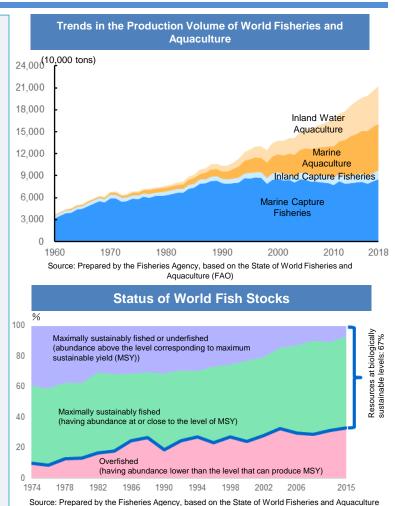
Chapter 3 International Situation Surrounding the Fisheries Industry

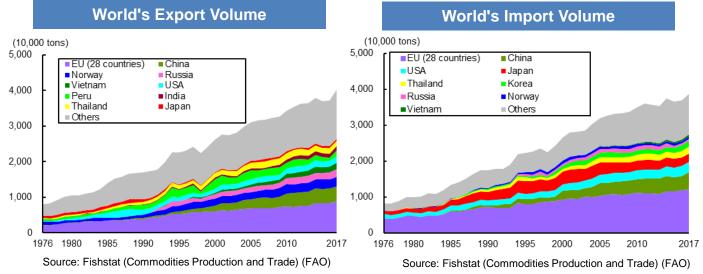
(1) Production of World Fisheries and Aquaculture

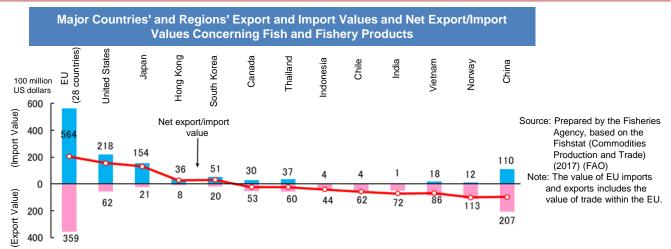
- O The production volume of world fisheries and aquaculture increased by 3% from the previous year to 212.09 million tons in 2018. The breakdown of this volume shows that the capture fisheries production volume stayed flat and there was a drastic increase in the aquaculture production volume.
- O For example, in the advanced countries and regions including EU, the Unites States, and Japan, the capture fisheries production volumes have remained almost flat or have been on a declining trend. In contrast, the capture fisheries production volumes in the developing countries including China, Indonesia, Vietnam, etc. have increased.
- O The aquaculture production significantly increases in China and Indonesia. In terms of fish species, there was a marked increase in carp, crucian carp, and algae.
- O The ratio of world fisheries resources being exploited within biologically sustainable levels is on a gradually decreasing trend. In 2015, 67% of world fisheries resources were at biologically sustainable levels (world fisheries resources with enough room for production expansion were 7%), and 33% of the resources were at overfished levels.



(2) World Trade of Fish and Fishery Products

- O Global import and export volumes of fish and fishery products are generally on the rise. In terms of export volume, the EU, China, and Norway are ranked high. In terms of import volume, the EU, China, and the United States are ranked high.
- O In terms of export and import value, China is the world's largest net exporter. The EU, the United States, and Japan are major net importers.





(3) International Situation Surrounding the Trade of Fish and Fishery Products

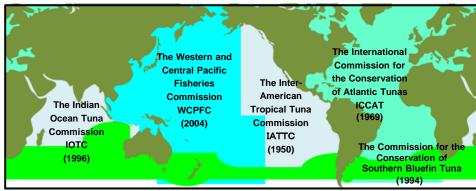
- O In WTO rule negotiations, discussions have been made about the establishment of disciplines on fisheries subsidies. Japan takes a stance of limiting prohibited subsidies to those which truly cause overcapacity and overfishing.
- O The Japan-U.S. Trade Agreement comes into effect on January 1, 2020. The agreement excludes all fish and fishery products that have been reduced or eliminated under the TPP.

(4) International Resource Management

i. Trends in Tunas Regional Fisheries Management Organizations

- O The global tunas and tuna-like species resources are managed by five regional fisheries management organizations (tRFMOs), and Japan is a member of all of the tRFMOs.
- O At its 2019 annual meeting, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) adopted the following measures for 2020 with regard to Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBF): 1) an increase in the carry-over rate for the unutilized portion of the catch limit from the current 5% to 17%, and 2) allowing the transfer of 300 tons of the catch limit for large PBF from Chinese Taipei to Japan subject to notification from Chinese Taipei.
- O With regard to the Inter-American Tropical Tunas Commission (IATTC), the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna was discussed at a joint working group of the IATTC and WCPFC Northern Subcommittee in September 2019.
- O At the 2019 annual meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), it was agreed to reduce the total allowable catch for bigeye tuna to 62,500 tons (of which Japan's quota of 13,980 tons) in 2020.
- O At the 2019 annual meeting of the Indian Ocean Tunas Commission (IOTC), the IOTC agreed on yellowfin tuna stock management measures where the excess amount could be deducted from the next year's catch limit if the current catch reduction measures cannot be achieved, and restrictions on the number of FADs that can be used for purse seine fishery that catches a large number of small fish, could be strengthened.
- O At the 2019 annual meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the CCSBT agreed on a new program to automatically calculate the proposed TAC based on the status of the southern bluefin tuna stock.

Tunas Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (tRFMOs)

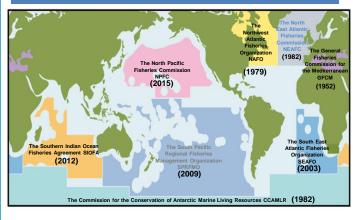


Note: The years in parentheses are the years of effectuation of the relevant treaties.

ii. Trends in Regional Fisheries Management Organizations for Pacific Saury, Chub Mackerel, etc.

- O In the high seas area in the North Pacific, the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) manages fisheries resources, such as Pacific saury, chub mackerel, and North Pacific armorhead.
- OIn July 2019, the management of the quantity of Pacific saury catches in the high seas was discussed, and it was agreed that the TAC of Pacific saury in the high seas for the 2020 fishing season shall be limited to 330,000 tons, that the allocation of TAC among members of the commission shall be considered at the commission meeting in 2020, and that each member of the commission shall ensure that its total catch of Pacific saury in 2020 will not exceed its reported catch in 2018.

Major Regional Fisheries Management Organizations Managing Other Resources than Tunas and Skipjacks



Notes: 1) Currently, Japan is neither a member of the SPRFMO nor of the NEAFC.

2) The years in parentheses are the years of effectuation of the relevant treaties

iii. Developments Toward Eliminating IUU Fishing

- O IUU fishing, which does not comply with regulatory measures and carry out disorderly operations, has a risk of having adverse effects on fisheries resources and undermining appropriate resource management.
- O Initiatives toward preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing have been promoted internationally. For example, regional fisheries management organizations have established a list of fishing vessels with proper authorizations (positive list) and a list of fishing vessels and carriers that have engaged in IUU fishing (negative list), and to prevent international distribution of catches harvested by IUU fishing through the use of the catch documentation scheme.

iv. Bilateral Relations in Fisheries

- O The Japanese and Russian governments had consultations on the conditions for mutual fishing access and the operating conditions for Japanese fishermen, etc. The payment of cooperation fund was suspended in relation to the conditions for mutual fishing access in 2020.
- O The Japanese and Korean governments have not reached agreement about operation conditions for mutual fishing access, etc., and therefore mutual consultations are still underway.
- O The Japanese and Chinese governments have not reached agreement about operation conditions for mutual fishing access, etc., and therefore mutual consultations are still underway.
- O Based on Japan Taiwan Fisheries Arrangement, the areas were designated where Japanese and Taiwanese fishermen can conduct their fishing operations under their own rules, and fishing operations have been carried in those areas on a trial basis.
- O Although the EEZs of the Pacific Island countries continue to serve as vital fishing grounds, the severity of fishing conditions continues to increase due to fishing fee hikes, establishment of marine protect areas, etc.

(5) New Developments Concerning Whaling

- O Japan withdrew from the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW) at the end of June 2019, under the basic policy of sustainable use of marine resources based on scientific evidence, and resumed commercial whaling of large whales (minke, sei and Bryde's whales) in July 2019.
- O The resumed commercial whaling operates in Japan's territorial waters and EEZ, targeting three species, of which stock conditions have been confirmed as abundant and is managed within the catch limits calculated in line with the method adopted by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) (Revised Management Procedure (RMP)).
- O Scientific research on whales will continue after Japan's withdrawal from the ICRW to contribute to the management of whale stocks based on scientific knowledge, in cooperation with international organizations such as the IWC.
- O In December 2019, an amendment to the Act on Scientific Whale Research Execution for the Implementation of Commercial Whaling, etc. was enacted. The name was changed to the Act for Ensuring the Sustainable Use of Cetaceans and revisions were made to position whale scientific research as continuing to play an important role in ensuring the proper development of the whaling industry.



Yoshikawa, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (as of that time) addressing the Factory Ship Type Whaling Vessels Departure Ceremony



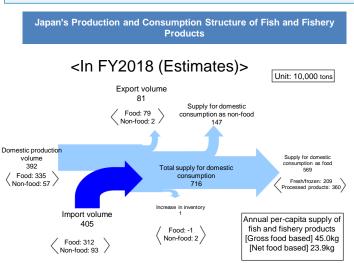
A view of the auction of whales caught in the resumed commercial whaling

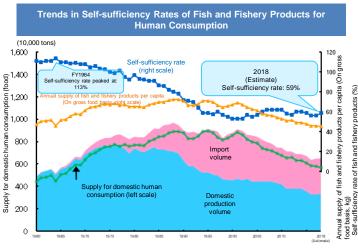
(6) Overseas Fishery Cooperation

- O For the purpose of the promotion of the fisheries industry and fishing resource management, the Japanese government offers grant aid (for the construction of fisheries facilities, etc.) and technical cooperation (the dispatch of experts, etc.) to fishery sectors in countries that have important fishing grounds for Japanese fishing vessels and countries sharing the stance of sustainable use of marine living resources.
- O With regard to coastal countries such as Pacific Ocean island countries, in the waters of which Japanese fishing vessels operate, the Japanese government supports private organizations' cooperation provided to such countries in the repair, etc. of fisheries facilities and in the transfer or dissemination of fisheries technologies.
- O The Japanese government provides financial and technical assistance to the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) in order to achieve sustainable fisheries in the Southeast Asia region.

(1) Supply-Demand Situation in Fish and Fishery Products

- O The supply of fish and fishery products for domestic consumption was estimated at 7.16 million tons for FY2018 (converted on a fresh fish basis, estimates), of which 5.69 million tons (80%) were for human consumption (food) and 1.47 million tons (20%) for feed and fertilizer (non-food).
- O The self-sufficiency rates (estimates) of fish and fishery products for human consumption for FY2018 increased by 3 point from the previous year to 59%.





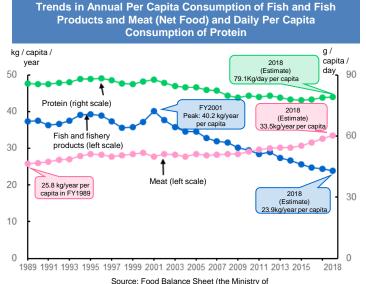
Source: Food Balance Sheet (the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

Source: Food Balance Sheet (the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

(2) Status of the Consumption of Fish and Fishery Products

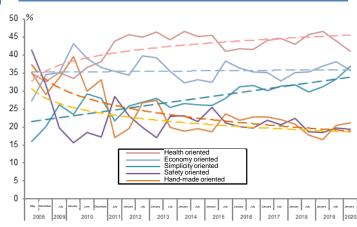
i. Trends in the Consumption of Fish and Fishery Products and Consumer Awareness

- OThe annual consumption of fish and fishery products per capita decreased by 0.5kg from the previous year to 23.9kg in FY2018.
- O The annual spending per household on fresh fish and fishery products had been flat in recent years, but has been on a decline over the past three years.
- O A survey on consumers' diet preference showed an increase in the rate of those who prefer a healthier and simpler diet.
- OThe percentage of fish and shellfish to be processed for consumption has increased in recent years.



Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

Trends of consumers' current food preferences (top)



Source: Prepared by the Fisheries Agency, based on the Food Orientation Survey (Japan Finance Corporation)

Note: The dashed line is an approximate curve or line.

ii. Health benefits of fish and fishery products

- OVarious studies have shown that the consumption of fish and fishery products has positive health benefits.
- On-3 (omega-3) polyunsaturated fatty acids, such as docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA), which are found in fish fats, play an important role in the development of the brain of the fetus and children.
- OFish protein is not only a high quality protein containing a good balance of nine essential amino acids, which are necessary for human life, but it is also easily digested and taken in the body compared to soy protein and milk protein.

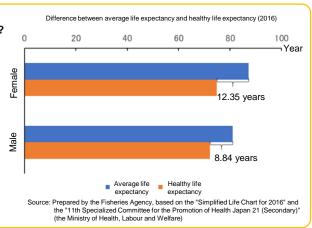
Column Would you like some fish to go with your strength training?

In Japan's aging society, the term "healthy life expectancy," which refers to the period of time during which there are no restrictions on daily life, has been attracting a lot of attention.

In recent years, there has been a boom in strength training (muscle training) as a result of increased interest in one of the elements of good health among a wide range of people.

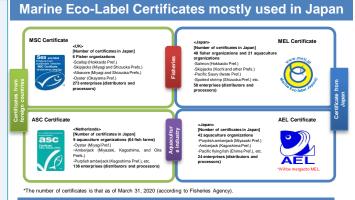
Protein supplementation is essential for muscle building. Fish is rich in protein with a high amino acid score. In addition, fish protein is easier to digest and absorb than soy and milk proteins.

In recent years, fish products for people who do muscle training and dieting are also developed. Eating fish and exercising are expected to keep people healthy and increase people's healthy life expectancy.



(3) Approaches to Ensuring Information Provision to Consumers and to Protecting Intellectual Property

- OFood labeling has been mandatory under the Food Labeling Act and comprehensively and centrally implemented since 2015.
- Oln September 2017, the Food Labeling Standards were revised and it was made mandatory for each processed food product other than imported ones to have a label displaying the place of origin of its ingredient that accounts for the largest part of the food product in terms of weight (nori seaweed used for rice ball is subject to such labeling requirement irrespective of the proportion of nori seaweed to the rice ball weight).
- Outilization of the Marine Eco-Label Certification System has expanded around the world. In Japan, MEL issued by the Marine Eco-Label Japan Council (MEL Council) have become widespread. MEL received recognition from Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) in December 2019.
- OTo the protection system of Geographical Indications (GI), 12 cases of fish and fishery products were registered by the end of March 2020.



Products registered under the GI protection system (examples in fisheries) in FY2019

Registr ation No.	Name	Photo	Place of Production of Specific Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Product and Foodstuff
84	Toyoshima beltfish		Sea area off Toyoshima, Toyohama-cho, Kure City, Hiroshima Prefecture
88	Tanoura Gintachi beltfish		Off the coast of Tanoura, Ashikita-machi, Ashikita- gun, Kumamoto Prefecture and the surrounding waters (Yatsushiro-kai)
89	Ono littleneck clam		Hatsukaichi-shi, Hiroshima Prefecture
92	Hiyama sea cucumber	*	Setana-cho, Kudo-gun, Hokkaido Prefecture; Yakuno-cho, Futami-gun; Otobe-cho, Nishi- gun; Esashi-cho and Kaminokuni-cho, Hiyama-gun; Okushiri-cho, Okushiri-gun

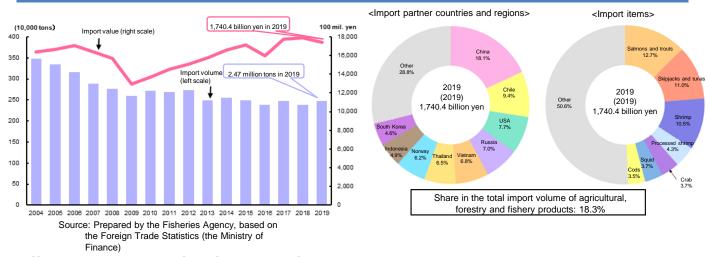
(4) Trends in the Trade of Fish and Fishery Products i. Import Trends in Fish and Fishery Products

to 1,740.4 billion yen.

OThe import volume of fish and fishery products (on a product weight basis) increased by 4% from the previous year to 2.47 million tons in 2019, The import value decreased by 3% from the previous year

OMajor import items in terms of value are salmons and trouts, skipjacks and tunas, shrimp.

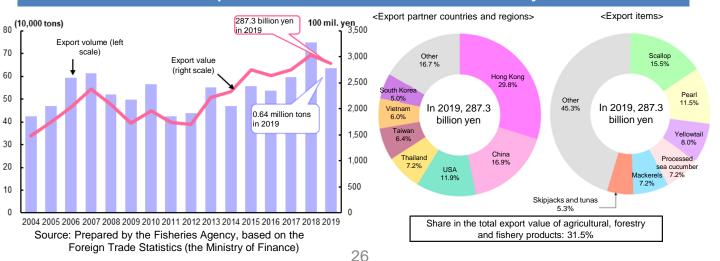
Trends in the Import Volume and Value of Fish and Fishery Products



ii. Export Trends in Fish and Fishery Products

- OThe export volume of fish and fishery products (on a product weight basis) decreased by 15% from the previous year to 0.64 million tons in 2019, The export value decreased by 5% from the previous year to 287.3 billion yen.
- OMajor export partners are Hong Kong, China, and the United States and the export value to these countries and regions accounts for about 60% of total exports.
- OMajor export items are scallop, pearl, etc. in terms of export value.
- OThe Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Products and Food Export Facilitation Act was promulgated in November 2019. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries establishes "Headquarters for the Export of Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Products and Food".
- OA new target for export of agricultural, forestry and fishery products and foodstuff to reach 5 trillion yen (including fishery products of 1.2 trillion yen) by 2030 was established in March 2020.

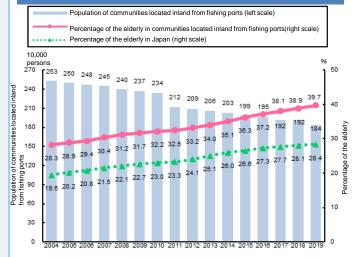
Trends in the Export Volume and Value of Fish and Fishery Products



(1) Current Status and Role of Fishing Communities

- OMany fishing communities are situated in advantageous locations for fishery production but are vulnerable to natural disasters (34% of communities located inland from fishing ports are in peninsular areas, and 19% in isolated island areas). Population is rapidly aging and decreasing (the percentage of the elderly in communities located inland from fishing ports is 40%).
- OFisheries and fishing communities have multifunctional roles such as (i) conserving the natural environment, (ii) safeguarding the lives and property of the public, (iii) providing exchange opportunities and (iv) developing and maintaining local communities. Benefits from the multifunctional roles extend to the public.
- O Conservation of seaweed beds and tidal flats, maintenance, conservation, and improvement of inland water ecosystems, and efforts by fishers and others to contribute to the fulfillment of multifaceted functions such as sea rescue and border and water monitoring are supported by the government.

Population and Percentage of the Elderly in Communities Located Inland from Fishing Ports

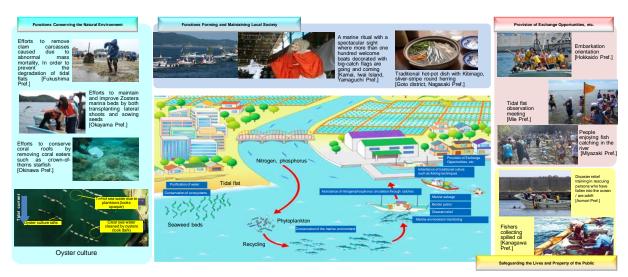


Source: Population Estimates by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (year of census is taken from census population data); prepared by Fisheries Agency

Note: The population of communities located inland from fishing ports and their percentages of the elderly (2011-2019) do not include data on three prefectures

(Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima).

Multifunctional Roles of Fisheries and Fishing Communities



Source: Prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, based on a report by the Science Council of Japan (only data on the fisheries industry and fishing communities are extracted)

(2) Development of Safe Fishing Communities Where People Can Live in Peace

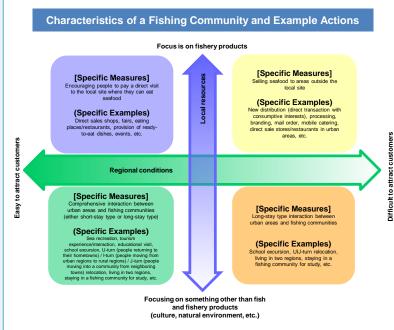
- OFishing ports and fishing communities require both the improvement of disaster prevention capabilities and the promotion of disaster risk reduction measures. Multiple protection measures for fishing communities using breakwaters and seawalls, the construction of breakwaters and seawalls that are resistant to tsunamis, the preparation of evacuation routes, etc. have been promoted.
- OA variety of support measures are taken for the damage caused by natural disasters such as typhoon No. 19, including support for the restoration of damaged facilities.
- OIn fishing villages, the development of living conditions lags behind. The development of fishing communities' roads, drains, etc. has been promoted.
- OMeasures against the aging of infrastructures are government-wide issues. The maintenance and renewal of infrastructures in fishing ports and communities have been promoted in accordance with plans incorporating measures for preventive maintenance.

(3) Activation of Fishing Communities

Oln order to revitalize fishing villages, it is important to fully understand and make the most of their local resources to increase the number of visitors and promote interaction. In order to achieve this, it is important to implement measures tailored to the characteristics of the fishing villages and to work together as a community in cooperation with the people involved.

OUsing "Seaside Stay" where a visitor can enjoy the traditional life experience of a fishing village community and the exchange with local people in such community, the government supports the implementation of measures concerning contents, such as efforts to polish up community resources as attractive tourist contents, and measures for infrastructures, such as the arrangement of accommodation facilities by utilizing old folk houses, etc.

OThanks to the efforts of "Seashore Revitalization Plans" and the "Wide-Area Seashore Revitalization Plans," the activation of fishing communities is expected to be accomplished through the promotion of fisheries.



Source: Prepared by the Fisheries Agency, based on Key Points of Action for the Revitalization of Fishing Villages by the Japanese Institute of Fisheries Infrastructure and Communities (Local Area Council Activity Support Project using Grant for Promotion of Fisheries Industries)

Case Seaside Stay activity in Ine-cho, Kyoto Prefecture

In the Ine district of Kyoto Prefecture, about 230 buildings called boathouses stand along the surrounding Ine Bay, with the first floor as a boat yard and the second floor as secondary living quarters. This area with its scenic townscape and preserved nature has been selected as an important traditional building preservation district.

In recent years, several "Hotels in Funaya" have opened. They are lodging facilities converted from boathouses and the number of tourists who come to stay at the Hotels in Funaya has increased. Since 2016, the number of foreign tourists from Asian countries and regions has also increased.

In addition to "staying" at the boathouses, visitors can also "taste" fresh fish and shellfish of Ine Bay and pickled mackerel, a specialty of Ine, as well as "experience" things such as hands-on tours with a boathouse guide, rope work and bin-dama rope weaving by fishers, and raw fish slicing, all of which are part of the Seaside Stay initiative to fully enjoy the region.



ant James Footh weeks

Bin-dama rope weaving

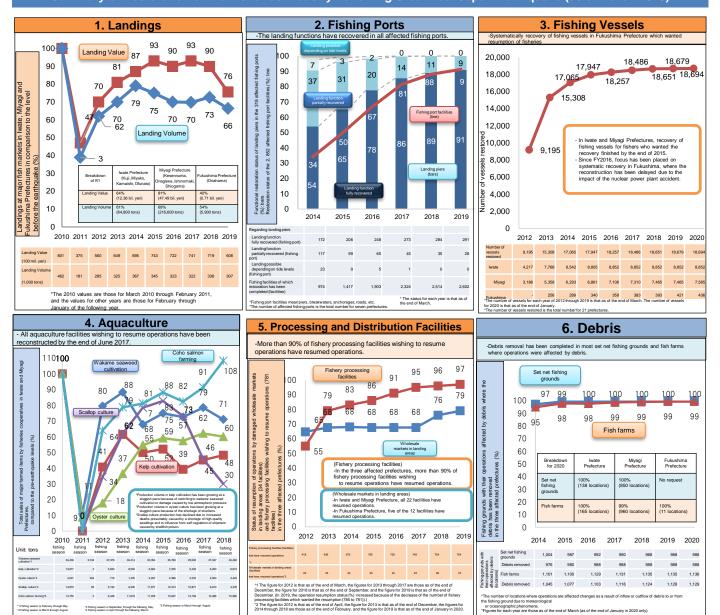
pe weaving Slicing raw fish (Photo courtesy: Ine-cho Tourist Association)

Chapter 6 Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake

(1) Conditions of the Restoration/Reconstruction from the Earthquake Damage in the Fisheries Industry

- OThe government continues to make efforts to restore and reconstruct the fisheries industry in the disaster-affected areas.
- OFor fishing ports that serve as bases for the fisheries industry, high-sanitary-control freight handling areas, earthquake-resistant piers, etc. have been developed.

Summary of Restoration of the Fisheries Industry Following Great East Japan Earthquake (as of March 2020)



(2) Response to the Impact of the Accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant

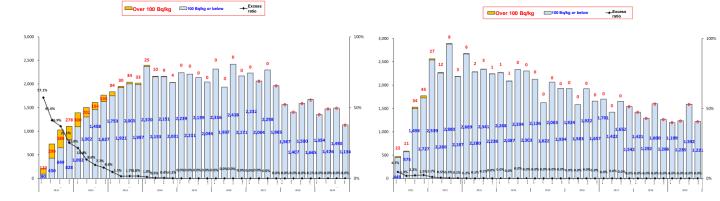
i. Monitoring of Radioactive Materials in Fish and Fishery Products and Trial Fishing Operation/Selling off the Coast of Fukushima

- OThe government, in cooperation with prefectural governments and fisheries cooperatives concerned, implements monitoring of radioactive materials in fish and fishery products. Results of the monitoring are to be announced.
- OIn FY2019, the number of specimens that exceeded the standard value (100 Bq/kg) in Fukushima Prefecture was zero for marine species and four for freshwater species. Outside Fukushima Prefecture, there have been no specimens exceeding the standard values for marine species, but two specimens for freshwater species since 2014.
- ODistribution of fish and fishery products whose radioactive material monitoring results exceed the standard values is prevented through the cooperation of the national government, related prefectural governments, and fishery-related organizations. In FY2019, all restrictions on shipments of marine species off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture have been lifted.
- OAfter full evaluation of the results of monitoring, trial fishing operation/selling was implemented for coastal fishery and bottom trawl fishery off Fukushima Prefecture.

Monitoring Results of Radioactive Materials in Fish and Fishery Products (as of the End of March 2020)

<Marine species from Fukushima Prefecture>

<Marine species from areas other than Fukushima Prefecture>



Case Example

Revival! Joban Products! -Fukushima Joban Products Fair-

To widely promote "Joban Products" (seafood from offshore Fukushima Prefecture), the Fukushima Prefectural Government and Fukushima Fisheries Cooperatives Associations held Fukushima Joban Products Fair in FY2019 jointly with Foodison and Kakaku.com (Tabelog) at restaurants in the Tokyo metropolitan area, where people could eat seafood from Fukushima Prefecture. Flatfish, Mexicali and flounder, which are typical examples, are offered as original menu items for a limited time only at each store to promote the appeal and taste of Fukushima Prefecture's marine products.

It is expected that this fair will allow many people to learn about the appeal and taste of Fukushima Prefecture's marine products, which will lead to increased consumption and sales channels.



Logo of the Fukushima Joban Products Fair (Source: Fukushima Prefecture)



Original menu with flounder from Fukushima Prefecture for a limited time (Photo courtesy: Fukushima Prefecture)

ii. Sweeping away Unfounded Reputational Damage and Response to Import Restrictions in Foreign Countries and Regions

- OSome consumers are still concerned about food from Fukushima Prefecture. Therefore, the Fisheries Agency has continued to monitor radioactive materials in fish and fishery products and to publish the results to consumers in an easy-to-understand manner and its website provides Q&A on radioactive materials and fish/fishery products to ensure that correct information is given to every consumer.
- OResults of the monitoring in English, Chinese and Korean are announced and survey results and measures taken to ensure safety are explained to governments and media to lobby for the relaxation or elimination of import restrictions. As a result, 35 countries among the 53 countries and regions that had continued to impose ban on fish and fishery product imports completely withdrew their import restrictions by the end of March 2020.
- OIn April 2019, the WTO released the WTO Appellate Body Report on "Restrictions on Importation of Japanese Fish and Other Products by South Korea," in which Japan had lodged a complaint with South Korea. The Appellate Body reversed the judgment of the Panel Report, which found that it arbitrarily or unfairly discriminated against Japanese fish and fishery products and was more restrictive of trade than necessary. On the other hand, the panel's finding of fact that Japanese food products sufficiently meet the numerical safety standard set by South Korea (100 Bq/kg, the same as in Japan) was not reversed by the Appellate Body.
- OThe government has continued to encourage countries and regions that still impose an import ban on agricultural, forestry and fishery products produced in Japan to abolish or ease their import ban, while explaining once again the safety of Japanese foods and Japan's safety management initiatives.

Structure of "FY2020 Fisheries Policy"

Overview

Focus of measures, fiscal measures, tax measures, financial measures, and policy assessment

I. Fishery Resource Management for Making Fisheries a Growth Industry

- Advancement of domestic resource management
- Promotion of international resource management
- Strengthening the fisheries regulatory system
- Income stabilization measures that contribute to stable business management of fishers engaging in appropriate resource management, etc.
 - Conservation of the fishing ground environment and maintenance of the ecosystem

II. Reform of the Distribution Structure which Contributes to Increasing the Income of Fishers

- Establishing a competitive distribution structure
- Developing measures for processing, distribution, consumption, and export

III. Development of an Environment for Securing Leaders and Expanding Investments

- Steady conduct of Seashore Revitalization Plans and fostering of human resources
- Creating an environment for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Demonstrating the roles and restructuring and improving of fisheries cooperatives organizations
- Supporting fishery management through appropriate loans, credit guarantees, and fisheries insurance systems

IV. Efforts to Support Revitalization of Fisheries and Fishing Communities

- Comprehensive development of fishing ports, fishing grounds, and fishing communities
- Promoting the demonstration of multifunctional roles
- Strategic promotion of research, studies, and technological development in the fisheries industry
 - Strengthening safety measures for fisheries by fishing vessels
- Increasing the number of visitors to fishing communities through the promotion of Seaside Stay (seaside overnight stay)

V. Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake

- Steady restoration and reconstruction
- Overcoming the impact of the nuclear power plant accident

VI. Requirements for the Comprehensive and Systematic Promotion of the Fisheries Policy

- Promoting measures in an efficient manner through coordination between relevant ministries and agencies
 - Management and assessment of the progress of measures
- Implementing measures from a public point of view, taking into account the needs of consumers and the public
 - Compiling and enhancing the use of statistics in line with policy needs
- Helping business owners and producers become independent and demonstrate originality and ingenuity
 - Taking fiscal measures in an efficient and focused manner