Individual Projects of the Environment Subcommittee

Research on washed-up driftage on the coasts of the Northwest Pacific Region 2007 (Toyama)

1 Objectives:

This research project has objectives as following:

- 1) to make the basic data for measures for the marine environment protection and countermeasures against the wastes by grasping current situation of the contamination by artificial objects in the coast., and
- 2) to raise the people's awareness in the community "not to throw away anything and to protect the environment" through the participation in the research, as the part of the environmental education.

Recently, artificial objects around the ocean have been a serious problem internationally. In this project, the amount of washed-up driftage on the coast of Northwest Pacific is researched by the unified method. The research result is utilized as the primary data by Japanese Government or international organizations.

2 Outline

- (1) Period: April, 2007 to March, 2008
- (2) Places: Coasts on the Northwest Pacific Region

(3) Method

I Main body

The municipalities conduct the research with students of elementary, middle and high schools, and civil societies.

II Procedure

- Setting three research areas consecutively from water's edge toward the land (1 area: 10m × 10m)
- Collecting all artificial objects from the areas, separate them as follows, weigh and count them.

| 1) | Plastic | 2) Rubber 3 | 3) Styrene foa | am 4) Paper |
|----|---------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 5) | Cloth | 6) Glass/Ceramic | 7) Metal | 8) Other Artificial Objects |

III Research result

The research results submitted by municipalities to Toyama Prefecture are to be summarized and compiled by NPEC.

(4) Participating municipality (planned)

The research will be carried out in 53 coasts of 26 municipalities by the members of the

Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments and other municipalities.

Japan: Hokkaido, Aomori, Akita, Yamagata, Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa, Fukui, Kyoto, Hyogo, Tottori, Shimane, Yamaguchi, Fukuoka, Saga, Nagasaki,

Russia: Primorsky, Khabarovsk, Sakhalin

Korea: Gangwondo, Chungchongnam, Kyongsanbuk

China: Liaoning, Hevei, Shangdon, Jingsu

(5) Future plan

The research will be continued in the year of 2008.

3 Research in the year of 2006

(1) Participating municipalities

25 municipalities from the Association of Northeast Asia Regional Governments and other municipalities along the Northwest Pacific conducted the research in 53 coasts.

(2) Outcome

The outcome of the research were reviewed and summarized in the Review Meeting to be reported.

[Research in 2007]



Japan



China



Korea



Russia