

The management of the Seto Inland Sea and its Coastal Zone: The Role of NGOs and citizens

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The People's Alliance to Protect the Environment of the Seto Inland Sea

The People's Alliance to Protect the Environment of the Seto Inland Sea was established in 1972 by groups of residents, scientists, etc. from the 11 prefectures on coastal area.

From '96 to '98, we had investigated the coastline of Seto Inland Sea and published 3 reports. We have realized that people living there were strongly attached to the Seto Inland Sea. The Japan Fund for Global Environment was granted for this. In order to improve the environment around the Seto Inland Sea, we have negotiated with the office of the Environment Agency (now the Ministry of Environment) for 25 years during the environment protection week in June. Though it is appreciated that we can negotiate or have conversation with it, at the same time, there are limited job attainability and power of the office. I dare to say there is no system for the realization of sustainability that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs in the Seto Inland Sea and its coastal zone.

I expect EMECS will give us chances to have central government, local governments, NGO, scientists work together for the Seto Inland Sea .

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