

List of Terminology

No	Term	Description
1	Municipal Waste	Municipal waste is waste other than industrial waste. It is classified into business waste and household waste.
2	Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)	EPR is the concept of the producer being responsible (physically or financially) for the appropriate reuse, recycling, and disposal of the product.
3	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	EIA is a series of procedures followed to ensure proper environmental considerations are made by evaluating the environmental impact of the project, hearing the opinions of residents and relevant local governments, and reviewing the content of the assessment from a professional view when implementing a large-scale development project.
4	Ministry of Environment	The Ministry of Environment is a national administrative agency that promotes global environmental conservation, pollution prevention, preservation of the natural environment, and other environmental preservation activities. The Environment Agency, established in 1971, was reformed and became the Ministry of Environment with the reorganization of central ministries and agencies in 2001.
5	Chemical Recycling	Chemical recycling is recycling of used resources after their composition has been converted through chemical reactions. This mainly refers to the conversion of waste plastics into oil, gas, coke oven chemical fuel, etc.
6	Inter-Municipal Waste Disposal/Treatment	Inter-municipal waste disposal/treatment is a type of disposal/treatment with neighboring municipalities collaborating in order to optimize their waste management. The introduction of wide-area treatment will lead to "ensuring sustainable and appropriate treatment," "promoting climate change countermeasures," "promoting recycling and biomass utilization of waste," "strengthening disaster countermeasures," and "creating new value to the community."
7	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is a national administrative agency that promotes social welfare, social security, public health, improvement of the working environment for workers, and the securing of jobs. The Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Ministry of Labor merged in 2001 through the reorganization of central ministries and agencies. As a result, the Ministry of the Environment is now in charge of the affairs related to waste disposal and cleaning, which were under the jurisdiction of the Water Supply and Environment Department of the Public Hygiene Bureau of the Ministry of Health and Welfare.
8	Components of Waste	Components of waste is a generic term for the physical and chemical contents of waste. Typically, waste is classified by three components (combustible, ash, and moisture), unit volume mass (apparent specific gravity), physical composition (composition by type), chemical composition (elemental composition), and lower heating value.
9	Compost/Composting	Compost is material made from food waste and other organic wastes, and composting is the method to produce compost. Food, paper pulp, sludge from wastewater treatment in the petrochemical industry and livestock waste are used.
10	Thermal Recycling	Thermal recycling is the process of recovering and utilizing the heat generated during waste treatment, especially in incineration plants, as energy. In the EU, the concept of "energy recovery" is used to distinguish it from recycling.
11	Industrial Waste	Industrial waste refers to 20 types of waste generated by business activities, including cinders, sludge, oil, acid, alkali, and plastic. Many of them are discharged in large quantities and special techniques are required for disposal. The proper treatment is required by the Waste Management and Public Cleansing Law.

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12	Principle of Waste Disposal within the Administrative Boundary	The principle of waste disposal within the administrative boundary is the idea that waste disposal should be done within the community where waste is generated. This principle has been advocated since the War against Waste, which is a conflict regarding site selection for waste treatment facilities in Tokyo, in the 1960s. However, there is no legal basis for the principle of waste disposal within the administrative boundary, and although it is a concept that is known throughout Japan, it does not deny wide-area disposal beyond the administrative boundaries.
13	Sound Material-Cycle Society	A sound material-cycle society is a concept proposed as an alternative to a mass-production, mass-consumption, and mass-disposal society. According to the “Basic Act for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society (Law No. 110 of 2000)”, a material-cycle society is “a society in which consumption of natural resources is controlled and the burden on the environment is reduced as much as possible”. This is achieved by preventing products from becoming waste, as much as possible properly using the existing waste as resources, and ensuring the proper disposal of waste cannot be used.
14	Basic Act for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society	“Basic Act for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society” is a law established in June 2000 to promote effective efforts toward the formation of a sound material-cycle society. In addition to the priorities of waste disposal: (1) control of generation, 2) reuse, 3) recycling, 4) heat recovery, and 5) proper disposal, the law specifies the following national measures for the establishment of a sound material-cycle society. • Measures to control the generation of waste • Regulations and other measures to ensure "Responsibility by waste-generating business operators" • Measures based on "Extended Producer Responsibility", such as take-back of products, implementation of recycling and prior assessment of products • Promotion of using recycled products • Measures to obligate business operators to bear the cost of restoring the environment to its original state when environmental conservation issues arise
15	Leachate	Leachate is liquid that has seeped out of a landfill after water from the waste and rainwater permeate into the landfill through the waste layer. Leachate is discharged into the public sewage system only after the water has been treated at the waste water treatment plant and has met the water quality standard specified in the effluent agreement.
16	3Rs	3R stands for “Reduce”, “Reuse” and “Recycle”. In recent years, the concept of 4Rs, 5Rs, 6Rs has been introduced by adding other ideas to the 3Rs, for example, “Refuse” meaning not to accepting things that will become waste, “Repair” meaning repair, and “Recover” meaning collecting waste for recycling.
17	Zero Emission	Zero emission is a concept proposed by the United Nations University in 1994, and refers to a resource circulating social system that does not produce any waste by effectively utilizing all types of waste as raw materials. It aims to reduce the amount of waste generated by increasing the yield (ratio of products to raw materials) in the production process and to thoroughly recycle waste.
18	Transfer Station	Transfer station is a facility that compacts and transships waste in order to gather the waste in intermediate treatment plants or landfill sites efficiently. Waste collected by small- and medium-size collection vehicles is compacted at the transfer station and transshipped to larger trucks to carry large quantities of waste at one time, increase efficiency and save fuel costs.
19	Basel Convention	The Basel Convention is an agreement on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous waste and their disposal. It was adopted by the United Nations Environment Programme in 1989 and enacted in 1992.

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20	Biomass	Biomass is a concept that expresses the quantity (mass) of biological resources (bio), such as organic resources excluding fossil resources, derived from plants and animals that can be recycled into energy or materials. It includes agricultural, forestry, and fishery products, rice straw, rice husks, food waste, livestock manure, and wood waste.
21	Waste	According to the Waste Disposal and Public Cleansing Law, waste is unwanted materials generated as a result of household and business activities.
22	Waste Management and Public Cleansing Law	Waste Management and Public Cleansing Law is basic law on waste management which describes the definition of waste, responsibilities for its disposal, and standards for disposal methods. The purpose of the law is to conserve the living environment and improve public health by controlling waste emissions, disposing of waste appropriately, and maintaining the cleanliness of the living environment.
23	Responsibility of Waste-Generating Business Operators	“Responsibility of waste-generating business operators” is the principle that waste generators are responsible for the proper disposal of waste from their business activities. In Japan, this is the basic principle of the Waste Management and Public Cleansing Law, and it obliges waste generators to submit plans for the reduction and proper disposal of industrial waste and to confirm the completion of final disposal through manifests.
24	Public Comment	Public comment is a procedure in which the government publicly announces their proposals and other information to the public in the decision-making process, and takes into account the opinions and information submitted from the citizens when the government establishes, revises, or abolishes regulations.
25	Fukuoka Method (Semi-aerobic Landfill Structure)	Fukuoka Method is an example of the structure of a final disposal site, also known as a semi-aerobic landfill system, developed by Fukuoka University and Fukuoka City. The Fukuoka method requires a leachate collection and drainage system consisting of stones and perforated pipes at the bottom of the landfill. This allows leachate in the waste layer to be drained quickly, and thermal convection occurs inside the layer due to the fermentation heat generated by the decomposition of the waste. This will then lower the moisture content in the layer, and air is naturally supplied from the collection and drainage pipes. As a result, the decomposition of waste while maintaining aerobic conditions in the waste layer is made possible.
26	Material Recycling	Material recycling consists of collecting used products and waste from production processes, processing and using them as raw materials or materials for new products.
27	Manifest System	Manifest system is a procedure in which business operators discharging waste manage the flow of waste and ensure proper disposal by issuing documents for industrial waste management (manifest) to a waste disposal operator, and by receiving the copy from the waste disposal operator after the disposal of waste is completed.
28	Precautionary Approach	Precautionary approach is the concept stated in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration, which sets forth 27 general principles for sustainable development adopted at the Earth Summit in 1992. The Rio Declaration states, "In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation".
29	Life Cycle Cost (LCC)	LCC is the total cost of a product or structure on the stages of procurement, manufacturing, use, and disposal. It is also an important basis for estimating cost-effectiveness, and consists of initial construction costs and running costs such as energy, maintenance, repair, and renewal costs.

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30	Recycling Laws	Various recycling laws exist in Japan to reduce the volume of waste and to promote the effective use of resources by promoting recycling and other measures. Specifically, there is the “Containers and Packaging Recycling Law”, “Home Appliance Recycling Law”, “End-of-Life Vehicle Recycling Law”, “Food Waste Recycling Law”, “Construction Material Recycling Law”, and “Small Home Appliance Recycling Act”.