

## MOVEMENT ON INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT IN JAPAN

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In Japan, with a recent rise in the public awareness of the importance of the global environment, it has become one of today's critical issues to preserve or enhance the function of natural reproduction cycles and the diversity of nature in coastal areas.

Not only from the perspective of the development of safe, variously functioned coastal areas, but also from the viewpoint of restoration and the creation of esthetic, sound coastal environments, Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) has become vital in order to solve problems and balance conflicting demands from various concerned agencies, groups and individuals.

This study shows the chronological table about movement on ICZM in Japan, and also gives the outline of each proposal. Up to now, various kinds of private organizations as well as the national government have made proposals on ICZM.

As private groups, Japan Federations of Bar Associations, Japanese Association for Coastal Zone Studies, The Japan Foundation and some other organizations have proposed the law or method on ICZM.

On the other hand, national government has shown what the ICZM should be. "The Grand Design for the 21st Century"(decided by the Cabinet meeting in 1998) states that "With making clear the conditions of the natural environment of coastal areas, local authorities will play the main role in building integrated coastal zone management plans; the national government will offer guidelines for the planning." In 2000, "Guidelines for Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans" was decided by "The Grand Design for the 21st Century" promotion liaison conference of the national government. The Guideline shows the basic concepts of ICZM, viewpoints for planning, and organizations for the decision-making and implementation of ICZM plans.

However, the Guideline doesn't have legal binding force, so that no local authorities have made the ICZM plans as yet.

Therefore, for the purpose of establishing ICZMs by the local authorities, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Ministry of Environment, Fisheries Agency jointly studied a model case of ICZM in Ise Bay from 2000 to 2001. Through this model study, some problems are made cleared in promoting ICZM.

Standing on above facts, the author proposes a subsidizing system to encourage local authorities to make ICZM plans, and also suggest the investigation whether establishing the ICZM act is necessary.