

OUR TOP FIVE TOPICS IN 2016-17

International Affairs Department

The year 2016-17 is ending.

It's been six years since International Affairs Office started in 2011, and our operation must get on track. I will reflect on 2016-17 and report our top five topics for the year's last newsletter.

1. THE PROGRAM OF TECHNOLOGY VERIFICATION FOR GLOBAL USE BEARS FRUIT AS A GRANT AID PROJECT OF HOI AN CITY IN VIETNAM

Technology verification for global use started in 2012. JS picked the Energy-efficient Municipal Wastewater Treatment System, the Pre-treated Trickling Filtration (PTF) System developed by Metawater Co., Ltd., as the first verification example. JS verified the nitrogen and phosphorus removability or capability of compact facilities for the PTF Process based on the demonstration in Da Nang, Vietnam.

In December 2016, PTF Process was successfully adopted as a wastewater treatment technology for municipal WWTP in Hoi An City in Vietnam. This technology adoption is a part of "The Project for Water Quality Improvement for Japanese Bridge Area in Hoi An City," which is a grant aid project of official development assistance (ODA) by the Japanese government (Newsletter#182, December 2016.)



Photo 1: Japanese Covered Bridge in Hoi An

2. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION ACTIVITIES AS A CONVENER

ISO/TC275 for Sludge recovery, recycling, treatment, and disposal was established in February 2013 according to the French proposal. Japan joins the TC as one of Participating (P) Members who actively participate by voting on the standard at various stages of its development.



Photo 2: The plenary Meeting of ISO/TC275 in Dublin

JS and Japan Sewage Treatment Plant Constructors Association (JSCA) are working as members of the national mirror committee. In 2016, JS attended the meeting in Dublin, Ireland (Newsletter #183, January 2017.) The Dublin meeting was the first session after Japan became a convener of WG 7 for Inorganics & nutrient recovery.

3. HIGHEST NUMBER OF TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR OVERSEAS ENGINEERS

JS dispatches its staff as instructors to training programs that various organizations manage, and JS also provides its training facility in Toda City for these programs.

JS offers a broad range of training menus, including administrative and financial operation, wastewater and sludge treatment technology, R&D, water quality, and O&M. In 2016-17, the International Affairs Office has helped 16 training programs. The number was the highest since International Affairs Office had started.

Saitama Prefecture and Shizuoka Prefecture each provide technical support to Thailand and Mongolia, respectively. Their activities are part of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Partnership Program (JPP), each supporting the Wastewater Management Authority (WMA) of Thailand (Newsletter #181, November 2016) and Dornogovi Province of Mongolia (Newsletter #176, June 2016.) JS helped their training programs.



Photo 3: A training program for WMA

4. SUPPORT FOR VSC ESTABLISHMENT

JICA provides technical cooperation to Vietnam to establish the Vietnam Sewerage Center (VSC.) VSC is expected to have three functions of ①Training ② Project

execution support and ③R&D, that is to say, VSC is Vietnamese JS. (Newsletter #168, November 2015; #173, March 2016; #177, July 2016)

5. PROJECT SUPPORT FOR SEWERAGE SERVICE IN IRAQ AND UKRAINE; ADOPTION SUPPORT OF JAPANESE TECHNOLOGY TO OVERSEAS LARGE-SCALE WWTP

JS has been taking contract research activities from JICA since last year as follows:

- Sewerage Construction Project in Kurdistan Region (Erbil City, Iraq)
- Bortnychi Sewage Treatment Plant Modernization Project (Kyiv, Ukraine)

These two projects will adopt new Japanese technologies. The Bortnychi case is a huge project that will retrofit the WWTP with a capacity of 1.5million m³/day and introduce sludge treatment facilities, including an advanced incinerator. JS supports a design that JICA ordered from a domestic consulting company. (Newsletter #167, October 2015; #171, January 2016)

That is all my report. I appreciate all your help in the year 2016-17. JS will continue to work toward its steady global presence, and your continuous support and assistance for international activities are always essential. Thank you very much.