

Asia

Constellation: APME South Asia C2

Japan, Korea



NEEDS

Continent: **Asia**
Constellation: **APME South Asia C2**
Country: **Japan**

Cry of the Earth

- air pollution from power plant emissions results in acid rain
- acidification of lakes and reservoirs degrading water quality and threatening aquatic life
- Japan is one of the largest consumers of fish and tropical timber, contributing to the depletion of these resources in Asia and elsewhere
- waste management is an ongoing issue
- Japanese municipal facilities used to burn high volumes of trash, but air pollution issues forced the government to adopt an aggressive recycling policy

Cry of the Poor

- Transgender people who want to change their legal gender in the family register and on official documents must submit themselves to psychiatric evaluations and diagnosis of “Gender Identity Disorder,” as well as surgeries that sterilize them
- Japan’s “Foreign Technical Intern Training Program” is meant to recruit more foreign workers—many from Southeast Asia—amid a chronic labor shortage
 - program has drawn criticism for human rights violations, including payment of sub-minimum wages, illegal overtime, forced return of whistleblowers to their home countries, and dangerous or unhygienic working conditions

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Country: **South Korea**

Cry of the Earth

- air pollution in large cities
- acid rain; water pollution from the discharge of sewage and industrial effluents
- drift net fishing
- solid waste disposal

Commitments

- transboundary pollution

Cry of the Poor

- rising inequality
- poverty among the elderly
- high youth unemployment
- long working hours
- low worker productivity