



**JICA HELPS DEVELOP GREEN TECHNOLOGY FOR
BIODIESEL PRODUCTION IN VIETNAM**

Hanoi, September 12nd 2011 – The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Vietnam National University (VNU) signed today in Hanoi a project to develop green technology for biodiesel production in Vietnam. The Project is entitled “Multi-beneficial measure for mitigation of climate change in Vietnam and Indochina countries by development of biomass energy”, aiming to establish an economically and environmentally superior biomass energy cycle (cultivation-production-utilization) and broad use of its cycle in the world.

The project was approved by the Japanese government under a joint program named “Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)” which run by a unique collaboration between JICA and Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). The overall project cost is estimated to be worth around 5 million USD. Collaborate research activities of the project will be implemented for 5 years (from Oct 2011 to 2016) with the concrete targets of cultivation oil plants, such as *Jatropha* and others on desolated and contaminated land areas, developing green technologies for biodiesel production and the newest environmental monitoring method for biodiesel utilization.

Participating in the project are leading Japanese and Vietnamese scientists of five research groups from Osaka Prefecture University, Osaka City University, Ehime University, Vietnam National University (Hanoi), Vietnam National University (HCM City) and, Institute of Environmental Technology.

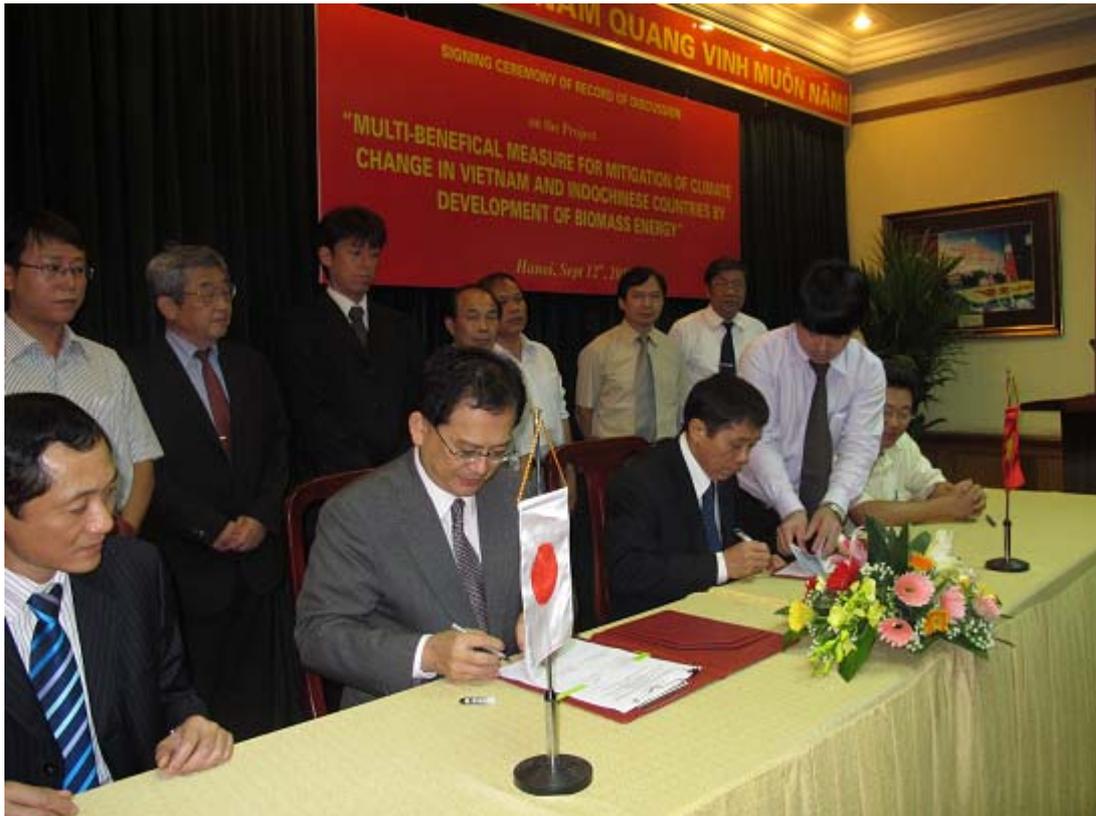
Prof Yasuaki Maeda from Osaka Prefecture University explained about the green production of biodiesel: *“Biodiesel fuel will be produced from local inedible plant oils by using green technology. The biodiesel fuel is a clean alternative fuel that comes from 100% renewable resources and does not produce high emissions of air pollutants compared with traditional ones. Besides, biodiesel is considered as carbon neutral because CO₂ release from burning biodiesel would be equivalent to the amount of CO₂ that the material plant absorbs when it grows. Use of biodiesel would not produce extra CO₂ which acts as a green house gas and therefore, result in limitation of global warming and mitigation in climate change impacts.”*

According to Mr. Motonori Tsuno, Chief Representative of JICA Vietnam Office, the Project would be the necessary assistance for Vietnam as it is one of the most affected countries by climate change in Asia and Pacific region. He further said: *“The project will also verify multi-benefits of biodiesel utilization in order to expand to other Indochina countries. I hope that through project activities, we will be able to build a close cooperation of scientists from*

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Japan and Vietnam”

President of Vietnam National University, Mr. Mai Trong Nhuân thanks JICA for choosing of VNU as the main partner of the project. *“The project is a great help of the Japanese government and its people to Vietnam in one of the key areas, development of clean energy for adapting to climate change. VNU will do his best for the success and effectiveness of the project”* said VNU President.



Picture: Signing ceremony between the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Vietnam National University (VNU)