

# Designing Global warming prevention policy in Japan

## Emission trading and environmental values

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### **1. Objective of the thesis**

Global warming prevention policies need to be designed from a long time perspective. More than a decade has passed, since the Convention of the Climate Change Policy was adopted in 1992, unfortunately, even with sincere and earnest effort of the participating countries, global warming problem does not seem to reach a solution. In order to solve global warming problem, we must reconsider the usage of “energy”, especially the usage of fossil fuels, which is known to be the main source of greenhouse gas. In this thesis a new economic value, the “environmental value” is considered, and through the usage of emissions trading, a new scheme for global warming prevention is suggested.

### **2. Global warming in Japan**

More than 90 percent of greenhouse gases emitted in Japan is carbon dioxide, and most of it is derived from the usage of energy, especially electricity. Therefore, in order to strengthen global warming prevention policies in Japan, one must consider how to tackle CO<sub>2</sub> emitted from energy. However global warming prevention policies in Japan is not consistent with the energy policies. With the trend to cut-down energy price in Japan, there are no counter measurements taken to add “environmental value” to the present energy system. In this thesis, how to permeate this new value, through reexamination of renewable energy and the utilization of emission trading is investigated.

Major global warming prevention policy in Japan started from “Action Program to Arrest Global Warming”, introduced in October, 1990. In 1998, Outline for Promotion Effects to Prevent Global Warming was announced, however these measurements did not have coercive power, and also was not specific to deal with energy policies.

### **3. Suggestion of urgent and efficient global warming prevention policy for Japan**

The Kyoto protocol is about to come into force, and Japan must show a effective and efficient environmental policy to tackle global warming. There are economic burdens to attain this goal, however there are no more time to relieve.