Kiko Network Annual Report

2017

Japanese Climate NGO; Kiko Network

Achievements & Activities

2017年度気候ネットワーク年次報告書

Highlites of 2017

The beginning of the end for the "Age of Coal" in japan?

- Paris Agreement negotiations – Talanoa Dialogue aims to raise reduction targets to meet Paris goals
- Huge gap between Japan and the World - how to decarbonize our socio-economy
- Coal on agenda - Legal challenges against coal launched in Japan

KIKO NETWORK 気候ネットワーク

Kiko Network Annual Report 2017

Preface

Moving from Coal to 100% Renewables: Progress and Challenges

In 2017, the process of global warming continued, as carbon dioxide concentration exceeded 400ppm, and the global average temperature increased to around 1 degree above pre-industrial levels. Heavy rain caused great damage both in Japan and around the globe. While the world urgently needs implementation of the Paris Agreement, our work in 2017 marked further progress in fighting coal fired power plants, and increased awareness of the need for 100% renewable energy.

As well as running the “Don’t Go Back to the Sekitan (Coal)” and “Japan Coal Plant Tracker” websites, we have supported local actions against coal fired power plants, including a case against Sendai Power Station that went to court in September. In December we submitted a claim for pollution arbitration brought by nearly 500 local people against Kobelco's plans to construct new coal fired power plants, and we have also been working with protest movements to fight plans to construct new coal fired power plants in the Tokyo bay area. We believe that Kiko Network's decarbonization campaign has helped to achieve some great outcomes, including the cancellation of plans to build new coal fired power plants in Takasago and Ichihara.

In 2017, overseas movements toward decarbonization and the shift toward 100% renewable energy gave us a big boost. At COP23, it became evident that some states, businesses and citizens in the US are still dedicated to the Paris Agreement, even against the backdrop of the Trump administration. The UK, Canada and other countries delivered clear visions of decarbonization. In Japan, the NHK TV program “Impact of the Decarbonization Revolution” (broadcast on 17 December 2017) drove home the point that Japan is being left behind on the global stage. The realization that the "age of coal" is over is steadily gaining ground throughout Japan.

Meanwhile, looking toward the revision of the Japanese government's basic energy plan, in which the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy will play a central part, Kiko Network is insisting on a fundamental overhaul of the 2030 energy mix formulated by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry in 2015, before the Paris Agreement was adopted. In order to achieve the 1.5 - 2° C goal of the Paris Agreement, we need to put in place a long-term strategy to realize an 80% reduction in emissions by 2050, and change our energy policy into one befitting of this strategy. We need to demonstrate a clear process for shifting away from the conventional approach, which assumes coal and nuclear will provide the base load, toward denuclearization and decarbonization in which renewable energy plays the central role.

Unfortunately, the fifth basic energy plan does not determine the future course of Japan, and in fact does not even advance short term countermeasures. Considering the fact that nuclear power provides only 1.7% of total electricity supply as of the end of 2017, and with further decommissioning in the pipeline, it is obvious to anyone that will not be possible for nuclear power to supply 20 – 30% of our electricity in 2030. Rather than being seriously promoted, renewable energy is being progressively strangled by regulations. The lack of regulation for coal fired power plants raises the concern that the shortcomings of nuclear will be covered by coal.

The biggest obstacle to energy shift is that the will to change the framework of industry, the economy and society is not yet apparent. Despite ratifying the Paris Agreement, Japan refuses to accept the objectives and goals of the Paris Agreement as national targets. Not only citizens and consumers but also the business world will suffer if we miss this chance. Kiko Network will redouble its efforts to promote the spread of information.

Electricity, climate change and energy may be difficult problems for citizens to think about, but at the same time, they are problems which can and should be guided by consumer choice. We will continue to promote further energy shift "starting at home", and to support citizens and consumers who think and take action by themselves.

Mie Asaoka

President of Kiko Network

浅岡美恵

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Our Achievement in 2017

Beginning of the End of the "Age of Coal" in Japan?

Local groups showed its opposition to new coal projects around Tokyo bay

Decarbonization essential if Paris targets are to be achieved

In its 2017 report, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) stated that "Halting the construction of new coal fired power plants and closing existing plants is vital to closing the gap between current emissions and the Paris targets". However, while the global move away from coal is gathering pace, Japan is defying the trend with plans for a total of 50 new coal fired units emerging in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima nuclear accident.

Since the nuclear accident, there has been a tendency to overlook the problems associated with coal. However, Kiko Network has been quick to engage with the coal issue and spread the message with constructive proposals for a move away from carbon.

Seven planned coal plants scrapped

Of the 50 planned coal fired power plants, seven have already been scrapped. Had these seven plants been built and come into operation, they would have emitted a combined total of 21.9 million tons of CO2 every year for decades. This is a huge amount of CO2, equivalent to the annual emissions of 4.4 million average Japanese households.

A reassessment of Japan's energy needs as society becomes more energy-conscious is partly responsible for the change in plans. However, the fierce resistance put up by local citizens also played a major role. Kiko Network has worked together with regional anti-coal movements to promote discussion and spread awareness at the national level, and considers this result as one of its major achievements.

Sendai announces groundbreaking anti-coal policy

In December 2017, the city of Sendai in Miyagi prefecture implemented a policy calling for a voluntary ban on plans for new coal fired plants within the city boundaries. This is the first policy of its kind in Japan, and comes in response of the voices of citizens calling for a shift away from coal.

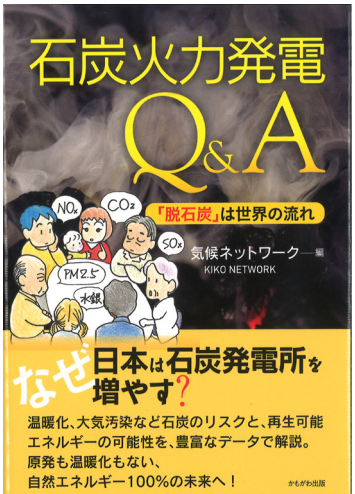
Many challenges still remain

As a result of Kiko Network's efforts, awareness of coal power as a major social issue is finally beginning to gain ground in Japan. This is now being tangibly reflected in the scrapping of plans for new plants, the rise of citizens' movements, and local government policies.

However, of the 50 planned coal fired plants, eight have already come into operation while another 35 are currently in the planning stage. The government's official pro-coal stance remains unchanged. Much work remains to be done if 2017 is truly to be remembered as the beginning of the end of the "age of coal" in Japan.

Book now available: "Coal power Q&A: The global shift from coal"

Kiko Network's in-depth investigations and research up to 2017 are now available in a single volume. Questions such as "Why is the world turning away from coal?" and "Why does Japan still promote coal?", as well as the risks of global warming and atmospheric pollution from coal power, are addressed clearly and backed up with solid data. The book also discusses the potential of renewables as an alternative. Available via bookstores, online booksellers, and the Kiko Network website.Written and edited by Kiko Network. Published by Kamogawa Publishing Co. Ltd. Date of publication: June 24, 2018



Our Activities in 2017

Construct International Mechanisms

UN Negotiations at COP23 Bonn/Fiji

Photo; Masayoshi Iyoda, Kiko Network

Putting together the Paris rulebook

Kiko Network believes that a global framework is needed if we are to achieve a global solution to climate change. We have been attending the UN conferences and also keeping a close watch on negotiations since COP3 (the Third Session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC), which led to the Kyoto protocol.

At COP23, presided over by Fiji in Bonn in 2017, the parties agreed to produce a document (rulebook) setting out details for implementing the Paris agreement. This rulebook will act as the foundation on which negotiations are conducted. There were also agreements on how to move forward with the Talanoa Dialogue to keep track of the progress on global climate change in 2018, and on the process for expanding the scope of action by 2020. The Bonn conference thus moved the preparations for implementing the Paris Agreement another step forward.

However, these agreements amount to no more than the foundations for negotiations and a process for improving countermeasures. Opinions remain divided on many sensitive issues. The pace of the negotiations needs to increase if a single agreement is to be reached at COP24 in Katowice in 2018.

Once again, Japan lurked in the shadows at COP23. Japan was heavily criticized for its coal-promoting policies at home and abroad, with Japan's will to achieve decarbonization once again being called into question.

Progress on global warming and agreement on the Talanoa dialogue

The system for checking on the progress of global warming countermeasures under the Paris agreement has been named the "Talanoa dialogue". The Talanoa dialogue will begin in January 2018 and continue until the Katowice conference in December. If we are to achieve a large-scale reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, all countries need to raise their targets for action and support by 2020, and again by 2030.

Japan is no exception. We need to engage with the dialogue and be ready to raise our 2030 targets.

With or without Trump, decarbonization initiatives continue

The Trump administration's June 2017 announcement of its intention to withdraw from the Paris Agreement raised concerns of knock-on effects. However, the Bonn conference saw continued progress. In fact, outside the conference venue, American political and business leaders made their presence felt by pledging their support for the Paris Agreement under the banner of the #WeAreStillIn movement.

COP23 also marked the formation of the Powering Past Coal Alliance (PPCA), currently including 27 countries and regions. This highlights the increasing shift away from carbon in the political sphere, and provides reassurance that this movement shows no signs of slowing.

Japan wins Fossil of the Day award at COP23

The Japanese government was awarded the "Fossil of the Day" award at COP23. This "honor" is bestowed on the countries doing the most to hold back progress on global warming. Japan took the award thanks to its Japan-United States Strategic Energy Partnership which promotes coal and nuclear power in developing countries.

Photo; Yumi Sato

Our Activities in 2017

Japanese Climate Policy Advocacy

Global trends towards coal phase-out and 100% renewables

The gap between Japan and the world became increasingly apparent in 2017

A year since the Paris Agreement came into force, the global trend towards 100% renewable energy is gathering pace and the introduction of renewable energy is accelerating. At the same time, many national and local governments around the world have released statements announcing a move away coal fired power plants. This, together with the founding of the Powering Past Coal Alliance, has steadily decreased the world's reliance on coal fired power plants.

On the contrary, in Japan, official discussions still repeat the tired and outdated mantras of renewable energy being unstable and expensive. Japan is pushing plans for new coal fired power plants through to the approval stage one after another.

Kiko Network has clearly highlighted this gap between Japan and the world, and in an attempt to redirect policy, stresses how far Japan is being left behind by the world by flying in the face of the Paris Agreement in its promotion of "high efficiency" coal fired power generation. We have also detailed the inefficacy of nuclear power generation as a measure against climate change. These issues are being increasingly picked up by the media.

Public awareness toward the problems not only with nuclear power generation but also coal has widely spread, and the local movements against coal fired power plants are gaining momentum. Kiko Network has been working as a hub to bridge between local movements and national level actions.

Approach to revision of the Japan's Basic Energy Plan

Discussions on the revision of the Japanese government's basic energy plan began in August 2017. The government has adopted the unusual approach of discussing energy policy towards 2030 and the response to the Paris Agreement by 2050 separately. The former is being discussed by the Basic Policy Subcommittee, and the latter by the Energy Situation Study Group. At the outset, before the discussions even started, the minister for Economy, Trade and Industry clearly stated that there is to be no major revision to the basic energy plan.

From its earliest days, Kiko Network has recommended that the policy making process for the basic energy plan should reflect public opinion, as well as shifting the emphasis from nuclear and coal to energy saving and renewable energy. In addition, we also have insisted on the importance of a shift to policy which incorporates climate change strategy befitting the era of the Paris Agreement which was adopted and has come into force during the 3 years since the last revision of the basic energy plan.

The plans ultimately agreed in July 2018 demonstrate a certain degree of progress in the move toward renewable energy as a primary power source. However, the overdependency on coal and nuclear power remains, and there is no hint of an increase in greenhouse gas reduction targets by 2030. Clearly, there are still many challenges to overcome.

Strengthening collaboration with environmental NGOs and citizen organizations

Several environmental NGOs have cooperated to put together recommendations for the direction of domestic energy policy, including the revision of the basic energy plan. In July1017, e-shift (a group focusing on denuclearization and new energy policy), instigated the "Citizens that change the basic energy plan project" ahead of the start of government discussions. They produced a brochure on shifting energy policy away from nuclear and coal toward 100% renewable energy, and also gathered petitions and held seminars. Kiko Network played key roles in both the Green Alliance Japan in its work to publish "Green Watch", a citizens' white paper on the environment, and also as part of CAN-Japan with the launch of a platform for 100% renewable energy in Japan.

In 2017, Climate Action Network Japan (CAN-Japan), administered by Kiko Network, launched the "100% Renewable Energy Platform" to collect pledges and support for the switch to 100% renewable energy in Japan. In November 2017, Chiba University of Commerce signed up to the platform, becoming the first university in Japan to go 100% renewable. This project improves the visibility of the trend toward renewable energy in Japan.

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Empowering Civil Movements for "Coal Phase-Out"

Legal actions made by local groups to stop new coal fired power plant projects

Photo; Makoto Matsuura

The accelerating trend from coal to renewables

Coal fired power plants are sources of air pollution and CO2 emissions, and are being fought by local residents living in areas where new plants are planned. In 2017, Kiko Network continued to raise concerns together with local residents. We continue to put forward proposals for the promotion of community-led renewable energy models as an alternative to coal.

Legal challenges against coal at the local level

For the first time, 2017 saw citizens in Japan resorting to legal measures against coal fired power plants. While there have been many such cases abroad, this is the first time such cases have been brought in Japan. In Sendai and Kobe, local residents set up legal teams with help from local lawyers inspired by the will of the people to protect their local area.

Power for Tokyo, problems for Sendai

The trend started with an injunction case against Sendai Power Station. 124 plaintiffs living close to the planned site in Miyagi prefecture launched the case in an attempt to bring the operators to account. This case is the first of its kind against a coal fired power plant in Japan. We continue to follow the case closely in 2018.

Kobelco: hauled over the coals

Next, in Kobe, nearly 500 residents of Hyogo prefecture launched a joint claim for pollution arbitration against Kobelco (Kobe Steel Co.). This was also the first pollution arbitration claim to be brought against a coal fired power plant.

These movements reveal the strength of local will to resist plans for coal fired power plants. Other industry figures are now starting to realize that the risk of lawsuits is one they now have to take seriously.

Kiko Network has increased the momentum against coal fired power plants and achieved visible results through its various approaches.

Environmental impact assessment and opinion-gathering

Environmental assessment, in which businesses investigate the environmental impact of their plans and invite public opinion on their findings, provides an important opportunity for citizens to make their voices heard. However, documents are released in huge volumes running to thousands of pages, and are filled with impenetrable technical terms. Moreover, many businesses make it impossible to download or print these documents, frustrating the efforts of the public to examine the content in detail and submit comments.

In order to address this problem, Kiko Network, together with local groups in Kobe, Yokosuka and Chiba, has examined these documents in depth and produced reference guides summarizing the issues. These guides have helped the public to submit their own comments. It is not unusual for such environmental assessments to attract no more than a handful of comments, whereas with the involvement of Kiko Network, there have been cases in which the comments have numbered over a thousand.

"Coal" firmly on the national agenda

Kiko Network has been taking every opportunity to draw attention to the issues surrounding coal fired power plants, while keeping an eye on the latest developments in plans for new plants. These issues are now being picked up by various branches of the media, including newspapers, TV, radio, and magazines, with over 300 such reports in 2017. The Japanese public is finally beginning to realize that "the age of coal" is over.The headlong rush to build coal fired power plants which was once such a cause for concern now appears to be subsiding, and some local governments have even announced policies to reign in plans for new coal plants. Moreover, some businesses are now making their wariness of coal public. Kiko Network will continue to walk hand-in-hand with local communities in the march away from coal power.

Financial Report & List of Board Members

2017 Financial Report

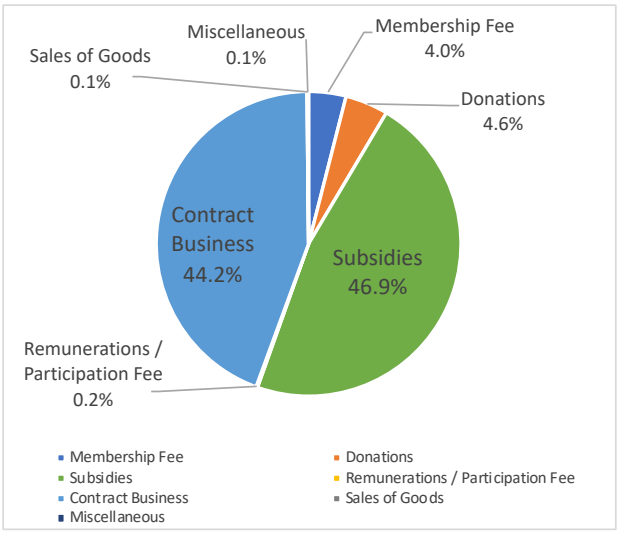
There was a slight overall year-on-year decrease in incomings and outgoings in fiscal year 2017. The main reasons for this were a drop in donations and commission fees, with the balance of incomings and outgoings remaining steady. Since the balance includes grants from different fiscal years and periods, some of the funds carried over are ring-fenced for projects in the coming year. Earnings from commissions continue to constitute a large proportion of overall income.

In order for Kiko Network to meet its objectives, a significant and stable increase in income is needed. For this reason we are currently considering whether to engage in profit-making activities. We are also continuing our efforts to increase the number of members and donations in order to secure a sound financial basis for our organization.

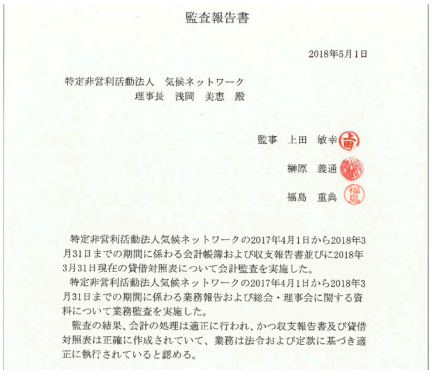
Revenues (JPY)	
Membership Fee	2,393,000
Donations	2,753,799
Subsidies	28,307,975
Remunerations / Participation Fee	95,960
Contract Business	26,678,368
Sales of Goods	45,604
Miscellaneous	62,693
Total	**60,337,399**

Expenditures (JPY)	
1. Business Fees	
Public Awareness	3,132,463
Surveys / Research / Proposals	3,322,310
Networking / Promotion	996,693
Policy planning participation	1,423,847
Citizen / NGO support	617,000
Grants	21,091,640
Contract Businesses	26,681,868
Sub-toral	57,265,821
2. Management Fees	3,003,560
Total	**60,269,381**

Balance (JPY)	
Previous year’s balance (April 1	17,811,275
Current revenues	60,337,399
Current expenditures	60,269,381
March 31st , 2018 balance	17,879,293



Annual Revenue



監査報告書

2018年5月1日

特定非営利活動法人　気候ネットワーク
理事長　浅岡　美恵　殿

監事　上田　敏幸
柳原　義通
福島　重典

特定非営利活動法人気候ネットワークの2017年4月1日から2018年3月31日までの期間に係わる会計帳簿および収支報告書並びに2018年3月31日現在の貸借対照表について会計監査を実施した。
特定非営利活動法人気候ネットワークの2017年4月1日から2018年3月31日までの期間に係わる業務報告および総会・理事会に関する資料について業務監査を実施した。
監査の結果、会計の処理は適正に行われ、かつ収支報告書及び貸借対照表は正確に作成されていて、業務は法令および定款に基づき適正に執行されていると認める。

Auditing Report

List of Board Members

President・Mie Asaoka
Vice President・Shunkai Suda
Kuniyasu Inoue
Takuma Kani
Hiroshi Kanda
Ayako Sakurada
Yoshitsugu Sasaki
Kenro Taura
Ken Tsuzuku
Oomi Nishizono
Ikumi Hara
Tsuyoshi Hara
Shunichi Hiraoka
Kimiko Hirata
Takako Momoi
Motohiro Yamazaki
Naoyuki Yamagishi
Juta Wada

Auditor・Toshiyuki Ueda
Auditor・Yoshimichi Sakakibara
Auditor・Shigenori Fukushima

As of September 2018. random order

Change the rule, not our climate.

The work of Kiko Network can only be achieved with the help of our supporters.
There are many ways you can help, including becoming a member, donating, volunteering, assisting with joint research, and campaigning.

Kiko Network would like to thank all its supporters for their current and future contributions to changing the society we live in as we head toward a sustainable global society.

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