

## FY2024 Activity Plans

### 1. The status of climate and energy policy this year

At the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) in December 2023, it was reaffirmed that there is a large gap between the 1.5°C goal and the current status in the Global Stocktake, and there is a need to strengthen actions. Domestically, this is a crucial year for Japan as it begins reviewing its climate and energy policies to strengthen efforts. The government will update its Strategic Energy Plan and Japan's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which includes greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for 2035 and 2040.

Political fallout from the ruling LDP party's presidential and U.S. presidential elections is also expected. Local governments and businesses in Japan have made progress to some degree, while some moves are seen as delays or greenwashing. Japan's policy directions will also have impacts on the Asia-Pacific and other regions. In this context, there is a crucial need for knowledge sharing, timely research, analysis, and evaluation about decarbonization, while considering trends in policy debates.

### 2. Period covered

April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025

### 3. Purpose

Our purpose is to accelerate policy shifts and actions to protect the climate, through research, analysis, engagement, and communication through an integrated approach to science, policy, and society.

### 4. Activities for this fiscal year

This fiscal year, it will be important for Japan to make policy changes that can lead to steady progress in decarbonization efforts, through the formulation of Japan's 7th Strategic Energy Plan and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). We will closely monitor related policy trends while conducting research and analysis on issues of

particular importance to strengthen policy, and engaging in dialogue with policymakers and others. We will focus on the following projects, with dual functions as a think tank that “shows the facts” and as an advisor that “conveys the facts”.

## **(1) Research and analysis relating to climate change**

### **• Climate/energy policy analysis**

We will review the status of current climate and energy policies, taking into account the government's revision of the Strategic Energy Plan, Green Transformation (GX) and other policy trends, and identify policy issues (greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, renewables and thermal power policies, power system reform, carbon pricing, etc.) that are key to the alignment with the Paris Agreement/1.5°C target. In particular, for the power sector, we will support the formation of decarbonization policies through fact- and data-based briefings and the presentation of reports on priority areas based on the 2035 scenarios and policy recommendations by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab) of the United States last fiscal year.

### **• Analysis of corporate targets and performance**

We will follow up on the evaluation of net zero policies and actions of major Japanese companies conducted last year to be updated with new corporate targets and implementation of enhanced countermeasures. We will also analyze the implementation of countermeasures under the GX and offsetting policies.

### **• Analysis of climate governance**

With regard to climate and energy policy, an analytical report on the policy making process of the Strategic Energy Plan will be released in April. We will then initiate research with experts on “climate governance” including climate legislation.

### **• Analysis of sustainable finance**

We will identify and summarize the situation and issues concerning monetary policy and sustainable finance in Japan. We will continue joint research with Kyoto University on engagement by Japanese institutional investors, and compile an analysis.

## **(2) Engagement in policy-making relating to climate change**

We will engage in dialogue with government and municipal officials and stakeholders regarding climate and energy policy, and participate directly and indirectly in policy formation. We will also share information and knowledge with organizations,

institutions, and experts at home and abroad, provide information, and conduct collaborative projects to promote climate diplomacy.

### **(3) Disseminating information on climate change**

We will disseminate information through:

- **Developing communication strategies and tools**
- **Updating and revising our website**
- **Publishing “Insights”**

We summarize important topics will be in “Insights” (online articles) in highly readable formats, including illustrations.

Planned topics for FY2024: Outcomes of G7 meetings, energy policy issues, 10 climate highlights for the year, etc.

- **Hosting webinars, video streaming**

Webinars to present report findings

Roundtable meetings for the media

Videos introducing our organization, topics of interest, etc.

- **SNS (social media)**

We will use mainly X to provide Information on domestic and international policy trends and summaries of our reports

### **(4) Dialogue, advice and support for domestic and international stakeholders**

- **Stakeholder dialogue, advice, support**

We will engage in dialogue, exchange views, and advise local governments, community organizations, and others. We will continue to strengthen collaboration with local governments, businesses, and related organizations for decarbonization in Toyooka City, Hakuba Village, Sakata City, and Ichikawa City, where we began collaborative activities last fiscal year, and will support their efforts. For Toyooka City, support will continue to include the formulation of training programs and municipal policies for the tourist association. We will also support citizen groups in Ichikawa City.

- **Lectures, articles, interviews, panel discussions, etc.**

We will inform audiences through timely lectures, articles, interviews, and panel discussions, upon request from various organizations, companies, and media.

### **(5) Other activities supplementary to and/or associated with the above items**

We will recruit the necessary human resources to implement the above projects and strengthen IT and security measures.

**References: Annual schedule of publications, etc. (as of June 7, 2024)**

2024

April - Report: Offshore Wind and Policy Formation Process

June - Insights: G7, Housing and Building Subsidies

Briefing: the Strategic Energy Plan (facts and data)

Event: Media event (1) (in cooperation with the UN Public Information Center)

July - Event: Media event (2) (in cooperation with the UN Public Information Center)

Event: Webinar for the general public

September-October - Report: Sustainable Finance

Briefing: Factual data, etc.

Event: Media Roundtable

December - Report: Government Supplementary Budget Analysis

2025

March - Report: Corporate Net Zero Analysis