

Questions for Panel Discussion (Webinar IV)

- 1) To what extent Asia-Pacific countries have enabled triangular cooperation (government-R&D-private) in addressing the growing and complex waste management issues, thereby advancing 3R and circular economy approaches at local and national level? What specific lessons do the Japanese cases of triangular cooperation, which was built upon the measures pursuing 3R and sound material cycles society, offer us toward CE?
- 2) How can triangular cooperation help countries in accelerating circular economic development approach? What would it imply in the context of various international agendas and agreements such as the SDGs, the New Urban Agenda, the Paris Climate Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction?
- 3) While the international community have embarked on Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0), the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment (2018), Japanese Society 5.0 (Circulating and Ecological Economy), still there are major gaps in in Asia-Pacific region in terms of policy, institutions, technological interventions, investment and financing and availability of credible data/information in achieving the true potential on circular economic utilization various waste streams. How can triangular cooperation help bridge these gaps?
- 4) What is our scientific insight to the role of 3R and circular economy in protecting the urban ecosystem and enhancing resiliency of cities against the climatic impacts, increasing frequency and magnitude of natural disasters and health emergencies like COVID-19 pandemic? To this regard, how can we enhance the role of scientific and research community in bridging the triangular cooperation?
- 5) Business and cities are closely tied to each other for their own success, survival and sustainability. Pursuing circular economy(or 3R and circular economy) as an economic industry can provide multiple benefits for cities and their citizens – (a) entrepreneurship development, new business opportunities and green jobs; (b) quality environment and life through improved and scientific management of various waste streams, and (c) inclusiveness. What are the critical enabling factors to promote circular economy (or 3R and circular economy) as an economic industry? To this regard, what coordinated actions are necessary among the scientific (R & D), government and private/business sector?