Citizen-led Environmental Governance: Collective Decision Making, Science Communication, and Mind-Climate

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For effective collective decision making on the future of global environment and contemporary humans, it is required to deal with complex knowledge of science and technology in its interface with society that comprises of diverse actors (stakeholders) and sectors (production areas of industry, government, academia, civil society, and military). The current presentation reports a dialogue experiment among citizens and between citizens and experts, for citizens to take part in environmental governance as a sovereign, from the viewpoint of science communication, focusing on post-Fukushima energy and environmental issues in Japan (in particular high-level radioactive waste). It argues the necessity of taking into account of emotions and value systems (priority of multiple values) as well as reasons, in dialogue and decision making, because of not only complexity of science and technology but also diversity of viewpoints and interest in society. It also illustrates the relation with autonomy and spontaneousness. Moreover, it discusses the role of human beings' propensity to irrationality ("mind-climate") towards adaptable management of global environment including society, with emergence.

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