

Japan donates 10 million dollars for Galapagos solar energy

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A Green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas) swims underwater in San Cristobal island, Galapagos Archipelago, in 2009. Japan has donated 10 million dollars to Ecuador to help fund a solar energy project in the Galapagos Islands, a UNdesignated World Heritage site, Ecuador's Electricity Ministry said Friday.

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An agreement between Quito and the Japan International Cooperation System Company will help start a plan to introduce "clean energy with solar generation systems to be located on Baltra Island," one of 13 islands that form the archipelago, the ministry said in a statement.

The project, part of a larger push for cooperation between the



governments of Japan and Ecuador, aims to "mitigate the effects of global warming, reducing the emission of greenhouse gases," the statement added.

According to the ministry, the money will be use to buy equipment, facilities and "a photovoltaic system."

The Galapagos were declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO some three decades ago in acknowledgement of the area's rich flora and fauna both on land and in the surrounding sea.

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