

# 7<sup>th</sup> High Level Seminar of Environmentally Sustainable Cities

Plenary 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2016

## Learning From Our Neighbors:

The Toyota Foundation's International Grant Program and  
Hokkaido Renewable Energy Workshop / Symposium (Oct. 2015)



THE TOYOTA FOUNDATION

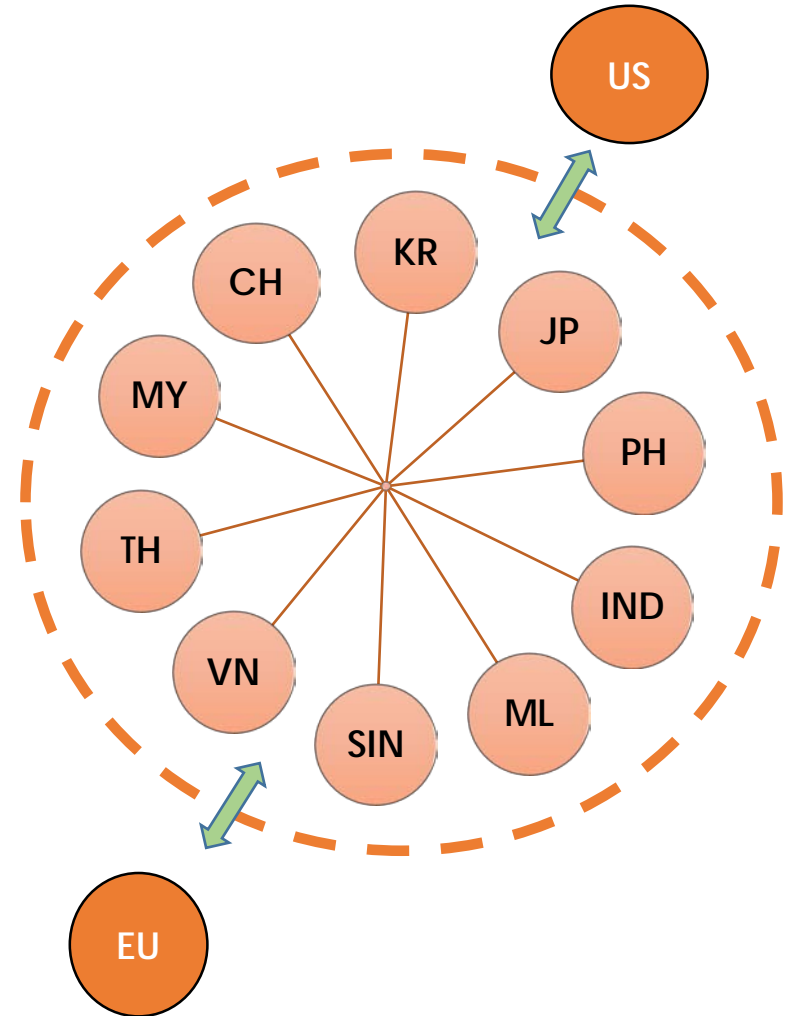
Ken AOO (Mr.)  
Program Officer  
Group for International Grants

- An independent grant-making foundation established in 1974
- Endowment from TMC: JPY 40 billion (USD 350 million FY2014)
- Chair: Mr. Hiroshi OKUDA / President: Ms. Atsuko TOYAMA
- Annual income: JPY 660 million (USD 6 million)
- Annual grant: JPY 360 million (USD 3 million)
- Main grant programs: Research Grant, International Grant, Grant Program for Community Action (Japan only)
  - All “call for proposal” basis via foundation website (<https://www.toyotafound.or.jp/english/>)

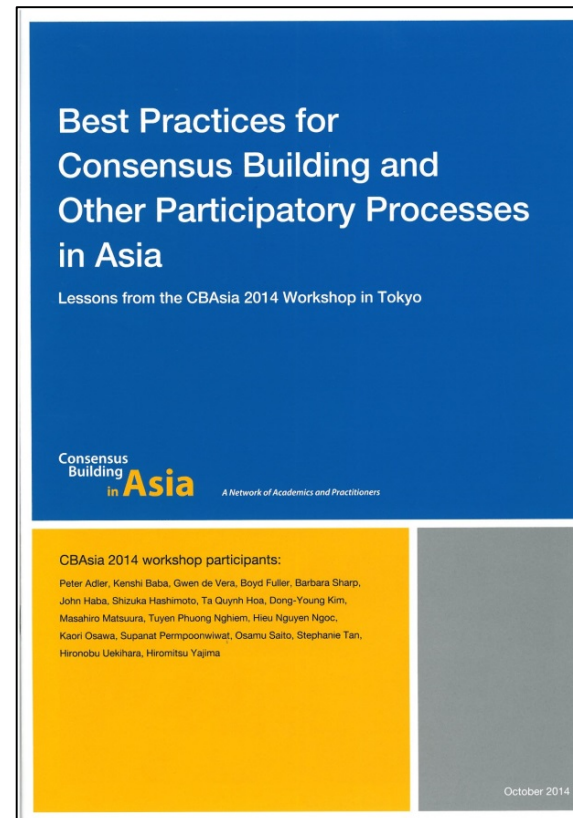


# International Grant Program (2013 - ongoing)

- Focus: Shift from quasi-development assistance program to knowledge exchange on “Common issues” in Asia (Aging, International Migration, Renewable Energies)
- Supporting: a) Policy review and policy recommendations;  
b) Mutual exchange visits
- Goal: Build peer networks of researchers / practitioners in East and Southeast Asia
- Final Goal: Create a new partnership among Asian countries based on “Mutual learning and Empathy”



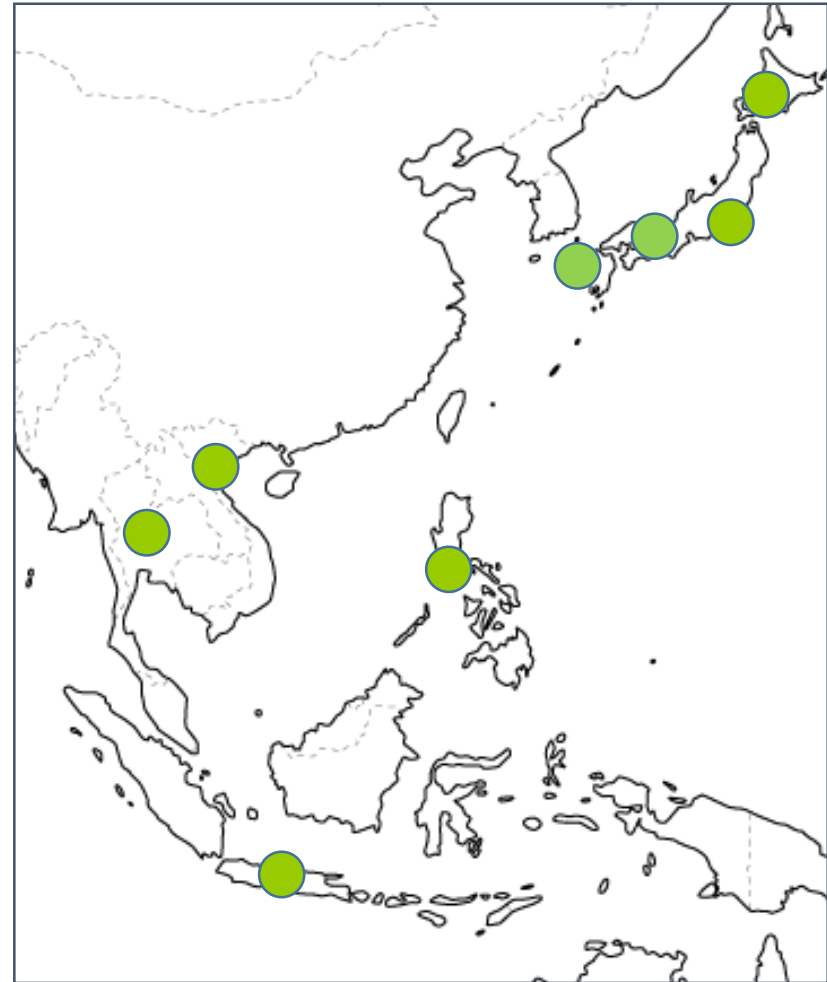
# Some successful projects from IGP



- Community-based elderly care in Thailand
- Best practices for consensus building in Asia

- Theme: Renewable energy practices for sustainable community development
- Beneficiaries (by country): Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan
- What each project did:  
Creating policy recommendation on RE use in community levels
- Interesting results and people, but isolated (no connection)

## (Project Countries)





- 2-5 Oct, 2015 at Hokkaido
- Co-organized with local foundation, university, and NPO
- 40 Researchers / Practitioners / Policy makers from 7 countries (incl. China and Korea)
- Field visits (Ashibetsu / Yuubari)
- Workshops (closed)
- Symposium (open)

(Field visit)



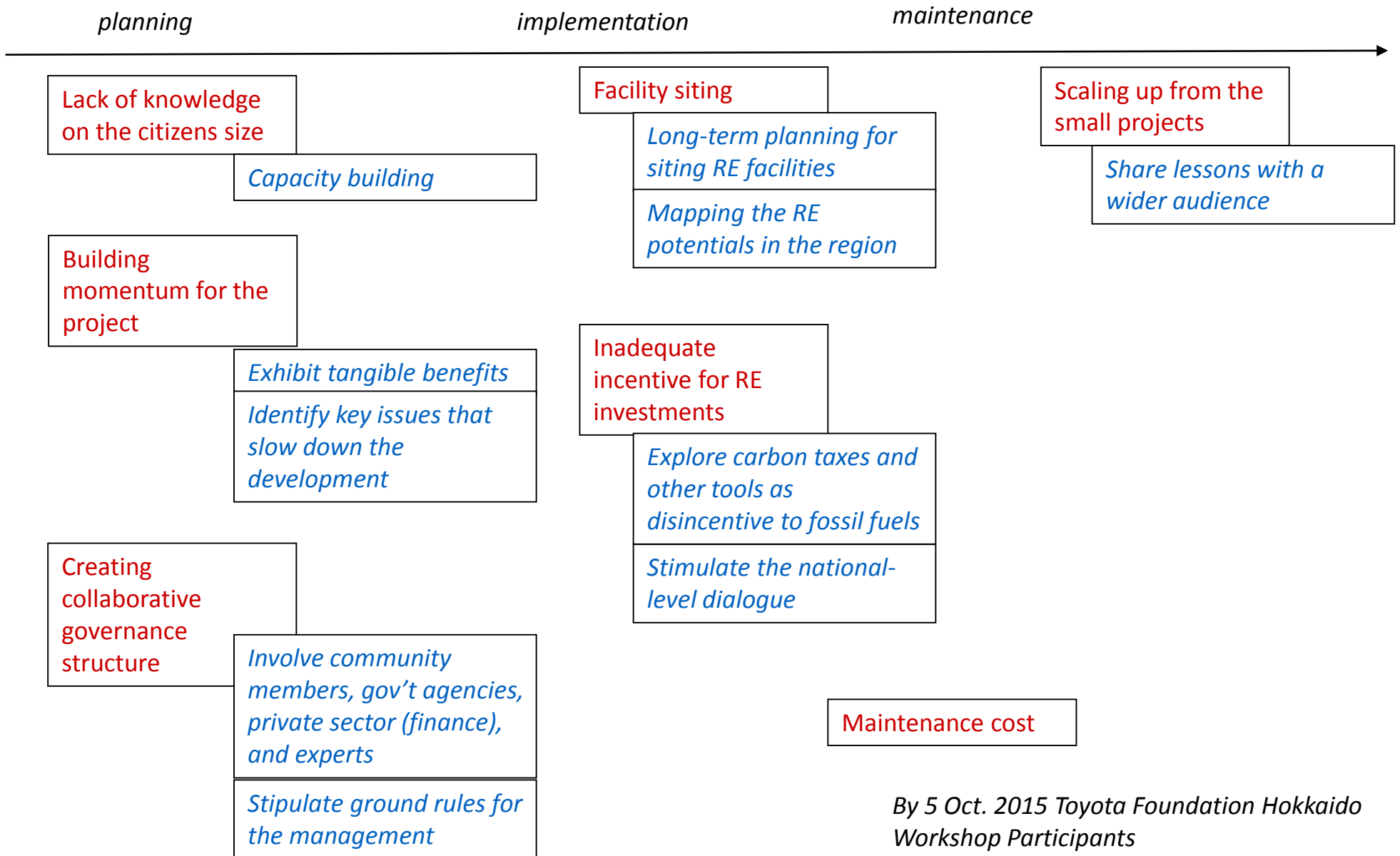
(Symposium)



# Final Workshop (Oct. 5, 2015)



# Output: **Challenges** to the RE development, and possible **solutions**



By 5 Oct. 2015 Toyota Foundation Hokkaido  
Workshop Participants  
(Summary by Prof. Matsuura, Univ. of Tokyo)



- Era of “donor-recipient” relationship is ending, era of “sharing common issues” is coming
- Innovative efforts are there, but few to connect those knowledge and experience (like this seminar)
- Most of private foundations need to utilize their relatively small resources to bring impact – taking risks, focus, and connecting people
- There are differences, but also commonality especially in community-based initiatives and processes
- A question from one high-school student in Hokkaido symposium