

Introduction

The “International Research Workshop on Policy Design to Induce Energy Efficiency Improvements within the Household Sector, Learning from the Green Deal Policy in the UK” was held on February 24, 2014, at Gakushi Kaikan in Tokyo, Japan. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss and develop an effective and comprehensive policy to induce energy efficiency improvements within the Japanese household sector by learning from the advanced policy of the Green Deal in the United Kingdom.

We invited Mr. Alan Clifford, Senior Policy Advisor of the Green Deal Supply Chain Team, from the UK government’s Department of Energy and Climate Change, and Mr. Jonathan Harley, head of the Green Deal Oversight & Registration Body, Gemserv Limited Management and Consultancy. We also invited three officials from the Japanese government – Mr. Jun Morikawa, from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ms. Hiromi Masuda, from the Ministry of Environment, and Mr. Takeshi Miyamori, from the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

The 54 guests who attended the invitation-only workshop included national and local government officials, university professors, and employees of energy companies, construction companies, electric appliances companies, IT companies, banks and financial companies, and research institutes.

We believe this workshop moved our understanding forward, including international and inter-ministry understanding. We also thank the British Embassy in Tokyo for holding an informal bilateral meeting between the ministries and the invited guests from the UK.

To achieve a comprehensive policy scheme for energy efficiency improvements within the household sector, our next step is to hold several small workshops to understand and discover new ways to solve several problems, such as crediting to households, high interest rates, among others. We believe that we can move forward by working together with both current and future participants in a series of related workshops.

We would like to express our appreciation to the British Embassy in Tokyo and to Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology for their support, as well as the Center of Innovation Program, especially their Kyushu University office, for the arrangements made to co-host the workshop with COI-S at the University of Tokyo. We would also like to thank Mr. Alan Clifford and Mr. Jonathan Harley for their interesting presentations and for sharing their valuable time, and the participants for their lively discussions.

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