

**“A Decade Toward the Green Mekong” Initiative – Measures in each field–**

The following is the outline of measures to be taken under the areas of cooperation listed in the concept of “A Decade Toward the Green Mekong” Initiative and examples of possible assistance by Japan.

1. Areas to be Focused Urgently

(1) Sustainable Forest Management

(i) Reforestation

Rehabilitate degraded lands and preserve resources necessary for livelihood of local citizens, such as farm lands, residential areas and roads by promoting afforestation in coastal areas and dry zones where the recovery of forests is difficult due to serious deforestation caused by logging.

(ii) Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation

Reduce deforestation and forest degradation and promote afforestation/reforestation through the promotion of appropriate forest management, tackling illegal logging and raising awareness of local citizens of forest conservation.

(iii) Comprehensive Forest Management

Strengthen comprehensive forest management which emphasizes the participation and enhancement of livelihoods of local citizens and biodiversity along with a view to developing forestry as an industry.



< Examples of Possible Assistance by Japan >

- Construction of facilities for monitoring and research on forest resources.  
Provision of necessary equipment
- Technical assistance on monitoring, conducting survey and data-analysis of forest resources
- Technical assistance on participatory forest management and use

(2) Water Resource Management

(i) Strengthening Cooperation with Mekong River Commission(MRC)

Promote water resource management in the Mekong. In particular, promote

cooperation to strengthen the MRC's capacity to respond to droughts and floods. Strengthen cooperation with MRC, and promote cooperation on water resource management such as formulation of integrated water resource management plan in line of MRC's next Strategic Plan (2011-15) under drafting .

#### (ii) Irrigation

Promote effective use of water resources, protect properties of local farmers and improve agricultural productivity through development and rehabilitation of irrigation facilities and technical assistance on maintenance, which leads to establishing a water resource management system which is able to adapt to floods and droughts.



#### < Examples of Possible Assistance by Japan >

- Educational activities for local residents on water resource management
- Research to provide assistance on adaptation measures to climate change
- Dispatching experts to MRC
- Construction of irrigation facilities
- Human resource development for management and maintenance of irrigation facilities, and effective implementation of irrigation projects.

### (3) Disaster Prevention and Responses to Disaster

#### (i) Meteorological Forecasting System

Establish a meteorological forecast system which timely issues precise weather forecasts and warnings by observing heavy rains, storms and thunder clouds which could bring natural disasters such as floods and landslides.

#### (ii) Flood and Drought Management

Improve disaster management capacities of related institutions and capabilities of communities to respond to natural disasters.

#### (iii) Shore Protection

Promote flood control and efficient use of water resources through river bank reinforcements in regions where flood damages occur frequently.

#### (iv) Reduction of Haze (Forest Fires)

Prevent forest fires and reduce haze damage through the introduction of

equipments necessary to prevent and respond to forest fire, educational activities of local citizens and improvement of local awareness regarding disaster prevention .

< Examples of Possible Assistance by Japan >

- Construction of a meteorological observation station and provisions of necessary equipments
- Technical assistance for collecting and analyzing observational data
- Technical assistance for flood forecasting
- Providing equipments and technical assistance necessary for bank protection works
- Providing equipments for preventing and coping with forest fires

\*As for cooperation in the areas (1)~(3) mentioned above, we will proactively utilize data collected through observation satellites.

(4) Improvement of Urban Environment

(i) Sewage and Drainage Systems

Improve water quality and mitigate and prevent damages from submergence in urban areas through development of drainage-related facilities such as drainpipe networks, sewage treatment facilities and drainage pump facilities.

(ii) Waste Disposal Systems

Improve waste management capacities and develop waste disposal systems by constructing waste collection facilities. Promote the reduction, reusing and recycling of wastes (3R), and create a recycling-oriented society.

(iii) Urban Mass Transit

Reduce traffic congestion and mitigate air pollution through development of urban public transportation system such as railways.



< Examples of Possible Assistance by Japan >

- Construction of sewage treatment facilities and technical assistance on maintenance and management of these facilities
- Construction of waste disposal facilities and technical assistance on maintenance and management of these facilities
- Cooperation for recycling electrical and electric waste

- Development of urban public transportations such as railways

## 2. Areas with Long-term Perspective

\*This does not mean that no action will be taken in short term. When determined necessary and appropriate, actions will be taken immediately.

### (1) Building Policy-Making Capacities

Improve capacity of the governments of the Mekong region countries in policy-making and implementation with regard to environment and climate change through policy dialogues between the governments of Japan and the Mekong region countries.



< Examples of Possible Assistance by Japan >

- Provide budgetary support based on policy actions formed through policy dialogues between governments and on progress of their implementation.

### (2) Conservation of Biodiversity

#### (i) Conservation of Mangrove

Restore a diverse ecosystem, improve the livelihood of local citizens, and improve the capabilities to cope with natural disasters such as high tides and floods by advancing rehabilitation and restoration of Mangroves that are in serious danger of annihilation due to excessive cutting and massive disasters.

(ii) Conservation of biodiversity in the Mekong River including the preservation of Irrawaddy dolphins.

Restore the aquatic ecosystem and ultimately improve the livelihood of local citizens by advancing the preservation of aquatic life, such as Irrawaddy dolphins, which are facing extinction.



< Examples of Possible Assistance by Japan >

- Educational activities for local citizens
- Assistance for rural development by introducing alternate means of livelihood
- Technological transfer of Mangrove-planting technology
- Research on the biodiversity of the Mekong River including Irrawaddy dolphins

### (3) Reduction of GHG Emissions

#### (i) Transfer of Low-Carbon-related Technology

Transfer Japan's excellent low-carbon-related technologies to the Mekong region countries and create low-carbon societies while achieving economic growth. In addition, using these technologies, establish a mechanism in which we can appropriately evaluate the Mekong region countries' contribution to controlling greenhouse gas emissions and promote the introduction of renewable energy through technologies such as solar energy and biomass and through the development of energy efficient infrastructures such as highly-efficient thermal power station.



#### < Examples of Possible Assistance by Japan >

- Assistance to introduce renewable energy facilities
- Assistance for developing infrastructure such as highly-efficient thermal power station that is consistent with creating a low-carbon society

\*In each of the areas mentioned above, cooperation such as development of human resources at central and local government levels, raising awareness of local citizens, and development of institutional system will be also promoted.

### 3. Promotion of Cooperation Through Multilateral Frameworks

Simultaneously promote cooperation under other regional frameworks such as ASEAN and other Asia-Pacific regional framework in addition to Japan-Mekong cooperation framework.



#### <Example>

- Promotion of “Japan-ASEAN Action Plan on Environment Improvement in the Transport Sector (Hanoi Initiative),” created under the framework of “Japan-ASEAN Transport Cooperation” (Japan-ASEAN Minister / Transport Vice Minister Level Conference).
- Ministers' forum on Infrastructure Development in the Asia-Pacific Region
- Japan-ASEAN International Symposium on Construction and Environment

(End)