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Sustainability of Fisheries in the Seto Inland Sea,Japan

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Abstract

Fish catch per unit area per year of 20.6 ton/km2/year in the Seto Inland Sea, Japan is the largest in the semi-enclosed coastal seas in the world. However, the fish catch in the Seto Inland Sea has decreased after 1986 mainly due to water pollution and over-fishing. On the basis of interdisciplinary study carried by not only physical, chemical and biological oceanographers but also engineers, economists and lawyers, we have proposed some measures in order to develop sustainable fisheries in the Seto Inland Sea.