

Day2

Title : 4. Public Private Partnership on Waste Management in Japan

(3) A Japanese Technology for Improvement of Solid Waste Management in Africa

Speaker :

Mr. Takeo Tokunari, Director, International Development Division, Meiwa Co.,Ltd.

Summary

Our company has been established in 1965 in Kanazawa city of Ishikawa Prefecture, and have 50 employees at present. One of our main products is biomass carbonization plant especially for carbonizing unused biomass. The biochar produced by the plant can be used for fuel and soil conditioner to improve moisture content. At the same time, the plant produces wood vinegar as a second production, which is expected to control disease for livestock.

Nowadays, we are facing environmental problem due to the climate change. For example, in Kenya, many people suffer from droughts which give huge damage to maize farming. As mentioned above, the biochar has a function to keep moisture in soil. It means resilience of plant is increased against droughts.

Now we are conducting a feasibility survey in Kenya supported by JICA to examine our technology in Africa. We collect organic waste and dried and shredder these. Finally, it was carbonized by our plant. The produced biochar and wood vinegar are now being examined at the field. This method can be also applied other unused biomass such as bagasse, sludge etc. in African countries.

We recognized that building a integrated system from waste collection, treatment and disposal is the key to success, thus we need collaboration with local governments, local companies and end users such as farmers in order to establish resource circulation system for utilizing unused biomass efficiently.

<Q&A>

Regarding searching partners in Africa, the companies should be able to find partners in Niger, which is a country with primarily 80% agriculture-based, thus plenty of resources are available related to the technologies presented during the session.

It was suggested by the moderator that, for the answers to the questions, one-on-one meeting could be held during the coffee break since the questions were quite specific.