

JAPAN SOCIETY OF MATERIAL CYCLES AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Contents

- The Relationship of Society and Private Companies
- Promotion of the “Disaster Waste Management Guideline for Asia and the Pacific” at AMCDRR in Mongolia
- International Session of the 29th Annual Conference of JSMCWM

The Relationship of Society and Private Companies

For nearly 30 years, the Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management (JSMCWM, successor to the Japan Society of Waste Management Experts, established in 1990) has solved various waste related problems and conducted research that has contributed to the establishment of a sound material-cycle society. Our mission, with the underlying support of our members, which includes ordinary citizens as well, is to be the guide for the academic systemization of material cycles and waste management. In addition, the JSMCWM is expected to build partnerships with various countries around the World, beginning with Asian countries, and to take a leadership role in international academic collaborations. From the time of its establishment, our organization steadily increased in the number of members and sponsor companies until, in 2002, the year of an emergency demand for environmental equipment to deal with Dioxin, we peaked at over 4,000 members. Since then, our number has fallen to 2,500 members.



Every year, from January to March, the JSMCWM creates its Activities and Budget Plan for the coming year. Although this is my eighth time working on the Plan as the Financial Vice President, I still experience difficulty in securing a surplus balance. Member fees

constitute more than half of our yearly income, and with the decreasing number of members and sponsor companies, we are constantly in financial difficulty, where even the slightest mistake in estimation can lead us into deficit. This was not a problem when the organization had a substantial amount of members.

As an explanation, we cannot ignore the gap in interest that exists between the Society and the private sector. While the Society, which mainly consists of universities and government-funded research institutions, emphasizes setting rules and principles derived from fundamental research, the private sector aims for quick and specific results from new and improved technology that is derived from practical research. At the Society’s general conferences and in paper submissions, fundamental research is prioritized due to its academic nature, making it difficult for researchers from the private sector to participate. Thus, it can be stated that providing a place to ‘promote industry-academia collaboration’ and ‘match seeds and needs’ is vital in closing the gap. In the present day, when a lot of information can be obtained from the Internet, it is important to retrieve ‘raw’ information through direct contact and conversation at research societies or after-seminar discussions. We are hoping research group work, branch activities, and seminars will provide strong support for private companies that find funding fundamental research difficult. In that sense, it is a great pleasure knowing that several new research groups have been established in recent years.

Knowing full well that the Society is built on an underlying volunteer spirit and that we should not expect material returns, it is important to respect and consider the balance of advantages and disadvantages that exist for all parties involved. Such problems are shared everywhere by societies of all types, and there are various solutions for each. Our Society will use these solutions as a reference and apply them to our future management.

(Morihiko OSADA)

**Promotion of the “Disaster Waste Management
Guideline for Asia and the Pacific” at
AMCDRR in Mongolia**

1. 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

From July 3 to 6, 2018, the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Over 3,000 participants, including representatives from over 50 countries and 1,500 organizations such as those from academia and industry, as well as NGOs, attended the conference. With the aim of taking stock of the progress achieved in implementing the Sendai Framework adopted in 2015 at the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, AMCDRR has been held biennially since its first meeting in New Delhi, India in 2016.

2. Special Session on Enhancing Resilience through Disaster Waste Management and Building Back Better

On July 4, a special parallel session entitled “Enhancing Resilience through Disaster Waste Management and Building Back Better” was held to discuss the importance of enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and of “Building Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction.

The editing team of the “Disaster Waste Management Guideline for Asia and the Pacific” (hereafter the DWM guideline), established under the JSMCWM, took the opportunity to promote the DWM guideline. On behalf of the editors, Mayumi TAMIYA of Towa Technology Corporation attended the session to provide an update on the guideline, to hear about the experiences of, and collect information from, relevant countries and regions.

About sixty participants attended the session and eight speakers presented their activities on the following themes:

- Sanny JEGILOS (UNDP DRR Bangkok, Thailand) highlighted multidimensional approaches to “Building Back Better”, including both structural and non-structural interventions;
- Satoru MIMURA (JICA) described the Higashi Matsushima method for disaster waste management, while highlighting four key areas for success, namely

preparedness, partnerships, inclusiveness, and leadership/ownership;

- Kim DeRIDDER (The Asia Foundation) highlighted the importance of gender for disaster response;

- Paul ROSENBERG (UNISDR) described the International Recovery Platform (IRP) and the Guidance Note on Recovery, with a focus on the environment, including some case studies;

- Masataka WATANABE (Chuo University) described on-going early warning efforts for *dzud* (severe winter) in Mongolia, with innovations for storing livestock meat in advance;

- Baasansuren DEMBERELYNAM (the National Emergency Management Agency) elaborated the need for legal frameworks and infrastructure against disasters;

- Adoracion M. NAVARRO (National Economic and Development Authority) shared the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management framework and provided several examples of good practice.

Following the presentations, Mahesh PRADHAN (UN Environment International Environmental Technology Centre) summarized the interactive discussions around three key points. First, disaster waste management is more than debris removal; there is a need to address disaster waste and the management of the same in broader terms, as part of a more integrated, environmentally sound and preparedness-recovery-based approach. Secondly, disaster waste is an asset; it can be used as a resource for recovery through “Building Back Better”. Lastly, disaster waste management requires institutionalization; there is lack of institutional ownership in disaster waste management, which needs to be institutionalized both within the humanitarian architecture and at the country level.

In addition, the JSMCWM also carried out an online questionnaire regarding the DWM guideline. Some responses and good comments on the DWM guideline have been received from countries with coastlines.

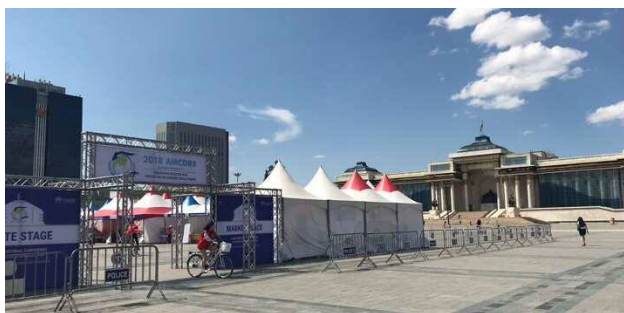
3. Disaster Waste Management in Mongolia

Mongolia has experienced periodic disasters, including severe winters called “*dzud*”, which have resulted in an enormous loss of livestock for nomads. It has also been reported lately that a serious flood occurred around Ulaanbaatar. They need a solution immediately to these problems. Waste management in Mongolia use to be

"landfill"; however, disaster waste management nowadays includes waste reduction through recycling. Therefore, Mongolia is building an eco-park that gathers together multiple recycling facilities. In order to be successfully completed, Mongolia is considering the experience and technology of Japan.



Demonstration of Naadam Festival, a national event, organized by the government of Mongolia. [Japan BOSAI platform HP]



The exhibition booths of attending organizations at Sükhbaatar Square



Special Session on Enhancing Resilience through Disaster Waste Management and Building Back Better [Summary on Session: Enhancing Resilience through Disaster Waste Management and Building Back Better]

(Mayumi TAMIYA)

International Session of the 29th Annual Conference of JSMCWM

The 29th Annual Conference of JSMCWM, consisting of a Japan-South Korea international symposium and an International Hybrid Session, was held on September 12th, 2018 at Nagoya University.

The theme of the International symposium was “SDGs and Material Cycles and Waste Management – Current Status and Movements”. This theme had been decided through discussions between people from Japan and South Korea. Many Asian countries, including Japan and South Korea, are moving in direction of achieving the SDGs adopted in September 2015. The SDGs are 17 goals, including “Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns”, which covers waste and material cycles.

This year, knowledge not only from Japan and South Korea but also Thailand, where the next 3RINCs will be held, was presented. The session was chaired by Professor Shinichi SAKAI, Kyoto University, and Professor Jae Young KIM, Seoul National University. There were active discussions with the participants in each lecture.

Lecture 1, entitled “Nexus between Waste Management and Climate Change: Towards the Achievement of SDGs”, was given by Professor Yukari TAKAMURA, Nagoya University. The lecture was on waste management and climate change, transformation driven by SDGs, and the Paris Agreement and relevant policy developments in Japan. She also discussed the research arena, including such topics as new ways of looking at matters, change in business and investors and aspirational long-term visions and goals.

Lecture 2, entitled, “K-SDGs and Main Indicators for Sustainable Production and Consumption”, was given by Dr. Munsol JU, Korea Environment Institute. The lecture took up the topic of the history and processes of the National Sustainable Development of Korea (K-SDGs) establishment, targets for the Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production of K-SDGs, and future plans.

Lecture 3, entitled, “Solid Waste Management in Thailand toward Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”, was given by Professor Chalor JARUSUTTHIRAK, Kasetsart University. The lecture was on the situation of MSW in Thailand, the national framework and plan for solid waste management, and integrated solid waste management.

Lecture 4, entitled “Recent Efforts on Sustainable Waste Management towards a Circular Economy in Korea”, was given by Prof. Yong-Chul JANG, Chungnam National University. The lecture was on the sustainable use of resources and circular economy, solid waste management in South Korea today, efforts on resource circulation to support a circular economy in South Korea, and current and future challenges.

Lecture 5, entitled “Japan’s Latest National Plans for Sustainable Consumption and Production”, was given by Mr. Yusuke Inoue, Ministry of Environment, Japan. The lecture was on the 5th Basic Environment Plan, the 4th Fundamental Plan for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society, integrated measures toward a sustainable society, resource circulation in Japan, and international resource circulation.



(Taisuke WATANABE)

Upcoming Events

The 5th 3R International Scientific Conference on Material Cycles and Waste Management

Date: February 27-March 1, 2019

Venue: Pullman Bangkok King Power, Thailand

<http://www.3rincs.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/3RINCS2019.pdf>



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Including Special Feature on the 4th International
Conference on Final Sinks (4th ICFS 2017)

SPECIAL FEATURE: ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.1-9
“Cycles and sinks: two key elements of a circular economy”, Ulrich Kral, Leo S. Morf, Dana Vyzinkarova, Paul H. Brunner.

SPECIAL FEATURE: ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.10-22
“3Rs Policy and plastic waste management in Thailand”, N. Wichai-utcha, O. Chavalparit.

SPECIAL FEATURE: ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.23-34
“Waste separation at source and recycling potential of the hotel industry in Hoi An city, Vietnam”, Song Toan Pham Phu, Takeshi Fujiwara, Minh Giang Hoang, Van Dinh Pham, Minh Thao Tran.

SPECIAL FEATURE: ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.35-43
“Packaging re-use: a starting point for its quantification”, Lucia Rigamonti, Laura Biganzoli, Mario Grosso.

SPECIAL FEATURE: ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.44-56
“Waste shipments for energy recovery as a waste treatment strategy for small islands: the case of Kinmen, Taiwan”, Hsin-Tien Lin, Eiji Yamasue, Keiichi N. Ishihara, Hideyuki Okumura.

SPECIAL FEATURE: ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.57-66
“Comprehensive analysis of 942 organic micro-pollutants in settled dusts from northern Vietnam: pollution status and implications for human exposure”, Hoang Quoc Anh, Keidai Tomioka, Nguyen Minh Tue, Go Suzuki, Tu Binh Minh, Pham Hung Viet, Shin Takahashi.

SPECIAL FEATURE: ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.67-78
“LCA evaluation of packaging re-use: the steel drums case study”, Laura Biganzoli, Lucia Rigamonti, Mario Grosso.

REVIEW, p.79-97
“Framework for sustainable management of end-of-life vehicles management in India”, Nitish Arora, Shilpi Kapur Bakshi, Souvik Bhattacharjya.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.98-106
“Properties and potential use of biochars from residues of two rice varieties, Japanese *Koshihikari* and Vietnamese *IR50404*”, Phuong T. M. Do, Taro Ueda,

Ryota Kose, Loc X. Nguyen, Takayuki Okayama, Takayuki Miyanishi.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.107-115

“Co-plasma processing of banana peduncle with phosphogypsum waste for production of lesser toxic potassium–sulfur rich biochar”, Adnan Asad Karim, Manish Kumar, Sanghamitra Mohapatra, Saroj Kumar Singh, Chitta Ranjan Panda.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE p.116-124

“Advanced recycling process for waste plastics based on physical degradation theory and its stability”, Aya Tominaga, Hiroshi Sekiguchi, Ryoko Nakano, Shigeru Yao, Eiichi Takatori.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.125-133

“Mechanical, thermal, and biodegradation behaviors of poly(vinyl alcohol) biocomposite with reinforcement of oil palm frond fiber”, Nawapon Sukdom, Piyawanee Jariyasakoolroj, Lerpong Jarupan, Kittichai Tansin.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.134-144

“Synthesis and characterization of natural rubber/coal fly ash composites via latex aqueous microdispersion”, Panu Panitchakarn, Jaygita Wikranvanich, Muenduen Phisalaphong.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.145-155

“Waste walnut shell as an alternative bio-based filler for the EPDM: mechanical, thermal, and kinetic studies”, A. Güngör, I. K. Akbay, T. Özdemir.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.156-165

“A study on recovery of alumina grains from spent vitrified grinding wheel”, P. Sabarinathan, V. E. Annamalai, S. Suresh Kumar, A. Xavier Kennedy.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.166-175

“Utilization of chrome-tanned leather wastes in natural rubber and styrene-butadiene rubber blends”, Semih Şaşmaz, Bağdagül Karaağaç, Nurseli Uyanık.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.176-180

“Real-time identification of plastics by types using laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy”, Eunok Kim, Woo Zin Choi.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE, p.181-190

“Challenges and opportunities for the recycling industry in developing countries: the case of Sri Lanka”, A. D. N. Gunarathne, T. P. Y. C. Tennakoon, J. R. Weragoda.

REGIONAL CASE STUDY, p.191-200

“Generation rates and current management of municipal, construction and demolition wastes in Tehran”, Monireh

Majlessi, Mirzaman Zamanzadeh, Nadali Alavi, Nazak Amanidaz, Reza Bakhshoodeh.

NOTE, p.201-204

“Microwave-assisted glucose production from bode (*Styrax tonkinensis*) woody biomass for bioethanol production”, Chizuru Sasaki, Haruka Negoro, Chikako Asada, Yoshitoshi Nakamura.

Current Members of JSMCWM

Current Members of JSMCWM as of January 31 st , 2019	
Regular Members	2,008
Fellows	45
Seniors	53
Honorary Members	8
Students	181
Public Institutions	89
Supporting Companies	118
Supporting Individuals	1
Regular Association Citizens	4
Individual Citizens	15
Total	2,522

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