



Plastics
Smart

Japan's Actions for Marine Plastic Litter

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UNEA AHEG Asia Pacific Regional Consultation Meeting

August, 26, 2020

History of Japan against Waste

- Japan has advanced the proper treatment of waste, such as waste separation with the cooperation of residents, incineration, and improvement of the final disposal facilities. As a result, the amount of final disposal was reduced.
- We also have proposed 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), and resource efficiency has been improved.

1995



- Intermediate process of all waste by incineration, etc.
- Reduce landfill amount

2006



2017



- Incineration of waste plastic
- Recycling ashes for cement

Japan's Strategy for Marine Plastic litter

National Action
Plan for Marine
Plastic Litter

Basic Policy based on
the Act on Promoting
the Treatment of
Marine Debris

Resource
Circulation Strategy
for Plastics

Life-cycle Approach

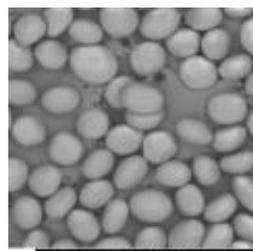
Intensified
collection and
appropriate
treatment of
waste plastics



3 R
Reduce
Reuse
Recycle



Innovation



National
Movements



Accumulation
of scientific
knowledge



Realize the "Osaka Blue Ocean Vision"

- ① Promotion of proper waste management system
- ② Prevention of littering, illegal dumping and unintentional leakage of waste into the oceans
- ③ Collection of scattered waste on land
- ④ Collection of plastic litter in the oceans
- ⑤ Innovation in development of alternative materials
- ⑥ Collaboration with stakeholders
- ⑦ International cooperation with emerging countries by sharing best practices
- ⑧ Research on actual situations and development of scientific knowledge



Indicators:

- a. Amount of plastic waste generated, recycled, heat recovered, incinerated without energy recovery, and land filled
- b. Amount of marine litter collected by clean-up activities
- c. Amount of collected land-based litter, illegal dumping, and scattered waste
- d. Budget scale of innovative technologies and materials including R&D investment
- e. Number of experts from other countries given technical capacity development

Key Strategies

**Basic Principle: "3Rs
+ Renewable"**

Reduce

Recycling

Recycled materials

Bio-plastics

Marine Plastic Litter

International

Cooperation

Infrastructure

development

Milestone

<Reduce>

(1) Cumulative reduction of **25%** of single-use plastics by **2030**

<Reuse/Recycle>

(2) Reusable/recyclable design by **2025**

(3) Reuse/recycle **60%** of containers and packaging by **2030**

(4) **100%** effective use of used plastics by **2035**

<Recycling and Bio-Plastics>

(5) **Double** the use of recycled amount by **2030**

(6) Introduce **2 million tons** of bio-plastics by **2030**

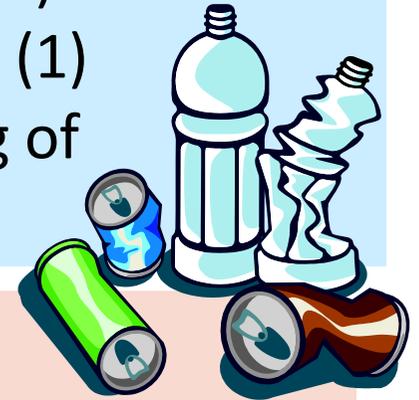
◆ Not only **solve worldwide resource and environmental issues**, but also contribute to **economic growth and employment creation**

⇒ Contribute to **sustainable development**

◆ **Promote investment and innovation of technology and consumer lifestyle through collaboration with all the stakeholders**

Containers and Packaging Recycling Act

The policies were created so that each (1) consumer, (2) municipality, (3) company will have their own roles in: (1) sorting waste, (2) collecting sorted waste, (3) recycling of containers and packaging waste



Duty

- Consumer : Sorting through the waste
- Municipalities : Collection of classified waste
- Businesses : Recycling

Target object

- A product's containers and packages
- Specified containers and packages
- Container and packaging waste

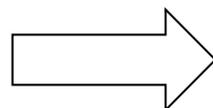
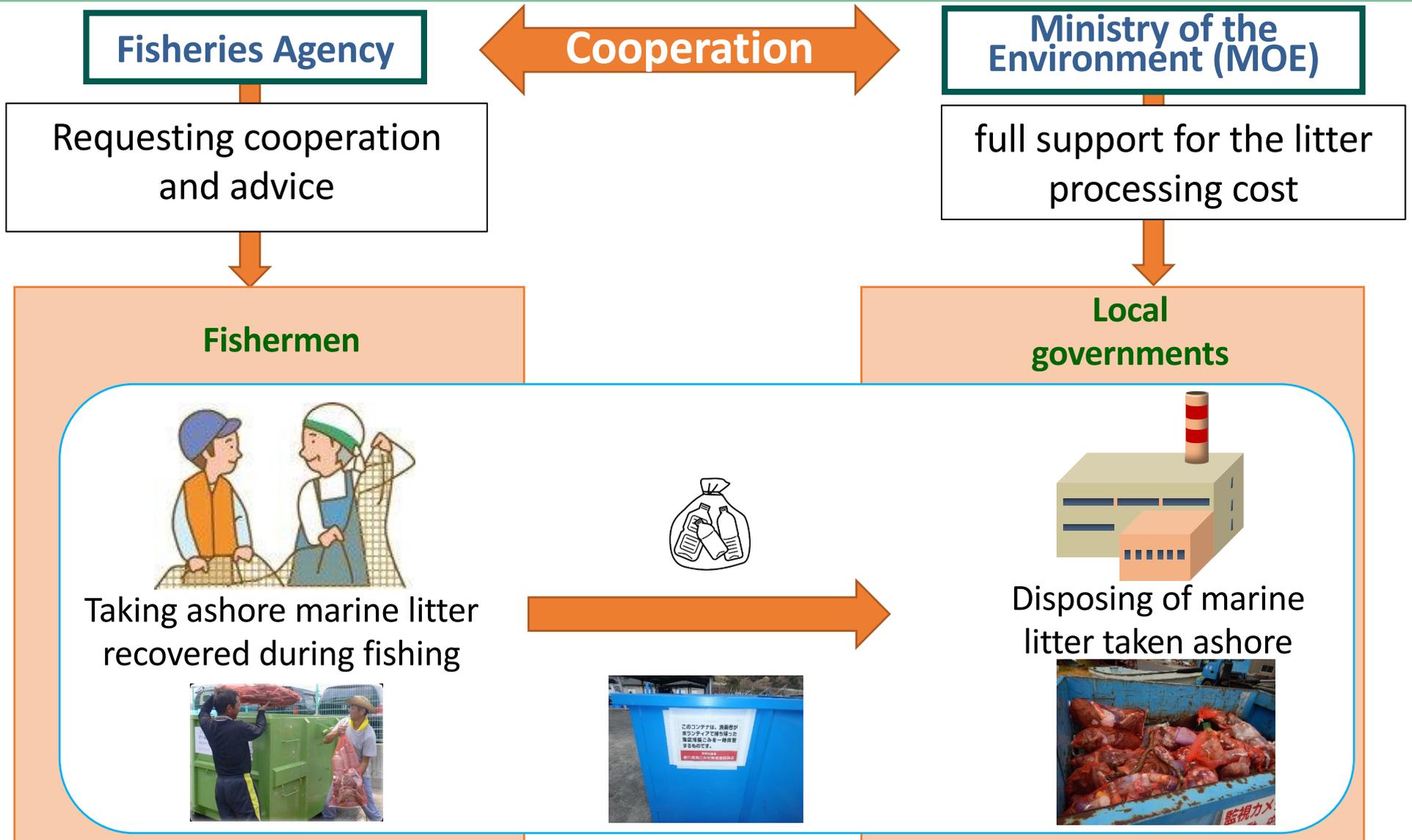
Exceptions

- Target object is limited to the general waste
- Permission not needed for specifically certified companies under the law

Acceleration of Resource circulation

- As the first step for acceleration of resource circulation, Japan started to charge for plastic shopping bags in July.
- The purpose of this charge is to make people aware of the various problems surrounding plastic waste and to rethink about how they use plastic products.
- In the first month, the rate of refusal of plastic bags at convenience stores already exceeded 70%.
- The expert committee, consisted by the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry, has been discussing concrete measures based on the Resource Circulation Strategy. We aim to put together a report within a year.

Cooperation with Fishermen



carried out in 23 prefectures out of 47

Photos: courtesy of Kanagawa Prefecture

Strongly support for the development of innovative substitute material technologies

* Aid for converting to substitute materials : 3.6 billion JPY for FY 2020

① Marine Biodegradable Plastics



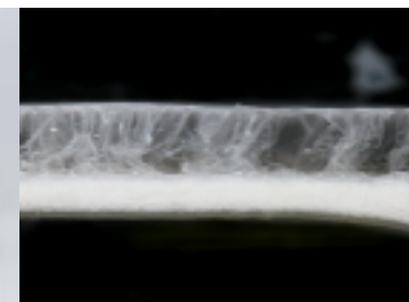
② Bioplastics



③ Cellulose



④ Paper



“Plastics Smart” to use plastics in a wise manner

“Plastics Smart campaign” for **wise use of plastics** has been launched and required stakeholders to work voluntarily on the reduction of unnecessary single-use plastics and the development and use of alternatives, and publicizing such action nationwide through social media and other means. 1,189 approaches (as of Aug, 2020) have been registered.

Example



Fruit / vegetable bag



Straw



Tableware (plate, cutlery)



Cellulose beads (100µm)

Scientific evidence plays a significant role in setting new and efficient measures to tackle marine plastic litter.

Monitoring of marine plastic litter distribution is a basic scientific evidence for hot spots, predicted amount of marine plastic litter and impacts on ecosystems

MOEJ published “The Guidelines for Harmonizing Ocean Surface Microplastic Monitoring Methods” in May, 2019.



ASEAN+3 Marine plastic Debris Cooperative Action Initiative

Capacity development and regional knowledge sharing

- Construction of waste treatment facilities using ODA
- Capacity building for solid waste management



Regional and international cooperation

- Establish a regional knowledge center



Economic Research Institute for
ASEAN and East Asia

Awareness raising, research and education on MPL

- Training of marine litter
monitoring

