Japan’s Fifth Basic Environment Plan

Challenges Facing Japan

Basic Approach

- Utilising the concepts of SDGs, realising the Integrated Improvements on Environment, Economy and Society.
- Maximise the sustainable use of regional/local resources for improvements in economic and social activities.
- Promoting Partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders.

History of promoting Regional/Local Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)

- May 2008: Proposed a "Hierarchical Regional/Local Circulation Sphere" in the "Second Basic Circulation Plan"
- September 2012: Advocated "Natural Ecological Sphere" in the "National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable use of Biological Diversity 2012–2020"
- July 2014: Advocated in the statement of opinion to the Minister of the Environment, "Regional/Local Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)" in "Building a Society with an Integrated Approach of Low Carbon, Resource Circulation and Natural Symbiosis"
- "Regional/Local Circulating and Ecological Sphere (CES)" was incorporated into the plan in the "Fifth Basic Environment Plan" in April 2018 and in the "Fourth Basic Circulating Plan" in June 2018
MOEJ’s Platform Project toward CES

Objectives: Vitalise local communities and structure sustainable societies through forming sustainable communities.

In order to promote CES, this platform business will; 1) develop environments; 2) form support teams; 3) create measures and policies based on integrated analysis; and 4) conduct a strategic PR campaign.

Toward regional development

- Develop the concept of CES to try to integrate various aspects of change
- Build a wide-area network of natural connections (forest, village, river, sea, and urban linkages) and economic connections (people, funds, products)
  \( \Rightarrow \) New value chain
- Cross-disciplinary multi-benefits
- Applicable to the global scale from the village level to wider basins, countries, and regions in Asia (multi-layered CES)

In order to achieve the SDGs and to realise the CES, it is important to build partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders including national governments, local governments, the private sector, academia, and civil society.

35 municipalities to be supported were selected in May 2019. (MOEJ, 2019)