

Challenges and countermeasures on Plastic Waste and Marine Litter

Sustainable Materials Management Division
Bureau of Environment
Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Litter in Tokyo

Washes into Pacific Ocean Ending Up as Marine Litter

Litter on the streets in town is blown by wind and/or rain into rivers or waterways, then carried into the ocean, floating as marine litter.

Why Not Start Reducing Marine Litter?



floating litter



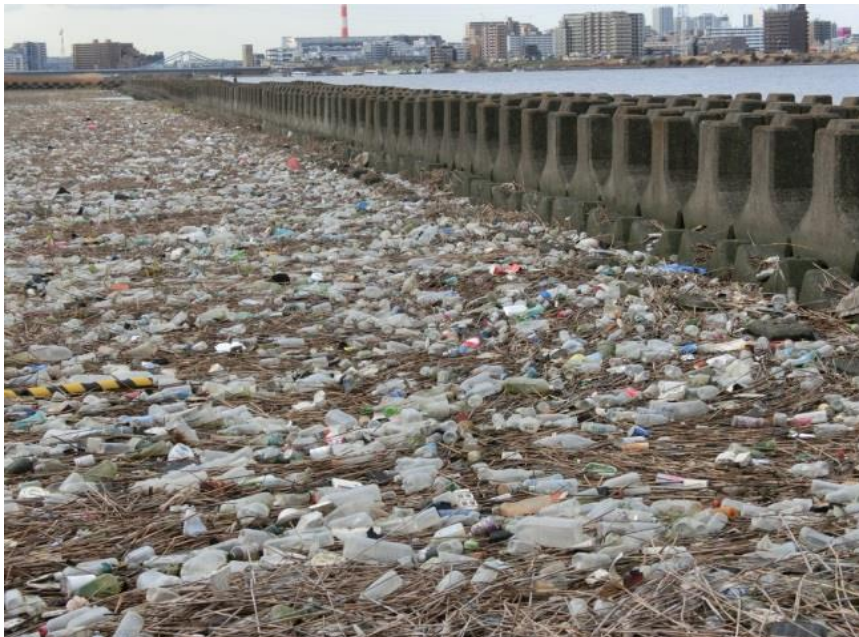
Race for Water / Christophe Launay

beach litter



特定非営利活動法人OWS

Situation at Arakawa River



Cited from Arakawa Clean-aid Forum

Establishment of “Team Mottainai”

In August 2018, TMG created a Team Mottainai in partnership with businesses, NGOs and other organizations.

This team aims to raise people’s awareness of “mottainai” and to encourage people to change their behavior to contribute to the **saving of food, materials, and energy.**

The Japanese word “mottainai” has the sense that something is too precious to waste and also expresses respect for the Earth’s resources.



Team Mottainai kick-off event



Reduction of Plastic Straws



To involve the community & reduce waste, TMG

-Asked residents to submit ideas on how to reduce the use of plastic straws (September & October)

-Offered paper straws on a trial basis in three coffee shops within the Tokyo Metropolitan Gov't Building (October)



Reduction of Plastic Bags

To raise citizens' awareness, TMG

-Hold events

ex) “Mottainai Campaign (To reduce the food waste and plastic bag)” in October

-Listening to a wide range of opinions in the formulation of policies by involving industry groups, consumer groups, etc.



Environmental Education

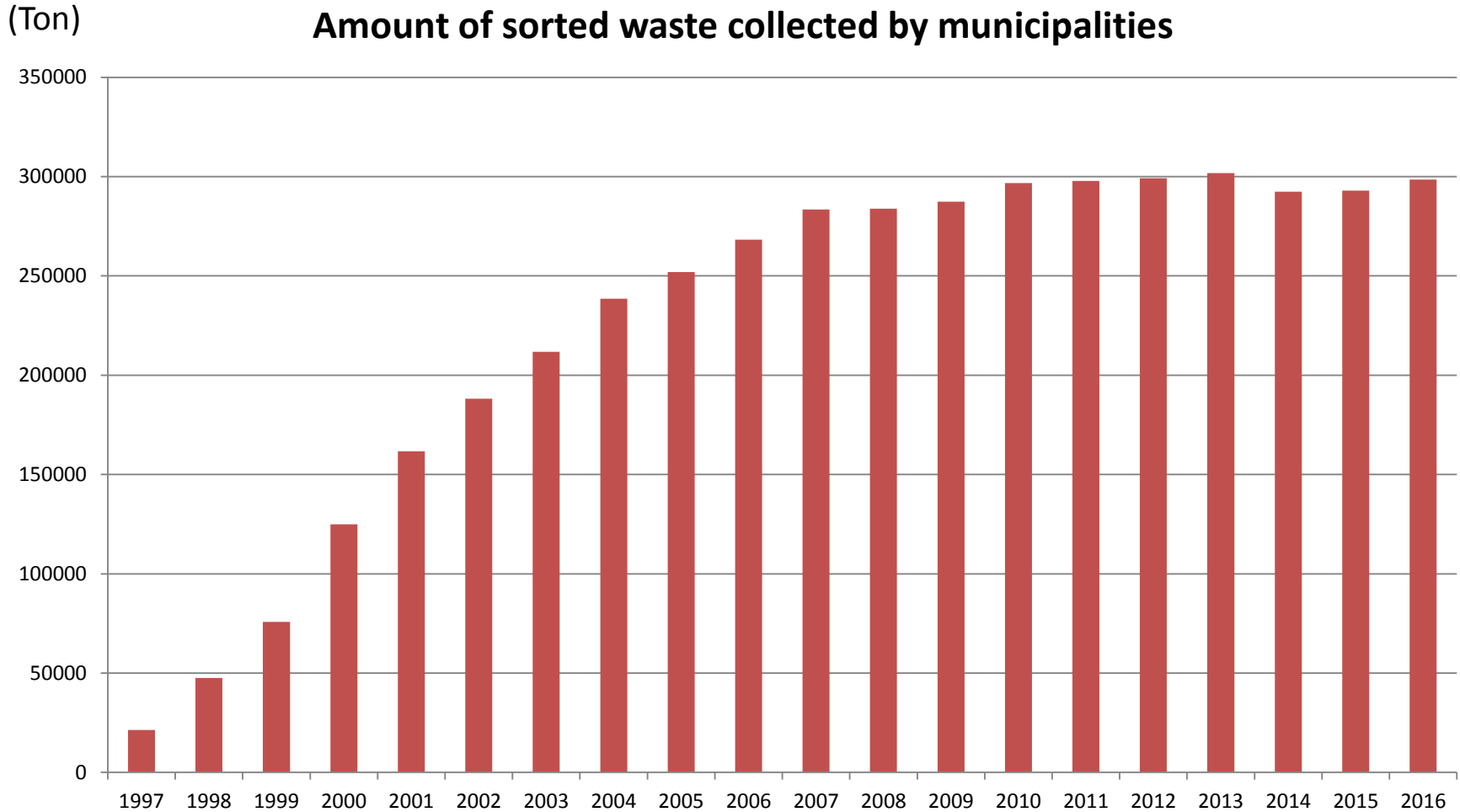


Short Educational Film :
Message from Kids in Tokyo &
New York City



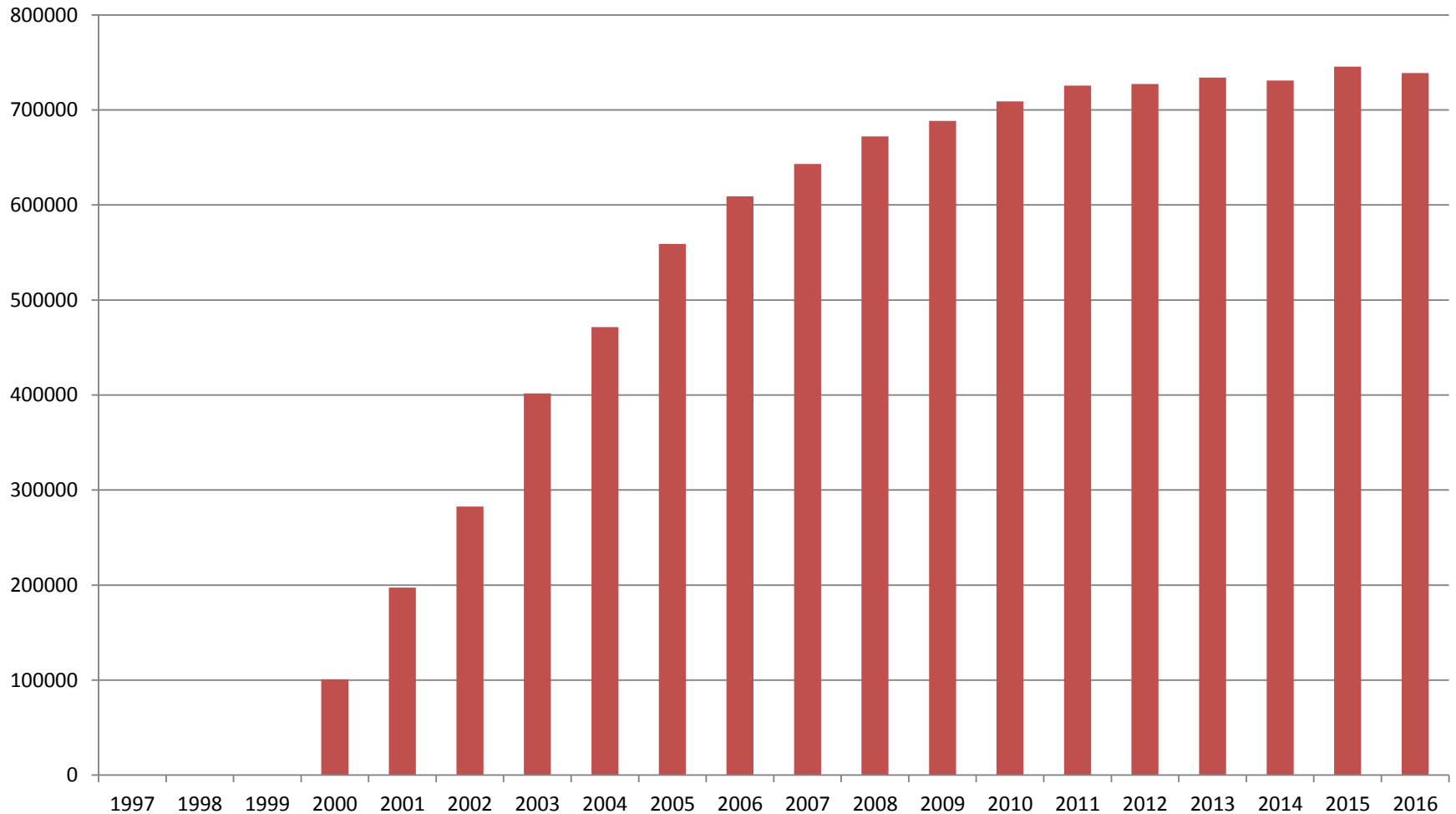
Special Class at elementary school by Governor Koike 7

Recycling of Pet Bottles in Japan



Recycling of Plastic Containers and Packaging in Japan

(Ton) Amount of sorted waste collected by municipalities



Draft Plastic Strategy (MOE)



- The Ministry of Environment submitted Draft Plastic Strategy to the Central Environment Panel on Oct. 19
- The draft strategy calls for a **25-percent reduction in the consumption of disposable plastic products by 2030.**
- It also sets forth a plan to **recycle or reuse 60 percent** of all plastic packagings by 2030 and to **use 100 percent** of such plastic products effectively by 2035, partly by energy recovery.
- The government will make it mandatory for retailers to **charge for plastic shopping bags, etc.**

numerical targets matched or surpassed the goals in the Ocean Plastics Charter

Tokyo Forum for Clean City & Clear Sky (Tokyo Declaration) (5/22-23)

the concept of “mottainai” (too precious to waste)

- Saving Food (Reducing food waste)

- **Saving Materials**

- Saving Energy

“心・技・体 Shin-Gi-Tai”

–changing awareness, technological innovation and effective program



Thank you!