

Introduction: Japan's International Agenda for the s Yoichi Funabashi Japan has increasingly become an enigma to the rest of the world be-

Coordinating Bodies The Ministry of Foreign Affairs MOFA is responsible for decision making on international cooperation and assistance for sustainable development in coordination with other relevant ministries and agencies. Public authorities and local governments may engage in international cooperation by themselves independently from national government. In some cases, however, local governments may be supported or involved in national level cooperation. This measure is based on the fact that these local offices are in the best position to grasp the situations and needs of developing countries. **Legislation and Regulations** The principal law and policy documents are: 1 Environmental degradation threatens the human existence, and constitutes security issues in a broad sense; 2 **Ownership:** Developing countries assume the primary responsibility and roles to address environmental issues. Donor countries assist such self-help efforts; and 3 **Sustainable Development:** The objective of environmental cooperation should be to realize sustainable development, paying attention to the different economic and social situation of each country for ISD please see Annex I. The Congress discussed climate change issues and regional cooperation for sustainable development. As the host country of the 4th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development convened by ESCAP in Kitakyushu in , Japan actively participated in the discussions in the Conference itself and preparation process and contributed to its success with the tangible outcomes of: Based on this, the Government has been exchanging views with NGOs and other entities through such dialogues as "NGO-Ministry of Foreign Affairs Regular Consultation Meeting" which covers various issues on development cooperation including country assistance programs. Some local authorities have their own activities or programmes regarding international environmental cooperation, mostly with their sister cities. Representative example is the activities of environmental cooperation between Kitakyushu-City in Japan and Dalian-City in China. Efforts are being made to fully utilize the knowledge and know-how of the Japanese private sector, including active use of private-sector consultants and strengthening of their skills. Due attention is also paid to the effective coordination among the ODA, OOF and private sector funds, taking into account the respective roles of these funds. In the environmental cooperation, there are some NGOs which involves in such international cooperation activities as afforestation, dispatch of environmental experts, and nature conservation. Japan attaches high importance to "good governance" through the improvement of policy management capacities of developing countries. In those situation, capacity building of NGOs and private sector is a major challenge. These aids include a large number of programmes and projects as shown in Annex I. Typical examples of technical assistance programmes are as follows: The purposes of this seminar are to contribute to the improvement of tax administration of developing countries through transferring technical knowledge and skills of the Japanese tax system and its tax administration; to offer the opportunity to share the knowledge on Japanese tax administration system to the participants; and to promote the mutual understanding about tax administration among participating countries. This project is being implemented in the developing region of Southern Sulawesi in Indonesia. **Status** All of the following financial resources are outflows: **Challenges** Major challenges in building partnership is overcoming the various kinds of gaps between developed and developing countries, including those of perception of environmental issues, financial basis, priority area, availability of resources, information technologies, etc. In building partnerships, it is vital for all stakeholders in developing countries to have the sense of ownership in promoting sustainable development. Japan provides a third-country training programme at University Putra Malaysia for those engaged in activities that support the economic activities of women in Asia and the Pacific region. Lectures are provided to enhance knowledge needed to business, financial management and gender issues. The skills acquired during the training course are expected to help women who live in villages establish their own business. Japan also provides training courses on corporate management, offering the opportunity for managers from companies in developing countries to learn know-how on management of Japanese companies.

Various measures, such as TV programs, official magazines, symposiums etc. Some recent activities are described as follows: Japan introduced its ODA citizen-monitor programme in as one of the steps to promote public awareness and improve ODA transparency. JICA has training courses for prospective JICA experts, which provide necessary basic knowledge and various skills in the field of international cooperation. In addition, MOFA and JICA have an internship system for graduate students, intended to give young people the chance to come into contact with real aid activities. The National Environmental Training Institute of the Environment Agency has been providing training in introductory international cooperation, training of environment experts, etc. Alongside, training is also given to engineers in the private sector by the Institute. Japan places particular importance on the support pertaining to the formulation of various types of systems and policies, including the development of legal framework, as is mentioned in its Medium-term Policy on ODA. The URL is "[http: ODA annual report is distributed to libraries, universities, embassies in Japan and others. Also, the Agency is providing a training course of international environmental cooperation for local government officials and others. The examples of joint research, professional networking and other activities are as follows: The provision of ODA must be based on the fair understanding and support of tax payers and the general public. Cooperation Japan has organized, among others, seminars on investment promotion to train government officials from developing countries, and dispatched experts of relevant legal systems to those countries as advisers. Japan also actively participates in and promotes regional programmes and projects in areas such as global warming, biological diversity, acid deposition and the marine environment. Japan has actively participated in this work and hosted the second inter-governmental meeting in Tokyo on November Japan has ratified most multilateral agreements related to sustainable development and exerted its utmost to encourage their effective implementation at the sub-regional, regional and global levels. Japan has been supporting various projects that are conducive to promoting Agenda 21 at the sub-regional, regional and global levels though financial and technical cooperation. This project has been implemented since to study the future prospects of the environment in Asia and the Pacific region and recommend possible policy options. It has been implemented since to establish an environmental information network in the Region. A pilot web-site "http:](http://www.oda.go.jp/)

Chapter 2 : Events - City Guide - The Japan Times

download Japans international agenda pdf download Ebook Japans international agenda Kindle In contrast to Hidenori Sakanaka's unbridled optimism, I argue that Japan has little prospect of becoming a "migrant nation" anytime soon.

The reason we can expect such a prominent growth effect from the TPP is that, in addition to deregulation of trade in goods, the deregulation of trade in services retail, finance, intellectual property, etc. Moreover, the further economic integration will bring more face-to-face communication across borders. Viewed from such a perspective, the recent broad agreement on the TPP is a big step forward, in that the TPP will not only lower tariffs on automotive and other products, but will also deregulate trade in services and foreign investment. In the areas of foreign investment and service trade – such as retail and finance – parties to the TPP as a rule would use negative listing. In other words, all business areas would be deregulated other than those specifically listed by each country. In Vietnam and Malaysia, regulations on foreign capital would be eased. Stronger protection of intellectual property rights in member nations should also raise exports of Japanese technology and copyrighted property. Additional policies are necessary. However, additional policies are necessary to enjoy the maximum benefit from the TPP. For example, my estimates on the TPP take into account that small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with technological strength start exporting, further enhancing their technological capabilities by using foreign knowledge, and continuing to grow. In addition, many of those already exporting are not taking advantage of existing economic partnership agreements (EPAs), due to a lack of information, and the complexity of the application procedures for obtaining a certificate of origin needed to utilise EPAs. Mitsuya and Urata. Therefore, unless the government supports SMEs in obtaining more information. Furthermore, because firm size matters for the efficient entry of foreign markets, the government needs to support SMEs to promote mergers and acquisitions to expand their firm size. Another key factor is the effect of FDI in Japan. Empirical research shows that knowledge spillovers from FDI in research and development activities in Japan will increase the productivity of Japanese firms. Todo. The FDI will have a major economic impact on Japan as it would also increase employment. However, FDI inflows to Japan were equivalent to a mere 0. Clearly, there is room for FDI to Japan to grow. In particular, there are very few foreign firms in Japan that invest in areas outside Tokyo, because scarcely any information about these regional economies is available outside Japan. Attracting foreign firms to the regional areas could trigger regional revitalisation by, for example, organising investment seminars that provide information on regional economies, including specific technology and knowledge of universities and SMEs in the regions. Preparing an environment in regional areas to make living easier for non-Japanese to settle there would also be helpful, for example, by providing more English signboards and increasing the number of international schools. By doing so, Japan could maximise the economic benefit of the TPP. Protectionist policy is counterproductive. On the other hand, if Japan adopts protectionist policies for protecting agriculture and other domestic industries, the TPP will be of limited effect. Protected industries become exclusive to safeguard their economic rents. Any innovation that can be achieved by ties with outsiders will be nipped in the bud. The history of deregulation in agriculture shows that domestic production did not fall all that much after the partial deregulation of imports of cherries and beef in Todo. That is because farmers learned to be more efficient and successfully differentiated their products. High-quality domestic products could coexist with cheaper imports in the domestic market. In that sense, it was most unfortunate that Japan retained trade barriers on products like rice and dairy, thereby missing an opportunity to make production of such agricultural products competitive. The government should support agriculture, forestry and fishery, as well as manufacturing and service sectors, to make use of such linkages and thereby maximise the effect of the TPP. Publication does not imply endorsement of views by the World Economic Forum.

Chapter 3 : Japan - Wikipedia

Japan's International Agenda makes a distinctive contribution to the foreign policy debate. Its contributors are younger Japanese non-governmental foreign affairs specialists, each with considerable international experience and committed to the belief that significant policy reforms are essential.

At the end of the seventh century, a delegation from Japan requested that Nihon be used as the name of their country. This name may have its origin in a letter sent in and recorded in the official history of the Sui dynasty. The Nara period is characterized by the appearance of a nascent literature as well as the development of Buddhist-inspired art and architecture. This marked the beginning of the Heian period , during which a distinctly indigenous Japanese culture emerged, noted for its art , poetry and prose. The Zen school of Buddhism was introduced from China in the Kamakura period and became popular among the samurai class. Emperor Go-Daigo was himself defeated by Ashikaga Takauji in Ashikaga Takauji established the shogunate in Muromachi, Kyoto. This was the start of the Muromachi period The Ashikaga shogunate achieved glory at the age of Ashikaga Yoshimitsu , and the culture based on Zen Buddhism the art of Miyabi prospered. This evolved to Higashiyama Culture , and prospered until the 16th century. His consolidation of power began what was known as the Azuchi-Momoyama period After Nobunaga was assassinated in by Akechi Mitsuhide , his successor Toyotomi Hideyoshi unified the nation in and launched two unsuccessful invasions of Korea in and When open war broke out, Ieyasu defeated rival clans in the Battle of Sekigahara in The Edo period also gave rise to kokugaku "national studies" , the study of Japan by the Japanese. Subsequent similar treaties with Western countries in the Bakumatsu period brought economic and political crises. The Meiji Restoration transformed the Empire of Japan into an industrialized world power that pursued military conflict to expand its sphere of influence. Although France and Britain showed some interest, the European powers largely ignored Japan and instead concentrated on the much greater attractions of China. France was also set back by its failures in Mexico and defeat by the Germans. This process accelerated during the s, spawning a number of new Radical Nationalist groups which shared a hostility to liberal democracy and a dedication to expansion in Asia. Japanese expansionism and militarization along with the totalitarianism and ultranationalism reshaped the country. In Japan invaded and occupied Manchuria and following international condemnation of this occupation , it quit the League of Nations in After Allied victories across the Pacific during the next four years, which culminated in the Soviet invasion of Manchuria and the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in , Japan agreed to an unconditional surrender on August The Allies led by the United States repatriated millions of ethnic Japanese from colonies and military camps throughout Asia, largely eliminating the Japanese empire and restoring the independence of its conquered territories. In , Japan adopted a new constitution emphasizing liberal democratic practices. The Allied occupation ended with the Treaty of San Francisco in [68] and Japan was granted membership in the United Nations in Japan later achieved rapid growth to become the second-largest economy in the world, until surpassed by China in This ended in the mids when Japan suffered a major recession. In the beginning of the 21st century, positive growth has signaled a gradual economic recovery. Geography of Japan and Geology of Japan The Japanese archipelago as seen from satellite Japan has a total of 6, islands extending along the Pacific coast. The main islands, from north to south, are Hokkaido , Honshu , Shikoku and Kyushu. The Ryukyu Islands , which include Okinawa , are a chain to the south of Kyushu. Together they are often known as the Japanese archipelago. Japan is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. They are primarily the result of large oceanic movements occurring over hundreds of millions of years from the mid-Silurian to the Pleistocene as a result of the subduction of the Philippine Sea Plate beneath the continental Amurian Plate and Okinawa Plate to the south, and subduction of the Pacific Plate under the Okhotsk Plate to the north. Japan was originally attached to the eastern coast of the Eurasian continent. The subducting plates pulled Japan eastward, opening the Sea of Japan around 15 million years ago. Destructive earthquakes, often resulting in tsunami , occur several times each century.

Chapter 4 : Agenda 21 - Japan

Get this from a library! Japan's International Agenda.. [Yoichi Funabashi] -- What is Japan's political role in the world? Over the past decade, Japan has been increasingly pressured to assume more financial and political burdens globally.

Japan achieved very high rates of economic growth from the 1950s to the 1980s. This growth was led by high rates of investment in productive plant and equipment, the application of efficient industrial techniques, a high standard of education, good relations between labour and management, ready access to leading technologies and significant investment in research and development, an increasingly open world trade framework, and a large domestic market of discerning consumers, which has given Japanese businesses an advantage in their scale of operations. Today, Japan is a world leader in the manufacture of automobiles, machine tools, optical and precision equipment, machinery and chemicals. Japan has, however, ceded some economic advantage in manufacturing to China, the Republic of Korea and other manufacturing economies. Japanese firms have countered by transferring manufacturing production around the world through global value chains and boosting acquisitions of foreign companies. International trade contributes significantly to the Japanese economy, with exports equivalent to approximately 20 per cent of GDP. Key merchandise exports include vehicles, machinery and manufactured goods. In 2000, leading suppliers of goods imports were China and the United States. In April 2001, the Japanese government took measures to increase tax revenues by raising the consumption tax from 5 per cent to 8 per cent. Plans to raise the rate to 10 per cent have now been postponed until 2005. Japan was most recently a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council in 2001 and is the second-largest contributor to the UN budget. In September 2001 the Diet passed security reform legislation to give the Self-Defense Forces greater flexibility to contribute to international peace and stability, including by exercising its UN Charter right to collective self-defence. Plans for the relocation of the Futenma US marine air base in Okinawa have been a longstanding bilateral preoccupation. Japan describes Australia as its second most important security partner. Good relations with its neighbours are of vital interest to Japan. After the signing of a peace and friendship treaty with China in 1972, bilateral relations developed rapidly. A trilateral summit process established in 1999 provides Japan, China and the ROK with a forum for leaders-level dialogue – the sixth such meeting was held in November 2001. The two countries cooperate in many areas in the security field. Reflecting the importance Japan places on the Asia-Pacific region as a source of economic opportunities, its other priority relationships include those with ASEAN members and other regional countries. More broadly, Australia and Japan work closely in the United Nations.

Chapter 5 : How will the TPP affect Japan's economy? | World Economic Forum

Japan's International Agenda makes a distinctive contribution to the foreign policy debate. Its contributors are younger Japanese non-governmental foreign affairs specialists, each with considerable international experience and a commitment to the belief that significant policy reforms are essential.

Japan has been promoting and will further develop various measures in accordance with the provisions of these plans. Progress in the Implementation of Agenda 21

1. The Law articulates basic principles of environmental policies, which are 1 enjoyment and succession of environmental blessings; 2 creating a sustainable society which imposes less burdens on the environment; and 3 international cooperation for the conservation of the global environment. The Law also provides for the roles of the national and local governments, and those of the private sector and citizens. The Council, consisting of representatives from the government, industry and NGOs, aims at facilitating dialogues among the members concerning the issues of sustainable development. The Plan lists various policy measures which need to be taken, consistent with the programme areas as provided in Agenda 21
2. The plan prescribes four long term objectives, namely, environmentally sound material cycle, harmonious coexistence, participation and international activities, with a view to 1 building a socio-economic system fostering environmentally sound material cycles, where environmental load by human activities are minimized; 2 securing a harmonious coexistence between humankind and diverse wildlife and natural environment; 3 ensuring participation of all the members of society in environmental conservation activities; and 4 enhancing their international activities. The Plan also identifies outlines of the policies, the roles of each entity of the society, and the use of various policy instruments to achieve the objectives. The Strategy identifies basic principles and policy directions, aiming at the protection and sustainable use of biological diversity in a comprehensive manner. The Plan requires the greening of Government operations, by such means as use of recycled paper or energy saving equipment, introduction of lower emission vehicles, and reduction of CO2 emissions. In the area of acid deposition, the Environment Agency of Japan has proposed the creation of an Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia, in order to prevent environmental impacts of acid deposition in the area, and has organized three expert meetings since Japan has actively participated in this work and hosted the second intergovernmental meeting, held in Tokyo, November, 1993.
3. Important Issues in the Implementation of Agenda 21 With a view to securing its steady implementation, the Basic Environment Plan prescribes that the Central Environment Council, which is an advisory body to the Government on environmental issues, is mandated to follow up on the progress of measures taken under the Plan every year. The Council undertook the first review in June, 1993, and identified areas which require further improvement. In the area of global warming, it called for further effective measures to meet the targets set; in the field of waste management and recycling, activities of the line ministries and other entities should be effectively linked with a socio-economic system; and concerning nature conservation, comprehensive and programmatic measures are necessary taking also into account endowments of the nearby natural environment. At the session, Parties will adopt a protocol or another legal instrument on quantified limitation or reduction of greenhouse gases by developed countries after the year 2000. Japan will make every effort for a successful conclusion of the session. Further, Japan is firmly determined that it should strengthen its efforts in addressing global warming, following up on outcomes that the COP3 of next year is expected to bring about. Japan actually achieved the goal during the four fiscal years, amounting to about billion yen. Through effective use of its ODA programme, Japan will continue to support developing regions as they pursue self efforts to achieve sustainable development. Secondly, in the field of technological assistance, Japan has actively supported developing countries in their capacity-building efforts, for example, it has offered environment-related training in Japan and dispatched experts overseas. Japan intends to expand this type of assistance in the future. On the basis of the programme, Japan will also continue to implement projects which will promote transfer of resources, technologies and know-how to the developing countries.

List of ministries and agencies involved: Names of para-statal bodies and institutions involved, as well as participation of academic and private sectors: Names of non-governmental organizations: If available, attach a diagram

organization chart showing national coordination structure and linkages between ministries:

Chapter 6 : Japan Event Calendar: November

Japan's International Agenda Yoichi Funabashi, editor; foreword by Tadashi Yamamoto The end of the cold war has put even further pressure on Japan to become a more active player in world politics befitting its position as an economic superpower.

Additional Information In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: Japan is unquestionably an economic and technological superpower. But it remains an immature political player, keeping a low profile in world politics: Japan has often been described as having a first-class economy with "economy class" politics. Even within its economy a gap exists between the world-class competitiveness of many of its industries and the humble living standards of the ordinary Japanese. As a result, Japan may appear paramount and strong from one angle, but it may seem weak and small from another. In short, Japan is difficult to fathom. Ever since it debuted on the international scene when it defeated powerful, imperial Russia at the beginning of the twentieth century, Japan has seemed headed toward becoming a superpower quite unlike other nations that have achieved that status. In other words, Japan appears heretical. In fact, efforts have already started, among which the legislation of a bill enabling the dispatch of noncombatant Self-Defense Forces to assist in the United Nations Peace Keeping Operation UNPKO activities in Cambodia and the proposed visit to China by Emperor Akihito merited special attention because they directly address the weakest points in 12 Yoichi Funabashi Japanese foreign policy: Nevertheless, these steps have just begun and they have yet to reflect national consensus. In fact, Japanese public opinion has been split and adrift. Japan is clearly at a crossroads. The most outstanding evidence of this was seen during the Gulf Crisis of Crisis A crisis almost always reveals the real picture. The Gulf Crisis revealed the real Japan. In the moment of truth, an economic superpower found itself merely an automatic teller machine, albeit one that needs a couple of kicks before it dishes out the money. The notion that economic power inevitably translates into geopolitical influence is a materialist illusion. So argued Charles Krauthammer, and many Japanese now seem to subscribe to the view. When the crisis erupted, Japan had its politically weakest leadership of the postwar era. The slow and cumbersome decision-making procedures benefited the powerful bureaucracies and served the status quo You are not currently authenticated. View freely available titles:

Chapter 7 : Project MUSE - Japan's International Agenda

Those working in international development would be forgiven for expecting - and probably secretly wishing for - a slightly quieter By all measures was a big year.

Chapter 8 : What's on the international agenda in ? | Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

Japan's Security Policy in the s 29 In an attempt at such reconceptualization, I will begin by summarizing the basic orientation of Japan's security policy in the postwar period.

Chapter 9 : Country Profile - Japan

Japan's and contributions to international peacekeeping as valid concerns of Japanese security policy. i throughout the latter half of the s, support for the idea of human security grew within Japan, culminating in.