

## Individual Projects of the Environment Subcommittee

### Research on washed-up driftage on the coasts of the Northwest Pacific Region 2009 (Toyama)

#### 1 Objective

The research project carried out successively has these objectives: 1) to make the basic data for measures for the marine litter environmental protection and countermeasures against wastes by grasping the current situation of artificial objects in the coast: and 2) to raise the awareness of community people “not to throw away anything and to protect the marine environment” through their participation in the research, as the part of the environmental education.

Recently, marine litter is becoming the international concern as the environmental problem around oceans. This research has been conducted by the unified method to monitor marine litter in the coasts of the Northwest Pacific Region. The research results are utilized as the primary data by Japanese Government or international organizations.

#### 2 Outline of the Research

(1) Period: from April 2009 to March 2010

(2) Places: Coasts on the Northwest Pacific Region

##### (3) Method

###### I) Main body

The research is conducted by each municipality with the cooperation of elementary, middle and high schools, and civil societies.

###### II) The number of times

The research is conducted 1 – 4 times in one place a year

###### III) Procedure

- Setting three research areas consecutively from the 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 Styrene foam	④ Paper
⑤ Cloth	⑥ Glass/Ceramic	⑦ Metal	⑧ Other artificial object

###### IV Outcome

The research outcomes submitted by municipals to Toyama Prefecture are to be summarized and compiled by NPEC.

##### (4) Municipalities to participate

The research will be carried out in by 22 municipalities of NEAR members and other nonmembers.

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

Russia: Premorsky, Khabarovsk, Sakhalin

Korea: Gangwon-Do , Gyeongsangbuk-Do

China: Hebei, Jingsu

### 3 The Research in the year of 2008

#### (1) The number of participating municipalities

22 municipalities from NEAR and other municipalities along the Northwest Pacific conducted the research

#### (2) Outcome

The outcomes of the research are in the process of compilation and will be reported in the near future.



Research situation