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Coastal Governance in Asia and the Pacific

ABSTRACT

Countries in Asia and the Pacific are surrounded by seas and people's lives have depended on fisheries for a long time. They have developed unique fish eating culture according to their own environment. Based on a unique framework of community-based fisheries co-management system, once Japan led fisheries in this region and experienced the rise and fall. In Japan fisheries were a leading industry after WWII and fisheries and fishing villages play important roles in the society such as not only food security employment and economic opportunities in rural communities, but also succession of culture, research, educational and recreational opportunities, environmental and national securities. However, the development of canning, freezing and storing technology developed during and after WWII has changed people's life styles. This trend was accelerated by the economic growth, free trade and the UNCLOS III development in the late 20th century. Fisheries profitability has also decreased since the 1970s and the so-called economically efficient became non-economical in the 1990s. Number of workers decreased drastically. The similar situation has occurred and repeated in most Asia and the Pacific. Good governance is a governance to secure the way to prevent such a wasteful repetition to improve the situation actually, contributing to UN's goals of poverty eradication, food security, protection of our environment, human rights, democracy and peaceful solution.

BIOGRAPHY

He was born in 1939, graduated from Hokkaido University Faculty of Fisheries (Aquaculture) and received B.S. in 1966 and M.S. in 1968. He also received M. AET in 1973 and Ph.D in 1976 from the University of Georgia in the United States. As a post-doc researcher, he spent some time at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the East-West Environment and Policy Institute in the United States. As an associate professor of International Marine Policy, he joined Kagoshima University in 1980 and became the professor in 1991. After the retirement in 2005, he, as a professor emeritus of Kagoshima University, has been working with Japan International Cooperation Agency, IC Net Co. Ltd, and the World Bank as a fisheries consultant. He is also President of Japan International Fisheries Research Society (JIFRS), Director of International Institute of Fisheries Economics and Trade (IIFET) and Representative of Marine Forest Promotion Society in Japan.