

# Research and Development for DAC in Japan

**Kenji Yamaji**

**Program Director for Moonshot Goal No. 4**

**President, Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE)**

## **APEC Symposium on Pursuing Decarbonation of Fossil Fuels Session 5. Direct (Air) Carbon Capture (DAC)**

**October 11, 2023**

**KOBE PORTPIA HOTEL @Kobe City, Hyogo, Japan**

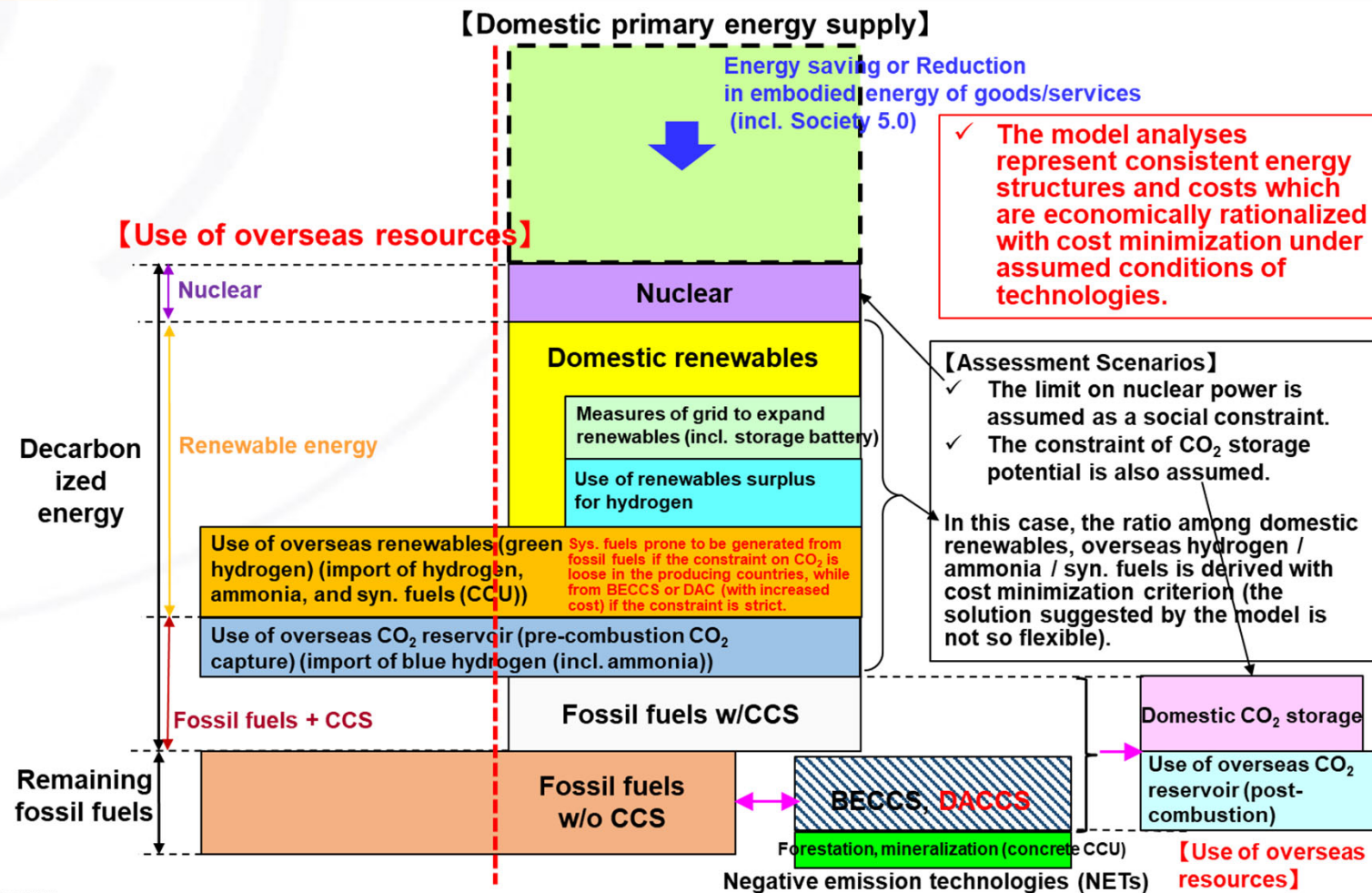
# Recent Development for Carbon Neutrality in Japan



- 2015/12 : Paris Agreement adopted at COP21
- 2018/10 : Special Report of IPCC for 1.5°C (Carbon Neutrality by 2050)
- 2020/10 : Japan announced 2050 Carbon Neutrality
- 2020/12 : Japan decided Green Growth Strategy (updated June, 2021)
  
- 2021/04 : Climate Summit by US President Biden  
Japan announced a new 2030 Target (46% reduction)
  
- 2021/10 : Japan decided 6<sup>th</sup> Strategic Energy Plan
- 2021/11 : COP26 in UK
  
- 2022/02 : Russian invasion of Ukraine started
- 2022/11 : COP27 in Egypt
- 2023/02 : Japan decided Basic Policy for GX (Green Transformation)



# Image of Primary Energy in Japan for Net Zero Emissions (by Keigo Akimoto, RITE)



# Implications of RITE 2050CN Scenario Analysis Results

- ◆ Various measures such as Energy Conservation, Renewables, Nuclear, CCUS, Hydrogen/Ammonia, NETs(Negative Emission Technologies) are mobilized to realize Carbon Neutrality. Nuclear is used to the level of the upper constraint in the optimal solution.
- ◆ Electrification and decarbonization of electricity are commonly required in all scenarios for Carbon Neutrality while costs of electricity increase. Electricity of 100% renewables further increases the cost, thus suppress the electrification of final demands in the optimal solution.
- ◆ Hydrogen and zero-emission synfuels are used in non-electric demand sectors. NETs are used to offset the emissions from the hard-to-abate sectors for realizing Carbon Neutrality.
- ◆ **DAC (Direct Capture of CO<sub>2</sub> in Air) is commonly used in all scenarios to realize Carbon Neutrality.** Scale of the utilization of recovered CO<sub>2</sub> is limited. CO<sub>2</sub> storage capacities abroad are used as well as the domestic storage capacities for Carbon Neutrality in Japan.
- ◆ Super smart society (Society 5.0) promotes circular/sharing economies leading substantial energy/material reductions, thus to explore a new perspective to realize a huge energy conservation with low costs.

# Moonshot Goals

## Goals

**To realize “Human Well-being”,**  
9 Moonshot goals were decided in  
the area of society, environment,  
and economics.

Goal 4 : **Realization of sustainable  
resource circulation to recover  
the global environment by 2050.**

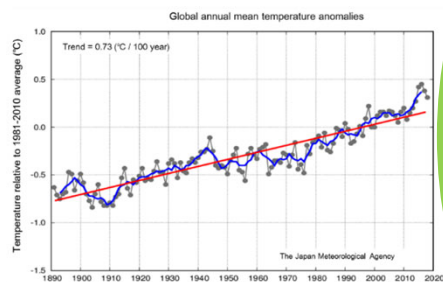
**Started in 2020 as the first group of MS Goals**





# The concept of Moonshot Goal No. 4

## Cool Earth

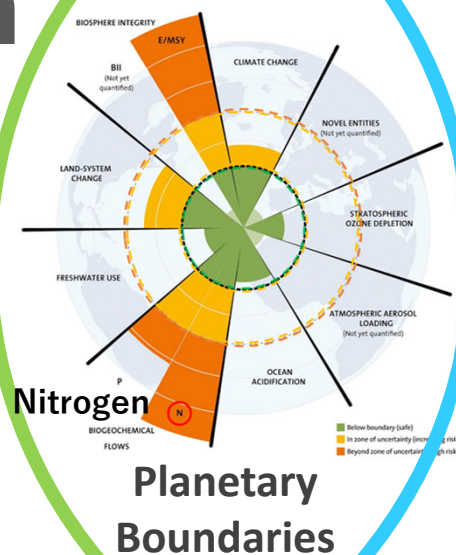


## Global Warming

## Clean Earth



## Marine Plastic Litter



# Moonshot R&D Program

## Moonshot Goal 4 Realization of sustainable resource circulation to recover the global environment by 2050

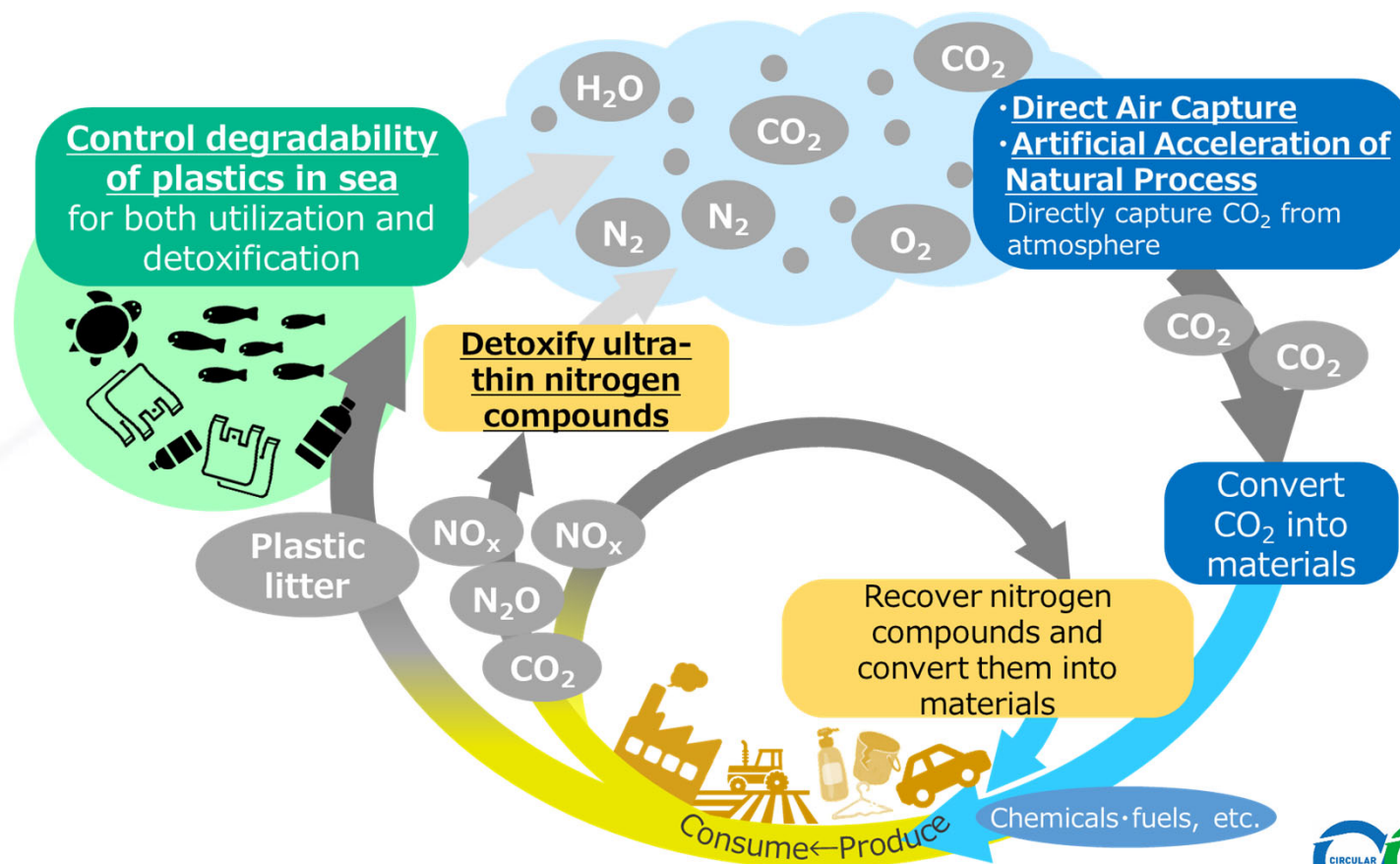
### ■ About:

To develop radical solutions for difficult societal challenge, the Government of Japan set 9 inspiring and ambitious goals (Moonshot Goals) for challenging R&D. NEDO is pursuing ambitious R&D activities to achieve Moonshot Goal 4. This program began in 2020 and will last up to 10 years.

### ■ Program Director:

Dr. YAMAJI Kenji

President, Director-General of the Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE)



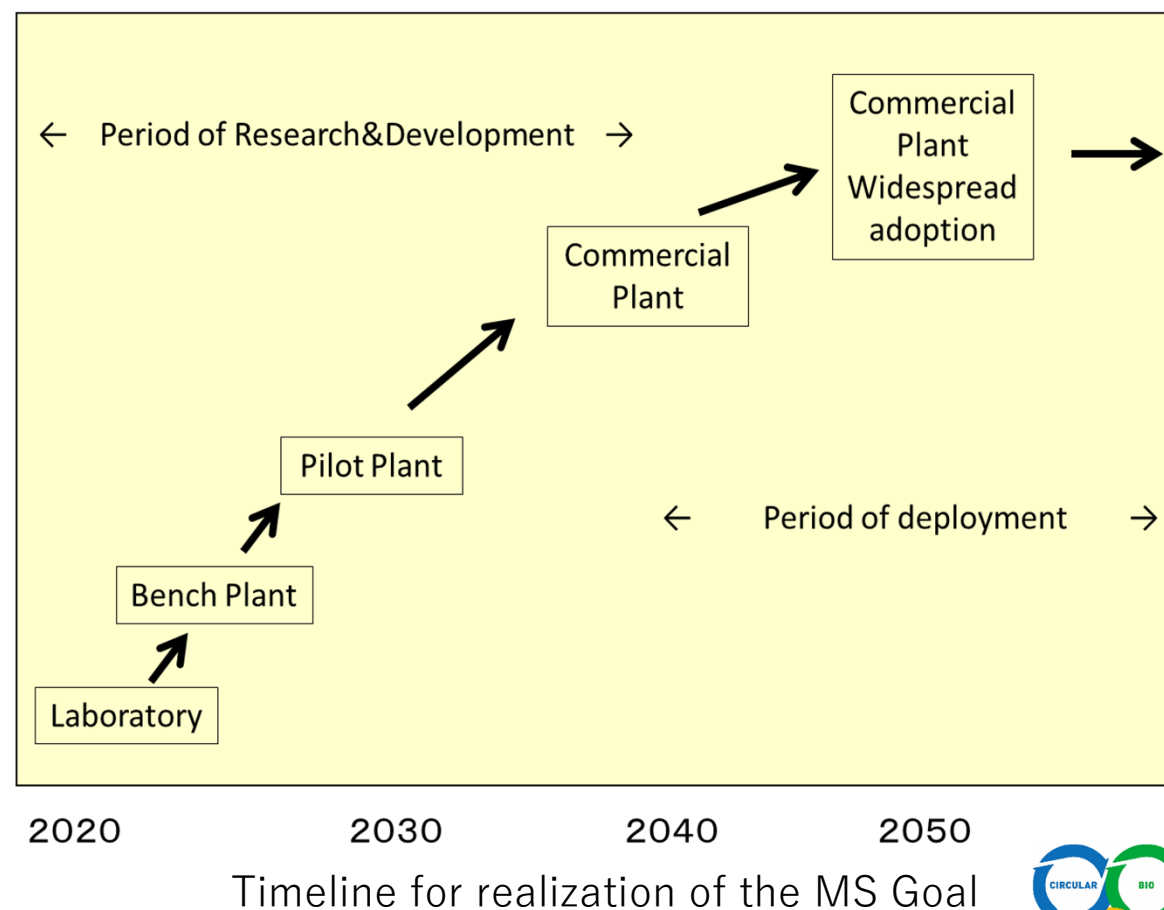
# Target of Moonshot Goal 4

## Outcome target (2050): The Cool Earth & The Clean Earth

Realization of sustainable resource circulation to recover the global environment. Commercial plants or products utilizing circulation technology will be deployed globally.

## Output target (2030): Cool Earth

Development of circulation technology on a pilot scale for reducing greenhouse gases, that is also **effective in terms of life cycle assessment (LCA)**.



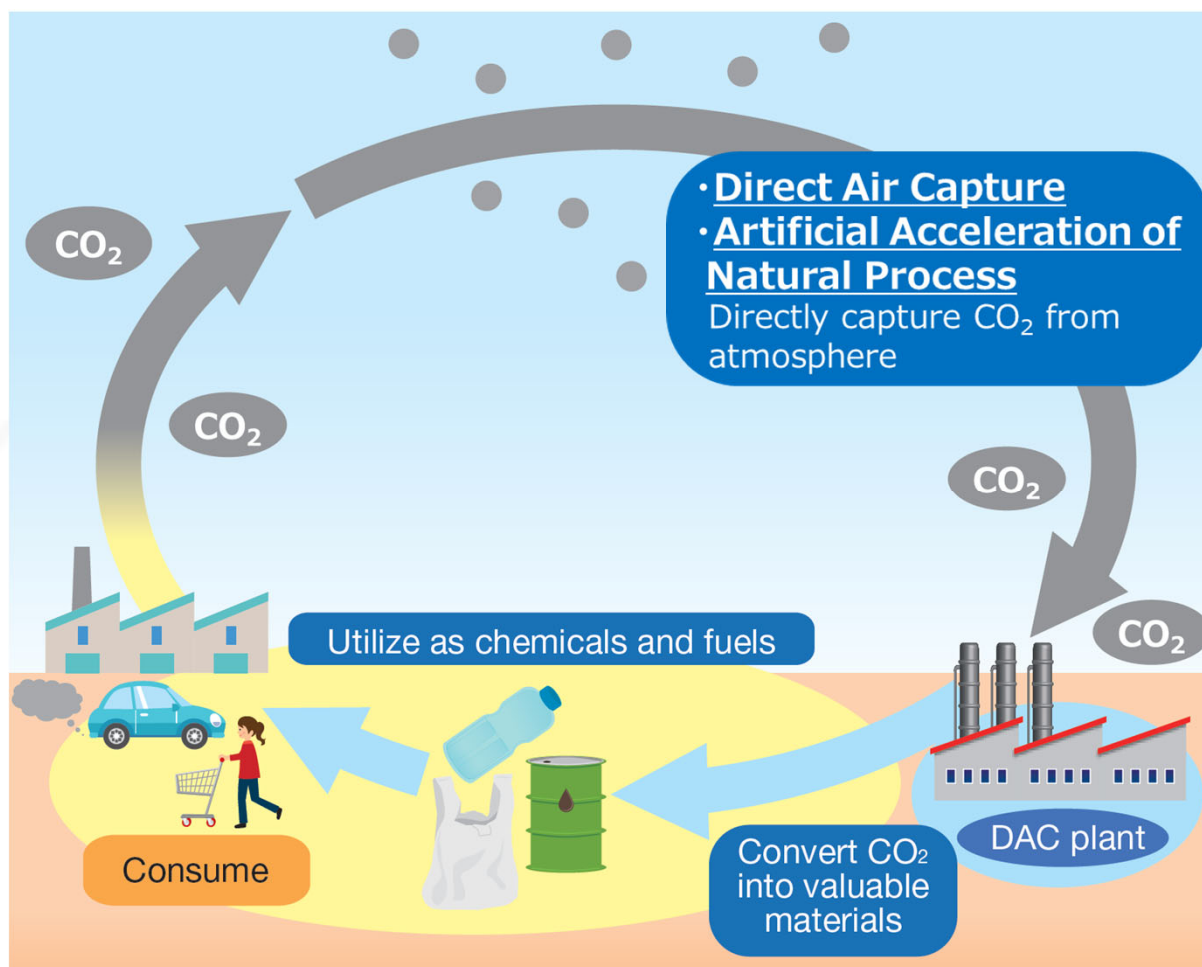


# Outline of DAC-U projects

## Development of Technologies to Recover CO<sub>2</sub> and Convert Them into Valuable Materials

In this program, various technologies to realize direct air capture (DAC) are being developed to capture low-concentration (around 0.04%) CO<sub>2</sub> that diffuses into the atmosphere, with the aim of **commercializing low-cost, high-efficiency DAC technologies**.

In addition to DAC technologies, various new technologies are being developed to convert captured CO<sub>2</sub> into valuable.



# Outline of DAC-U projects

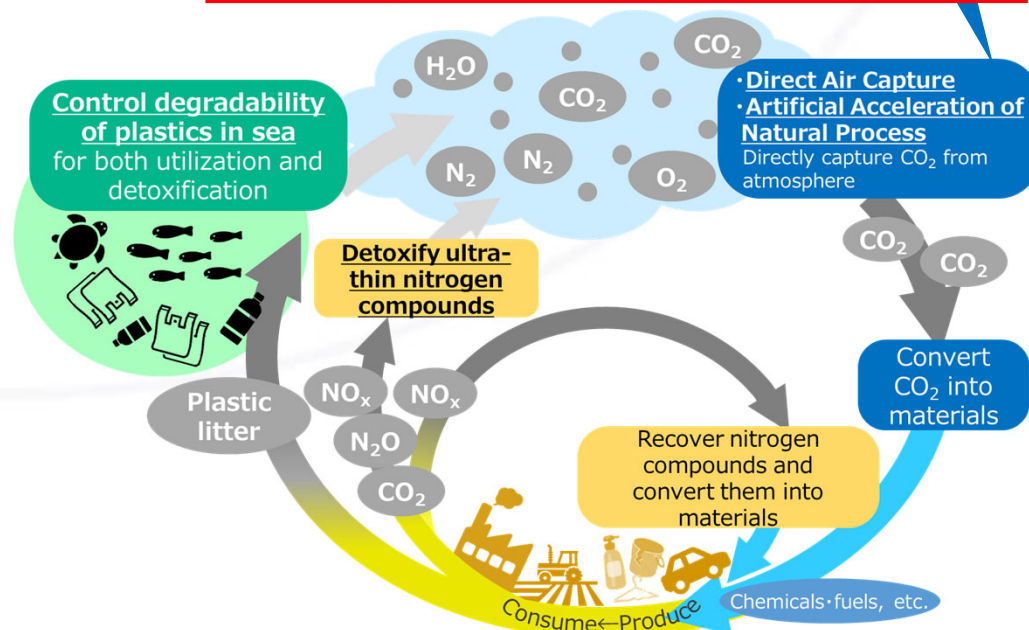
- Chemical engineering
- Mineralization
- Biomass



Cool Earth

Development of technologies to recover greenhouse gases (“GHGs”) and convert them into valuable materials

	R&D Projects	Project Managers
1	Development of highly efficient direct air capture (DAC) and carbon recycling technologies	Dr. KODAMA Akio, Kanazawa University
2	Integrated Electrochemical Systems for Scalable CO2 Conversion to Chemical Feedstocks	Dr. SUGIYAMA Masakazu, The University of Tokyo



3	C4S Research and Development Project	Dr. NOGUCHI Takafumi, The University of Tokyo
4	Research and development toward saving energy for direct air capture with available cold energy	Dr. NORINAGA Koyo, Nagoya University
5	Development of Combined Carbon Capture and Conversion (quad-C) modules targeting low carbon dioxide concentration gases for balancing the global carbon budget	Dr. FUKUSHIMA Yasuhiro, Tohoku University
6	Development of Global CO2 Recycling Technology towards “Beyond-Zero” Emission	Dr. FUJIKAWA Shigenori, Kyushu University
7	Redesign of Macroalgae for Highly Efficient CO2 Fixation by Functional Modifications and Their Product Generation	Dr. UEDA Mitsuyoshi, Kyoto University
8	Advanced Enhanced Rock Weathering (A-ERW) Technology Actively Combined With Site Characteristics	Dr. NAKAGAKI Takao, Waseda University
9	Development of Next-generation CO2 -fixing Plant Through the Gene Optimization, Distant Hybrid, and Microbial Symbiosis	Dr. MITSUDA Nobutaka, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)
10	Feasibility Study of Enhanced Mineralization Based on LCA/TEA Platform	Dr. MORIMOTO Shinichirou, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)
11	Agrobiotechnological Direct Air Capture Towards Carbon Circulation Society	Dr. YANO Masahiro, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO)

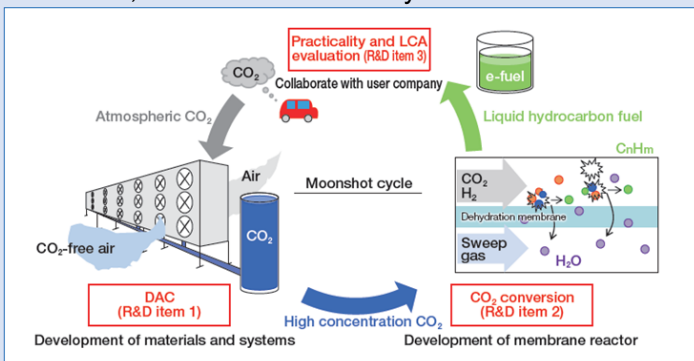
# Outline of DAC-U projects (Chemical engineering)

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## Development of highly efficient Direct Air Capture (DAC) and carbon recycling technologies

**Dr. KODAMA Akio**

Professor, Kanazawa University



POINT

Development of innovative **amine-loaded CO<sub>2</sub> solid sorbent**

CO<sub>2</sub> capture and enrichment process using less energy than conventional technologies

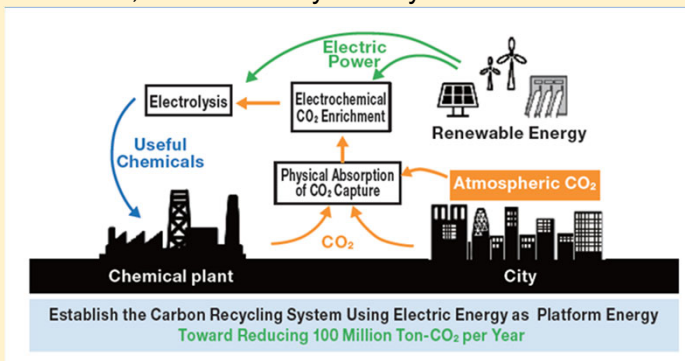
Implementing organizations: Kanazawa University, Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE)

PM

## Integrated Electrochemical Systems for Scalable CO<sub>2</sub> Conversion to Chemical Feedstocks

**Dr. SUGIYAMA Masakazu**

Professor, The University of Tokyo



POINT

Creation of a system for CO<sub>2</sub> enrichment and reduction to chemical feedstocks by **electro-chemical process** using renewable electricity

Flexible system that allows for small-scale Distributed deployment

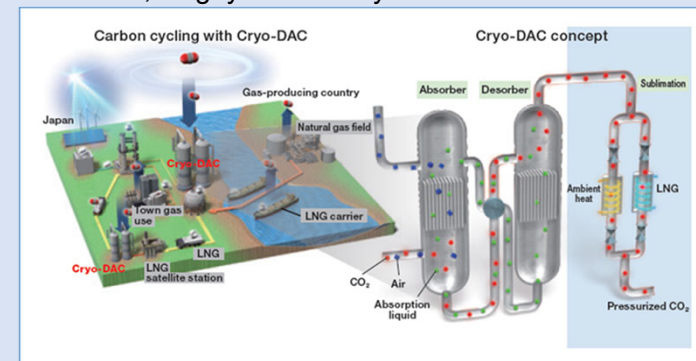
Implementing organizations: The University of Tokyo, Osaka University, RIKEN, Ube Industries, Ltd., Shimizu Corporation, Chiyoda Corporation, Furukawa Electric Co., Ltd.

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## Research and development toward saving energy for Direct Air Capture with available cold energy

**Dr. NORINAGA Koyo**

Professor, Nagoya University



POINT

Direct capture of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> by employing Unused cold energy from **liquefied natural gas (LNG)**

Pressure swing recovery of CO<sub>2</sub> by the CO<sub>2</sub> sublimation while operating both absorber and desorber at room temperature

Implementing organizations: Nagoya University, Toho Gas Co., Ltd., Tokyo University of Science

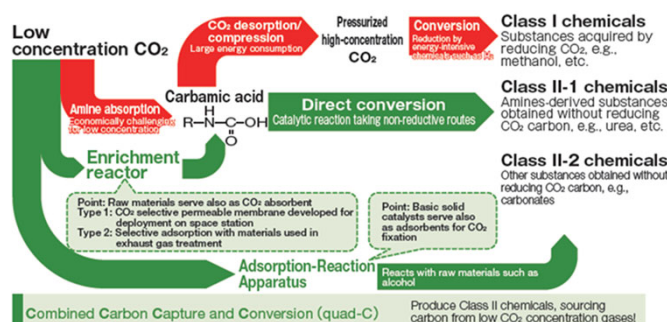
# Outline of DAC-U projects (Chemical engineering)

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Development of Combined Carbon Capture and Conversion (quad-C) modules targeting low carbon dioxide concentration gases for balancing the global carbon budget

**Dr. FUKUSHIMA Yasuhiro**

Professor, Tohoku University



Creation of streamlined reaction system, termed “quad-C”, by directly **linking CO<sub>2</sub> fixation and conversion**

Takes energy-efficient conversion routes without Carbon reduction

Implementing organizations:

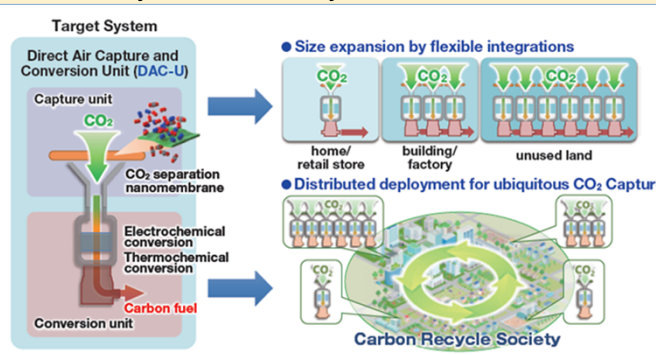
Tohoku University,  
Osaka Metropolitan University,  
Renaissance Energy Research Corporation

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Development of Global CO<sub>2</sub> Recycling Technology towards “Beyond-Zero” Emission

**Dr. FUJIKAWA Shigenori**

Professor, Kyushu University



Development of CO<sub>2</sub> capture using innovative **separation nano-membranes** with unparalleled CO<sub>2</sub> permeability

Scalable system for use in small-sized homes and medium-sized buildings

Implementing organizations:

Kyushu University, Kumamoto University, Hokkaido University



# Outline of DAC-U projects (Mineralization)

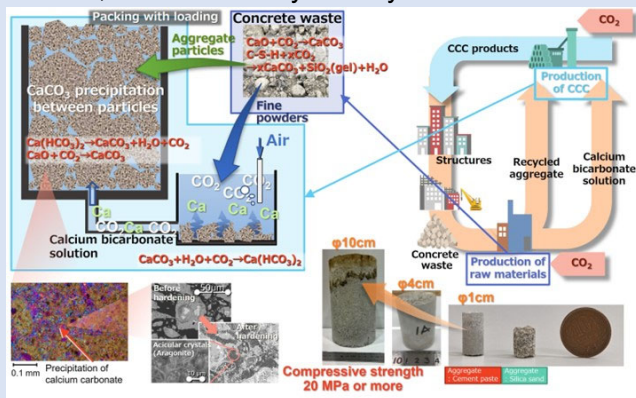
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## C<sup>4</sup>S Research and Development Project

C<sup>4</sup>S: Calcium Carbonate Circulation System for Construction

**Dr. NOGUCHI Takafumi**

Professor, The University of Tokyo



Capturing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> efficiently with repeated dry & wet cycles of **crushed concrete waste**

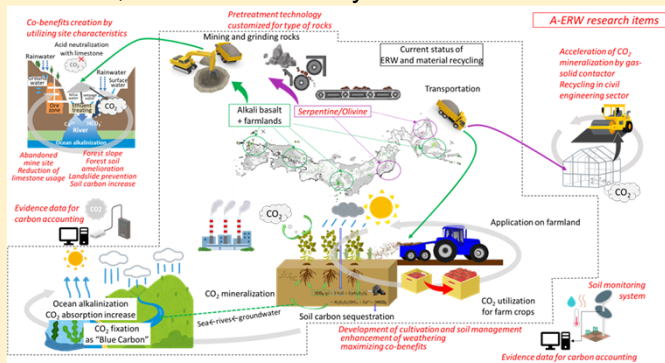
Contributing to sustainable circulation of calcium resources as well as CO<sub>2</sub> with low energy

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## Advanced enhanced rock weathering (A-ERW) technology actively combined with site characteristics

**Dr. NAKAGAKI Takao**

Professor, Waseda University



Various mafic rocks utilizing the geological characteristics of Japan

Site-specific weathering, CO<sub>2</sub> mineralization, and co-benefits

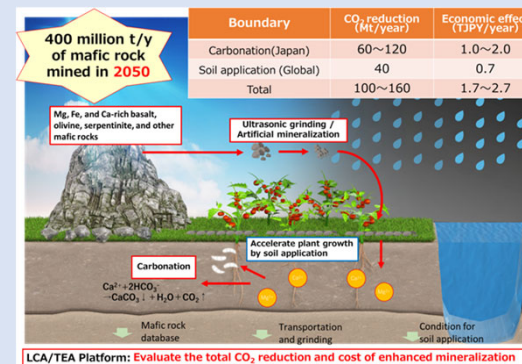
Implementing organizations: Waseda University, Hokkaido University, Kyoto Prefectural University, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.

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## Feasibility Study of Enhanced Mineralization Based on LCA/TEA Platform

**Dr. MORIMOTO Shinichirou**

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Team Leader, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)



Accurate **accounting of CO<sub>2</sub> reductions**

Clarify the optimal soil application method of mafic rocks for plant growth

Implementing organizations: AIST, RIKEN



# Outline of DAC-U projects (Biomass)

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## Redesign of macroalgae for highly efficient CO<sub>2</sub> fixation by functional modifications and their product generation

**Dr. UEDA Mitsuyoshi**

Special Appointed Professor, Kyoto University



Selection and **breeding of macroalgae** with higher CO<sub>2</sub> fixing capacity than land plants

Genome editing of CO<sub>2</sub> fixation enzyme gene system and production of edited strains for accelerating CO<sub>2</sub> fixation capacity

Implementing organizations:

Kyoto University, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Mie University, Green Earth Institute Co., Kansai Chemical Engineering Co.

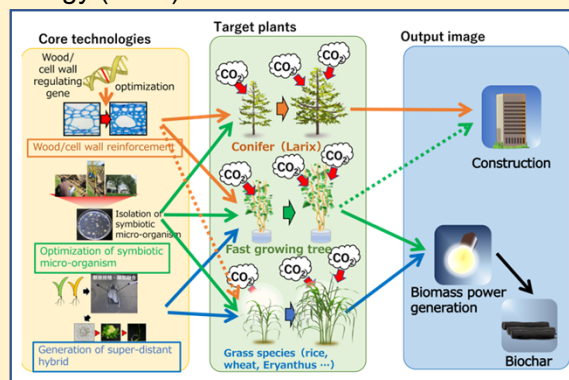
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## Development of next-generation CO<sub>2</sub>-fixing plant through the gene optimization, distant hybrid, and microbial symbiosis

**Dr. MITSUDA Nobutaka**

Deputy director of BPRI and the group leader, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)



Gene optimization for **reinforced biomass** production

New hybrid plant creation by super-distant cross

Implementing organizations:

AIST, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.

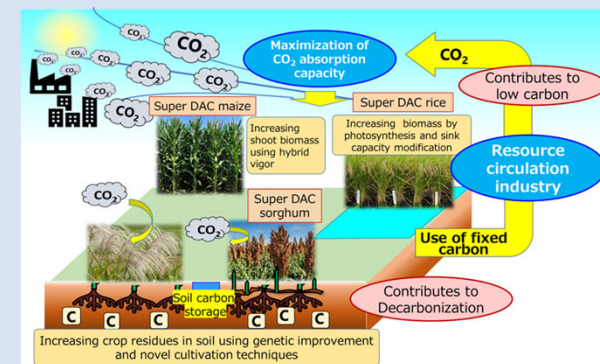
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## New hybrid plant creation by super-distant cross

**Dr. YANO Masahiro**

Senior Executive Researcher, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO)



Development of **Super-DAC crops** (rice, maize, and sorghum)

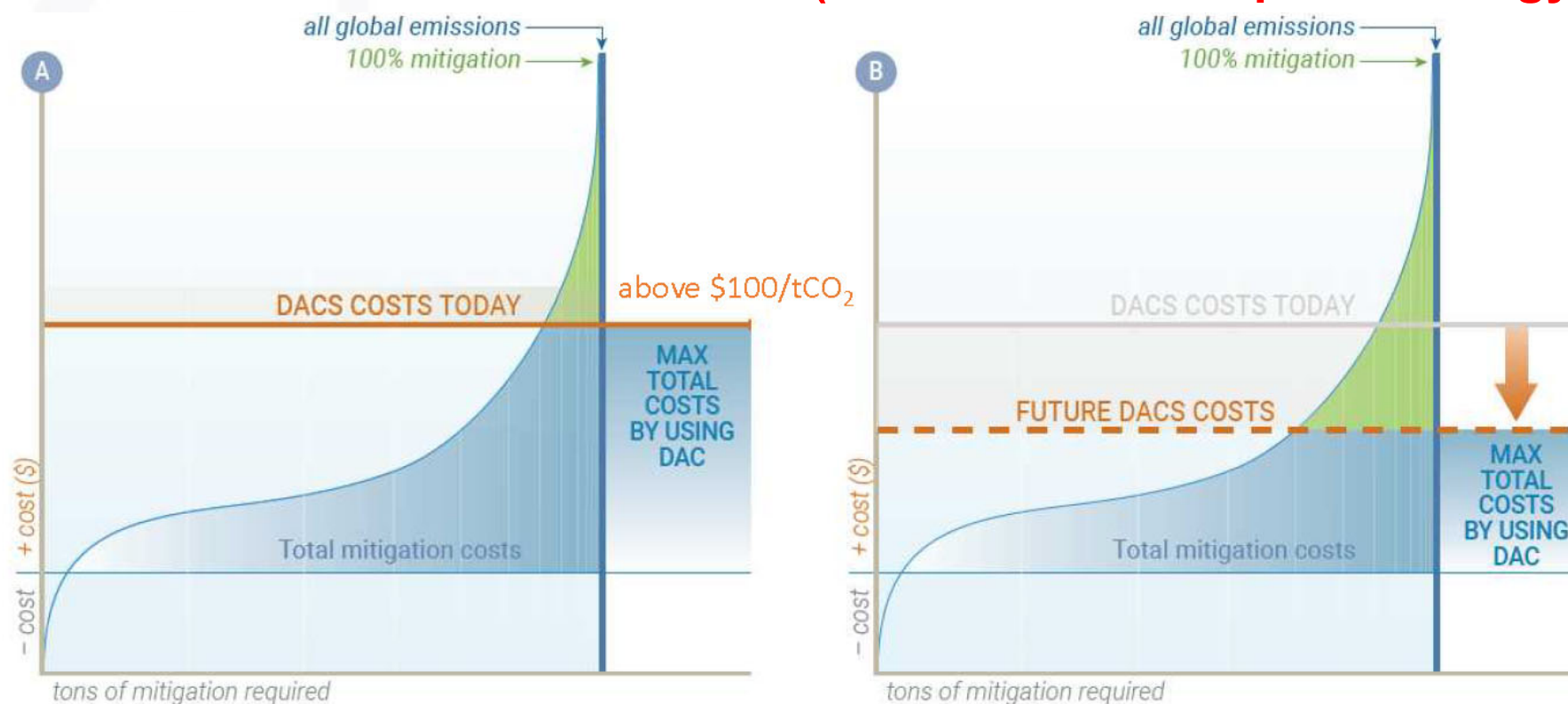
Elucidation of soil carbon dynamics derived from crop residues

Implementing organizations:

NARO, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, Nagoya University

# Cost for CO2 Removal

## (DAC as a Backstop Technology)



Relationship between cost and introduction amount of DAC

Source: Direct Air Capture of Carbon Dioxide Roadmap (ICEF 2018)

国立研究開発法人 新エネルギー・産業技術総合開発機構



ご清聴ありがとうございました

Thanks for your attention

公益財団法人 地球環境産業技術研究機構 (RITE)  
Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth