JAPAN BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK

Assessment and indicator on biodiversity

Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Background



Purpose of the JBO

To raise public awareness of "Biodiversity"

To promote national and regional conservation activities of various stake holders

Target and Period of JBO

Target of JBOBiodiversity throughout Japan1. Drivers of biodiversity loss2. State of biodiversity

Assessment Period of JBO from the latter half of the 1950's to the present

From the latter half of the 1950's Rapid economic growth From the latter half of the 1970's Stable economic growth

From 1990's population decrease, Low economic growth

Framework of JBO

Indicators were set to assess biodiversity from the aspect of Driver/Pressure, State/Impact and Response.



Drivers of biodiversity loss Four biodiversity crises

(by NBSAP2010)



First Crisis

Second Crisis

Overexploitation, development and water pollution

Underutilization [**Satoyama** issue]



Artificially introduced factors (Alien Species, chemicals) Climate Change Crisis

Global warming

State of Biodiversity in six ecosystems



Assessment Results

Four biodiversity crises

Six ecosystems

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Assessment Results:1st Crisis



Drivers of biodiversity loss – 1st Crisis

Factors threatening RL species

Development Pollution Exploitation Succession Invasive spp.





Amphibian



Fresh water Fish



Vascular Plant



Assessment Results:2nd Crisis



Drivers of biodiversity loss – 2ndCrisis

Area of abandaned farmland



Assessment Results:3rd Crisis



Drivers of biodiversity loss – 3rd Crisis

Expansion of Invasive alien species

Burr cucumber (*Sicyos angulatus*)

Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)

Large mouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*



Prefectures where the distributions are verified *mathematical* Eradication is completed

Assessment Results:Climate change

| | State and trends | | Drivers and trends | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|--|
| | From original | Since late 1950s | Over Use | Under use | Alien Specie | Climate change | Others | |
| Forest | | | | | | | | |
| Agriculture | - | | | | | | Decrease of crops nd domestic animals genetic diversity | |
| Urban | - | | | - | | | | |
| Inland water | | | | | | | | |
| Marine and Coastal | | | | - | | | Deforestation of seaweed bed Plague of coral- eating animals | |
| Island | | | | - | | | | |

Drivers of biodiversity loss – Climate change crisis

Decrease and loss of ecosystems

Decreasing alpine plants in Mt. Apoi

Changes in abundance and distribution

Distribution change of Great Mormon, Common Flangetai and Southern green stink bug

Phenology

Changes in the egg-laying season and clutch size of Red-cheeked Starlings Changes in population number

Changes in population size of Bewick's Swan during winter Season in Japan

Assessment Results: Forests Systems



State of Biodiversity - Forests Systems

Trend in reforested area

4,500 4,000 Reforested area(km²) 3,500 3,000 2,500 2,000 1,500 1,000 500 0 0000 **Fiscal year**

State of Biodiversity -Forests Systems

Distribution change of birds at 1997-2002(1978 as base year) (Living Planet Index)



Assessment Results: Agricultural Systems



State of Biodiversity-Agricultural Systems

Trend in farmlands and grasslands in area



farmlands and grasslands(km²)

Assessment Results: Urban Systems



State of Biodiversity-Urban Systems

Distribution change of Japanese White-eye Zosterops japonicus in Tokyo



Assessment Results: : Inland water Systems

| | State and trends | | Drivers and trends | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|---|--|
| | From original | Since late 1950s | Over Use | Under use | Alien Species | Climate change | Others | |
| Forest | | | | | | | | |
| Agriculture | - | | | | | | Decrease of crops and domestic animals genetic diversity | |
| Urban | - | | | - | | | | |
| Inland water | | | | | | | | |
| Marine and Coastal | | | | - | | | Deforestation of seaweed bed Plague of coral- eating animals | |
| Island | | | | - | | | | |

State of Biodiversity-Inland water Systems

River beds degradation, sands and gravels taken from river channel





Assessment Results: Marine and Coastal Systems

State of Biodiversity-Marine Systems

changes in scale of coastal system

| year | 1945 | 1973 | 1978 | 1984 | 1990 | 1995 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| Tidal flat (km²) | 841 (100) | | 553 | | 514 (61) | 496 |
| Seagrass and Seaweed bed(km ²) | | 2,097 (100) | 2,076 | | 2,012 (96) | 1,455 |
| Coral communities in Back Reef moat (km ²) | | | 357 (100) | | 342 (96) | |
| Natural coast(km) | | | 18,717 (100) | 18,155 | 17,859 (96) | 17,414 |

Figures in parentheses show the decrease ratio from the base year.

State of Biodiversity-Marine Systems

Trends in fish catches and Marine Trophic Index

Assessment Results: Island Systems

State of Biodiversity –Island Systems

Proportion of endemic species in Nansei Islands and Proportion of endangered species among those endemic species

- Endangered species among endemic species
 - : Others among endemic species

Assessment Summary

Biodiversity loss as of 2010

Evaluation of the achievement of "2010 Targets"

Responses of Biodiversity loss beyond 2010

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State of biodiversity

Biodiversity has been lost in every ecosystem and is still being lost in general.

Freshwater, marine, coastal and island ecosystems are still under severe threat.

Drivers of biodiversity loss

Development pressure has the most serious impacts, thought the rate of additional biodiversity loss is slightly reduced.

Indirect driver: social demands during the period of rapid economic growth

2nd Crisis is still increasing at a slow rate.

Indirect driver: Social changes after the period of rapid economic growth

Drivers of biodiversity loss

Invasive species pose a great threat.

Indirect driver: Increase of the international trade

Global warming is a serious threat particular to some vulnerable ecosystems.

Indirect driver: Emission of greenhouse gas

Responses

Despite enhanced responses, efforts are challenged by indirect drivers that are difficult to control.

To set priority on responses, proper understanding of biodiversity loss is important.

Biodiversity loss and Ecosystem service to date

Trade-offs between Ecosystem services and biodiversity

Provide large quantity of provisioning service

- Forest system(Timber)
- Agricultural system(Food)

Loss of biodiversity

- Forest Conversions
- Extensive use of agricultural chemicals

Social demands during the period of rapid economic growth

Biodiversity loss and Ecosystem services to date

Dependence on ecosystem services abroad

- Mass imports of biological resources from foreign countries
- Timber, Food, Energy

Decline in utilization of domestic ecosystem service

- 2nd Crisis
- Impact on biodiversity abroad

Social changes during the period of rapid economic growth (such as industrialization and urbanization.)

Evaluation of the achievement of "2010 Targets"

Evaluation of the achievement of "2010 Targets"

Although some progress has been made, the state of biodiversity continues to decline

Responses to loss beyond 2010 1st crisis

Changes currently expected to occur in the future

Population decrease, Low economic growth, Dependence on foreign resources, Improvement of infrastructure

Concerns over biodiversity loss The rate of development will continue to reduce

The effects of past development will persist

Responses to loss beyond 2010 1st crisis

Long-term responses

Recovery from past losses

 Development of methods and techniques to avoid and restore impacts on biodiversity

•Conservation of marine and coastal systems

Responses to loss beyond 2010 2nd Crisis

Changes currently expected to occur in the future Further depopulation/aging in agricultural/rural areas

Decreased hunting pressures

Concerns over biodiversity loss

Serious concerns over the impact of further decline of utilization/use of Satochi-Satoyama area

Populations and distributions of mid-to-large -size mammals expanding more rapidly

Responses to loss beyond 2010 2nd Crisis

Long-term responses

OPromotion of sustainable use of local resources

Conversion of secondary forests to natural forests

^OLarge scale wildlife management

Responses to loss beyond 2010 3rd Crisis Changes currently expected to occur in the future International movement of people and goods Concerns over biodiversity loss Continuation of the introduction and distribution expansion of invasive alien species

Responses to loss beyond 2010 3rd Crisis

Long-term responses

 Enhancement of monitoring and management of invasive alien species

 Prioritization and technological development for settled alien species control

Responses to loss beyond 2010 Climate Change Crisis

Long-term responses

- Enhancement of monitoring
- Development of adaptation methods to climate change

Responses to loss beyond 2010 Irreversible changes

| Ecosystems | Possible examples of irreversible changes |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Forest and Mountain systems | Impact of climate change on alpine vegetation Effects of destruction of forest vegetation due to increasing population and expanding distributions of deer |
| Inland water systems | Impact of river bed degradation and river basin fragmentations Impact of invasive alien species on rivers, lakes, ponds and marshes |

Responses to loss beyond 2010 Irreversible changes

| Ecosystems | Possible examples of irreversible changes |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Marine and Coastal systems | Combined impact on coastal systems caused by development (Including gravel extractions from sea) Impact of climate change on coral reef |
| Island systems | Impact of invasive alien species on islands |

Responses of loss beyond 2010 Mainstreaming

Awareness of Biodiversity

I know the meaning of it.

I don't know the meaning of it but I've heard of it.

I've never heard of it.

Responses of loss beyond 2010 Mainstreaming

Economic evaluation of biodiversity

Local or regional consensus building over biodiversity

Any inquiries or opinions to

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