

An Approach to Reduce the Garbage at the Bottom of the Seto Inland Sea through Two Activities: Collecting Garbage at the Sea Bed and Raising Public Awareness of the Consequences of Inappropriate Waste Management

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Based on our estimation, over 13,000 tons of garbage is piled up at the bottom of the Seto Inland Sea. Most of that garbage is carried to the sea through the rivers which flow into it. How did that garbage get to be in the rivers? The answer is that it was mainly put there by the people who live in the cities, towns, and villages, surrounding the Seto Inland Sea. The Seto Inland Sea bed is now covered with a lot of garbage. This prevents life to flourish there and is slowly destroying in the sea. The problem is becoming more and more serious partly because it is so difficult to remove the garbage, but mainly because the general public is unaware of the serious consequences to use their local waterways as dumping sites. In order that the Seto Inland Sea is to be preserved, we have to raise public awareness of this serious problem. We are trying to tackle this problem in two ways. First, we helped remove the garbage from the sea bed by using small trawling fishing nets attached to fishing boats. Actually we did this action four times over last year. Our second plan of action is to make the public aware that they are giving a very negative effect on the local fishing economy each time they throw their rubbish into the rivers. I hope these two ways will lead to a large reduction of the garbage piled up on the bottom of the Seto Inland Sea.

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