

Annual Report on Policy Evaluation in FY2005 (June 9, 2006)

Annual report is submitted to the Diet by the government every year under the Article 19 of Government Policy Evaluation Act (GPEA).

(Edition 2006 is the fourth report since the first report in 2003)

10 ministries, 348 cases → 13 ministries, 357 cases

Main characteristics of Policy Evaluation in FY2005

1 Policy Evaluation has taken root

- The total number of policy evaluations is almost 10,000 as usual years.
- 16 ministries out of 17 use the evaluation method of management by objective (about 700 cases).
- Reflection of Evaluation Results in policies, including Budget Requests has been improved.

- ※ Abolishing , suspending and ceasing the projects (mainly public works) as result of policy evaluation
- ※ Half of the evaluations are reflected in the improvement and the review of policies as a result of policy evaluations using the method of management by objectives.

2 Spontaneous efforts have been also improved

Changes from FY2004 to FY2005

- Each ministry has conducted evaluations spontaneously and positively for normal policies other than three mandatory fields*.
 - Both the number of ministries conducting ex-ante evaluations of new projects and programs, and the number of these cases have increased. 10 ministries, 348 cases → 13 ministries, 357 cases
 - The number of policies improved and reviewed on the basis of ex-ante evaluation towards budget requests has increased. 18 cases → 74 cases
- Both the number of re-evaluations of policies not implemented or completed for a long time and the number of policies abolished, suspended or ceased on the basis of these re-evaluations have increased.
 - 1,710 cases (30 cases abolished etc.)
→ 2,011 cases (42 cases abolished etc.)

* An ex-ante evaluation is required by GPEA in three fields of Research&Development, Public works and Official Development Assistance (ODA).

3 Actions based on the revision of policy evaluation system

Revision of Basic Guidelines

(cabinet decision Dec 16, 2005)

Important Policy of Administrative Reform

(cabinet decision Dec 24, 2005)

(points)

- Thorough application of evaluation process to important cabinet policies
- Improvement of quality of evaluation
 - Reflection of Evaluation Results in Policies, including Budget Requests
 - Securing of Objectivity of Evaluation
- Fulfillment of accountability to general public

Ministries' Basic Plan

Every ministry incorporated main points of the revised basic guidelines into their own basic plan of policy evaluation by March, 2006.

(reference)

Article 2 of supplementary provisions of Government Policy Evaluations Act (GPEA)

“The government shall review the status of enforcement of this Law when three years have elapsed from the date of its enforcement, and take any necessary measures based upon the results of such review.

4 Activities of MIC as organization specialized in evaluation

- Evaluation to secure coherence or comprehensiveness of government policies (cross-cutting evaluation of inter-ministrial policies)
 - Publishing Evaluation Reports for Conservation of Air quality in Metropolitan areas in March, 2006
 - MIC is now undertaking evaluation of the following three themes.
 - Measures for Preventing Juvenile Delinquency
 - Measures for Recycling Promotion
 - Private Financial Initiative (PFI) projects.
 - Following up the situation of reflection of the results of policy evaluations conducted before FY2004.
- Evaluation activities to ensure objectivity of policy evaluations (examination of way and content of policy evaluation)
 - Checking the way each ministry conducted their policy evaluation and issuing opinions on their challenges in the future
 - Facilitating improvement of policy evaluation by addressing the policy evaluation cases which MIC has doubt on the propriety of the content

(reference)

Article 19 of GPEA

e.g. Changes of socio-economical circumstance might not be considered.

“The Government shall prepare each year a report on the status of policy evaluation...and on how the results of such evaluation have been reflected in policy planning and development, submit to the Diet and publish it.

The Number of policy evaluation by administrative organization (FY2005)

(Unit : number of cases, %)

Category		Ex-ante evaluation	Ex-post evaluation	Total	
General policies	Performance evaluation		679	679 (6.9)	
	Comprehensive evaluation	—	104	104 (1.1)	
	Project evaluation	357	60	417 (4.3)	
	Subtotal	357	843	1,200 (12.3)	
Specific areas	Project Evaluation	Research and development	318	625	943 (9.7)
		Public works	3,856	3,756	7,615 (78.0)
		ODA	30	8	38 (0.4)
	Subtotal	4,204	4,329	8,596 (88.0)	
Total		4,561 (46.6)	5,235(53.4)	9,796 (100.0)	

(Notes)

“Specific areas” are “Research and Development”, “Public works”, and “ODA”, which are required by GPEA to conduct an ex-atne evaluation.