

6th Seminar on International Cooperation for Local Initiatives

(Unofficial translation)

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1. How to build linkages with various donor communities making use of the outcomes in JBIC studies (FY2002)?
 - (1) In FY2002, Kitakyushu carried out a study targeting Surabaya (Indonesia) and Chongqing (China) on the minimization of waste and promotion of recycling under the JBIC Special Assistance for Project Formation programme. Proposals were made with regard to separation of organic and inorganic waste at source and composting of organic wastes.
 - (2) In the case of Surabaya, an overhaul of the entire system in all sectors of the city was determined to be necessary however I would like to know what kinds of projects the donor community would support, i.e. can they only support a pilot model plant or would support be available until the entire system was improved? Additionally, what other potential support measures would be available?

2. Experiences in JICA solid waste management training courses: What is relevant/not relevant to developing countries?
 - (1) In finding solutions to solid waste problems, such as domestic waste, in the end the economic development of the country is a major contributor. In Kitakyushu before World War II, open dumping and field burning was carried out. From 1963-1965, the major trend was the use of concrete waste bins and the collection of waste by carts and flat trucks, similar to the experiences in developing countries today. After that, special containers were used and the present day station collection process began in 1971. Continuous incineration of household waste began in earnest in 1972; until then dumping and simple incineration was the norm. With economic development, new environmental investment was possible; clean environmental resources stimulated economic development—This was the beginning of a good cycle of environment and economy.
 - (2) In saying this, developing countries are simultaneously facing not only hygienic issues, but also urban and lifestyle problems caused by air pollution from automobiles, industrial pollution, and effects from global environmental problems. This is on a different plane than the road followed by developed countries. There are no clear answers in figuring out how to address this problem; it is an extremely difficult situation developing countries are facing.
 - (3) In these developing countries, the incineration of household waste is a problem. More than that, it is important to figure out how to improve the efficiency of collection that makes up a large part of waste treatment expenses. In addition, it is necessary to improve the management technology of landfills, for example, putting a focus on improvement of landfill construction methods.

3. What do donors think about the ODA policies of “partnership and cooperation?”
 - (1) In the revised ODA charter in August 2003, it states that “...the international community is sharing more common development goals and strategies and various stakeholders are increasingly coordinating their aid activities. Japan will participate in this process, and endeavor to play a leading role.” Support partnerships are greatly welcomed however it would be hoped that in actual implementation, it should not be the disjointed application of various existing schemes of donor agencies, but perhaps it could be a pool of partnership financing schemes into one fund and unification of such into one secretariat, in addition to simplifying the application process

(2) In addition, the revised ODA charter states: "...Japan will actively promote South-South cooperation in partnership with more advanced developing countries in Asia and other regions," "Japan will also strengthen collaboration with regional cooperation frameworks, and will support region-wide cooperation that encompasses several countries." For example, by linking the focal point of developing countries and related facilities of this city with information communication technology, effective and efficient distance seminars and distance trainings could be carried out. In this case, could local governments make use of South-South cooperation schemes?

4. What are the interests of donor agencies in linking solid waste issues to global warming, i.e. support for the development of CDM programmes?

(1) Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) is included in the mechanisms for global warming countermeasures raised in the 1993 Kyoto Protocol. I do not know if this is could be practically applied as one of the potential solutions to solid waste problems in developing countries or if further discussions are necessary in this regard.

(2) With project financing methods, can funding be procured in advance with emissions rights from CDM as a type of guarantee? I would like to know JBIC's financial department's thoughts on this topic.

(3) In Kitakyushu, we are currently considering the introduction of the "environmental passport" system in which residents who participate in environmental protection activities are given credits which can be redeemed for discounts at public facilities. Could an international "environmental passport" be introduced? In other words, environmental cooperation activities at the local level in Japan could provide credits to cities in developing countries and JICA and JBIC could give preference when conducting international cooperation activities.