Ocean Policy Development in Japan

Toshiyuki ONUMA
Director, Ocean Policy Division, Policy Bureau,
Ministry of Land Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)

November, 2015
Basic Data on Relevant Japanese Elements

- **Land Area**: 380,000 km² (World’s 61st-largest)
- **Area of territorial sea and EEZ**: 4.47 million km² (World’s 6th-largest, ~12 times as large as land area)
- **Number of remote islands**: 6,847 islands
- **Length of Coastal Line**: 35,000 km (World’s 6th-longest)
- **Export & import cargo reliance on maritime transport**: over 99%
- **Amount of shipbuilding per year**: 20 million tons (in FY 2010, world’s 3rd-largest)
- **Fishery and aquaculture production**: 5.43 million tons (in FY 2009, world’s 5th-largest)
- **Number of Ports and Fishery harbors**: 3,914
Growing role of the oceans for all mankind:
- security of food, ocean resources and energy
- cargo transport
- global environment

Various challenges at sea around Japan:
- marine environment protection
- management of fisheries resources
- safety maritime transport

Need to establish executive structure and to promote a comprehensive and integrated approach to ocean issues

Basic Act on Ocean Policy
Enactment: 20 April, 2007
Enforcement: 20 July, 2007
Basic Act on Ocean Policy and First Basic Plan on Ocean Policy

Enforcement of Basic Act on Ocean Policy (July 20th, 2007)

The Headquarters for Ocean Policy was established within the Cabinet.

The first Basic Plan on Ocean Policy was formulated in 2008

6 basic philosophies

- Harmonization of the Development and Use of the Oceans with the Conservation of Marine Environment
- Securing Safety and Security on the Oceans
- Improvement of Scientific Knowledge of the Oceans
- Sound Development of Ocean Industries
- Comprehensive Governance of the Ocean
- International Partnership

Cabinet

Administration Office of the Headquarters for Ocean Policy

Director-General: Prime Minister
- Formulation and implementation of the Basic Plan for Ocean Policy
- Overall policy coordination with relevant governmental institutions

Administration Office of the Headquarters for Ocean Policy in the Cabinet Secretariat
Revision of Basic Plan on Ocean Policy

Basic Plan on Ocean Policy (March 2008) Subject to revision roughly every five years

Formulation of a new Basic Plan on Ocean Policy *FY2013 to FY2017

Changes in Social Circumstances concerning the Sea after the Current Basic Plan on Ocean Policy

The revised Basic Plan on Ocean Policy was formulated (April, 26th 2013)

Cabinet of Japan

Headquarters for Ocean Policy
Major Measures in Basic Plan on Ocean Policy

1. Promotion of the Development and Use of Marine Resources
   - Fishery
   - Methane hydrate

2. Preservation of Marine Environment, etc.

3. Promotion of Research and Development of Marine Science and Technology

4. Promotion of Marine Industries and Strengthening of International Competitiveness

5. Comprehensive Management of Coastal Zone

6. Enhancement of Citizen's Understanding of the Sea and Fostering of Human Resources
   - ICM
Measures related to ICM

- Implementation of Comprehensive Management of Coastal Zone
  - Industry
  - Local Government
  - Scientists
  - NPOs
  - Fishermen
  - Residents

- Proper Control of Nutrients and Pollutant Load

- Recovery of Marine Litter and Drifting Oil

- Construction of Coasts friendly to Nature and Users

- Implementation of Sato-umi Construction Activities

- Management in Enclosed Coastal Seas
In Japan, ICM or other similar management has been implemented in various regions (urban and rural areas).
Coastal Management under Existing Legislation

Coastal areas in Japan

Coastal areas such as seacoasts, port and harbor areas and fishing port areas are appropriately managed based on the relevant national laws.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Relevant national law</th>
<th>Enacted year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sea-coasts</td>
<td>Coast Act</td>
<td>1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ports</td>
<td>Port and Harbor Act</td>
<td>1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and Harbors</td>
<td>Port and Harbor Act</td>
<td>1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing Ports</td>
<td>Act on Development of Fishing Ports and Grounds</td>
<td>1950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Coastal Management under Existing Legislation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Coast Act</strong></th>
<th><strong>Port and Harbor Act</strong></th>
<th><strong>Act on Development of Fishing Ports and Grounds</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - Protection of the seacoasts from hazards  
  - Conservation of the coastal environment  
  - Promotion of the proper use of the seacoasts by the public | - Proper development and management of ports and harbors taking environmental protection into account | - Proper development of fishing ports and grounds taking harmony with the environment into account |
| Development of Coastal Preservation Plans by local governments | Development of Port Plans in major ports | Development of the Plan for Fishing Ports and Ground Improvement |

Each Act states that coordination and collaboration with stakeholders is necessary in developing plans.

Efforts related to ICM are implemented based on each Act.

Coastal areas under these Acts cover 85% of coastlines in Japan.
Thank you for your kind attention.