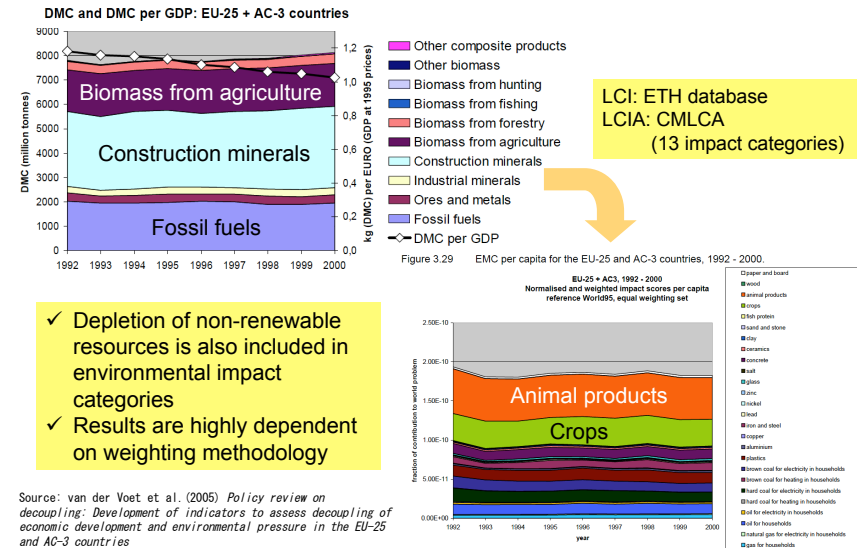


Memos for Roundtable discussion

Seiji Hashimoto
Senior Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies

(Tentative)

EU case study



- ✓ Depletion of non-renewable resources is also included in environmental impact categories
- ✓ Results are highly dependent on weighting methodology

Priority setting of material flow analysis and management

- We also have discussed this prioritization issue. But it is not easy.
- There are two points of view for prioritization: environmental and resource management.
- CML published a study on environmental impacts of materials based on LCA methodology.
<http://www.leidenuniv.nl/cml/ssp/projects/dematerialisation/index.html>
- Criteria for determining important resources include exhaustion, uneven distribution, and rapid increase in demand.
- Future demand for materials in developing countries and materials for new technologies (e.g. technologies for mitigation of climate change) are important issues from resource and environmental management points of view.

Roles played by the governments, industries, and others

- Japanese government is reducing national statistics in order to reduce administrative costs. This is also based on demand from industries that want to reduce statistical work.
- On the other hand, current environmental regulations require material flow data collection (e.g. recycling flows, GHG emissions). Industries also have to report their environmental performances.
- Fundamental Plan for Establishing a Sound Material Cycle Society and other recycling regulations had positive influence on MFA studies in industries and others.

Lead organizations and regulations in Japan

5

Ministry of the Environment (MOE)	Waste Management Law
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)	Law for Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT)	Containers and Packaging Recycling Law
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)	Home Appliance Recycling Law
Japan Containers and Packaging Recycling Association	Food Recycling Law
Japan Glass Bottle Association Glass Bottle Recycling Association	Construction Material Recycling Law
Japan Steel Can Recycling Association	End-of-Life Vehicles Recycling Law
Japan Aluminum Can Recycling Association	
Council for PET Bottle Recycling	
Japan Expanded Polystyrene Recycling Association	
Committee for Milk Container Environmental Issues	
Association for Electric Home Appliances	
Japan Automobile Recycling Promotion Center	
Plastic Waste Management Institute	
Paper Recycling Promotion Center	

International cooperation

6

- Potential international cooperative researches include:
 - ✓ Prediction of future demand for materials because socio-economic system is different in each country.
 - ✓ Comparison of a particular material use (e.g., wood and metals) because material use is different in each country.
 - ✓ International trade of wastes and second-hand products.