

## **Civil society demands JICA to halt its considerations on providing an ODA loan to the construction of the O Mon 3 gas-fired power plant in Vietnam**

29 civil society organizations concerned about climate change and negative environmental impacts have written to the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) demanding to halt its considerations for providing an ODA loan to the construction of the O Mon 3 gas-fired power plant in Vietnam.

O Mon 3 is a 1,050MW gas-fired power plant planned to be constructed adjacent to the existing 660MW O Mon 1.

The letter raised ten issues for JICA to review:

1. The world is off track of 1.5°C and we need to get back
2. Lock-in of GHG emissions makes Vietnam's Net Zero harder
3. Would violate G7 commitment
4. JICA should not function as a stimulator to boost the GHG emissions
5. Relentless disaster, no time to recover
6. Reduces the effect of climate crisis counter projects by JICA
7. Direct impact on the fertile Mekong Delta
8. Without O Mon, Vietnam managed its electricity
9. Vietnam has high potential in renewable energy
10. Financing is not in line with JICA's loan conditions

The letter demanded JICA to halt its considerations on O Mon 3 and search for ways to refocus on supporting genuinely clean and renewable energy resources that align with global climate goals.

“Japanese financiers must stop funding fossil fuel projects that harm communities and drive the climate crisis. Emissions from existing and planned fossil fuel infrastructure will push climate change over the 1.5 degree limit set under the Paris Agreement. A rapid phase-out of fossil fuels, including gas, is essential. There is simply no room for new public or private gas financing for projects like O Mon 3,” said **Makiko Arima, Senior Finance Campaigner, Oil Change International (OCI)**.

“Vietnam has experienced more than twenty storms this year which severely affected many people. Relentless storms in October and November have brought devastating floods and landslides throughout Vietnam, especially the central region. The Japanese government and JICA have sent relief goods, but if JICA is serious about climate change and disaster, it should not support fossil gas power plants that would only increase the chance and severity of disaster,” said **Satoko Endo, Policy Coordinator, Mekong Watch**.

“At a time when the climate crisis is intensifying across Asia, continuing to back new fossil fuel projects in Vietnam is environmentally indefensible and financially irresponsible. Public

development finance should accelerate a just energy transition, not lock communities into climate harm and stranded assets,” said **Gerry Arances, Executive Director, Center for Energy, Ecology, and Development (CEED)**.

“It is outrageous to see rich countries like Japan continue to prioritize profits and fund fossil fuel projects at the expense of developing countries. Communities who contribute the least emissions should not be at the forefront of the climate crisis. JICA should listen to science and commit to a full phase out of gas expansion. Asian communities deserve to see a rapid shift from fossil fuels to clean energy, and not the build out of new fossil power,” said Lidy Nacpil, Coordinator, **Asian Peoples’ Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD)**

“Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan is a concessional loan, which could only be provided when securing of finance is not possible from private banks. Since O Mon 4 planned to be built adjacent to O Mon 3 had a groundbreaking ceremony this year with a supposed finance from private banks, if JICA provides loan to O Mon 3, then this will breach the ODA loan condition,” said **Yuki Tanabe, Program Director, Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES)**.

**Read the Open Letter in full (list of signatories contained):**

“JICA, No Loan to the Construction of O Mon 3 gas-fired power plant in Vietnam, Don’t Exacerbate the Climate Crisis!”

[https://www.mekongwatch.org/PDF/rq\\_20251219\\_Omon3\\_Eng.pdf](https://www.mekongwatch.org/PDF/rq_20251219_Omon3_Eng.pdf)

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