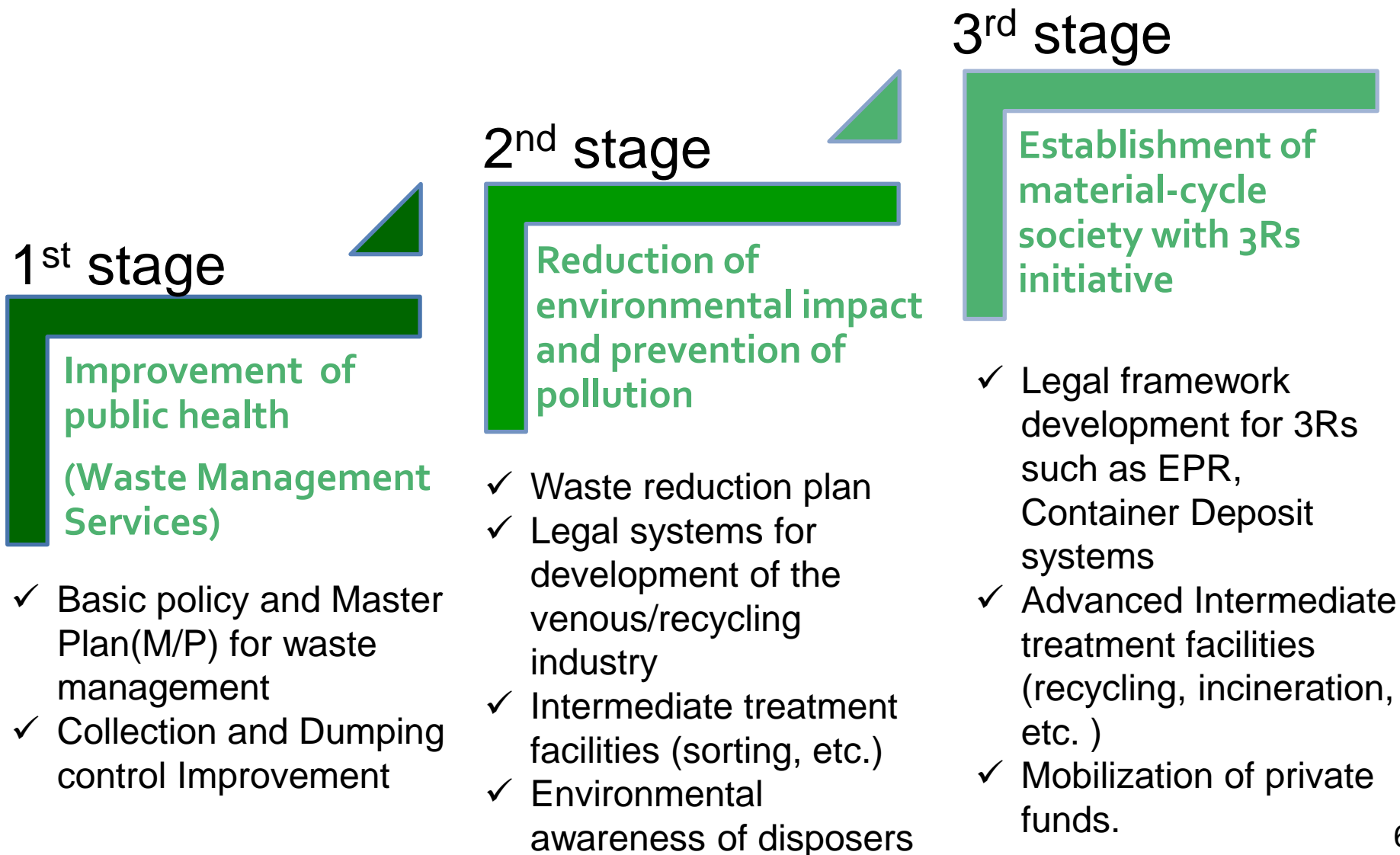
In line with the Osaka vision, JICA formulated “Tackling the Challenge of Marine Plastic” approach in 2020



- ◆ **Climate Change:** Prevent the generation of greenhouse gas (e.g. methane) through proper waste treatment
- ◆ **Biodiversity:** Prevent further environmental pollution thereby conserving ecosystems

Assistance Based on Development Stages

Stages by Stage Approach



# JICA's Projects to tackle Plastic Pollution (1)

1<sup>st</sup> stage

## Improvement of Waste Management Services

Example from  
Bangladesh  
'Clean Dhaka  
Project'

- Development of 'Clean Dhaka Master Plan'
- Improvement of Waste Collection:  
 $\text{collection rate} > 44\% (2004) \Rightarrow \underline{85\% (2021)}$
- Improvement of Final Disposal Site
- Participatory Waste Management through WBA (Ward-based Approach)

Before



After



## Technical Cooperation Project

### Sri Lanka: Project for Strengthening Plastic Management Capacity (2023-2026)

Establish national database and monitoring mechanism for plastics management, Promote alternative materials to plastics



## SDGs Business Verification Survey

### Cambodia: Disseminating Japanese Technologies for Plastic Recycling System to Convert Waste to Eco-Product (2018-2024)

Produce construction materials from unsorted waste plastic and using recycled plastics





# JICA's Projects to tackle Plastic Pollution (3)

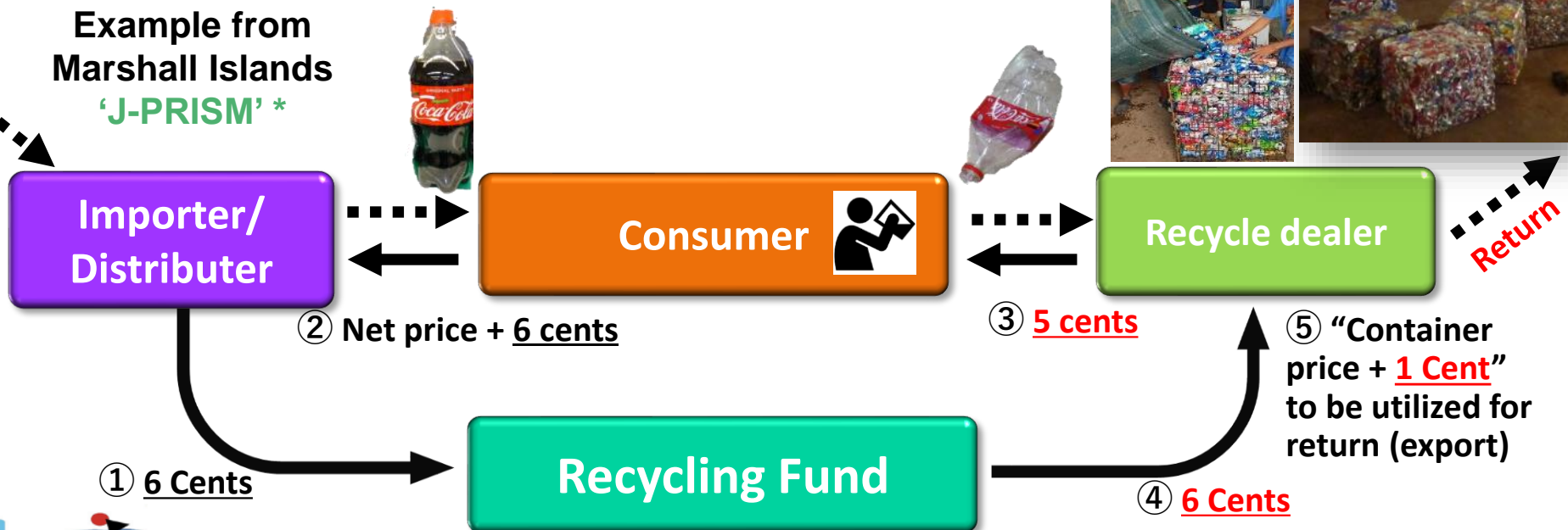
3<sup>rd</sup> stage

Add economic incentive:  
Container Deposit Legislation (CDL)

- In small island countries, containers need to be "Returned" to large markets outside country/region. For sustainable CDL system, the mechanism involving importers and create management fund for collection center are crucial.
- Deposit is included in the price, and redeemed once the container is returned to collection center. It increases container collection rate, and prevent outflowing marine plastic litters.

➡ Promotion of **3R+Return**

Example from  
Marshall Islands  
'J-PRISM' \*



### SATREPS (International Joint Research)

**Thailand: Establish a center of excellence for marine plastic pollution studies in the Southeast Asian seas (2020-2026)**

Analyze current/future amount of plastic litter, conduct environment and social impact assessment



### SDGs Business Verification Survey

**Vietnam: Pirika DX technologies for Mapping Littering Hotspots including Plastic Pollution (2023-2024)**

Visualize the illegal dumping and tracks litter distribution including plastics through AI image analysis



# JICA's Approach to tackle Plastic Pollution

- 1<sup>st</sup> Improvement of Waste Management Services
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Plastic Recycling, Plastic Database, Waste Reduction
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Legal Framework (EPR, CDL), Advanced Recycling toward Circular Economy
- ➔ Promote initiatives across the entire lifecycle of plastics

