Application of biodiversity database in Japan

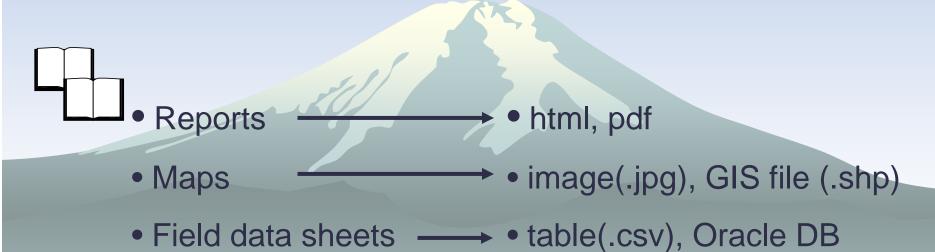
January 17, 2008 Kumiko Yoneda, Mutsumi Natori Japan Wildlife Research Center

Data dissemination for biodiversity conservation by Ministry of the Environment (MoE), Japan

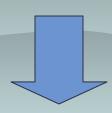
- Biodiversity Center of Japan (BiodiC-J)
 - Established in 1998
 - Japanese FP of CHM
- Data collection: National Survey on the Natural Environment since 1973
- Output: Japan Integrated Biodiversity Information System (J-IBIS)
 - Website since 1997

Data processing

From paper-based survey results to digital formats









- html, pdf
- image(.jpg), GIS file (.shp)
- table(.csv), Oracle DB



Classified data (e.g. distribution of endangered species) are managed by MoE and BiodiC-J.

Unclassified

Biodiversity Database

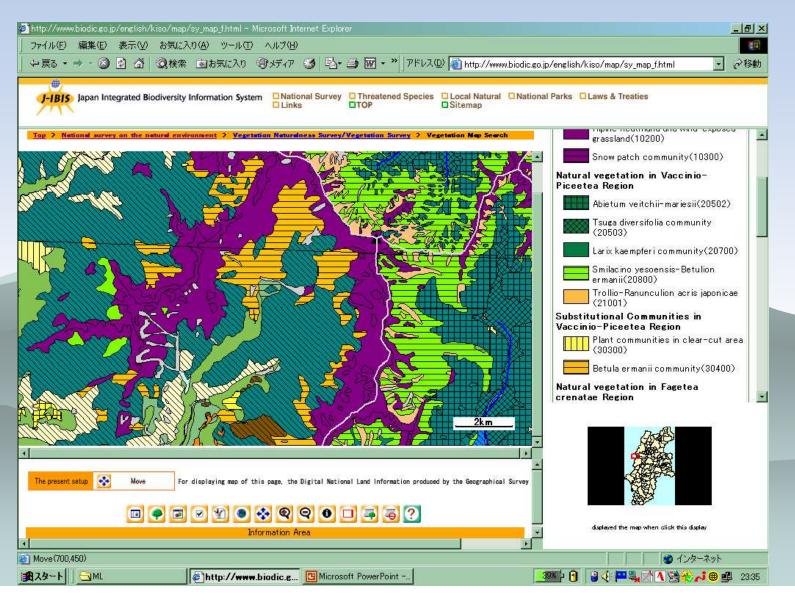
Japan Integrated Biodiversity Information System (J-IBIS)

- Website http://www.biodic.go.jp/english/J-IBIS.html

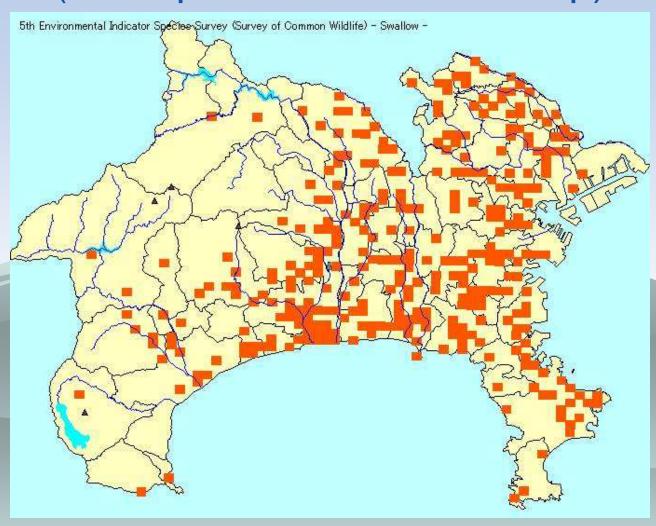
Nature Information GIS

- GIS data set (CD-R) published in 1997 and 1999

Example of J-IBIS (1) (Vegetation map by WebGIS)



Example of J-IBIS (2) (Example of distribution map)



Grid Square System (1km x 1km)

Examples of National policy-making supported by the biodiversity database

- Red Lists of Japan: to define animal distribution
- National Biodiversity Strategy: to identify "Three Crisis"
- Important Wetlands 500: to select wetlands for this list (and for Ramsar Convention)
- World Natural Heritage sites: to provide scientific basis for the selection of candidate sites including Shiretoko (inscribed in 2005)







Application of biodiversity database to implementation of the 3rd NBS (1)

Biodiversity Hotspots

Hotspots will be identified by the following data;

- Distribution of endangered species
- Important Habitats (e.g. rare plants communities, wetlands)
- Vegetation and land use
- Protected areas (e.g. National parks, wildlife protection areas)

Application of biodiversity database to implementation of the 3rd NBS (2)

SATOYAMA initiative

Important rural landscape (called "Satoyama" in Japanese) will be identified by the following data;

- Important areas for biodiversity (e.g. distribution of endangered species in rural area)
- Socio-economic factors affecting rural landscape (e.g. population density, agriculture census)
- Cultural factors (e.g. Lists of 30 important SATOYAMAs, 100 rice terraces, and important cultural landscapes)

Other applications of the biodiversity database

Environment consultant firms:
 for Environmental Impact Assessment



- Local governments:
 for environmental conservation planning
- Scientists:
 for academic researches



Educators:

for environmental or computer education

Benefits of data dissemination

 Development of effective data management system





- Encouraging environment-conscious projects by local governments
- Raising public awareness for nature conservation

Promotion of Database

- Training program for national and local government officers on nature conservation policies and activities by MoE
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) training course on Biodiversity Information System since 1998 by BiodiC-J

