

J-PRISM *FLASH* SPECIAL ISSUE

Fourth Regional 3R Forum in Asia

- 3Rs in the Context of Rio+20 Outcomes - The Future We Want



J-PRISM Flash is a newsletter of J-PRISM and its aim is to introduce project activities and share good practices and lessons learned in the Pacific Region. In addition, it is also aimed to facilitate further communications among all stakeholders of the J-PRISM including project counterpart members, NGOs, private sector and international organizations relating to waste management in the region. This edition is the **special issue** to report the achievement relating to SIDS at the Fourth Regional 3R Forum in Asia recently

J-PRISM supported Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to attend the Fourth Regional 3R Forum in Asia held in Ha Noi, Viet Nam from 18-20 March 2013, which is a high level Forum co-organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)/Government of Viet Nam, Ministry of the Environment of the Government of Japan (MoEJ), and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) to promote 3R, proper waste disposal, and resource efficiency.



About 300 participants attended this Forum from over 30 countries in Asia and the Pacific, UN organizations, aid agencies, private sectors, /NGOs. 10 Pacific island countries participated in the Forum, and played an active role in the discussion and preparation of outcome documents.

On the 2nd day of the Forum, a special meeting for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) was held as one of five Parallel Round Table Dialogues entitled "3Rs as the basis for Sustainable Waste Management in SIDS"



(hereafter, RT5), co-chaired by Hon. Apisai Ielemia, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trades, Tourism, Environment and Labour, Tuvalu, and Prof. Kunitoshi Sakurai, Okinawa University. Attendants for the RT5 are representatives from Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Island, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, and international organizations such as the Basel Secretariat, UNCRD and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)/Japanese Technical Cooperation Project for Promotion of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries (J-PRISM).

At the beginning of the RT5, Mr. Shiro Amano, Chief Advisor of J-PRISM clarified the current status, issues and recommended the way forward for sustainable development in SIDS. Representatives from Fiji, Tonga and Palau were invited to share their good practices of 3R such as separate collection / composting / clean school program in Fiji, landfill rehabilitation/recycling in Tonga, and Container Deposit Fee Program in Palau. All representatives shared their current challenges and issues at the national, regional and inter-regional levels. Kiribati, Tonga, Solomon Islands reported that their officers in charge visited Fiji and learned the Fiji's good practices, especially Clean School Program, and have been trying to introduce the program with modifications to fit to the situation of their own.



Outcomes from RT5 were reflected into the Chair's Summary and Ha Noi Declaration. Highlighted below are some key outcomes of RT5.

1. Concept of "Return", introduced to the world

One of the achievements of the RT5 would be recognition of the new concept of 3R + "Return" among all participants from Asia and the Pacific, which would be the first time officially introduced to the international society. SIDS have been facing many challenges and difficulties in managing waste due to such constraints as 1) physical (i.e. limited land space, 2) geographical (isolation and remoteness), 3) financial (import-based economy, lack of recycling industry, dependence on foreign recycling market, high shipping cost, insufficient governmental budget on waste management), and 4) human resources (lack of management/technical capacity). Therefore, 3R + "Return" is the one of the most appropriate ways to cope with these challenges in SIDS. Through the discussion of RT5, all participants from SIDS recognized the following needs;



1. To develop and promote 3R Policy/Activities at the national level as the priority and urgent action,
2. To share good practices and promote recycling within the Region (Transfer from small islands to larger islands), and
3. To collaborate with Asian Region for promotion of "Return" of recyclables/difficult waste for sustainable development.



The definition of the "Return" was also made clear that "Returning recyclable material to outside region where it can be properly recycled" and "Returning organic material back to soil".

After the RT5, this New Concept of 3R + "Return" were presented by Hon. Apisai to all the participants in the Plenary Session 6, and this concept was widely recognized and endorsed among participants in this Forum.



2. Our Target and Goals in SIDS

Hon. Apisai presented the output of RT5 in the Plenary Session 6 (PS6). The points made are shown in Fig.1. Activities at each level were recommended, and SIDS are expected to review the progress of 3R + “Return” activities in the next Regional 3R Forum.

(Fig.1 RT 5 Summary: 3Rs in SIDS)

<p>RT5 Summary: 3Rs in SIDS (Small Island Developing States)</p> <p>3R + “R”: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle + RETURN</p> <p>Individual Country Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To develop 3R policy/strategy and institutional frameworks to expand 3R activities. •To strengthen and promote Import/Entrance Control such as Container Deposit Fee Program, green fee (tax), etc. •To strengthen multi-sector approach (Eco-Tourism, Compost for Agriculture) •To promote safe and proper disposal of non-recyclable waste (securing of water resources) <p>Regional Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To promote sharing of good practices of 3R+Return among SIDS •To enhance capacity of Regional Experts and share/utilize their expertise in the region •To promote recycling within SIDS (Transfer from small islands to larger islands) <p>Inter Regional Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To collaborate with Asian Region for promotion of “Return” of recyclables/difficult waste for sustainable development. •To improve marine transport (Shipping Route) •To encourage Eco Designed Products for producers’ side •To promote creation of Green Jobs by providing training/capacity development on Preliminary Processing of recyclables •To review the Progress of 3R by participating Regional 3R Forum <p>Title of the Forum:</p> <p>SIDS members would like to propose a change to the title of this forum as “Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific”.</p>



In this PS6, the concept of 3R + “Return” was introduced for the first time at the international meeting. In addition SIDS proposed some amendments on the draft Ha Noi Declaration based on the discussion of RT5. These amendments were agreed and endorsed by the forum with some modifications as follows;

Proposal of amendment on the draft Ha Noi Declaration from SIDS

1. Ha Noi 3R Declaration- Sustainable 3R Goals for Asia and the Pacific (Add the “and the Pacific”)
2. New Paragraph were added as “Recognizing the issues and challenges faced by Small Island Developing States in achieving sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities, including their small size, remoteness, narrow resource and import base, and exposure to global environmental challenges and external economic shocks, including to a large range of impacts from climate change and potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters.”
3. Two (2) New Goals were developed as Goal 29 & 30

(Goal 29)

Pay special attention to issues and challenges faced by SIDS for achieving sustainable development

Monitoring Indicator

- Number of 3R related projects implemented.
- Number of 3R related projects linked to Climate Change, Biodiversity, Disaster Management, Tourism and Industry

(Goal 30)

Promote 3R + “Return” concept which stands for Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and “Return” where recycling is difficult due to the absence of available recycling industries and limited scale of market in SIDS, especially in the Pacific Region.

Monitoring Indicators

- Number of the countries that have developed the 3R (+ “Return”) strategy
- Number of countries that have developed and implemented economic instruments such as the container deposit program etc
- Number of recycling companies/organizations that have been trained on basic technique for recycling (preliminary processing)
- Implement of periodical review on “Return” collaboration between Asia-Pacific through 3R Forum in Asia.



3. Title of the Forum

It was also proposed and recognized to change the title of the Forum from “Regional 3R Forum in Asia” to “Regional 3R Forum in Asia **and the Pacific**”. The next Regional 3R Forum is to be called for as “Regional 3R Forum in Asia **and the Pacific**”.



4. Message from Prof. Sakurai



Prof. Kunitoshi Sakurai
 Director of University Library, Okinawa University
 Chairman of the Advisory Committee of J-PRISM

Prof. Sakurai served as the former President of Okinawa University, Professor at The University of Tokyo, Regional Advisor on Solid Waste Management with the World Health Organization, etc.

J-PRISM (hereinafter referred to as the Project) made a remarkable step forward at the 4th Regional 3R Forum in Asia. The SIDS (Small Islands Developing States) from the Pacific showed a big presence in the Forum, 10 from 31 participating countries of the Forum being the SIDS from the Pacific. Because of their presence, the title of the Forum declaration was changed to “Ha Noi 3R Declaration – Sustainable 3R Goals for Asia and **the Pacific**”. Through the discussion held at the Forum, it is recognized that international collaboration will be especially important for the SIDS.

At the Round Table 5 held under the title “3Rs as the Basis for Sustainable Waste Management in SIDS”, we confirmed the progress so far made by member countries of the Project. It was especially significant for the Project that sharing of good practices was done among the member countries getting the presentations by Fiji, Tonga and Palau. The most important achievement was the development of fellow-feeling among the participants from the member countries of the Project.

We are now very close to the turning point of the Project. Let’s accelerate the implementation of the plan in each country within the framework of the Project and share valuable experiences among the members at the 5th Forum to be held in Indonesia in 2014 in order to achieve the overall goal of the Project, namely the enhancement of sustainable management of solid waste in the Pacific Region.

J-PRISM FLASH

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