

Abstract

Evaluation and Follow-up Management of the East Asia Climate Partnership (EACP)

I. Introduction

Climate change has been one of the important global agendas since the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Especially, in early 21st century, based on the consensus that climate change could jeopardize the very existence of humankind and sustainable development, climate change has been considered as a critical issue in the international development cooperation. Accordingly, advanced countries together with various international organizations provide technical assistances, financial assistances and capacity building programmes for developing countries who have less historical responsibilities for climate change but suffer more from it. In line with this global trend, at the G8 summit in 2008 the Republic of Korea(hereafter Korea) proposed to provide 200 million USD from 2008 to 2012 for Asian developing countries in order for them to address climate change.

Considering the need for Asian development countries, EACP includes five major areas to be supported such as water management, low-carbon city, low-carbon energy, forest and biomass, waste management. Korea International Cooperation Agency(KOICA) was selected as an implementing agency of EACP and under the EACP it provided bilateral projects, multilateral projects with international organizations, training programmes and research programmes. The main focus of this research is to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of EACP based on international norms and guidelines and to suggest an effective follow-up plans as well as a future direction for climate change ODA for KOICA.

II. East Asia Climate Partnership (EACP)

As an OECD and Non-Annex I party to the UNFCCC, Korea has been taking a role of bridging developed and developing countries in the global climate change governance. Accordingly, although it was a relatively smaller climate financing compared to other advanced countries, EACP was an addition financing and all of it was provided as grant. At the time of Feb 2013, seven of the twenty bilateral projects in ten Asian countries and five of the thirteen multilateral projects in cooperation with seven international organizations were completed. The water management sector shares the 65% of the total EACP budget and the low-carbon energy sector takes 17%.

III. Process Evaluation of the EACP at Programme Level

This research conducted a process evaluation of the EACP at programme level in order to evaluate the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the EACP as well as analyzing the planning, implementation and post-management of the programme. The evaluation was done in comparison with similar climate financing initiatives by the UK, Germany and Japan.

The major findings from the process evaluation are as follows. Firstly, some of the projects which were not directly contributing to neither climate mitigation nor climate adaptation were supported under the EACP due to a short time for screening as well as lack of climate change specific criteria. Secondly, despite of the fact that different modalities were implemented, a synergistic cooperation among different modalities as well as utilizing the already existing climate change institutions of the recipient countries was lacking. Thirdly, the policy making process for the EACP was somewhat delayed due to a complicated process and structure and the participation of the implementing agency was limited. Fourthly, a top-down decision making process sometimes didn't end-up with a good result and the roles and mandates of the different stakeholders involved in the EACP were not very clear. Lastly, it could have been more effective, if civil society, academia and private sectors had involved in the policy making of the EACP.

IV. Result Evaluation of the EACP at Project Level

Due to the limit of time and resources, this research only evaluates 5 bilateral projects and 2 multilateral projects which were carefully selected based on their progresses and areas. The major findings of the evaluation are summarized in the table below

Major Findings of the EACP Result Evaluation		
B I	1. Increase the supply of renewable energies	The Establishment of Hybrid Power System Facilities, Cambodia
		✓ It works as a model project to be replicated in other regions in Cambodia to provide electricity from renewable sources ✓ A more systematic baseline survey should have been applied in the planning stage in order to verify the climate mitigation contribution
	2. Expand carbon sink capacity	Afforestation and Water Resource Development using Solar Power System in Bayannur Soum, Mongolia
		✓ It is likely that the project will contribute to climate mitigation through expanding carbon sink capacity. ✓ A long-term monitoring and post-management will be critical for this kind of afforestation project.
	3. Increase waste-to-energy	Construction of Municipal Solid Waste Recycling Facility for Ulaanbaatar City, Mongolia
		✓ At the time of evaluation, the facility was not in operation due to the failure of getting the permit on the completion. ✓ The permit needs to be achieved as soon as possible in close cooperation with the host institution and climate mitigation impact needs to be estimated and continuously monitored.
	4. Provide stable water supply	Water supplying to new towns and Increasing efficiency of water resource use project in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
		✓ It is highly expected that this project will contribute to strengthening the water

M U L T I		management capacity of the government to address climate change. ✓ It is crucial that the new master plan will be used as an important policy document and the facilities need to be well-maintained.
	5. Strengthen climate monitoring and forecasting	Development of COMS Data Reception/Analysis System, Sri Lanka
		✓ It greatly increased the climate monitoring and forecasting capacities of the recipient country for climate change adaptation.
		✓ It provided not only the hardwares and softwares, but also systematic training and education which will lead the capacity building of the hosting institution.
	1. Strengthen disease control to address climate change	Strengthening control of vectorborne diseases to lessen the impact of climate change in the Western Pacific Region with focus on Cambodia, Mongolia, and Papua New Guinea ✓ In case of Cambodia and Mongolia, it contributed to strengthen the climate adaptation capacity, but in case of Papua New Guinea it was difficult to secure the result of the project due to political instabilities. ✓ Especially, since the project duration was reduced compared to the proposal, the ownership and the will of recipient countries were not enough to substantially support the projects.
	2. Share Korea's Green Growth experience	Development of the Low Carbon Green Growth Roadmap for East Asia and Organization of the 2nd East Asia Climate Forum
		✓ Through this project, Asian developing countries have shared Korea's Green Growth experience and became more support of sustainable development. ✓ Especially, Low Carbon Green Growth Roadmap derived from the project as well as E-Learning course will greatly contribute to the reason.

V. Follow-up Plan for the EACP

Since many of the EACP projects have not been completed yet, a systematic result-based management of the EACP needs to be established in order to identify major achievements of the EACP. To do so, first of all, the goals of the each project should be clearly defined and shared among KOICA, recipient countries, hosting organization, PMC. The goals need to be clear, concise, specific, quantifiable and directly indicate the contribution of the project to either climate mitigation or adaption, or both. Once the goals of the project is set as above, a thorough base-line survey with the involvement of the experts must be done and project design matrix of the project should be well-designed with the involvement of sector experts as well as international development cooperation experts.

Secondly, the cooperation with recipient countries as well as different stakeholders needs to be strengthened. Especially, from the planning process, the climate change secretariats of the recipient countries should get involved in designing the project.

Lastly, promoting the EACP needs to be improved regionally and internationally. The EACP is a special initiative provided by Non-Annex I party to the UNFCCC. Sharing the lessons learnt from the EACP could contribute to improve climate financing for the future.

VI. Conclusion and Recommendations

Korea has been putting a great deal of effort in dealing with climate change issues as one of leading countries for low carbon green growth. There is a political support for industries to use climate change as a chance toward green growth, while converting into low carbon society based on people's awareness. Korea is also promoting green ODA in order to spread global green growth in the field of international development. In 'Green ODA Development Strategy for Spreading Global Green Growth', which was announced in 2012, it was stated that the proportion of green ODA would be increased to 30% by 2020 and

international assistance through multilateral channel such as GEF would be increased.

As a part of these efforts, Korea expanded both of quality and quantity of green ODA by EACP during last 5 years, declaring its green leadership in international society. EACP is a representative initiative of Korea for global green growth and partnership, playing a bridging role between developed and developing countries for green and sustainable growth in Asia. More particularly, it contributes to partner countries' climate change adaptation capacity by supplying water resources and installing climate change surveillance system, and it also enhances partner countries' climate adaptation capacity by providing low carbon energy and using waste energy.

Based on the evaluation and research of EACP, some suggestions and recommendations for future direction of climate change ODA in Korea are proposed below.

Firstly, implementation of Green ODA needs to be pursued and managed as part of overall governmental ODA policy of Korea. Especially, strategy of Green ODA of Korea should be improved by properly reflecting lessons learned from projects results through channels including KOICA, Korean aid agency. Also, formation of experts group, through which ideas and opinions from academia, civil society and private sector may be represented, is necessary as in the case of other similar programs of other aid agencies.

Secondly, the suggested visions of climate change ODA comprise a) making contribution to sustainable development of developing countries by helping them to change into green economy, and b) helping mitigation of climate change effect, building infrastructure for climate change adaption, and general capacity building. Therefore, identification of specific visions tailored to two pillars for climate change preparations, that is, mitigation and adaptation, should be done. Once visions are clearly identified and set, two-prong approaches in hardware and software should be conducted accordingly in a integrated way for fulfillment of these visions set. For example, while infrastructure building such as solar

system in Cambodia and data analysis apparatus using ocean meteorology satellite communication system in Sri Lanka form essential part, capacity building through training of the staffs concerned from recipient country for operation and maintenance of these systems is no less important. However, recipient countries should make strategic decisions regarding which one of the two general directions, namely, alleviation and adaptation, it would choose, while considering that these countries themselves are mostly poor countries which bear relatively very little responsibilities in terms of climate change, and also that mitigation could be perceived as part of adaptation in a broader perspective.

Thirdly, judging from EACP' s previous experiences, it is appropriate to select and support particular regions and sectors in order to improve the effectiveness of climate-related ODA projects with limited budget. Rather than supporting diverse sectors in a dispersive way, it is far more efficient to focus on few small-scaled sectors based on the needs of less developed countries, which also allows accumulating sector-based specialty. This can be applied to EACP' s further measures to implementing projects in following sectors, considering both the scale and results of previously implemented EACP' s projects; in the mitigation sector, less-carbon energy sector is deemed to be more appropriate to pursue. Likewise sectors such as water maintenance and climate disaster forecasting capacity are considered to be more suitable for the adaptation sector. Moreover, in terms of selecting partner countries, among the 26 priority ones, those in which water maintenance and energy sector are one of the development priorities in the CPS should be primarily considered by aligning with Korean ODA policies and strategies. For better selection and concentration strategy, 6 countries are identified by the research team, based on the following criteria: 1) the countries' poverty rate, 2) country status (priority country or not), 3) existing partnership with EACP (EACP' s beneficiary country or not), 4) the membership of GGGI, and 5) demands in energy, water management, and climate forecasting sectors. Those are Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Mongol, Philippines and Vietnam.

Lastly, it is advisable to make workable condition based on PDM during project implementation phase. As a project proceeds, PDM should be updated

and adjusted continuously according to local context change. In addition, it is required that professional consultancy is provided when drafting PDM for each project, considering the complexity of the climate change subjects. Within 3 months from initiation of each project, core objective indicators should be set up and baseline data for those indicators should be collected. Data collection should be conducted periodically by PMC throughout the project implementation phase. The collected data should be reported to KOICA by PMC. For improving performance management, various experts' feedback and lessons learnt from previous projects should be reflected and utilized in each project stage. In addition, it is advisable that the climate change ministry participates in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of each project in realizing the principle of aid alignment in international development discourse.