



Aware of the importance of what they are doing, children participate in mangrove reforestation in the Philippines [Photo by Shinichi Kuno]



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Global Environment

Creating a New Framework for Post-2015

The Global Environment Department's responsibilities cover a wide scope, including forest and nature conservation, environmental management, climate change measures, water resources and disaster risk reduction. In addition, the department is addressing global-scale issues, such as mainstreaming climate change measures and disaster risk management, as common issues cutting across all fields.

In two years time, it will be 2015, the culmination year for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In March 2015, the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction will be held in Sendai, Japan to decide the set of goals to follow those of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The year 2015 is also a pivotal year for climate change measures: the world will be aiming to reach an international agreement on the international framework to be participated in by all major greenhouse gas emitters starting in 2020. With this spotlight on 2015, planning out our steps to that point was a priority activity in fiscal 2012. Toward that goal, we have our strategy for activities in fiscal 2013.

Our department intends to proactively participate in international conferences and forums on the post-2015 era.

Aware that disaster reduction is an overarching issue that needs to be folded into all development fields, we call this process mainstreaming of disaster risk management. Up to now, the meetings of the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction have been in Japan. It has been decided that the third meeting will be held in Sendai, Japan, one of the areas stuck by the recent major earthquake. On the agenda will be the next framework to replace the HFA. Moreover, the international community is accelerating its efforts to reach an agreement on how to include disaster risk reduction in the next set of MDGs goals after 2015. JICA has investigated the benefits of advance investment for disaster risk reduction to prevent the slowdown of economic development. In addition, based on disaster risk analysis, JICA has proposed measures for achieving effective and efficient disaster reduction investment. In fiscal 2013, we will be

advocating and deepening the discussion on involving disaster risk reduction in the deliberations on goals for the post-MDGs era.

We will also continue our participation in the Conferences of the Parties (COP), the Meeting of the Board of the newly established Green Climate Fund and other international conferences on climate change measures. In order to achieve a new framework covering the period from 2020 and beyond, JICA will be disseminating its activities on an international scale. At the same time, we will be carrying out activities to support the Japanese government's new bilateral greenhouse gases (GHG) reduction framework, the Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM). We will also continue our assistance with building and developing REDD-plus systems, which aim to reduce GHG through forest conservation.

In the environmental management field, in fiscal 2013 we plan to especially prioritize sewage and waste disposal measures. Furthermore, we will concentrate our efforts on formulating such projects as providing cooperation for electric appliance recycling in ASEAN that will serve as the global models of the future.

As part of the MDGs, JICA has been active in the water and sanitation field in all regions of the world. Going forward, we plan to further develop Technical Cooperation, supporting overseas water business development by local governments and the private sector.

Through these activities, JICA will work with the international community on global-scale issues, seeking to disseminate Japan's knowledge in these areas.