

Examining Political and Legal Trends: Government Legislation and Policy in Japan and their Impacts for Biomass

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In October 2020, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga declared that Japan will aim for net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The announcement included specific plans to:

- revise Japan's policy on coal-fired power plants,
- promote renewable energy development; and
- establish a platform for national and regional governments to achieve decarbonisation.

In its recent Renewable Energy Basic Plan, the Japanese Cabinet proposed to establish renewable energy as the primary energy source in Japan with a target energy mix that includes 22-24% of energy from renewable sources, such as biomass.

In light of these goals, Japan's legal and policy energy landscape is rapidly evolving. For biomass energy producers, understanding these policies – including the Feed-in-Tariff regime and its sustainability requirements and guidelines, as well as applicable commercial and contractual principles – are important.

To listen to Maya and Peter's full overview of the legal landscape in Japan related to wood biomass energy, click [here](#)