



The Climate Reality Project Japan Energy Group

OUR INPUT FOR COP 30 Belém

Issued on October 22nd, 2025

At COP28 in 2023, based on the Global Stocktake, the UAE Consensus, agreed upon by countries worldwide including Japan, identified a set of common global actions necessary to achieve the 1.5°C target. These actions include tripling global renewable energy capacity, doubling improvements in energy efficiency, and transitioning away from fossil fuel dependence in energy systems by 2030. To achieve emission reductions consistent with the 1.5°C target, ambitious renewable energy deployment goals must continue beyond 2030. Meeting the target of tripling renewable energy requires installing one terawatt per year. In 2024, only 0.5 terawatts were installed globally. In addition, it is essential to expand infrastructure such as transmission networks and energy storage and to increase climate finance targets to support these developments.

Although 2024 represents only a single year, the global average temperature exceeded 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels for the first time. If current trends continue, unpredictable tipping points could be crossed, potentially triggering irreversible changes such as the drying of the Amazon rainforest and the melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets. Intensifying extreme weather events can lead to food and water shortages, health impacts, economic losses, new poverty, social instability, and heightened risks of conflict. These cascading negative effects cross borders and affect people around the world.

Energy Group's Positions for COP30: Global and Japan-specific Perspectives

Point 1 : GHG Emission Reductions Truly Aligned with the 1.5°C Target

Global

The Paris Agreement requires all countries to strengthen their targets every five years and to submit NDCs that incorporate more ambitious climate action. Countries around the world must reflect in their NDCs emission reduction targets that are consistent with achieving the 1.5°C goal as agreed in the Global Stocktake. This includes tripling renewable energy capacity, doubling improvements in energy efficiency, and transitioning away from fossil fuel dependence in energy systems.

Japan

- Japan has already submitted its NDC in February 2025, but the 46 percent reduction target for 2030 has not been revised. New targets have been set at a 60 percent reduction by 2035 and a 73 percent reduction by 2040. While Japan has pledged carbon neutrality by 2050, the current reduction pathway is linear and does not align with the 1.5°C target. Based on the carbon budget required to achieve the 1.5°C goal, greenhouse gas emissions in 2035 should be reduced by 79 percent compared to 2013 levels, and the targets for 2030 and 2040 should also be revised accordingly.

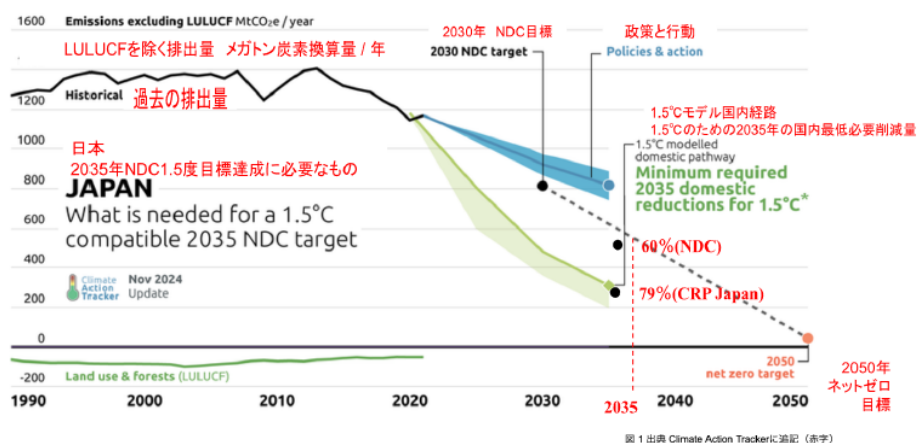


Figure 1: Japan's GHG Emission Reduction Targets (NDC) and Required Reduction Levels¹

Point 2 : Complete Phase-Out of Coal Power and Transition to 100% Renewable Energy

Japan

- In Japan, there is no clear commitment to a full phase-out of coal-fired power plants, which are the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the power sector. Current plans only aim for a gradual reduction of inefficient coal plants, leaving the capacity of coal-fired power generation (over 45 million kW) largely intact after 2030 according to OCCTO's supply plans. This is expected to account for more than 30 percent of the power mix, exceeding the government's 2030 target of 19 percent. Gradual coal phase-out and uncertain measures such as ammonia co-firing cannot achieve emission reductions consistent with the 1.5°C target. To align with the 1.5°C goal, a clear roadmap for the complete phase-out of coal-fired power is essential. In addition, all sectors, including industry, must accelerate electrification and improve energy efficiency in equipment and building insulation, aiming to reduce final energy consumption by 66 percent by 2040 compared to 2013 levels.² Furthermore, Japan must steadily deploy renewable energy in a manner that coexists with local communities, based on the country's abundant renewable potential. By 2035, renewable energy should account for 80 percent of the power mix, reaching 100 percent by 2040. Ultimately, policies must support a full energy transition to 100 percent renewable energy, including heating and transport fuels.

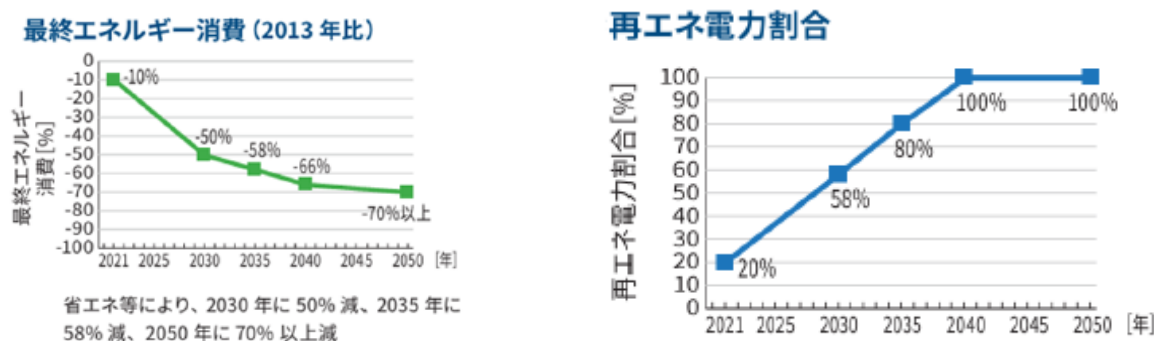


Figure 2: Reduction of Final Energy Consumption in Japan and the Outlook for 100% Renewable Electricity³

¹ Climate Action Tracker <https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/japan/>

² Green Transition 2025 <https://green-transition-japan.org/>



Point 3 : Achieving Social Justice, a Just Transition, and Citizen Participation

Global

The impacts of global warming are unevenly distributed across countries and populations. Even developing and low-income countries, which have contributed very little to greenhouse gas emissions, are experiencing droughts, floods, and sea-level rise. These impacts exacerbate economic losses and social instability, creating disproportionate disadvantages for those least responsible for the climate crisis.

Japan

- Domestically, urban areas emit large amounts of CO₂, while regions with abundant renewable energy face challenges such as population decline. Considering historical responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions, Japan must advance the energy transition while providing economic and technological support to address regional challenges and promote local revitalization. To ensure a just energy transition, financing mechanisms must make the most effective use of public funds to leverage private investment, enabling broad participation in the energy transition. People affected by changes in the economy or society, such as job losses or disruptions to daily life, must be supported to prevent isolation and ensure a fair transition.
- Providing opportunities for citizen participation in policymaking enhances policy credibility, broadens the range of good policy options, and increases effectiveness. Currently, citizen participation and access to information in the development of environmental policies, such as the Basic Energy Plan and Japan's Climate Change Policy, remain inadequate. Japan has not even ratified the Aarhus Convention, highlighting the urgency of reform. A just transition and meaningful citizen participation are not limited to environmental and energy policy; they intersect with employment, economic, and social security issues. Therefore, collaboration among national and local governments, businesses, NGOs, and citizens is essential.

Contact

The Climate Reality Project is a global initiative tackling the climate crisis through training and mobilizing people worldwide to accelerate climate action to reach true net zero by 2050.
Global website: <https://www.climate realityproject.org/>



The Climate Reality Project Japan
<https://climaterealityjapan.org/>
japan@climatereality.com

Produced by: Volunteer Members of the CRP Japan Energy Group

Group page: https://climaterealityjapan.org/ag_energy/

This document was prepared by volunteer members of the Energy Group, one of the Action Groups of CRP Japan. It does not represent the official views of CRP Japan. The position paper summarizing CRP Japan's overall stance, which also incorporates some input from the Energy Group, can be accessed at the following link:
<https://climaterealityjapan.org/01/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/EN-COP30-Position-Paper-Full.pdf>