

SDGs in Japanese Context

How to break the chains of “Status Quo”

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A Mechanism to ensure coherent actions of Civil Society: Establishment of “SDGs Japan”

SDGs(17 Goals, 169 Targets, 230 Indicators)

End Poverty

Sustainable Economy

Environment

Peace and Governance

Partnership

**Advocacy
and Action**

**Raising
Awareness**

Cooperation

Research

Consultation

**Gover-
nance**

Annual Assembly

Board of Trustees

Civil Society Members

Partners

General Official Members

Corporate Partners

Network Official
Members

Organization
Partners

Information Members

Secretariat

Program Units

Development

Health,
Education,
Financing, etc.

Environment

Climate change,
Biodiversity, etc.

Poverty and Inequality

Rural Revitalization

Social responsibility etc.

Program

Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs (SDGs Japan) est. 2016



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SDGs 市民社会ネットワーク

Outcomes of the SDGs Japan for HLPF: An Independent Civil Society Report on the progress of SDGs in Japan

Independent civil society report on the progress of SDGs in Japan



An evaluation and recommendation based on independent analysis of the SDGs implementation framework of Japan, as well as the current situation of 11 specific issues including domestic poverty/inequality, education, health, environment, gender, social responsibility, etc.

Government Structure and Stakeholder Map

Multispectral Partnership for SDGs: “PPAP”

Government side

SDGs Implementation Principles
(approved Dec 22, 2016)



Head PM Abe

SDGs Promotion HQs
(PM Office,
Member: All Ministers)

Inter-Ministry Liaison Committee
(All Ministries, Director Level)

Secretariat:
Global Issues
Cooperation
Division, MoFA

MEXT

Min of
General
Affairs

Other
Ministries

Min
of
Env.

Secretariat

GPIF

Non-Government Side

Civil Society

Development, Environment,
Poverty, Disability, Disaster etc.

SDGs Japan and
JANIC

Trade Union, Co-op,
Consumer Movement

Academia, Research
UNU-IAS, Future Earth Japan,
SDSN Japan, IGES, etc.

Private Sector

(CSR, ESG Investment,
Responsible supply Chain...)

Global
Compact
Network
Japan

Other PS
Oriented
forums

SDGs
Promotion
Round Table
(14 Members)

Clear outcomes of civil society advocacy What are the challenges?

GoJ SDGs Guiding Principles (Dec 22, 2016)

Vision: Become a leader toward a future where economic, social and environmental improvements are attained in an integrated, sustainable and resilient manner while leaving no one behind

Priority Areas (list of existing policies)

Empowerment of all people

Achievement of good health and longevity

Creating Growth Markets, revitalization of Rural areas, and Promoting science, Technology and Innovation

Sustainable and resilient land use, promoting quality infrastructure

Energy conservation, renewable energy, climate change countermeasures, material-cycle society

Conservation of Environment, including biodiversity, forests and Oceans

Achieving peaceful, safe and secure societies

Strengthening the means and frameworks for the implementation of SDGs

Principles

Universality	Inclusiveness
Participatory approach	Integrated approach
Transparency and accountability	

Implementation framework

Governmental Framework :
Control Tower = SDGs
Implementation Headquarters

Mainstreaming SDGs: maxim
reflection of SDGs to policy
development

Multi-Stakeholder Approach
(Civil Society, Private sector,
academia...)

Follow-up and Review : 2019

Challenges of the Principles

Priority Area: no new policies;
just a list of existing policies

Overall: “Inside-out” approach
dominated and no “outside-in”
approach

Implementation framework:
where is the leadership to leave
no one behind?

Outcomes of civil society advocacy

Principles: emphasizing “leave no one
behind”, “human security”, gender and
participatory approach

Implementation framework: clear
mention on partnership including CSOs
and local governments

Follow-up and Review: clear mention
of “by year 2019”

VNR and the relationship between Civil Society and Gov't: Japan's case

- ◆ An official Dialogue between CSOs and Gov't
(Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- ◆ A official meeting of SDGs Promoting Round Table
(an official multi-stakeholder dialogue for SDGs)
- ◆ Some unofficial negotiations
- ◆ Last minutes:
 - a) Request to input on the paragraph of CSOs in the Gov't's official report
 - b) Unofficial discussion about the question from CSOs in Japan's VNR session

Challenges for CSOs in Japan in the VNR Process

- ◆ Fundamental difference on the conceptualization of SDGs (SDGs for Abenomix and Japan's economic growth aiming Japan's GDP 6 trillion US dollars)
- ◆ Less priority for CSOs rather than private sector and celebrities
 - GoJ was very enthusiastic to mobilize celebrities and finally succeed to get "Pico-Taro". He will come to Japan's Gov't Reception (7 pm in UNHQ)
- ◆ Pushing good things, especially partnership with private sector, and ignore Japan's challenges on sustainability (domestic poverty/inequality, aging and shrinking population, climate change and disaster, gender inequality)

Japanese Civil Society Recommendation for Japan's SDGs Implementation Framework

1. Development Process of SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles

The process still lacks inclusion of a wide range of society and regions

Need a more inclusive participation from a wide range of social sectors, such as youth, people with disabilities, representatives of local governments, communities, etc.

2. Lack of concrete vision for 2030

When there is no vision or targets, there are no gap analysis, and no strategy.

Develop a “2030 Vision” in participatory manner, take measures to ensure cohesiveness of important national strategies with SDGs.

3. A command center is there but not working adequately with budget

Lack of clear political will to leave no one behind

Increase transparency and effectiveness in government institutions through participatory approach. Leadership of SDGs Promotion HQ and cooperation of line ministries with securing substantive budget for SDGs.

To achieve SDGs in Japan we need to change the course

Is SDGs just “global”?

- Most of the divisions of ministries in charge of SDGs are “international division”, etc.
- For Japan, SDGs is for “Sustainable, fair and equal Japan”.

Where is money for SDGs?

- It means nothing when the gov’t say “All ODA budgets are for SDGs”
- Sufficient amount budget for SDGs is necessary.

Japan is a VNR Country in HLPF 2017

How to revise Japan’s current SDGs Guiding Principles in 2019

Go beyond existing Policy lists

- Current “SDGs Priority Policy List” is a cherry-picked list of existing policies related to SDGs that each ministry would like to fund more
- More coherent, integrated new policies are necessary for Japan’s sustainability

Is Civil Society still marginalized?

- Scientific or technology innovation won’t solve all the social problems.
- “Innovation on the social and economic structures” beyond market mechanism is necessary to solve social problems leaving no one behind.



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Abenomix-based SDGs for “USD 6 trillion” GDP: The way for “Destructive Development Goals(DDG)”?

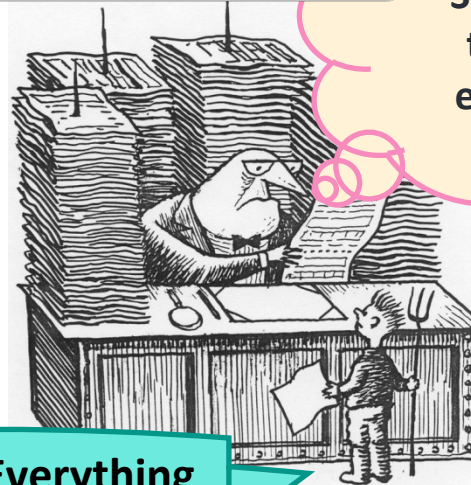
Solve all social problems by science and technology innovation of private sector!!

Many “SDGs-related” initiatives by UN, Private sector, government...

“Leave no one behind”? Boring!
Select one strong technology and export overseas!
That’s SDGs!

Is it SDGs?

- Drastic increase of food by GMO-related technology!!



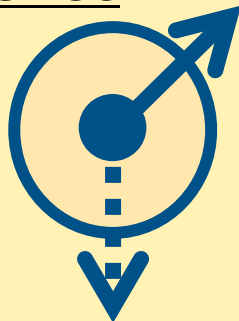
Is it SDGs?

Expensive “Japanese way” private elderly care houses in poor Asian countries “preparedness for aging society!!”

We face “Everything is SDGs” trend

360° review of SDGs

An enterprise of a company contributes for “Goal X” but harm against “Goal Y”



“Innovation of social and economic structure” is needed beyond Science/technology innovation

Vision on “planetary boundary”?

- We can’t allow more inequality = inefficient use of natural resources.
- “More production by scientific innovation” can’t overcome “planetary boundary”