
EU-Japan Webinar COVID-19 & Climate Change

“Cities and beyond in Japan”

September 24, 2020

Ministry of the Environment



COVID-19 & Climate Change

“Cities and beyond in Japan”

COVID-19 Recovery & Climate Change

- “Platform for Redesign 2020” - Climate actions and environmental policies in the context of recovery from the coronavirus pandemic

Chair’s summary of Online Ministerial meeting on 3rd September, 2020

Cities and beyond in Japan

– Important non-state actors for climate actions

- Role of central government to enhance the activities of local governments
- 2050 Zero-Carbon Cities in Japan
- City-to-City Collaboration Program

“Platform for Redesign 2020”

Climate actions and environmental policies in the context of recovery
from the coronavirus pandemic

Background: need to maintain momentum

- COP26 has been postponed to November 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, **we should not lose the momentum on enhancing climate actions toward COP26.**
- The platform was proposed by Environment Minister KOIZUMI of Japan (at “Petersberg Climate Dialogue” in late April)
- We should keep in mind the need for **a “Virtuous cycle of environmental protection and economic growth”** in recovering from the coronavirus pandemic.

Purpose of Online Platform

1. **Sharing information** among relevant actors on efforts to address environmental degradation and climate change in the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic
2. **Providing opportunities to express and exchange views in online ministerial dialogue** to enhance the climate actions

“Platform for Redesign 2020”

Climate actions and environmental policies in the context of recovery
from the coronavirus pandemic

Online Ministerial Meeting: September 3 (JST 20:00-24:30)

- Host: **Japan** + the UNFCCC Secretariat
- Invited all UNFCCC parties (197 countries/regions) and the UN Secretary-General (Participation in the meeting, submission of video messages, and/or in-advance submission of information on countries' efforts)

<Meeting Program> **Chaired by Minister KOIZUMI**

- Opening: Video messages from Japan's Prime Minister and the UN Secretary-General
- Session 1: Panel discussion on “Post-coronavirus Redesign of Socio-economy”
- Session 2: Ministerial roundtable on COVID-19 recovery and climate/environmental measures and actions
- Session 3: Panel discussion on “Non-State Stakeholders' Interests” (including messages from Japanese youth and local governments)

- **Launched an online platform for sharing information**
(<https://platform2020redesign.org/>)

Topics discussed at the ministerial meeting and participants

Session 1 (Panel Discussion)

Key horizontal issues for the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and tackling climate change and environmental degradation

- Minister of the Environment, Japan **Mr. KOIZUMI Shinjiro**
- President and CEO of the World Resources Institute (WRI) **Dr. Andrew Steer (Facilitator)**
- Representative of The Elders (former President of Ireland) **Ms. Mary Robinson**
- CEO, Global Environment Facility (GEF) (former Minister of Environment and Energy of Costa Rica) **Mr. Carlos Rodriguez**
- COP26 Financial Advisor (former Governor of the Bank of England) **Dr. Mark Carney**
- Executive Director of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa **Dr. Vera Songwe**

Session 2 (Ministerial Roundtable)

Prioritized policies in each country and international cooperation

- Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General
Mr. Selwin Hart (Facilitator)

<Lead statements>

- **Japan (Minister KOIZUMI)**
- United Kingdom (COP26 presidency, [video message](#))
- Chile (COP25 presidency)
- **Executive Vice-President of the European Commission Frans Timmermans**
- Ministers and Vice Ministers of **Germany**, Rwanda, China, Singapore, **Netherlands**, and Maldives

Remarks from 46 ministers and vice ministers, including the above, including COP24 presidency

Session 3 (Non-State Stakeholders' Interests)

Roles of civil society, youth, business, and local government

<Panel discussion>

- UNFCCC High-Level Climate Champion
Mr. Gonzalo Muñoz (Facilitator)
- Honorary Chair, International Chamber of Commerce (Former CEO of Unilever) **Mr. Paul Polman**
- General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) **Ms. Sharan Burrow**
- Regional Director for ICLEI Africa
Ms. Kobie Brand

<Video messages>

- Japanese local government (Mayor of Yokohama)
- **Italy, pre-COP26 presidency**, Japanese and international youth group

Outcomes of the meeting

Participating countries

- Sharing of information **among ministers and vice ministers of 46 countries**
- **A total of 96 countries participated in the meeting, including by way of video messages and written statements, making it one of the world's largest meetings on climate change organized post-pandemic (as of September 3)**

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- Achieving the meeting objectives:**
- **promoting international solidarity**
 - **maintaining momentum for climate actions**

Contents of discussions

[→Details are publicly available in the “Chair's Summary”](#)

It is necessary to advance the three transitions (to a decarbonized society, to a circular economy, and to a decentralized society) aimed at RE-DESIGNING socio-economic systems.

- Sharing and transmitting the will and concrete actions to confront the dual crises of the coronavirus pandemic and climate change could help strengthen international solidarity and keep up the momentum for climate actions.
- Minister KOIZUMI showcased Japan's recent movement towards decarbonization (**discussion of its policy on export of coal-fired power plants, “Zero-Carbon Cities” movement etc.**).
- Recognition of the need for **technological innovations**, including the use of hydrogen and ammonia produced by renewable energy and CCUS/carbon recycling, and the need for **social implementation of technology** through cost reduction and other means
- Sharing specific information of each country about **strengthening climate action, energy, transportation, urban planning, and the adaptation measures taken in infrastructure, disaster prevention, biodiversity, etc.**
- Confirming the need for **boosting efforts of, and collaboration with, non-state actors** (businesses, local governments, youth, etc.) in the recovery from the coronavirus pandemic
- The expectation for **the platform website to serve as a hub** for the gathering and sharing of information, experiences, and efforts regarding recovery plans from the pandemic and measures against both climate change and environmental degradation

Status Quo and Next Step for the Online Platform

Status Quo: information on policies and measures, messages of non-state actors

- **More than 100 countries participated in the meeting**, including by way of video messages and written statements, making it one of **the world's largest meetings** on climate change organized post-pandemic (as of September 20)
- **More than 70 countries submitted detailed information** on the climate change policies and measures being upheld even amid the COVID-19 pandemic recovery process. They are **available on the website (access is free)**
- **Non-state actors' messages** (video/written messages) are submitted from around the world, including from the business community, e.g., Japanese business leaders, KEIDANREN, DOYUKAI, Japan Climate Initiatives

Next Step

- **Strengthening the role of the information website**
 - To serve as a hub for the gathering and sharing of information, experiences, and efforts regarding plans for recovery from the pandemic and measures against both climate change and environmental degradation.
- **Analysis of the information and its feedback**
 - **Compilation and analysis** of the policy information received by means of cooperation with relevant international organizations.
 - Feed back the compilation and analysis to participating countries and organizations, e.g., at **side events at SB and COP26.**

Cities and beyond in Japan

- Role of national government -

■ 2050 Zero-Carbon Cities

Minister KOIZUMI takes every opportunity to address numerous governors, mayors, and high-level officials, encouraging them to facilitate decisions toward decarbonization by 2050.

■ Measures to support policy making and implementation of cases

- Policy guidance

- Collaborative projects on implementation of climate actions
e.g., deployment of renewable energy with local governments

- Training of human resources for the introduction of renewable energy in the region

■ Dissemination of good practices of cities to the world

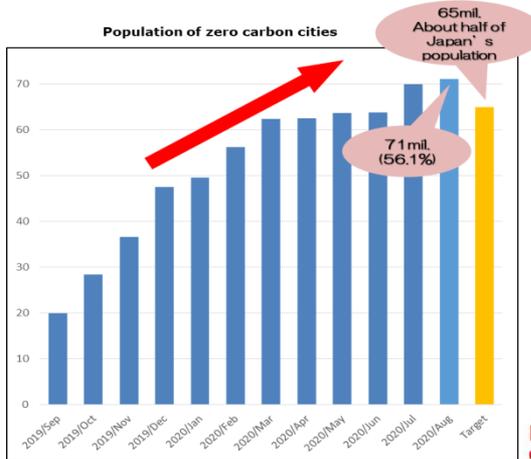
City-to-City Collaboration Program

- Transferring the knowledge and experience of Japanese cities toward creating a low-carbon society to cities overseas with which they have a relationship.

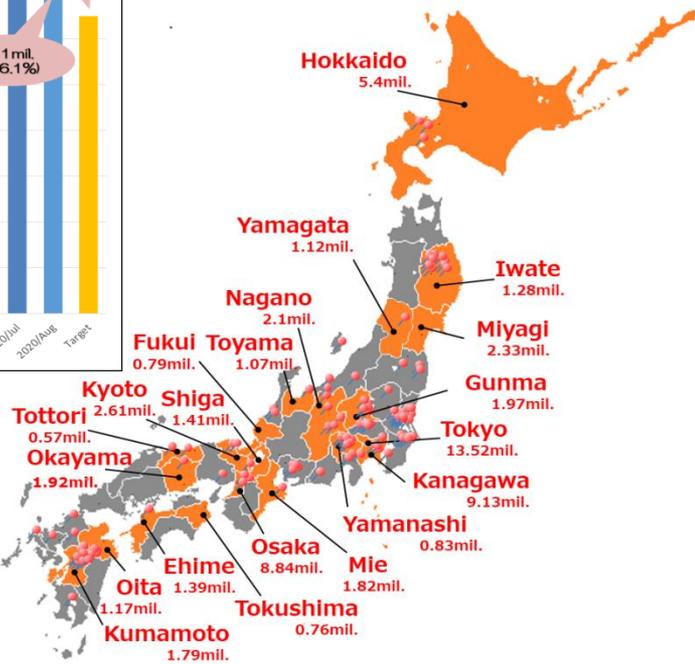
2050 Zero-Carbon Cities in Japan

- 152 local governments including Tokyo, Kyoto, and Yokohama have announced their commitment to net zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- These local governments represent **71 million people (56.1% of Japan's population)**, and **3.3 trillion USD in GDP**. Exceeded the initial target of 65 million (more than half of Japan's population) and still expanding

Population of zero carbon cities



Prefectures



Map of zero-carbon cities

Cities/wards/towns/villages

Hokkaido	Sapporo	1.95	Tochigi	Ohtawara	0.075	Yamanashi	Minami-alps	0.072	Okayama	maniwa	0.046				
	Niseko	0.006		Nasu-Shiobara	0.12		Kai	0.075	Ehime	Matsuyama	0.51				
	Furubira	0.003		Nasu-Karasuyama	0.025		Fuefuki	0.068		Fukuoka					
Iwate				Nasu	0.024		Uenohara	0.023		Fukuoka	1.54				
	Kuji	0.036		Nakagawa	0.017		Chuo	0.031		Fukuoka	0.014				
	Ninohe	0.028					Ichikawamisato	0.016		Ooki					
	Hachimantai	0.026		Gunma	Ota	0.22	Fujikawa	0.015	Saga						
	Kuzumaki	0.006			Fujoka	0.066	Shouwa	0.021		Takeo	0.048				
	Fudai	0.003			Kanna	0.002			Nagano	Nagasaki					
	Karumai	0.009			Minakami	0.017				Hirado	0.012				
	Noda	0.004			Oizumi	0.04				Kumamoto					
	Kunohe	0.006		Saitama	Saitama	1.26				Kumamoto	0.74				
	Hirono	0.017			Chichibu	0.064				Kikuchi	0.048				
	Ichinohe	0.013								Uto	0.037				
Yamagata	Higashine	0.048		Chiba	Noda	0.162	Shizuoka	Hamamatsu	0.8	Uki	0.06				
					Abiko	0.132		Gotemba	0.088	Aso	0.027				
Fukushima	Koriyama	0.01			Urayasu	0.171				Koshi	0.068				
	Okuma	0.01			Yotsukaido	0.09				Misato	0.01				
	Namie	0.017			Sammu	0.062	Aichi			Gyokuto	0.005				
Ibaraki	Mito	0.27								Ozu	0.033				
	Tsuchiura	0.14			Katsushika	0.44				Kikuyo	0.041				
	Koga	0.014			Tama	0.145				Takamori	0.006				
	Yuki	0.061								Nishihara	0.007				
	Jojo	0.063			Kanagawa	Yo kohama	3.72			Minamiaso	0.012				
	Takahagi	0.029				Kawasaki	1.48	Mie	Shima	0.05	Mifune	0.017			
	Kitabaraki	0.044				Kamakura	0.17		Shiga	Konan	0.054	Kashima	0.008		
	To ride	0.11				Odawara	0.19					Mashiki	0.004		
	Ushiku	0.084				Miura	0.046			Kyoto		Kosa	0.011		
	Kashima	0.067				Kaisei	0.017			Kyoto	1.48	Yamato	0.019		
	Itako	0.029								Miyado	0.018	Kagoshima			
	Moriya	0.065								Yosano	0.022	Kagoshima	0.5		
	Hitachiomiya	0.042				Niigata	To kamachi	0.069							
	Naka	0.069					Itako	0.033			Osaka	Izumotsu	0.076		
	Chikusei	0.01					Myoko	0.033				Hirakata	0.4		
	Bando	0.054					Sado	0.067				Higashiosaka	0.5		
	Sakuragawa	0.042					Awashimaura	0.0004							
	Tsukubamirai	0.049									Hyogo				
	Omitama	0.051										Akashi	0.29		
	Ibaraki	0.032										Nara			
	Shirosato	0.02											Ikoma	0.12	
	To kai	0.038											Tottori		
	Go ka	0.008												Ho kuei	0.015
	Sakai	0.024												Nanbu	0.011

As of Aug 31, 2020



Cities and beyond in Japan

- Role of national government -

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- Policy guidance
- Collaborative projects on implementation of climate actions
e.g., deployment of renewable energy with local governments
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City-to-City Collaboration Program

- Transferring the knowledge and experience of Japanese cities toward creating a low-carbon society to cities overseas with which they have a relationship.

City-to-City Collaboration Program



- Basic concept is transferring the **knowledge and experience of Japanese cities** toward **creating a low-carbon society** to **cities overseas** with which they have a relationship.
- Private companies **form consortiums** with Japanese cities and support **urban areas in other countries** to create low-carbon cities.

E.g., support to design city masterplan and install low-carbon technology etc.



- **Creating low-carbon projects** efficiently and effectively
- Designing **local systems** to promote a low-carbon society
E.g., low-carbon action plan and technology evaluation criteria etc.
- **Capacity building** for local personnel

Promotion of private investment

Self-sustained development of foreign city

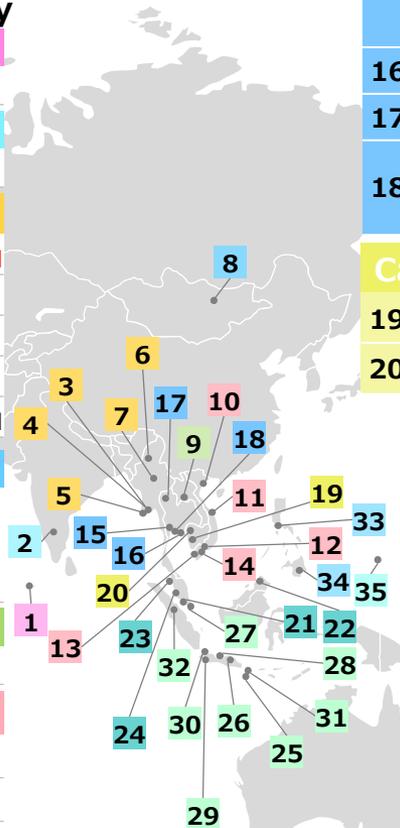
Transferring low-carbon technology to other fields

Participation by 13 countries 36 cities / regions Japan 14 local government

(In FY2020)

Foreign city Japanese city

Foreign city	Japanese city
Maldives	
1 Malé	Toyama
India	
2 Bangalore	Yokohama
Myanmar	
3 Yangon (region)	Kitakyushu
4 Yangon (city)	Kawasaki
5 Ayeyarwady	Fukushima
6 Sagaing	Fukushima
7 Mandalay	Kitakyushu
Mongolia	
8 Ulaanbaatar	Sapporo/ Hokkaido government
Lao PDR	
9 Vientiane	Kyoto
Vietnam	
10 Hai Phong	Kitakyushu
11 Da Nang	Yokohama
12 Ho Chi Minh City	Osaka
13 Kiên Giang and others	Kobe
14 Can Tho	Hiroshima



Foreign city Japanese city

Foreign city	Japanese city
Thailand	
15 Bangkok (Bangkok Port/Laem Chabang Port)	Yokohama (Yokohama Port Pier)
16 Rayong	Kitakyushu
17 Chiang Mai	Kitakyushu
18 Eastern Thailand (ECC)	Osaka
Cambodia	
19 Phnom Penh	Kitakyushu
20 Siem Reap	Kanagawa
Malaysia	
21 Iskandar Development Area	Kitakyushu
22 Iskandar Development Area/ Kota Kinabalu	Toyama
23 Penang and others	Kawasaki
24 Kuala Lumpur	Tokyo

Foreign city Japanese city

Foreign city	Japanese city
Indonesia	
25 Denpasar	Greater Tokyo area
26 Surabaya	Kitakyushu
27 Batam	Yokohama
28 Semarang*	Toyama
29 Bandung	Kawasaki
30 Special Capital Territory of Jakarta	Kawasaki
31 Bali*	Toyama
32 Rokan Hulu, Riau	Kawasaki
Palau	
35 Koror	Kitakyushu
Philippines	
33 Quezon	Osaka
34 Davao	Kitakyushu
Chile	
36 Renca, Santiago	Toyama

* Joint project for Bali and Semarang



For further information.....

- Online Platform: <https://platform2020redesign.org/>
- Zero-Carbon Cities:
http://www.env.go.jp/en/earth/cc/2050_zero_carbon_cities_in_japan.html
- JCM City-to-City Collaboration Program
<http://www.env.go.jp/earth/coop/lowcarbon-asia/english/project/index.html>