



【COP28@UAE】 **Sustainably developing global blue carbon** **through international cooperation**

Decarbonized Society Promotion Office
Ministry of the Environment Japan

- A side event on blue carbon was co-hosted with Australia at the COP28 Japan Pavilion on 11th December 2023.

「Sustainably developing global blue carbon through international cooperation」

<Overview>

- Host : Ministry of the Environment, Japan
- Co-host : Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)
- Program
 - 1. Welcoming remark**
 - Shintaro Ito, Minister of the Environment Japan
 - Hon Jenny McAllister, Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy Australia
 - 2. Presentation of blue carbon activities**
 - ① Dr. Chika Kosugi, Nippon Steel Corporation from Japan
 - ② Ms. Chenae Neilson, DCCEEW
 - 3. Panel discussion**
 - Mr. Fumio Ito, Decarbonized Society Promotion Office, the Ministry of the Environment Japan
 - Ms. Chenae Neilson, DCCEEW
 - Mr. Hiroetsu Aoyama, Environmental Policy Office, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan
 - Dr. Kazuaki Takahashi, Climate Change Policy Headquarters, city of Yokohama Japan
 - Dr. Chika Kosugi, Nippon Steel Corporation from Japan
 - Mr. Joao Sousa, Ocean Team, Centre for Conservation Action, IUCN

● Main Point

- Prior to the event, it was reported that Ministry of the Environment Japan has joined the International Partnership for blue carbon which is lead by Australia.
- Australia and Japan will work together to lead blue carbon initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Japan's pioneering efforts were introduced, and key points and issues in promoting the efforts were shared with other countries.



Cooperation with Australia on Blue Carbon

Both Ministers exchanged a letter regarding cooperation in blue carbon initiatives and reaffirmed their intention to promote blue carbon initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region through international cooperation.



【Opening remarks by Japanese Minister Shintaro ITO】

- ...Blue carbon initiatives not only contribute to climate change mitigation through CO2 sequestration, but also have multiple values in terms of conservation of the ocean environment, and development of local economy including fishery and tourism. We also believe that blue carbon initiatives are emblematic of the G7's principle of pursuing net zero GHG emissions, circular and nature positive economies in an integrated manner..
- Today, in conjunction with this workshop, we have published over 40 case studies in Japan in both English and Japanese....
- In addition to promoting domestic initiatives, we would like to contribute to global efforts by sharing examples of Japan's activities. For this purpose, we have joined the IPBC, International Partnership for Blue Carbon in this August, which is led by Australia.
- Also, I have just received the letter from Australian Assistant Minister Hon Jenny McAllister on behalf of Minister Plibersek and confirm that Australia and Japan will work together to lead blue carbon initiatives in the Asia-Oceania region....

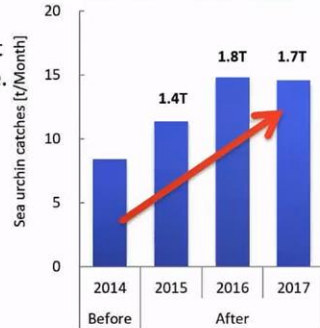
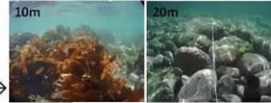
Introduction of Blue Carbon Initiatives in Australia and Japan



Expansion of Seaweed Beds and Increasing Sea Urchin Catches

Monitoring of changes in seaweed beds and sea urchin catches

- ✓ In 2015, seaweeds only grew to about 10 m offshore, and almost no seaweed grew anywhere else.
- ✓ Seaweed beds (black area in photos) gradually expanded offshore and towards the coastline.
- ✓ Sea urchin catches improved with the expansion of seaweed beds (2015~2017).



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Dr. Chika Kosugi from Nippon Steel Corporation presented its unique initiatives in cooperation with local governments, fishing cooperatives, fishermen, educational institutions, and others.

NIPPON STEEL

Public materials: Nippon Steel Corp.: Dec. 11, 2023: Blue Carbon Creation by Nippon Steel

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The IPBC was established in 2015, and has grown to over 55 partners from government, NGOs, IGOs, and research institutions around the world who understand the importance of coastal ecosystems and are committed to conservation, restoration and sustainable management.

Open forum for partners to connect, collaborate to build solutions and benefit from the experience and expertise of the global community.
The IPBC is coordinated by Australia, with support from IOC-UNESCO.

The Blue Carbon Accelerator Fund (BCAF) supports the development of blue carbon restoration and conservation projects in developing countries and helps pave the way for private finance.

The BCAF is managed by the IUCN and funded by the Australia Government



Ms. Chenae Neilson from DCCEEW introduced the IPBC* initiatives which has been promoted by Australian government.

* : International Partnership for Blue Carbon

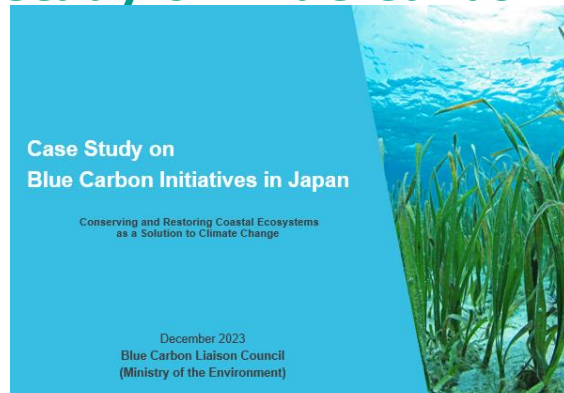
Panel discussion

In addition to short presentations by the panelists, an interactive Q&A session was held to answer questions from the audience and provide in-depth thoughts from each initiative.



Publication of Blue Carbon Initiatives Case Studies

Collected 45 case studies from all over Japan and published them as a “Case study on Blue Carbon Initiatives in Japan”.



No.	Name of the organization involved	Title
1	Suttsu Town	Fertilization Project in Suttsu Town, Hokkaido Prefecture
2	Hokkaido Electric Power Co., Inc.	Investigation of CO2 Absorption and Sequestration by Blue Carbon Ecosystems in Coastal Areas of Hokkaido
3	Nippon Steel Corporation	“Marine Forestation” activities through seaweed bed creation and restoration
4	Nippon Steel Corporation	Seaweed bed creation in Mashike Town, Hokkaido
5	Hirono Town	Creation and conservation of seaweed beds using propagation trenches in Hirono Town, Iwate Prefecture
6	Miyagi Prefecture	Miyagi Blue Carbon Project
7	Yokohama City	Yokohama Blue Carbon Project
8	Kajima Corporation	Sea Forest Creation Activities in Hayama Town through Cooperation of Various Actors
9	Blue Carbon Belt Riviera Institute	Efforts to establishing the “Blue Carbon Belt®”
10	Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.	Mori Sato Umi Tsunagu Project
11	Seven-Eleven Foundation, etc.	Tokyo Bay UMI Project
12	Nippon Steel Corporation	Creation of shallow and seagrass beds in front of the Kimitsu West Seawall
13	NPO Earth Communication	Kubisho Coast Satoumi Project
14	Miraisozobu / dba For Future Company	Atami Blue Carbon Project
15	Hainan Area Isoyake Countermeasures Promotion Council	Project to Restore Seaweed beds in the Hainan Area, Shizuoka Prefecture
16	NPO SEA-MO	Activities of NPO SEA-MO in Kumano-nada, Mie Prefecture
17	Hannan City	Sea Cradle Restoration Activities
18	Kansai Airports	Creation of seaweed bed environment at Kansai International Airport (KIX)

No.	Name of the organization involved	Title
19	Kobe City	Blue Carbon Creation Project at Kobe Airport Island
20	Hyogo Fishery Cooperative Association	Creation of Seaweed Beds, Tidal Flats and Habitats for Living Organisms in Hyogo Canal
21	Aioi City	Initiatives to Restore Aioi Bay
22	Eigashima Fishery Cooperative Association	Project to create eelgrass beds around Eigashima, Akashi City
23	The City of Hiroshima	Blue Carbon Initiatives
24	Onomichi City	Creating Sato-umi through the Restoration of cradle of the Onomichi Sea
25	Tromso Corporation	Blue Carbon Technology Development through Industry-Government-Academia Collaboration
26	Shunan City	Shunan Oshima-Tidal-Flat “Tsunagaru” Blue Carbon Project in Tokuyama-Kudamatsu Port
27	Fushino River Estuary and Tidal Flat Nature Restoration Committee	Blue Carbon Initiatives in the Fushino River Estuary and Tidal Flat
28	Uninomics K.K.	Isomori Blue Carbon Project in Yamaguchi and Oita Prefecture
29	Tottori Prefecture	Tottori Prefecture Seaweed Bed Cultivation Action Program
30	The Tottori Blue Carbon Project “Aiming for Restoration of the Rich Sea” Executive Committee	Tottori Blue Carbon Project
31	The Chugoku Electric Power Co., Inc.	Creation of seaweed beds by artificial reef and seawall at Shimane Nuclear Power Plant Unit No.3
32	Ainan Town	Ainan Town’s Marine Industry Initiatives
33	Fukuoka City	Blue Carbon Initiatives
34	Munakata City	Munakata Sea Urchin Project
35	VENTUNO Co., Ltd.	Initiatives for Marine Environment Conservation Using Seaweeds by Signing the Blue Carbon Agreement
36	Toyota Motor Kyushu Corporation	Joint research for blue carbon creation
37	Electric Power Development Co., Ltd.	Seaweed bed creation project using J Blue Concrete blocks
38	Karatsu City	Blue Carbon Initiatives in Karatsu City
39	Saga Genkai Fisheries Cooperative	Seaweed Bed Conservation Project
40	INFLUX Inc.	Blue carbon initiatives incorporating our network as an offshore wind farm operator
41	Goto City	Project to Promote Carbon Neutrality Using Seaweed beds
42	Nichirei Fresh Inc.	Inochi no Umi Project
43	Oita Prefecture	Seaweed beds conservation activities in Oita Prefecture
44	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.	Blue Carbon Initiatives on Iejima Island
45	Yaeyama Lions Club	Mangrove Planting Activities at Nagura Bay, Ishigaki Island, Okinawa, Japan, by Yaeyama Lions Club

Thank you for all!!