

## 251. Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society

### Take Urgent Action to Combat Climate Change

#### **Our focus and concerns**

In light of the climate crisis and the social changes caused by COVID-19, to prevent further damage from climate change, we should take actions to significantly reduce global emissions of all types of greenhouse gases, and strengthen adaptation measures for the most vulnerable groups to ensure that no one is left behind.

#### **Our recommendations**

- 1) We need to extend the supports to strengthen adaptation measures for the most vulnerable people domestically and internationally. The adverse impacts of climate change are more severe for marginalized people that lack finances, know-how and other resources. When promoting adaptation measures, we therefore urge countries and international organizations to consider and support measures to address impacts on the most vulnerable people (women, children, indigenous people and so on).
- 2) It is necessary to dramatically reduce global greenhouse gas emissions. For this, we should not forget other types and sources of emissions than energy-derived CO<sub>2</sub> since one-third of all greenhouse gas emissions are composed of CO<sub>2</sub> from Forestry and Other Land Use, fluorocarbons, methane, and so on. Therefore, in domestic measures and assistance to developing countries, it is important to recommend to select, invest in and implement cost-effective reduction measures from among not just measures for energy-derived CO<sub>2</sub> but for all greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3) Although the transparency of reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework is a pillar of the Paris Agreement, there are still many countries lacking of collecting valid and reliable data. Not only does it make governments harder to track their progress such as reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, but also the prediction of damages from natural disasters. These lead to the confusion in prioritizing and reinforcing effective measure. To monitor the global progress and devote resource to each measure more effectively, we must improve the current statistical systems of each country, and provide support for developing countries to build their capacities. We must also guarantee that collected data is accessible and beneficial for all.
- 4) From the perspective of effective use of funds, it is important to generate multiple benefits that address climate change and other social challenges simultaneously, for example, poverty alleviation, gender equality, and energy and resource access. We face various social challenges, including recovery from COVID-19 pandemic. In achieving climate change goal, it is necessary to consider their impact and contribution to social and economic goals. As an example, the reskilling of those who have lost their jobs and support for them is also important in addition to creating jobs through green recovery.