

# PRTR IN JAPAN

Masami Kittaka May 1, 2013 STRIPE at Jakarta

# History (PRTR in Japan)

1996 OECD recommendation on PRTR implementation

1998 PRTR Pilot project (2000 facilities in 30 cities (5%))

2001 "PRTR Law" enforced

with an additional resolution of review

after seven years

First disclosure of PRTR data

2008 Revision of the Law

# Scope of Reporting

1. Substances --- Class I substances 435 substances (Before 2008)

Class I Designated Chemical Substance (354 substances)

Specified Class I Designated Chemical Substance (12 substances)

Class II Designated Chemical Substance (81 substances)

562 substances (Current)

Class I Designated Chemical Substance (462 substances)

Specified Class I Designated Chemical Substance (15 substances)

Class II Designated Chemical Substance (100 substances)

Excluded 85 substances

- 2. Business operators with reporting duty
  - Kinds of business

Manufacturing, energy, cleaning, and etc.

Number of employees

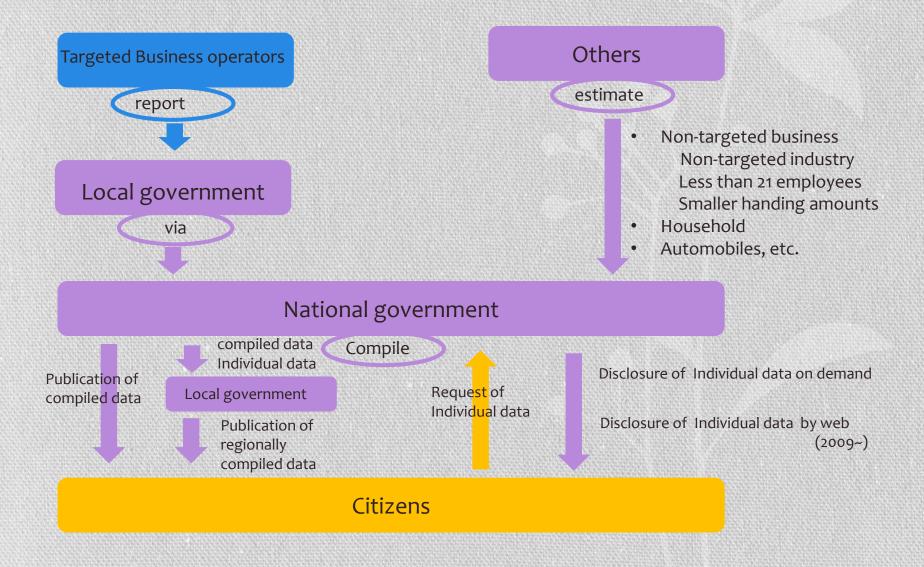
More than 21 regular employees

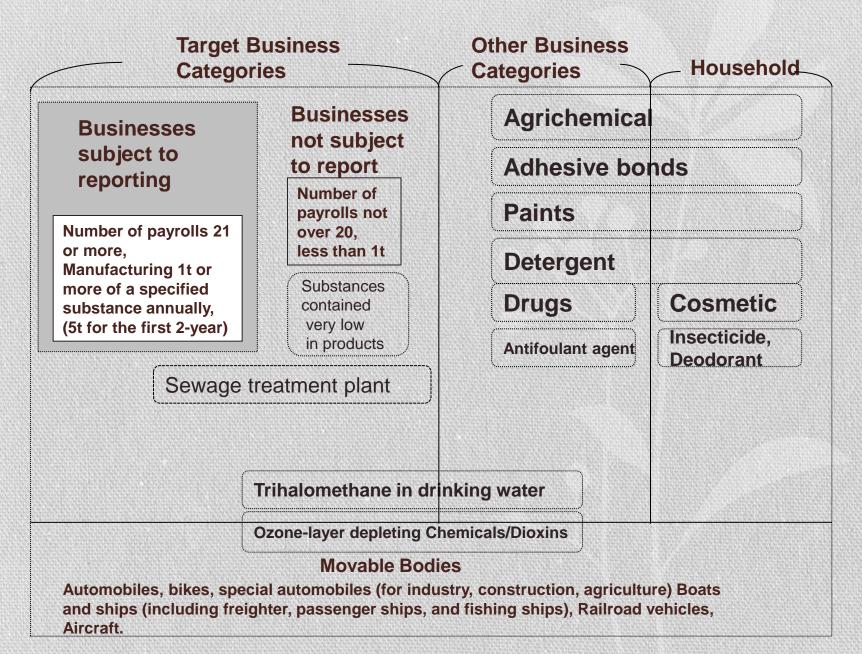
Handling amounts

More than 1 ton per year

Reporting Biz	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Operators	41,114	40,446	41,027	41,305	41,115	39,784	38,368	36,491
Reported Substances	334	334	330	327	326	326	326	436

# Overview on PRTR in Japan

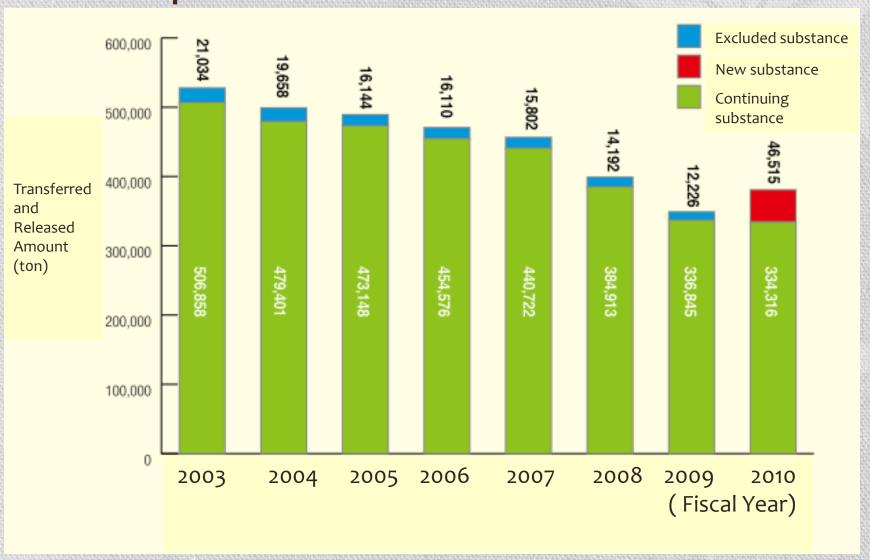




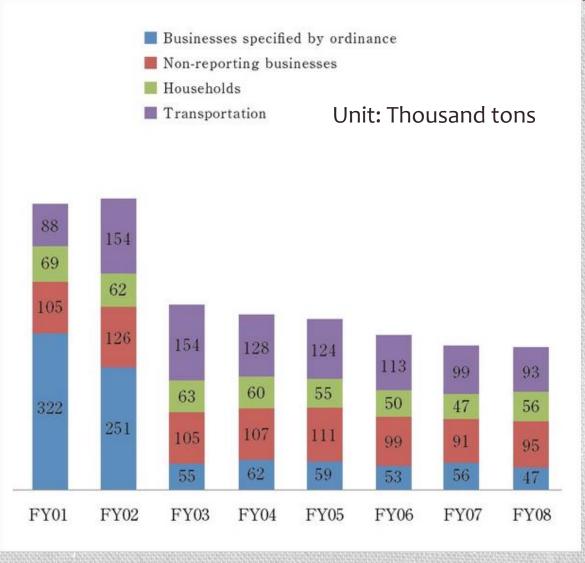
# Characteristics of PRTR in Japan

- Objective of "PRTR law"
  - To promote voluntary reduction of chemical substances by business operators.
  - No word referring to "right to know"
  - No word referring to "aim to reduce the release"
- Wide range of reporting substances
- Estimate by the national government for smaller business and nonreported sources
  - > Statistics, questionnaires, development of models
- Reporting via local governments to the national government
- No claim for "business secret" by now.

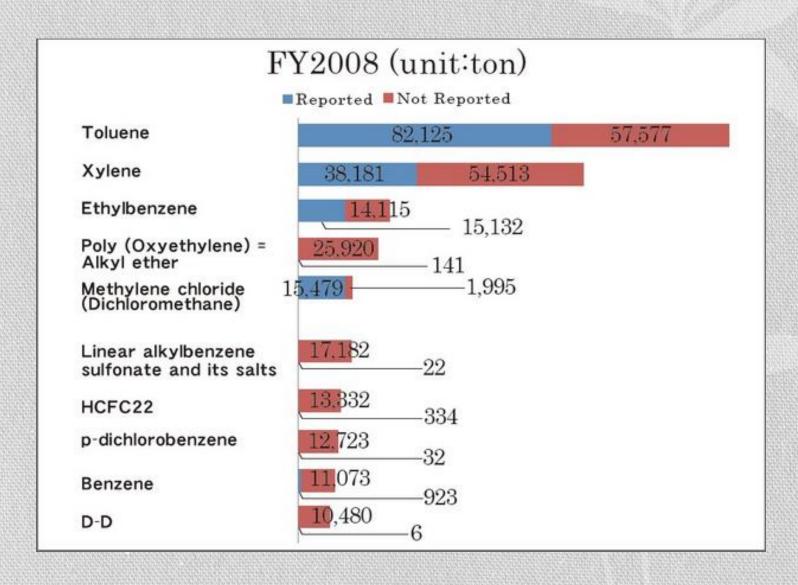
# PRTR reported data



# Annual Estimated Releases Outside Reporting

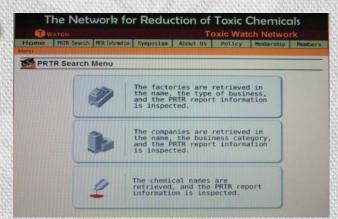


# Top 10 substances by release quantities



## NGOs to promote PRTR data use

- Toxic Watch (T Watch)
  - Providing Database on Internet
  - http://toxwatch.net/en/
  - Hosting study meetings all over Japan



- Organization for Research and Communication on Environmental Risk of Chemicals (Eco-Chemi)
  - Operated by academic researchers
  - Prioritization with risks
  - http://www.ecochemi.jp/PRTR.html



#### 2008 PRTR law revision

- Active dissemination of data by the national government
  - > Previous: Disclosure of individual data based on request for 1,090 year
  - Current: Disclosure on website for free of charge
- Review of the listed industries and designated substances
  - Expanding the scope from 354 to 462 substances.
- Further calculations for Estimated Releases Outside Notification
  - Increase the number of substances covered by estimation for the substances released from sewage treatment and waste incinerators

# Great East Japan Earthquake and PRTR

- March 11, 2011
- 364 business operators seemed to be damaged. (By T Watch's investigation)
- MoE investigation
  - Lost PCB transformer: 1 unit, Lost PCB condenser: 45 units
    - -> Not detected in soil by T Watch's investigation
- PRTR data in "Designated Disaster Area" (By MoE report)
  - > 4,572 business operations reported. (4% reduction)
  - > 40,761 tons (Released 20,214 tons + Transferred 20,547 tons, 6 % reduction)
- The amount and kinds of chemical substance released were undetectable.



# Issues for improvement

- Report the handling amounts and/or the maximum storage amounts of waste or used chemicals
  - > Some local government can obtain the information based on their own ordinance.
  - > National government is reluctant because of the purpose of the law.
- No use of data by citizens
  - > Better information disclosure by the government
  - > Efforts
    - Combination of night view factory tours and risk communication
    - Environmental dialogue
- Accuracy of estimation
- Strengthening the role of local government
- Failure of reporting duty
- The government does not use the data for making policy

### PRTR Substances = Substances on Label?

- MOE started including the list of substances from 2010 date book for citizens (issued in March 2013).
  - Pesticides
  - Insecticides
  - Detergents
  - Cosmetics
  - > Insect repellent

#### **EXAMPLE:**

PRTR substances name: 1,1'-Dimethyl-4,4'-bipyridinium Dichloride 1910-42-5

Substance on a product label: Paraquat

# Thank you!

Masami Kittaka Masami.Kittaka@gmail.com