

## Economic Evaluation Method of Environmental Restoration in the Seto Inland Sea

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### 1. Introduction

In the Seto Inland Sea, restoration of the good environment that has lost by the development becomes subject of attention. However, in the present condition, it is difficult to ensure the costs for such an enterprise to keep and restore environment because of its huge sum of expenses.

This paper describes the investigation of economic evaluation that can be participated by the inhabitants about an enterprise to keep and restore the environment of the Seto Inland Sea. We had answer the inhabitants in the coast of the Seto Inland Sea the questionnaire about consciousness of the environment of the Seto Inland Sea and show some methods to get revenues.

### 2. Outline of the questionnaire

The questionnaire was conducted on one thousand households in the coast of Hiroshima Bay by random sampling. In the questionnaire, a fictitious enterprise that an artificial tidal flat was constructed in Hiroshima Bay was established to know how much do the inhabitants have the will to pay for such environmental restoration enterprise. After an explanation of the effects gained by the enterprise like water purification and improvement of the biological habitat, four methods of raising funds; taxation, surcharge by water rates, donation and collection of an admission fee to beach were presented and asked the inhabitants' intention of paying amount for each methods. Also, We asked them an impression and using condition of Hiroshima Bay.

### 3. Results

70 % of the inhabitants of Hiroshima Bay answered the water quality was polluted in Hiroshima Bay. This answer indicates that they have high interests about an environmental preservation of Hiroshima Bay. Besides, the inhabitants who feel Hiroshima Bay is polluted showed the intention to pay as a contribution or an admission which can be freely participate, twice as much as the inhabitants who does not feel Hiroshima Bay is polluted. This result made it evident that the amount of paying is much reflected in the difference of the consciousness about the environmental preservation of Hiroshima Bay.