WEPA Basic Policy in the 5th Phase

Main initiatives from the 1st to the 4th Phases

Building a Platform of Water Environmental Management
WEPA established an information sharing platform on water environment management to share knowledge and experience of member countries; the platform included a database on water environment conservation goals (water quality (WQ) environmental standards) and WQ status, and network of government officials.
Knowledge sharing to explore solutions
Considering domestic wastewater treatment as a priority issue in the Asian region where significant urbanization trends were seen, WEPA shared information on the status of pollution load, status of domestic wastewater treatment, problems, and policies in each country, and best practices.
Actions to resolve issues
Focusing on industrial wastewater treatment in addition to domestic wastewater treatment, WEPA shared information on the status of pollution load and measures against pollution source, built capacity to address problems, and supported the formulation of action programs in a member country to solve problems.
"Legal compliance" to achieve WQ environmental standards
WEPA aims to improve the capacity of government officials enforcing "legal compliance," in order to establish autonomous water and environmental governance through PDCA cycle.

Priorities in the 1st and 2nd phases

Overall goal: Enhancement of Water Environmental Governance in Asia

1st Phase (2004-2009)
Development of an Information
Platform of Water Environmental
Management

2nd Phase (2009-2014) Knowledge Sharing for Solution Finding



Domestic
Wastewater
Treatment

Water Environmental
Management Review

Climate Change
and Water
Environment

WEPA database www.wepa-db.net

Renewed in March

Issues Identified

Priorities and Activities in the 3rd & 4th Phases (3: 2014-2019 and 4: 2019-2024)

Actions for the Solutions



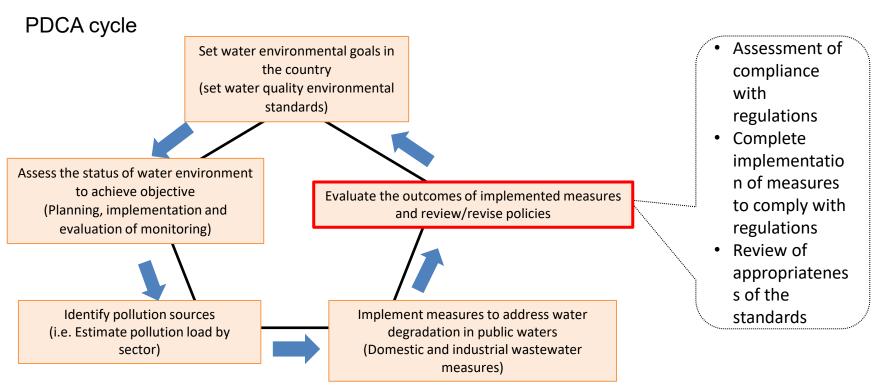
WEPA basic policy in the 4th Phase

The 4th Phase: Steady implementation of problem-solving actions (Priority issue: Compliance with regulations)

Period: from April 2019 to March 2024

Basic Policy: Capacity enhancement of government officials to ensure compliance with regulations

→ Establishment of autonomous water environment administration through the following



Issues based on efforts: Water Environmental Standards

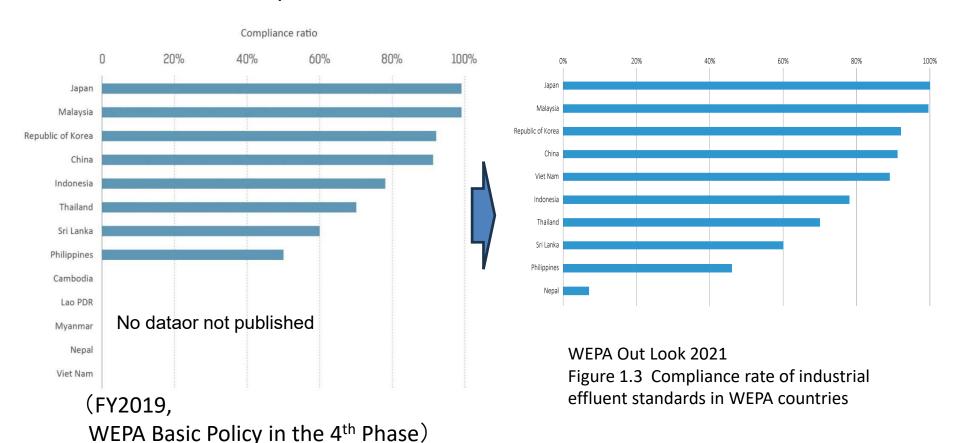
All Partner countries have developed or are expected to develop water quality standards, and water environment governance has been strengthened.



Issues based on efforts up to 4th Phase: Compliance with regulations

The compliance rate of industrial effluent standards is still not high, and the compliance rate is not accurately recognized by government agencies.

Compliance rate of industrial effluent standards



New issues of Water Environment since the start of WEPA activity

Since the start of WEPA in 2004,

the social situation and needs surrounding the water environment have changed significantly, and the stakeholders involved in the water environment have diversified.

Global Goals

MDGs → SDGs

Topics

- Climate change
- plastic PFAS
- Nature Positive, Water Positive, Nature-based Solution(NbS)
- Nitrogen management
- Disclosure of Corporate Information(TNFD)

Stakeholders

- Government
 - Citizens
- Research Institutes
 - Private sector

Direction of the WEPA next phase activity, based on efforts up to the 4th Phase

WEPA continues to contribute to enhancing Water Environmental Governance in Asia.

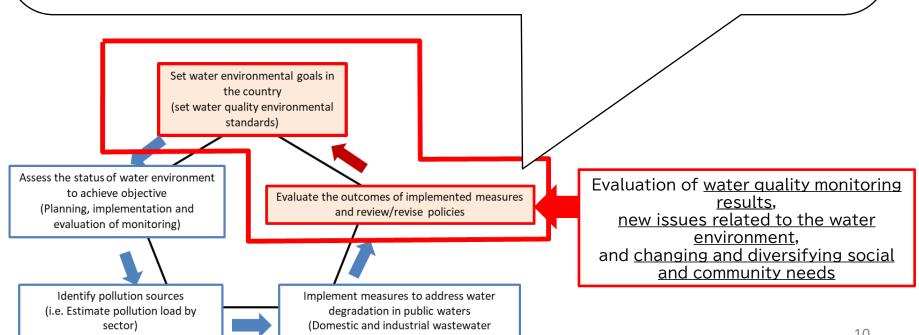
To deliver the benefits of water environment improvement to all regions and people

- Continuing to ensure compliance with regulations for domestic and industrial wastewater
- "Evaluate the outcomes of implemented measures and review/revise policies"

based on water quality monitoring data and local needs in cooperation with various stakeholders, such as the national government, local governments, researchers and private sectors

Concept of the Next phase activity

- Clarification of roles and responsibilities of central and local governments and establishment of a cooperative framework with researchers and private sectors
- Reviews of appropriateness of existing environmental and effluent standards
- Appropriate enforcement and operation of effluent standards
- Introduction of a total pollution load control system, when conventional water quality control measures through effluent standards alone is insufficient
- Selection of wastewater treatment technologies based on site-specific contexts that account for natural and socioeconomic conditions and level of development



measures)

WEPA basic policy in the 5th Phase

The 5th Phase: Use of experience and technology for sustainable water environment management

1.Period: from April 2024 to March 2029

2.Basic Policy:

- Improve the capacity of central government officials to design and review water environment goals (water environment and effluent standards)
- <u>Utilize knowledge, experience, and skills of stakeholders</u> involved in water environment management to implement appropriate sustainable water environment management to address the needs of society and communities.

Main Activities of the 5th Phase

Action Program

- Based on the results of water quality monitoring and understanding of regional issues, form projects related to the establishment of new discharge targets of domestic and industrial wastewater to meet the water environment standards, and the dissemination of wastewater treatment technologies and guidelines to achieve these targets, in cooperation with experts in each country.
- In addition to individual topics in each country, projects <u>aim to address issues common in multiple countries</u> and <u>projects that multiple countries join will also be formed</u>.

 Details are under consideration and will be developed after initiation of the 5th phase

Annual Meeting and Workshop

- Annual Meeting: to share the status of the domestic and industrial wastewater
- <u>Workshop</u>: to provide a forum to discuss water environmental issues.

 Topics are under consideration include Nature Positive Water Positive, NbS, nitrogen management, microplastics, PFAS, etc.