Japan’s efforts for promoting the SDGs

Creating a prosperous and vibrant future through promoting the SDGs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
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Japan is committed to making every effort both domestically and internationally to achieve SDGs. To this end, Japan has established the “SDGs Promotion Headquarters” that is led by Prime Minister Abe and consists of all Ministers, as well as the “SDGs Promotion Roundtable Meeting” as a multi-stakeholder framework in May 2016.

The Headquarters formulated the “SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles” and created the “Japan SDGs Award” at its past meetings, and has just decided the “SDGs Action Plan 2019” at its 6th meeting on December 21, 2018 with the following outcomes.

1. Core message of the meeting: Japan will lead the promotion of the SDGs as the G20 presidency

- Japan is determined to lead the promotion of the SDGs in the international community, taking the opportunities of hosting a series of international conferences such as G20 and TICAD7.

- To this end, the “SDGs Action Plan 2019” laid out major issues of the SDGs which Japan will focus on as the G20 presidency as follows;
  - For resilient and environmental-friendly nation building, Japan will contribute to such issues as quality infrastructure, disaster risk reduction, marine plastic debris and climate change/energy.
  - For human resource development, Japan will contribute to such issues as empowerment of women, health and education.

- Prime Minister Abe instructed all Ministers to move forward concrete efforts based on the “SDGs Action Plan 2019” toward G20 and TICAD7 to be held in Japan in 2019.

- At the SDG Summit to be held in NY in September 2019, Japan will present the outcome of the G20 Osaka Summit on promoting SDGs as the G20 presidency.
2. Promotion of concrete efforts based on the three basic directions of Japan’s SDGs Model

Based on the “SDGs Action Plan 2019” building upon the basic three directions of Japan’s SDGs Model, which were set forth as a part of the “SDGs Action Plan 2018” at the 4th meeting December 2017, Japan will promote concrete efforts as follows.

(1) Promotion of Society 5.0 that corresponds to SDGs

- Supporting the efforts of small and medium-sized companies as well as SDGs business in developing countries.
- Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for SDGs by formulating the “STI Roadmap” and the “Guiding Principles”.

(2) Regional vitalization driven by the SDGs

- Promoting the SDGs in local areas through “SDGs Future City” and smart-agriculture, forestry and fisheries as well as hosting the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and Osaka Kansai Expo 2025.
- Building Sound Material-Cycle Society through mainstreaming DRR and promoting quality infrastructure, measures against marine plastic debris and climate change.

(3) Empowerment of the next generations and women

- Empowering the next generations and women including through setting up the “SDGs Promotion Platform for the Next Generation” and holding WAW! And W20 back-to-back.
- Promoting UHC and international education cooperation in the international community.
- Implementing quality education at every stage from early childhood education to higher education in Japan.
Established the SDGs Promotion Headquarters led by PM and participated by all ministers

Stipulated Japan’s “SDGs Promotion Guiding Principles” at the 2nd meeting

Created the Japan SDGs Award at the 3rd meeting

Announced “SDGs Action Plan 2018” at the 4th meeting and held the 1st SDGs Award ceremony

Decided “Expanded SDGs Action Plan 2018” at the 5th meeting

Announced “SDGs Action Plan 2019” at the 6th meeting and held the 2nd SDGs Award ceremony

Crystalizing Japan’s SDGs Model by implementing the above-mentioned major efforts and further concretizing and expanding those efforts

Will conduct the first follow-up of the “SDGs Promotion Guiding Principles”

Will revise those “Guiding Principles”

G20 Summit and TICAD 7 held in Japan in 2019

At the HLFP (Leaders-level) in September, 2019

At the UN HLW in September 2018

Communicating and outreach Japan’s SDGs Model

Will achieve the SDGs by 2030
The Results of the 2nd Japan SDGs Award

Outline

• Companies, local governments and CSOs making outstanding efforts, either domestically or internationally, to achieve SDGs are eligible for the Award.

• The SDGs Promotion Headquarters decided award winners based on the opinions of a wide-range of stakeholders who have expertise in the SDGs.

• Selection criteria are universality, inclusiveness, participation, integration, and transparency and accountability, which are the main principles of the "SDGs Implementation Guidelines" stipulated by the Headquarters.

• The Award ceremony took place at the Prime Minister’s Office on Dec. 21, 2018.

Winners

Chief’s Award (by Prime Minister)
◆ Japan Food Ecology Center, INC. (Building new business model through reducing food loss.)

Deputy-chiefs’ Award (by Chief Cabinet Secretary)
◆ Japanese Consumers’ Co-operative (Promoting “ethical consumption” through providing such products.)
◆ Osaki-town, Kagoshima (Building sustainable local community through recycling.)
◆ La Barca Group (Employing persons with disabilities for confectionary making.)

Deputy-chiefs’ Award (by Foreign Minister)
◆ LIXIL Corporation (Improving hygienic environment of developing countries by supplying low-cost toilets.)
◆ AIDS Orphan Support NGO PLA (Supporting AIDS orphans in developing countries.)
◆ KAIHO Industry Co., Ltd. (Environmental-friendly car recycling business in developing countries.)

Special Award (SDGs Partnership Award)
8 organizations including private companies, school, hospital and media were awarded Special Award.

In the message, the UNSG extended his congratulations to the winners of this year’s SDG awards, having the initiative to become agents of change in their communities and to inspire and encourage others around the world.