

July 9, 2017

Partnership Dialogue #7 Intervention by The Ocean Policy Research Institute, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (formerly called the Ship and Ocean Foundation)

Theme of Dialogue: Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Intervention:

Thank you Mr. Moderator, Co-chairs, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation formerly called the Ship and Ocean Foundation is Japan's only NGO specializing in ocean policy research and advocacy.

Japan is Island State composed of over 6000 islands. OPRI is a sister foundation of the Nippon Foundation. We are committed to implementing our voluntary commitment, which is the Islands and Oceans Net (IO Net), and we are a proud member of the Roadmap to Oceans and Climate Action (ROCA), which Dr. Biliiana Cicin-Sain in lead.

Towards the implementation of UNCLOS, it is important that international society and regions and developing States cooperate in advancing initiatives for the transfer of technology, as prescribed in Article 144 of UNCLOS. Coordination among multi-stakeholders can help make those connections.

IO Net was launched during a side event at SIDS2014 by OPRI, ANCORS of Wollongong University, and technical partners working for Island States such as SPC, PIFS, SPREP and USP.

It is a network for voluntary and autonomous collaborations by a variety of stakeholders from international society and island States.

We Ocean Policy Research Institute serve as IO Net secretariat, and together with Partners is now making efforts for the implementation of concrete projects focused on four (4) areas. Firstly 1) the conservation and management of islands, 2) secondary conservation of their surrounding waters, 3) thirdly responses to climate change and variability, 4) and fourthly capacity building.

An example of a concrete project is development of an island management strategy for island states. This would be an island management strategy at the national level that supports achieving international goals such as SDGs, the Aichi Targets, and the Paris Agreement, as well as regional strategies such as that of Pacific OceanScape and PEMSEA in east Asia.

We OPRI is committed to promote national island management strategies that take into consideration regional and international contexts which is under pinned by sound science and various stakeholder participation in the implementation of international law as reflected in the UNCLOS.

I thank you for your kind attention.

#OceanAction 14963

Islands and Oceans Net (IO Net)



Since SIDS2014

The Islands and Oceans Net, IO Net is an international collaborative network for the organizations and individuals, called Partners who support the Joint Policy Recommendations "For the Better Conservation and Management of Islands and Their Surrounding Ocean Areas", and collaborate and cooperate on a voluntary basis to implement it. IO Net facilitates the collection and sharing of relevant information and the development and implementation of projects to be undertaken by the Partners.

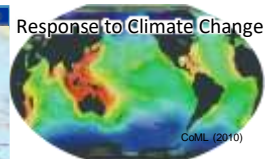
Joint Policy Recommendations

2-1 Conservation and Management of Islands

2-2 Management of Surrounding Ocean Areas

2-3 Response to Climate Change

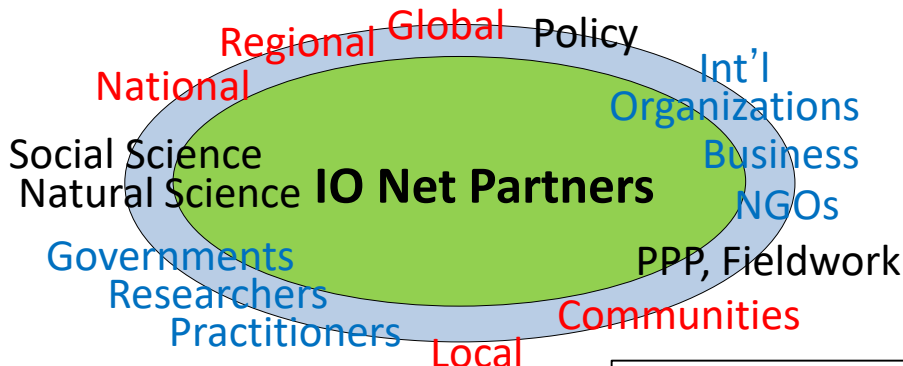
3. Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening



#	Possible IO Net Projects	Preparatory Working Group Members (TBD), focal Points
1	Development of Island Management Strategies	OPRI, ANCORS, USP, SPREP, SPC
2	Eco-Engineering for Sustainable Land Management	SPC, UT, UA,
3	Coastal Ecosystem (Coral Reef, Mangrove Forests and Seagrass bed) Conservation Project using ICM Package	SPREP, OPRI, NI
4	Platform for the Accumulation of Oceanographic Basic Data, Promotion of Marine Scientific Research and Capacity Building	JAMSTEC, (IRD), SPC
5	Developing and Implementing a Plan for Coastal Disaster Prevention using Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Strategies in the Independent State of Samoa	WU, NUS, SPREP, SPC
6	Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Cross-border Environmentally Displaced Persons	ELI, UT, OPRI, IUCN Oceania
7	Start up of Regional Monitoring Network Platform on Ocean Acidification	OPRI, JAMSTEC, USP
8	Jurisdictional Approach for Baseline Management and Conservation of Islands	ANCORS, GEBCO, (ABLOS)
9	Sustainable Transport	ICNet, USP



UT: Univ. of Tokyo, UA: Univ. of Auckland, WU: Waseda Univ., NUS: National Univ. of Samoa, NI: Nansei Env. Inst.



Specific projects will be formulated through discussions by the interested Partners. Upon the formation of the project, its members will manage it autonomously.

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