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Ocean-scape Designing by Vectors of Citizen's Consciousness: A Practical Case Study from the Tokyo Bay of Japan

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Abstract

Since Japan is an island country and has been benefitted by the sea surrounding, it is important to implement marine governance with promoting stakeholders' participation, preventing their use conflicts, and forging consensus. Spontaneously, as a method to plan and regulate human uses of the sea while taking care of natural ecosystems, Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) is now getting an attention in Japan. However, there is impossibility to define all of open-end numbers of stakeholders and their utilities when making a MSP and consensus in Japan. Therefore, it is needed to shift from defining instantaneous marine spaces at the moment to depicting universal ocean-scape which can be expressed on temporal axis. To tackle with this challenge, a free-writing questionnaire survey was selected in this study as a method to extract the holistic citizen's consciousness toward the sea. Taking the Tokyo Bay, Japan, as a study target, it was conducted asking "How do you see the Tokyo Bay has been so far?" and "How do you project the Tokyo Bay will be from now on?" to many kinds of people who live in the coastal area of the Tokyo Bay. As a result obtained by textmining, some of respondents' clusters and their vector tendencies of consciousness are clarified. The vectors of people's consciousness extracted by this study's method can be applied to multi-dimensional evaluation, and so be useful to design ocean-scape and implement MSP by a bottom-up approach through forging consensus

Keywords: ocean-scape, designing, citizen's consciousness forging consensus, free-writing, questionnaire, textmining

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