

Keynote report

# Making a Sea of Peace: the Collaborations for Human Security

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*Abstract:* In this research, I examined how cooperation can be promoted by various entities in order to establish human security. In the research, I was able to point out important elements to promote cooperation for human security and also mentioned sustainable development goals (SDGs) as concrete indicators for establishing human security.

*Key words:* Human Security, Collaborations, Global Warming, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Peace

## 1. Introduction

The objective of the symposium was to explore how we can create a new cooperative system in the Northeast Asian region to solve the problems occurring in opposing or contradictory perceptions and interests. I suggested the Collaborations for Human Security as the theme of “Making a Sea of Peace”, by taking up environmental issues, especially on reducing emissions of the greenhouse gases. We examined not only the national level cooperation but also the local level and civil society relations, and to make it clear that the regional cooperation contribute to solving a global issue (one of Human Security agenda) in this session. We offered some cases of the collaborations for Human Security in this session. I would like to examine also building peaceful relations among all parties in this area.

In this research, I examined how cooperation can be promoted by various entities in order to

establish human security. First, I reviewed the idea of human security, then focused on environmental issues and examined how to cooperate towards solving the global problem. Subsequently, I examined important factors to promote cooperation for human security. Finally, I explained about sustainable development goals (SDGs) as concrete indicators for human security. In the research, I was able to point out important elements to promote cooperation for human security.

## **2. Human Security**

Human security means to protect people from a wide and serious threat to survival, living, and dignity (focusing on each individual), to realize the rich possibilities of each. It is a way of encouraging independence of individuals and society through sustainable capacity building. In today's world where globalization and interdependence are deepened, problems such as poverty, environmental destruction, natural disasters, infectious diseases, terrorism, sudden economic and financial crisis, are cross-border and interrelated, It has a serious impact on our lives. In order to deal with today's international challenges like this, the approach centered on the conventional nation is becoming inadequate. In addition, it is necessary to focus on "human beings" and to grasp cross-sectional and comprehensive the relationships among various entities and fields.

Japan declared that human security should be a pillar of diplomacy, and it has deepened this idea by establishing an international committee for human security with the participation of global experts. In January 2001, the "Human Security Committee" was founded. This committee aimed to propose concepts of human security and measures to be taken by the international community. In February 2003, the committee reported the contents of the final report to Prime Minister Koizumi (then) and submitted a report to the UN Secretary-General of Annan (then) in May.

In the report, it is necessary to rethink the theoretical framework of "security" and to expand the focus of security from those covering only the state to those including people, and a comprehensive and integrated approach is necessary to secure people's safety.

Human security was defined as "protecting the precious central part of human life, realizing the freedom and the possibilities of all people". In addition, the need for strategy for people's "protection" and "empowerment" was appealed in order to secure people's survival, living and dignity.

In addition, Human security was taken up in the outcome document at the United Nations Summit in 2005 and 2010, the G8, OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development), APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation), TICAD (Africa Development Council), Pacific Islands Summit, World Financial and Economic Conference. Human security is deepening the international community's recognition as an important concept in tackling global issues.

At the UN General Assembly in September 2012, a general assembly resolution on common

understanding of human security<sup>1</sup> was adopted.

A common understanding on the concept of human security includes the following:

The General Assembly,

Agrees that human security is an approach to assist Member States in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of their people. Based on this, a common understanding on the notion of human security includes the following:

(a) The right of people to live in freedom and dignity, free from poverty and despair. All individuals, in particular vulnerable people, are entitled to freedom from fear and freedom from want, with an equal opportunity to enjoy all their rights and fully develop their human potential;

(b) Human security calls for people-centred, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented responses that strengthen the protection and empowerment of all people and all communities;

(c) Human security recognizes the interlinkages between peace, development and human rights, and equally considers civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights;

(d) The notion of human security is distinct from the responsibility to protect and its implementation;

(e) Human security does not entail the threat or the use of force or coercive measures. Human security does not replace State security;

(f) Human security is based on national ownership. Since the political, economic, social and cultural conditions for human security vary significantly across and within countries, and at different points in time, human security strengthens national solutions which are compatible with local realities;

(g) Governments retain the primary role and responsibility for ensuring the survival, livelihood and dignity of their citizens. The role of the international community is to complement and provide the necessary support to Governments, upon their request, so as to strengthen their capacity to respond to current and emerging threats. Human security requires greater collaboration and partnership among Governments, international and regional organizations and civil society;

(h) Human security must be implemented with full respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect for the sovereignty of States, territorial integrity and non-interference in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of States. Human security does not entail additional legal obligations on the part of States

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations A/RES/66/290, Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 September 2012, 66/290. Follow-up to paragraph 143 on human security of the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

### 3. Global Issue: the threat to human security (Environmental Problem)

Environmental issues are an important factor in considering human security. Environmental problems occurring domestically or on a global scale pose a threat to current and future humanity. Environmental problems that pose a threat to humanity can be divided into domestic environmental problems and global environmental problems and are as follows.

#### (1) Domestic environmental problems

① deterioration of air / water quality due to concentration of cities of human activities, a decrease in water volume, a problem of loss of waterfront environment, ② Pollution: Air pollution, water pollution, soil contamination, noise, vibration, ground subsidence, foul smell, ③ The problems of exhaustion of resources and waste by social systems such as mass production, mass consumption, mass disposal, ④ Problems in which biodiversity is being lost in various ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, rural areas, urban areas, ⑤ Nuclear power regulation

#### (2) Global Environmental Issues

① Global warming problem, ② Ozone layer depletion, ③ Acid rain, ④ Reduction of tropical forest, ⑤ Desertification, ⑥ Pollution problems in developing countries, ⑦ Decrease in wildlife, ⑧ Marine pollution, ⑨ Trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste, ⑩ Global trade

### 4. Collaborations for Human Security

#### (1) Sharing Recognition

In November 2016, a new international framework for global warming and greenhouse gas reduction was adopted. Under the "Paris Agreement" of COP 21, 175 countries / regions around the world agreed to tackle global warming. Specifically, it will oblige countries to formulate voluntary goals and implement domestic measures. The reasons why many countries and regions have adopted simultaneously are the effects of climate change such as abnormal weather and sea level rise in a visible form, and It is because the sharing recognition that climate change is a serious issue for any country is progressing.

#### (2) Sharing Vision

In negotiations on the Paris Agreement,

Rather than discussing the theory of responsibility for global warming and countermeasures, efforts to discuss and realize the vision of the future that is desirable in any country, such as a low-carbon society was made.

#### (3) Education of Global Citizens

It can be said that it is important to nurture Global Citizens who think that "what can be done for the most suffering person" and cause behavior to solve the problem on the earth.

In Global Citizens education, followings are important.

- ① To experience of putting yourself in the position of those who suffer,
- ② To find something necessary to build a society that lives together,
- ③ To create a "safe space" from your feet with everyone together

In 2016, the annual general meeting of the United Nations Information Agency / NGO was held in Korea on the theme "Global citizen education — to achieve SDGs together", "Gyeongju Action Plan" was adopted.

#### (4) Solidarity of action

By making consciousness that the cities where each other lives are the same "environmental community", it becomes possible to broaden the relationship greatly. For example, a city with 2% of the earth's land area occupies more than 60% of energy consumption, with worldwide carbon emissions of 75%. If the city changes due to solidarity of citizen activities, the earth will change. It can be said that solutions to the global problem will be greatly advanced by citizens cooperating with each other's cities instead of country-specific countermeasures.

### 5. Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs) for Human Security

The SDGs have the following 17 areas and 169 objectives, and in order to advance these goals, "sharing recognition" and "solidarity of action" must be carried out<sup>2</sup>.

(1) We resolve, between now and 2030, to end poverty and hunger everywhere; to combat inequalities within and among countries; to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; to protect human rights and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources. We resolve also to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and decent work for all, taking into account different levels of national development and capacities.

(2) As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.

Sustainable Development Goals are as follows.

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

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<sup>2</sup> United Nations A/70/L.1, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/L.1](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/L.1)

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts\*

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

## 6. Conclusion

In this research, we examined methods and efforts for establishing human security for peace. Among them, I mentioned the importance of (1) Sharing Recognition, (2) Sharing Vision, (3) Education of Global Citizens, (4) Solidarity of action. Through environmental problems, I think that environmental problems will go towards resolving by cooperating with countries and countries, cities and cities, and people.

A peaceful society is a sustainable society and a society in which human security has been established. The achievement of SDGs, which is a specific goal for 2030, will be increasingly important from now on.

To promote action on the SDGs, Japan established the SDGs Promotion Headquarters, a Cabinet body headed by the Prime Minister with all ministers as its members in May 2016<sup>3</sup>. The headquarters formulated the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles in December. These principles set out Japan's vision: "Become a leader toward a future where economic, social and environmental improvements are attained in an integrated, sustainable and resilient manner while leaving no one behind." These Principles also identify eight priority areas of focus by reconstructing the SDGs in light of the national context, and give concrete policies to implement. Focusing on these priority areas and utilizing the indicators set out at the same time to assess progress, the government plans to conduct its first follow-up and review process in 2019.

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<sup>3</sup> Annual Report on the Environment, the Sound Material-Cycle Society and Biodiversity in Japan 2017

## References

Peace Proposal 2016 “Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace” by Daisaku Ikeda, President, Soka Gakkai International

