## Japanese Initiative toward a Sound Material-Cycle Society

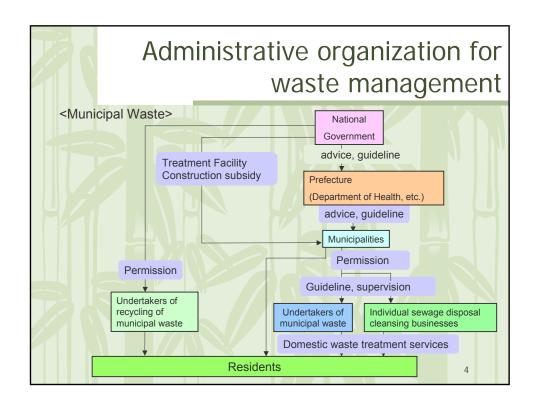
#### Jiro Hiratsuka

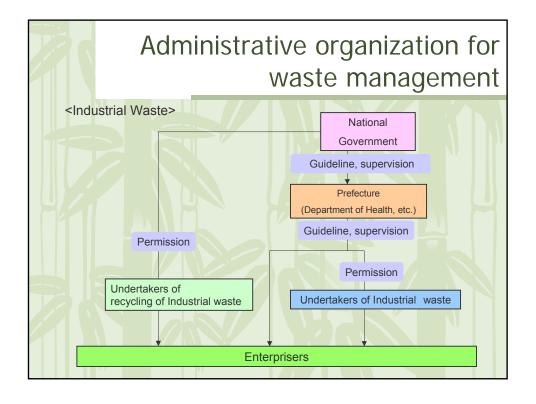
Waste Management and Recycling Department Ministry of the Environment, Japan

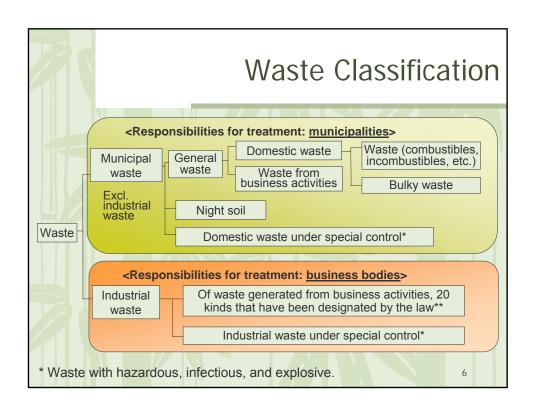
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- 1. Waste Management and Recycling in Japan
- Administrative organization for waste management
- Waste classification
- Present State of waste treatment and disposal

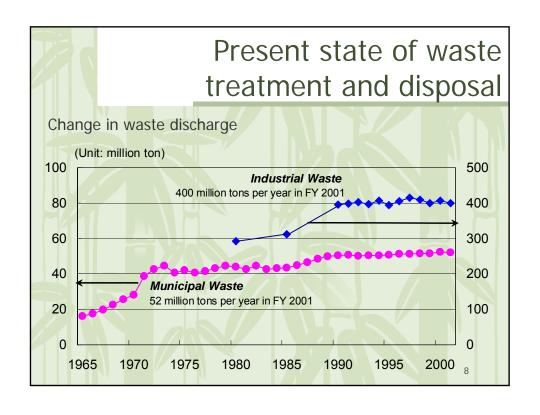


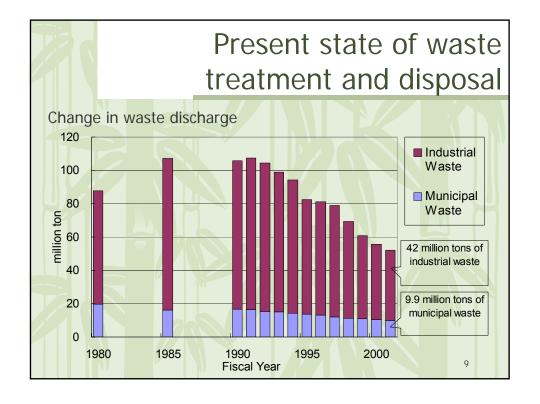


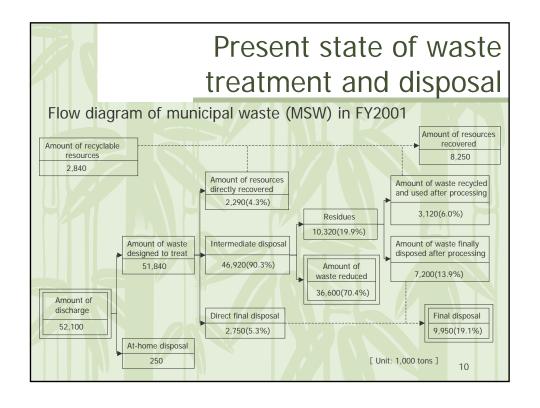


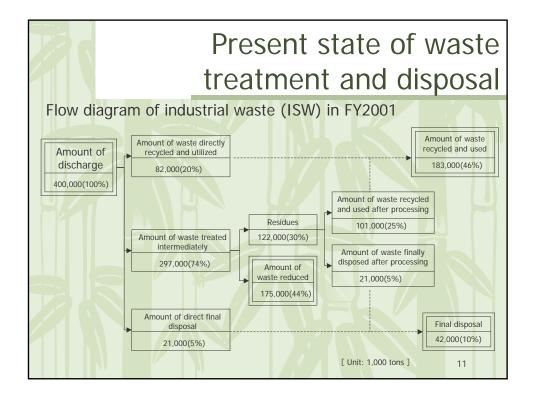


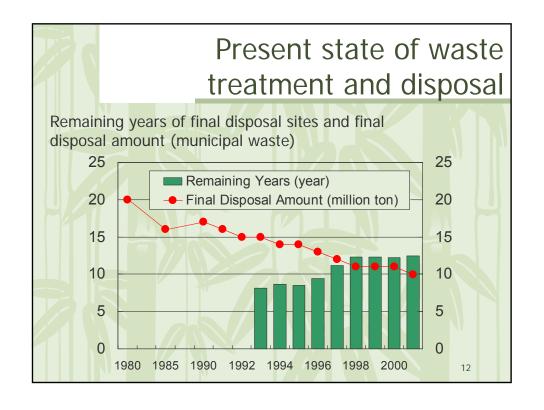


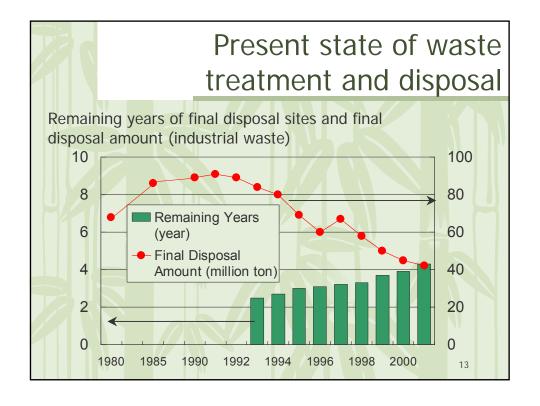


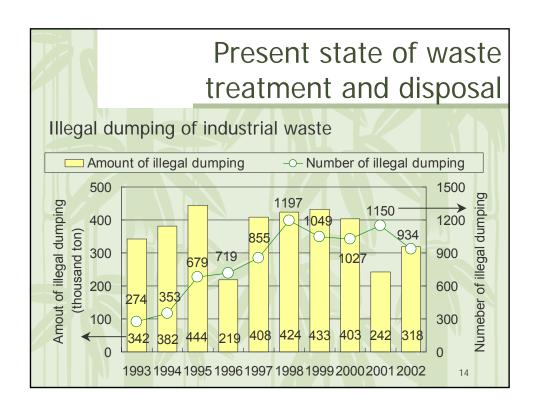








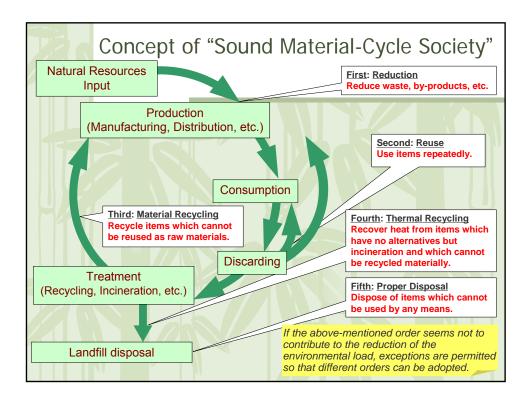


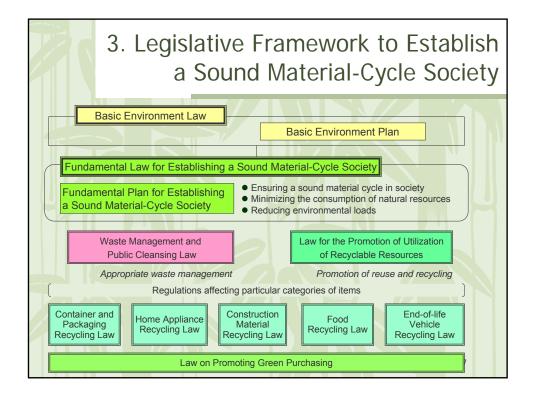


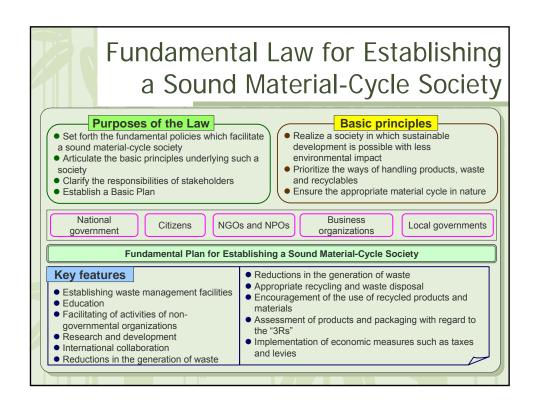
#### 2. What's a "Sound Material-Cycle Society"

### A SOUND MATERIAL-CYCLE SOCIETY means:

A society in which the consumption of natural resources is minimized and the environmental load is reduced as much as possible.







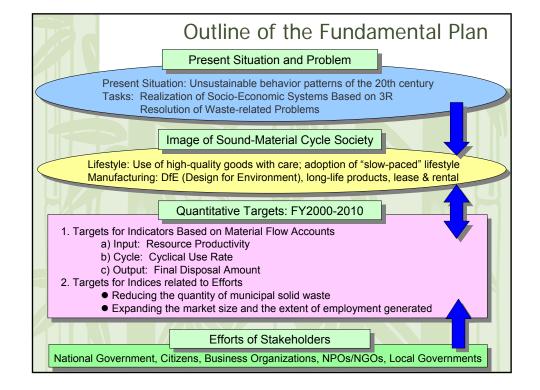
### Follow-up on Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI)

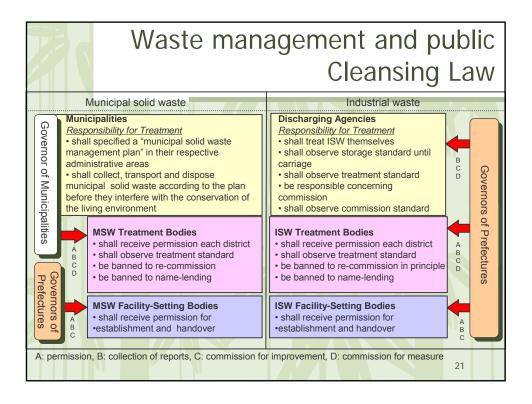
<u>Paragraph 15.</u> Encourage and promote the development of a 10-year framework of programmes in support of regional and national initiatives to accelerate the shift towards sustainable consumption and production... delinking economic growth and environmental degradation....

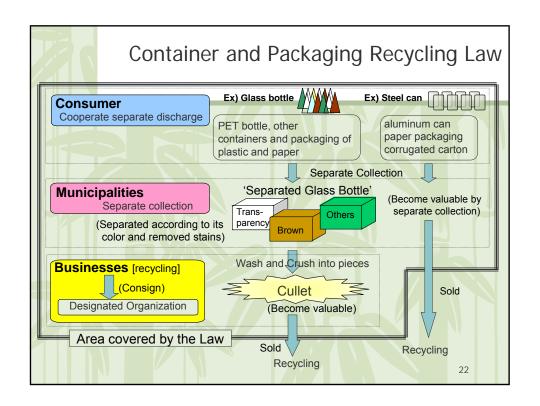
All countries should take action, with developed countries taking the lead....

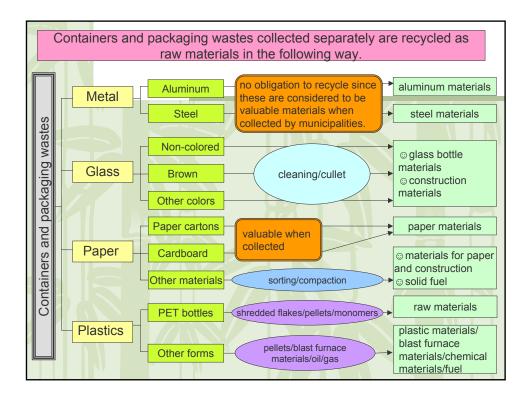
In March 2003

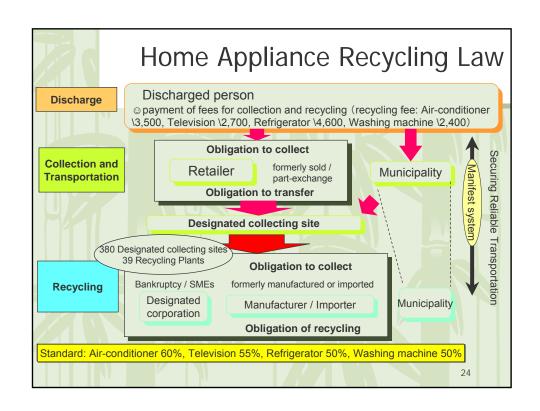
In line with the JPOI, the Government of Japan established "The Basic Plan for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society" as a 10-year framework of programmes.

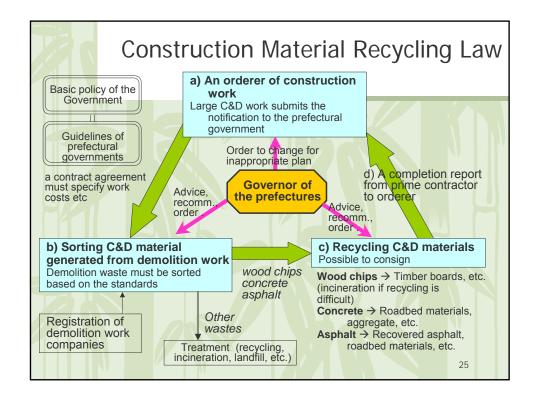


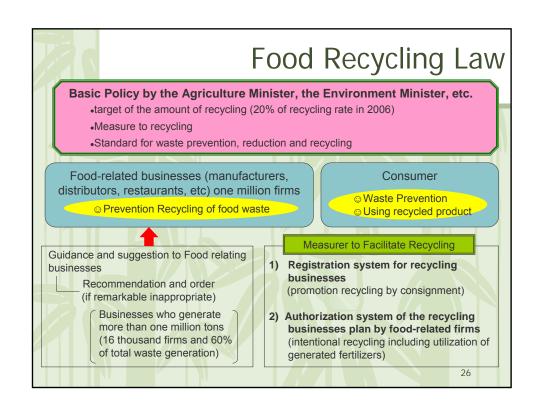


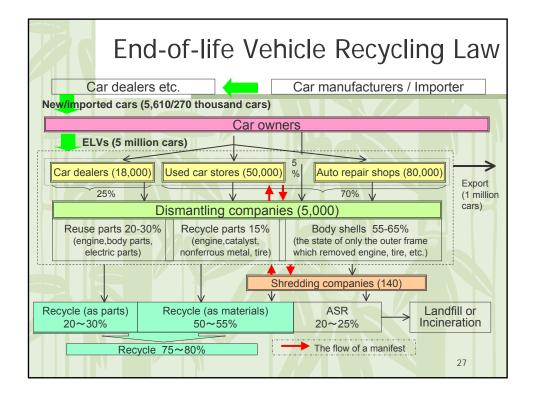


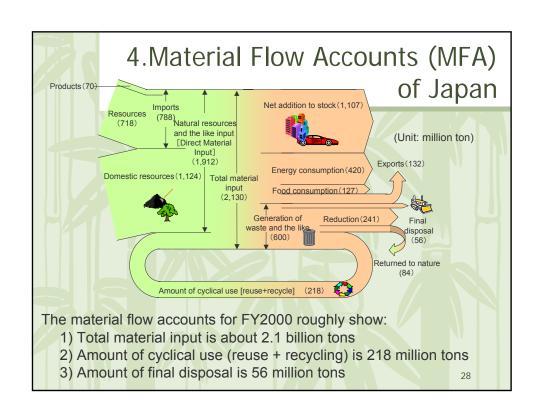


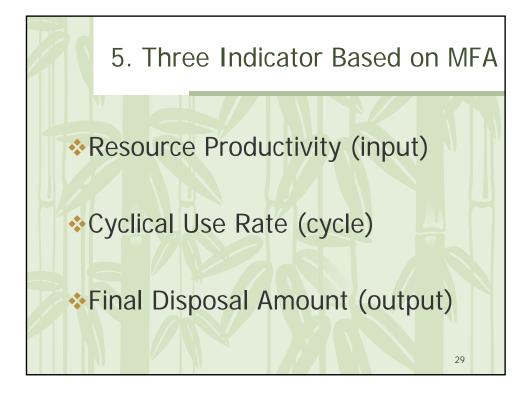


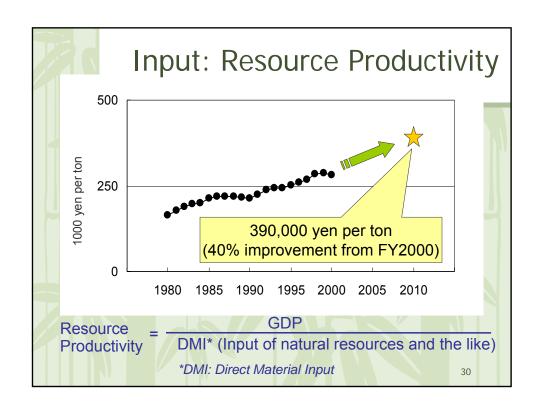


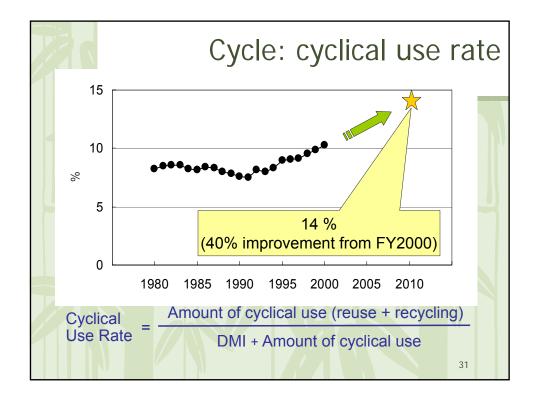


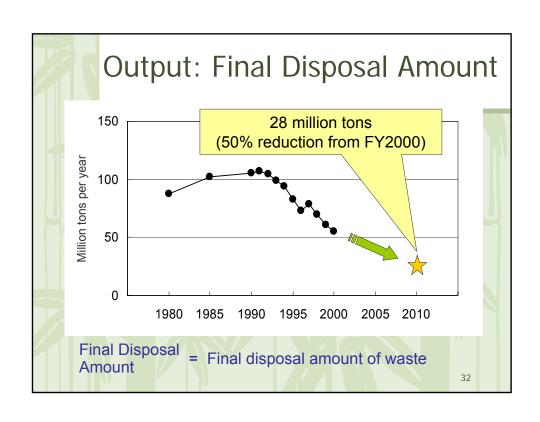












#### Introduction

- ❖ The 2<sup>nd</sup> Basic Environment Plan(2000)
  - Set Quantitative Targets in Basic Plan for a Sound Material-Cycle Society in order to grasp objectively the effect of measures to establish it.
  - ⊕ The 1<sup>st</sup> Basic Environment Plan lacked quantitative targets and its evaluation process suffered from the absence of objective reference.

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### Choice of Indicators From Language into Indicators

- Policy goals defined in natural language vs. quantitative Indicators
  - **Definition of Sound Material-Cycle Society**
  - The <u>consumption of natural resources</u> and the <u>environmental load</u> will be <u>restrained/reduced</u>, by Reduce-Reuse-Recycle(3R) measures.
- → Need to translate into measurable indicators.
  - =Risk of arbitrariness
- ❖ Feedback(Ind.→policy goal) is also needed.

# Choice of Indicators Conceptually better Indicators vs. Data gap

- TMR including hidden flows
- Material Use Time (How long material stays in the society.)
  - The length of time between input of material into the economy to output from the economy.

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# Choice of Indicators DMI(Direct Material Input) alone enough?

- Inflow is future outflow.
  - ODMI is not only inflow indicator but also outflow indicator.
- But, should there be upper limit of material use?
  - Scientific rationale?
  - Political processes?

## Choice of Indicators Indicators at three sections of material flow

- DMI target is difficult to introduce.
- To see material flows in balanced view, indicators of <u>inflow</u>, <u>outflow</u> and <u>cyclical flow</u> have been adopted.

Not exact, but rough picture is...

- Inflow : Consumption of natural resources
- Outflow: Environmental load
- Cyclical flow : Reduce-Reuse-Recycle measures

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## Choice of Indicators Inflow: GDP/DMI (Resource Productivity)

- Resource=GDP x (Resource/GDP)
  - © Politically, GDP must grow.
  - Then, the only way to reduce resource input is to reduce resource/GDP, or to increase GDP/resource.
    - → Decoupling indicator.
    - → Fits definition.
  - The first indicator/target in Japan's environmental policy which includes monetary dimension.
    - → Relevant ministries have to have better understanding of GDP.

## Choice of Indicators Inflow: GDP/DMI and Manufacturing abroad

- Does manufacturing abroad (or industry's moving abroad) improve GDP/DMI?
- No, not necessarily.
  - Because, importing goods manufactured abroad instead of manufacturing them domestically decreases not only DMI but also GDP.
  - Need to watch factors of GDP/DMI analytically.

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## Choice of Indicators Persistent question about MFA indicators: "Weights"?

- MFA counts materials' "weights".
  - ←Economics says "prices"=scarcities. But,...
    - Price distortion.
    - Aversion to "monetary" term.
  - ←LCA recommends "impact factors". But,...
    - How to synthesize different environmental problems.
  - ←Use of sustainably-managed biomass should be encouraged.
    - Yes, but how to certify the sustainability?

## Choice of Indicators Persistent question about MFA indicators: "Weights"?

- Finally, weighting all by "1".
  - Easy to understand.
  - Classification will help to show differences among different materials.
  - We have many other environmental indicators in other environmental policy areas.
  - But there are no indicators of quantity of material use in other environmental policy areas.

Not substitute, but complement.

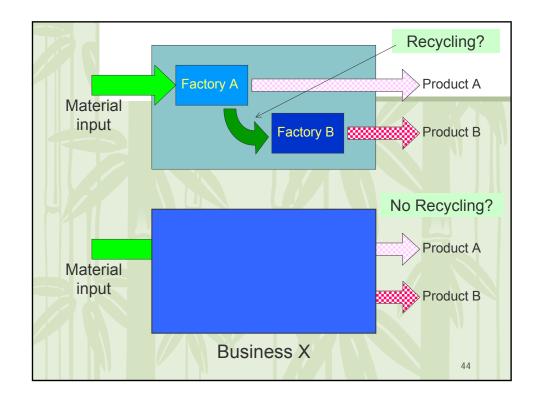
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### Choice of Indicators Outflow: Final Disposal Amount

- Urgent problem is the very limited remaining capacity of final disposal sites.
- Quantity to be disposed or to be landfilled. The latter. <u>Incineration</u> has been encouraged to reduce final disposal amount.
- Familiar indicator.

### Choice of Indicators Cyclical flow: Cyclical Use Rate

- Theoretical measurement problem of the amount of cyclical use, similar to "length-of-coastline problem".
  - Need to <u>define</u> rule of measurement, including trade of used goods/materials.
  - Differentiate between inside production recycling and consumption-production recycling? No, according to tradition.
- Practical data gaps of the amount of cyclical use.
  - ❖ e.g. Heat recovery. .....Costs?
    - →Again, need of measurement rule



# Choice of Indicators Cyclical flow: Cyclical Use Rate: Against What?

- Which rate? Cyclical use amount ...
  - over outflow amount (waste generated) ?
  - over inflow amount (DMI + cyclical use) ?
  - → The latter. As the former might send message "it is OK to generate any large amount of waste, as long as you use them cyclically", which is against <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/journal.org/">hierarchy of waste management adopted in the Basic law for SMCS.</a>

Reduce > Reuse > Recycle

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#### 6. Indices Related to Efforts

- Changing in thoughts and actions to establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society
- Reducing the quantity of waste and the likes
- Promoting businesses relating a Sound Material-Cycle Society

#### Changing in thoughts and actions

#### In the year 2010 ...

- about 90 percent of respondents should have an intention of reducing the quantity of waste, cyclical use, and green purchasing,
- and 50 percent should take concrete actions as to these matters.

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### Reducing the quantity of waste and the likes

#### In the year 2010 ...

- Reducing the quantity of municipal solid waste
  - 20% reduction of the amount of garbage discharged <u>from households per person per day</u> and <u>from offices per day</u> (compare to 2000)
- 2) Reducing the quantity of industrial waste
  - \*75% reduction of the final disposal amount of industrial waste (compare to 1990)

### Promoting businesses relating a Sound Material-Cycle Society

In the year 2010 ...

- 1) Promoting green purchasing
  - 50 percent of all the local governments and companies listed in Stock Exchanges, and about 30 percent of the unlisted companies (with 500 employees or more) surveyed, will implement organization-wide green purchasing.
- 2) Promoting environmental business management
  - 50 percent of the listed companies and about 30 percent of the unlisted companies surveyed will <u>publish</u> an environmental report and <u>conduct environmental</u> accounting

7. Activities by governments, citizens, NGOs/NPOs, and private firms

- Measures to Be Taken
- Green Procurement
- Environmental Report
- Material flows and target setting

#### Measures by national government

- Secure material cycle in nature
- Change lifestyle [Re-style]
- Promoting businesses relating a Sound Material-Cycle Society
- Realize Safe and secure treatment and disposal of waste
- Establish the basis for supporting a Sound Material-Cycle Society

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#### Measures by citizens

- refraining from using disposable products
- refusing excessive packaging and promoting simple packaging, using "eco-bags"
- selecting green products and services that impose smaller environmental loads (recycled products and refillable products, and rental and leasing services)
- cooperate in sorting collected waste to reduce its quantity and recycling
- participate or cooperate in environmental education, environmental learning, and activities for environmental preservation

#### Measures by NGOs/NPOs

- activities for preserving the environment of local areas, such as the promotion of the 3Rs, and assistance for local residents to change their lifestyles
- environmental education, environmental learning and enlightenment activities to promote actions by citizens and businesses for establishing a sound material-cycle society
- sustainable and expandable activities as community businesses

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#### Measures by private firms

- restrict the production and distribution of disposable products and packaging
- extend the life of products, use materials, products and services with environmental loads
- take back products no longer used
- as for products, reduce environmental loads at various stages, including resource extraction, production, distribution, consumption and disposal, through life cycle assessment (LCA)
- diffuse green products and services
- provide consumers with information through environmental labeling
- disclose and provide information through the <u>publication of environmental reports</u>

#### Measures by local governments

- make efforts in community making, including sorted collection and appropriate management of waste, promotion of 3Rs, and improvement of waste treatment facilities
- cooperate with business and private organizations, including NPOs and NGOs, to assist local residents to change their lifestyles (as a coordinator and main animator of the efforts of the community)
- recommend environment conscious green products and services or products made in the local area
- take the initiative in green purchasing, implementation of an environment management system (as a business organization)
- formulate the fundamental plan to promote the establishment of a SMCS in the local area

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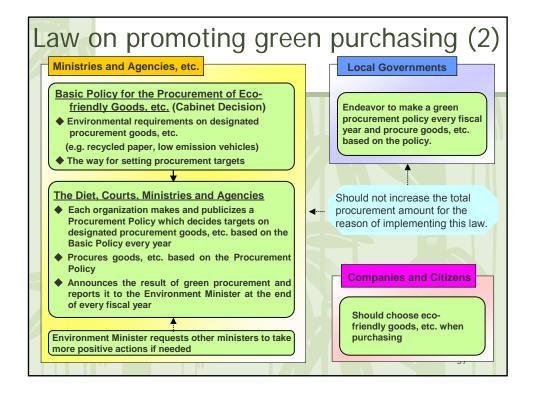
## Law on promoting green purchasing (1)

#### **Objectives**

- Promoting Greener Purchasing by Public Organizations
- Providing Information on Eco-friendly Goods and Services



Establishing Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Society





### Procurement Achievements of Eco-Friendly Goods (FY 2001)

- Designated procurement items: 14 categories, 101 items
- Categories: Papers, Stationary, Office Furniture, Office Machines, Consumer Electronics and Electrical Appliances, Lighting, Automobiles, Uniforms and Work Clothes, Interior Fixtures, Work Gloves, Facilities, Public Works, Services

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### Procurement Ratio of Eco-Friendly Goods is around 90% in most of the items

Ex1. Copier Paper (100% recycled paper content and no more than approximately 70% bleaching): 92.6%

Designated procurement goods (179,860t)

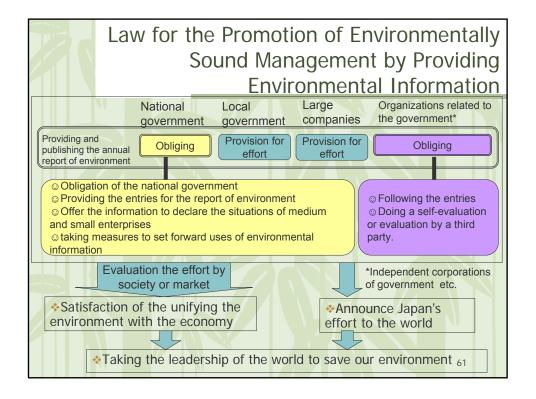
Domestic total shipment (762,118t) = 23.6%

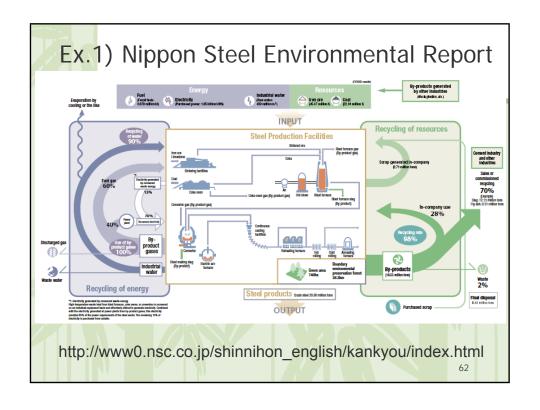
Ex2. Ball-point pens (Recycled plastic makes up no less than 40% in weight): 94.9%

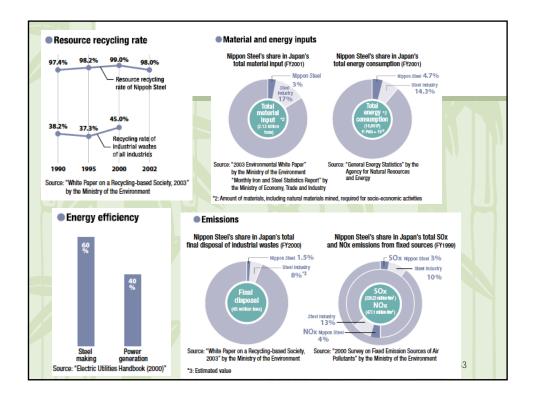
Designated procurement goods (71,835,000 units)

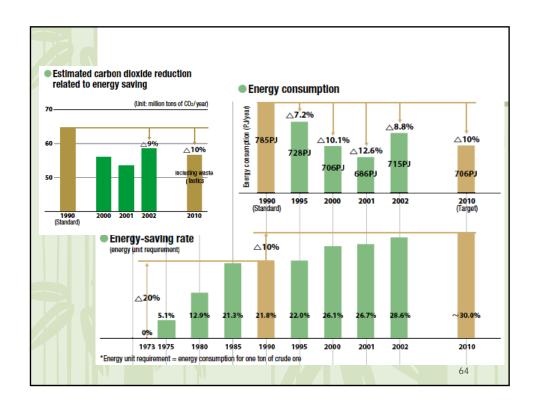
Domestic total shipment (457,548,000 units)

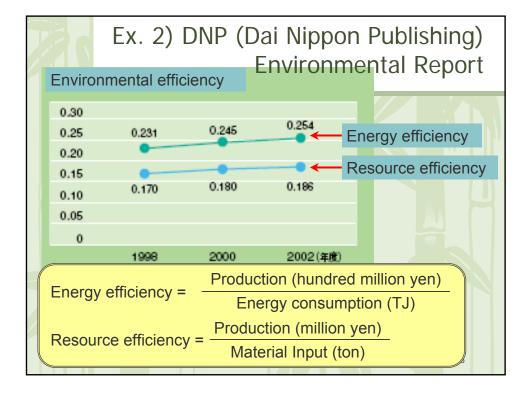
= 15.7%

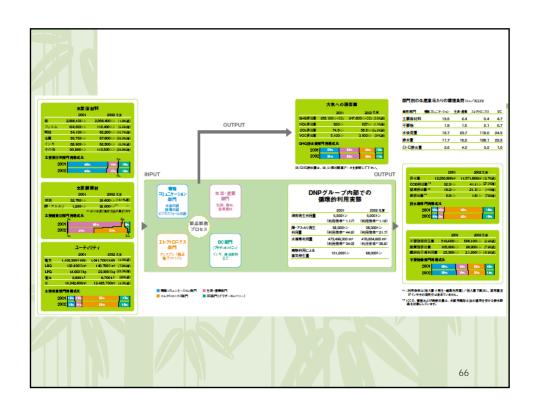


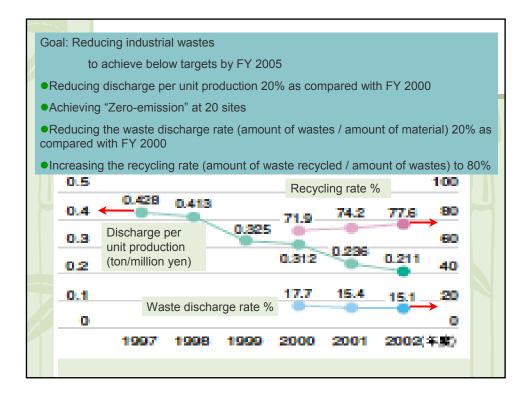


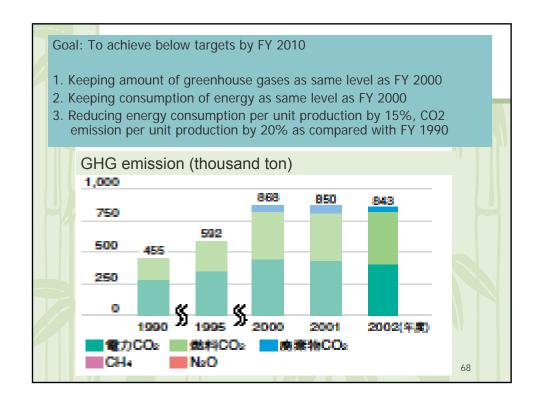


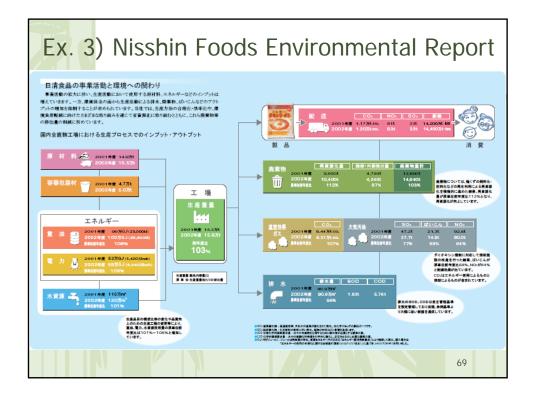




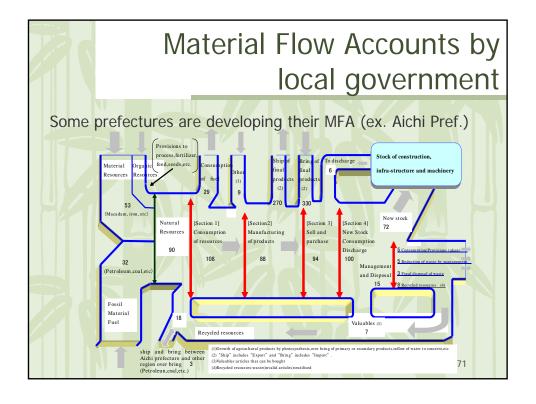








				2002	2001
Degree of			$\Lambda$	97%	98%
Ze	ero-emission act	nievement	0170		0070
Re	ecycling rate			72%	66%
Re	ecycling rate of t	food waste	1	89%	80%
ゼロエ	ミッション・再資源化の状	況			-
		2002年度	2001年度		※ゼロエミッション達成率の
ゼロエミッション達成率		97%	98%		低下は、焼却炉のダイオ・ シン対策工事期間中に、原
再資源化率		72%	66%		棄物処理の外部委託があ たためです。再資源化率(
食品廃棄物のリサイクル率		89%	80%		増加は、麺くずの配合飼料 化の取り組み等の効果の3





#### International activities

- International Expert Meeting on Material Flow Accounts and Resource Productivity (November 2003)
- OECD Council Recommendation on Material Flows and Resource Productivity (April 2004)
- ❖ Reduce, Reuse, and Recycling, "3R" Initiative agreed on G8 Sea Island Summit (June 2004)

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#### **Future efforts**

- 1) Measurement of
  - a) International material cycle
  - b) Hidden flows
  - c) Amount of reuse
  - d) Material flows by individual items
- 2) Indices regarding 3Rs with common methods of calculation