

# Abstract

## SESSION 2:

Accelerating Actions for Sustainable Development and Climate Change

## WORKSHOP 2.1:

Scaling up ICM: Innovations and Impacts at Local, National, and Regional Levels

## Integrated Coastal Management Development in Japan

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The state parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea are conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole. Agenda 21 stipulates the implementation of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) as the responsibility of coastal states. Japan has made efforts to implement ICM since the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The Japanese traditional coastal management had started from fisheries or maritime transport in relation to social activities, followed by coastal disaster prevention, conservation of national land, measures for pollution, prevention of marine pollution and conservation measures for special area by enactment of specific laws for socio-economic needs of each era. In the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, limits to coastal management by these specific laws began to be discussed. Amendment of the law to scale up its objectives or guidelines for ICM planning for local governments were issued by the central government in 2000. Nevertheless, it is still too early to develop an integrated law for ICM implementation nor a holistic national grant preparation similar to the US.

The enactment of the Basic Act of Ocean Policy in 2007 is a breakthrough for Japanese coastal management. Establishment of institutional arrangements for ICM implementation have been initiated since a cabinet decision was made for the development of the Basic Plan on Ocean Policy. The headquarters for ocean policy headed by the Prime Minister was established at the national level. Implementation of an information sharing mechanism for ICM was undertaken including the establishment of Bay Renaissance Committees at the urban coastal area along Tokyo Bay, Osaka Bay, Ise Bay and Hiroshima Bay. The committee enacted a 10-year action plan for each bay. Japanese coastal management has shifted to integrated management in terms of planning. Nevertheless, management of ocean use is still based on specific laws, and grants delivery is based on these laws.

On the contrary, the revised Action Plan on Ocean Policy (2013) described “offer assistance to regions that strive to formulate their own plans”. Collaborative model projects with local governments and stakeholders began to generate results with support from the Ocean Policy Research Institute (OPRI). The ICM model projects supported by OPRI are representing and developing as a system for implementation of “revitalizing coastal areas” which balances environmental conservations and sustainable development in Japan.



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**About Shin Kisugi:**

Prof. Shin Kisugi was born in Hokkaido, Japan. He graduated with a Master's Degree in the Graduate School of Law of the Hokkaido University. He worked as a Professor, Vice-President and Executive Director of Yokohama University and a Professor of the Open University of Japan. He is currently the Vice President of the Open University of Japan.