Other (ICM and Sato-Umi)

A Vital Role Of Sato-umi In The Implementation Of Icm In Japan

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A Vital Role of Sato-Umi in the Implementation of ICM in Japan Osamu Matsuda Residence Address: 6-8-13 Hachihonmatsu-Minami, Higashi-Hiroshima, 739-0144, JAPAN. Phone: +81-82-428-3846; Fax: +81-82-428-3846; Email: matsuda036@go3.enjoy.ne.jp In this paper, vital roles of Sato-Umi in Japan in the past, at present and in future are evidenced or foreseen with special reference to related legislation and policy. A vital role of Sato-Umi has been changing from environmental restoration by local communities in the first stage to basic tool for the implementation of ICM in Japan in the second stage. What is expected in the next stage? [Role of Sato-Umi in the first stage] Due to the original definition on Sato-Umi in which enhancement of both biological diversity and biological productivity through human interaction are indicated (1998), implementation of Sato-Umi concept in Japan in the first stage made emphasis on environmental or habitat restoration and environmental education through coastal experiences organized by local groups. These trends are made clear by the results of analysis on collected Sato-Umi case studies. National Environment Oriented Strategy established in 2007 also promoted such roles of Sato-Umi. [Role of Sato-Umi in the second stage] While, Basic Ocean Act was enacted in 2007 and related Basic Ocean Plan was established in 2008, when ICM was officially introduced to coastal management system at the first time. Since Basic Ocean Plan incorporated Sato-Umi concept into its policy, Sato-Umi approach is changing to basic tool for implementing ICM in Japan. This tendency was evidenced by the comparative analysis between authorized ICM practices and Sato-Umi case studies. In this comparative study, many Sato-Umi creation activities were also characterized as a kind of ICM at the same time. For example, in the case of Shima City, Mie prefecture, official Basic Plan of Sato-Umi Creation established by the municipality is also Basic ICM Plan of the area. [Role of Sato-Umi in the next stage] Since National Policy on Biodiversity established in 2010 indicated the promotion of Sato-Umi, Sato-Umi activity gained ground in the field of ecosystem based management. The 4th Basic Environmental Plan established in 2012 focused on sustainable local community and conservation of biodiversity in the integrated watershed area. These policies are very supportive to Sato-Umi as a tool for community based management. In the developed area in Japan, coastal areas are mostly occupied by reclaimed land and artificial coastline which prevented the open access of people to the sea. One of vital roles of Sato-Umi expected in near future is to get back the open access of people to the seashore, which will foresee the new commons in the coastal area base on the Sato-Umi concept in the next stage.

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