



# 2-4. Decarbonizing Coal-fired Power Generation

### **APERC Workshop**

The 69<sup>th</sup> Meeting of APEC Energy Working Group (EWG69) 25 February 2025 – Gyeongju, Korea

Mr Phung Quoc Huy, Senior Researcher, APERC



### **Contents**

- Setting the scene
- Potential solutions
- Key takeaways

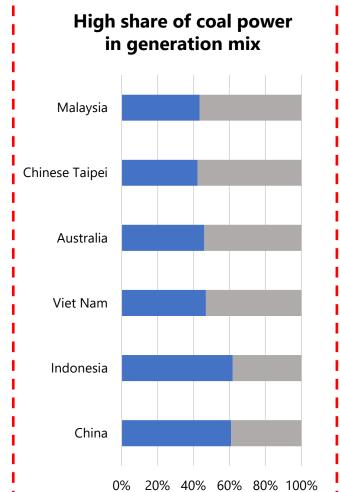


### Why is decarbonizing coal-fired power generation an urgent issue in APEC?

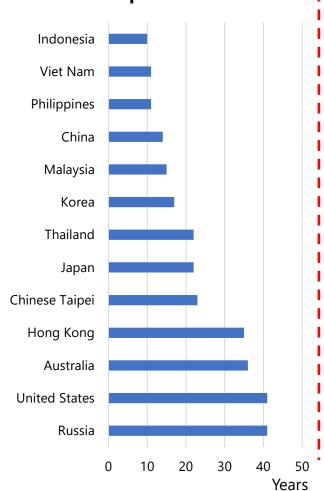
The most carbon-intensive power generation

Coal power, 79% (7653 Mt)

> Others, 21% (2076 Mt)



#### Young age of existing coalfired power fleet



# Meeting Net-zero target of economy



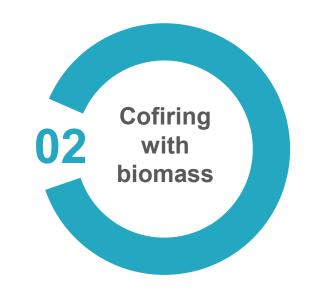
Note: All the charts above use data from the year 2023.



■ Coal ■ Others

# What are the potential solutions?



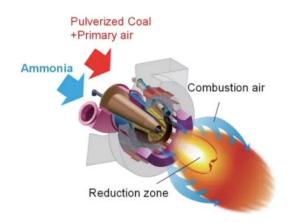


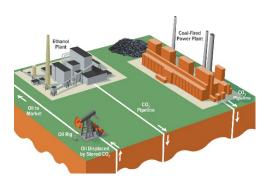












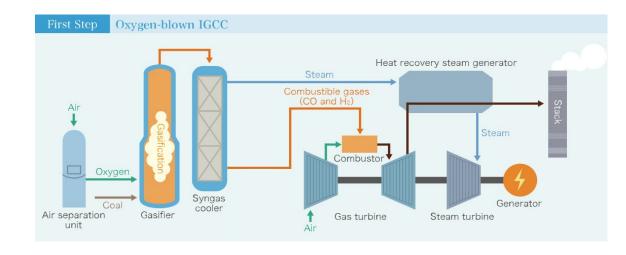


# Improving thermal efficiency

#### Thermal efficiency in different coal power technologies

Technology	Efficiency (%)	Coal consumpt ion (g/kWh)	Steam tempera ture (°C)	CO <sub>2</sub> intensity (gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh)
Integrated Coal Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC)	46 to 50%	256-272	1300	629-680
Advanced Ultra- supercritical	45 to 50%	230-320	≥700	670-740
Ultra-supercritical (USC)	Up to 45%	320-340	≥600	740-800
Supercritical	Up to 42%	340-380	550-600	800-880
Subcritical	Up to 38%	≥380	≤550	≥880

#### Osaki CoolGen demonstration project, Japan



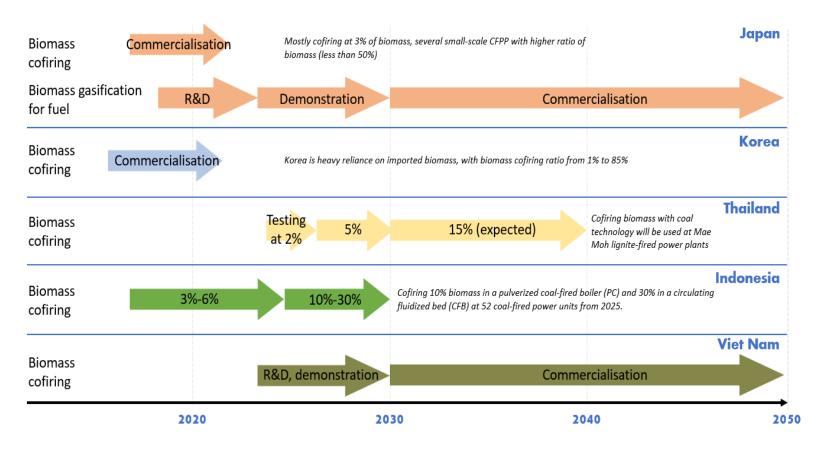
- 2013-2017: Construction of 166-MW oxygen-blown IGCC demonstration plant.
- Thermal efficiency: around 46% on commercial units.
- CO<sub>2</sub> emission: reduced by 15% compared to USC.

### Challenges: high investment cost, constraints in retrofitting existing plants



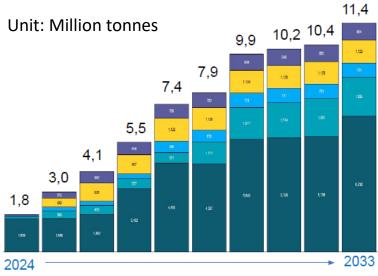
### **Cofiring with biomass**

#### **Development status in cofiring with biomass at selected APEC economies**



### Challenges: shortage of biomass, deforestation issue

#### **Cofiring with biomass in Indonesia**



#### The Target of Biomass Utilization in 2031

Number of CFPP : 52 Power Plant

Total Capacity of CFPP : 18.895 MW

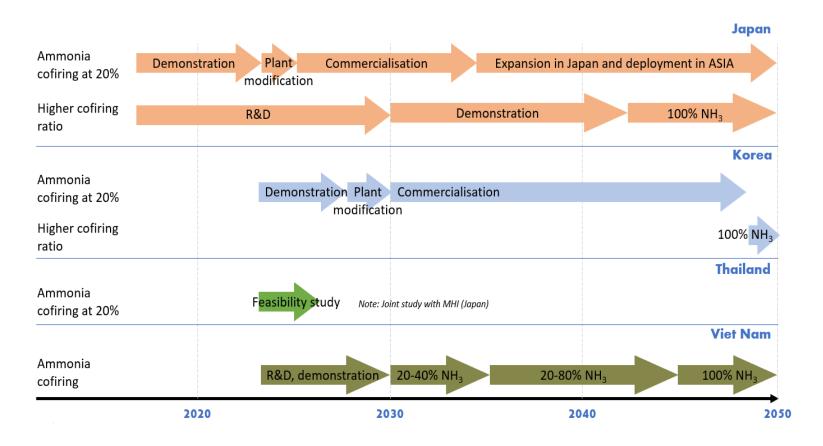
Biomass Needed : 10,2 Mn Ton/yr

Ration Biomass Co-firing : 12 %



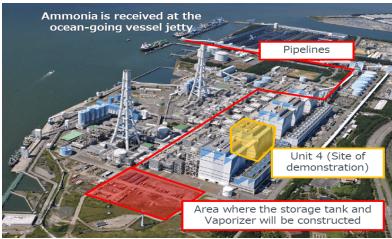
# **Cofiring with ammonia**

#### **Development status in cofiring with ammonia at selected APEC economies**



### Challenges: has not been commercialized yet, ammonia supply chain

#### **Cofiring with ammonia in Japan**

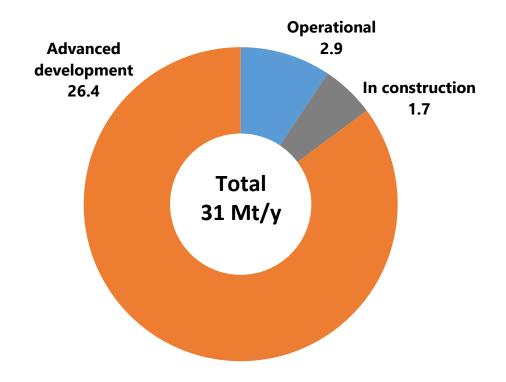


- Name: Hekinan CFPP, Unit 4
- Location: Aichi Prefecture, Japan
- Installed capacity: 1000 MW
- Co-firing rate: 20% ammonia
- Testing duration: Jan-Jun 2024
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: reduced by 20%
- $NO_x$  emissions:  $\leq$  mono-firing coal



### **Retrofitting CCUS**

#### **CCUS** capacities at APEC coal-fired power plants



Challenges: need substantial capital investment, storage sites, public acceptance

#### The largest coal-fired power plant equipped with CCUS in Asia



- Capacity: 500 000 tonnes/year
- Location: Jiangsu province, China
- Capture type: Post-combustion
- CO<sub>2</sub> Utilization: Enhanced Oil Recovery



# **Decarbonizing solutions in selected APEC economies**

Economies	Thermal efficiency improvement	Cofiring with biomass	Cofiring with ammonia	Retrofitting CCUS
Australia	•			
Canada	•			•
China	•	•	•	•
Indonesia	•	•	•	•
Japan	•	•	•	•
Korea	•	•	•	
Malaysia	•			
Mexico	•			
Philippines	•			
Russia	•			
Chinese Taipei	•			•
Thailand	•	•	•	•
USA	•			•
Viet Nam	•	•	•	•



### **Key takeaways**

#### Urgency of decarbonizing coal-fired power generation

- High carbon intensity
- High dependence on coal
- Young coal-power fleet
- Net-zero target

#### Potential solutions

- Improving thermal efficiency
- Cofiring with biomass
- Cofiring with ammonia
- Retrofitting CCUS

#### Challenges

- Significant investments are required for all solutions
- Technical and logistical barriers, including infrastructure limitations and resource constraints
- Balancing economic and environmental considerations







# Thank you.

https://aperc.or.jp

