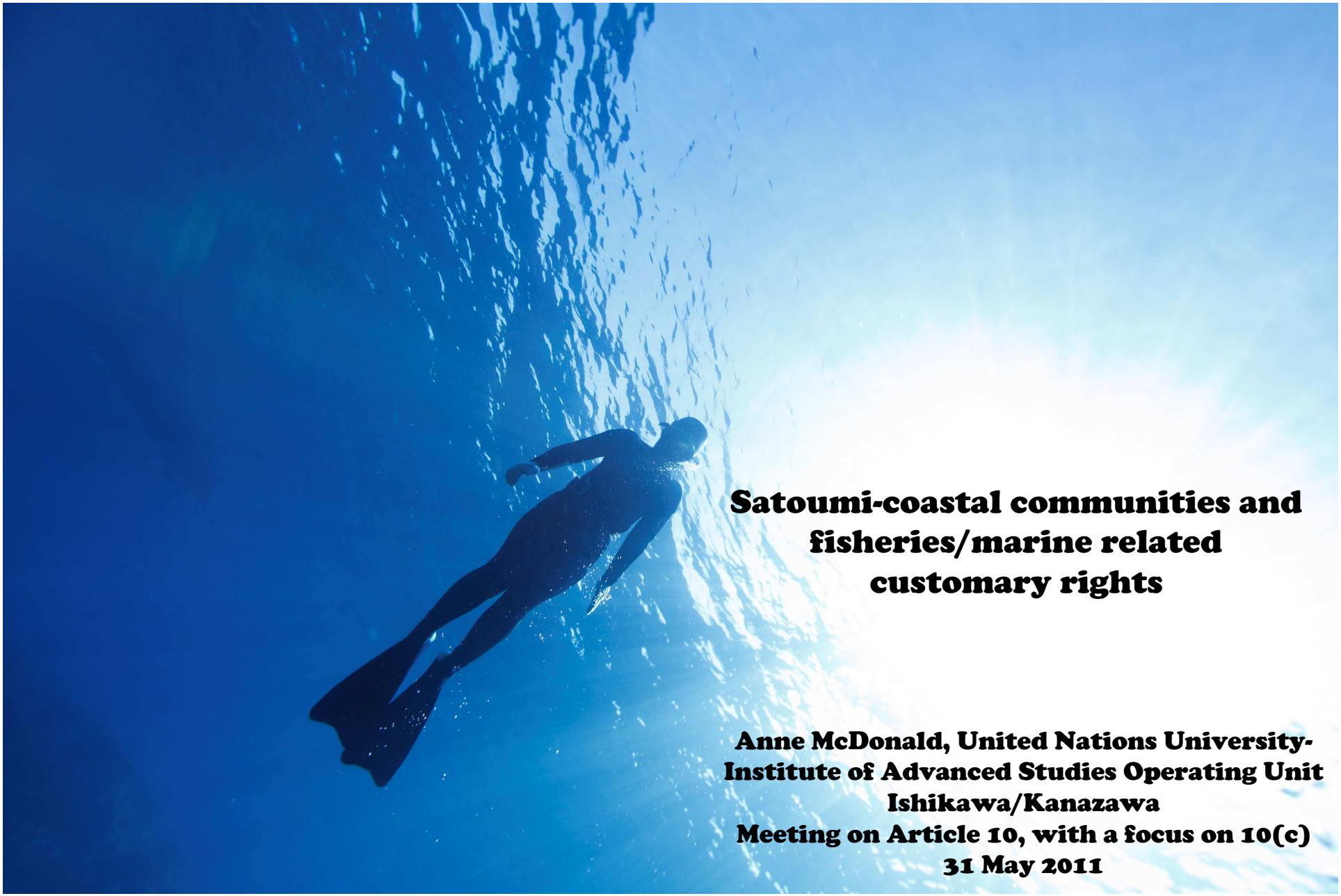


Satoumi-coastal communities and fisheries/marine related customary rights

Anne McDonald, United Nations University-Institute of Advanced Studies Operating Unit Ishikawa/Kanazawa

Meeting on Article 10, with a focus on 10(c)
31 May 2011

photo go tabinuki

THANKS TO:

Japan Fisher Cooperative Association (national and local units)
Female Ama Free Divers of Hegura Island
National Fishing Port Association
Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Ishikawa Prefecture Government
Kanazawa Municipal Government
Dr. Nobuyuki Yagi (Tokyo University)
Dr. N. FUJI, Mr. K. Yoneda and other members of the Hegura Nanatsu Island Natural Science Research Team
Hokkoku Newspaper & Hokkoku Research Center

fishing rights in Japan— a historical perspective

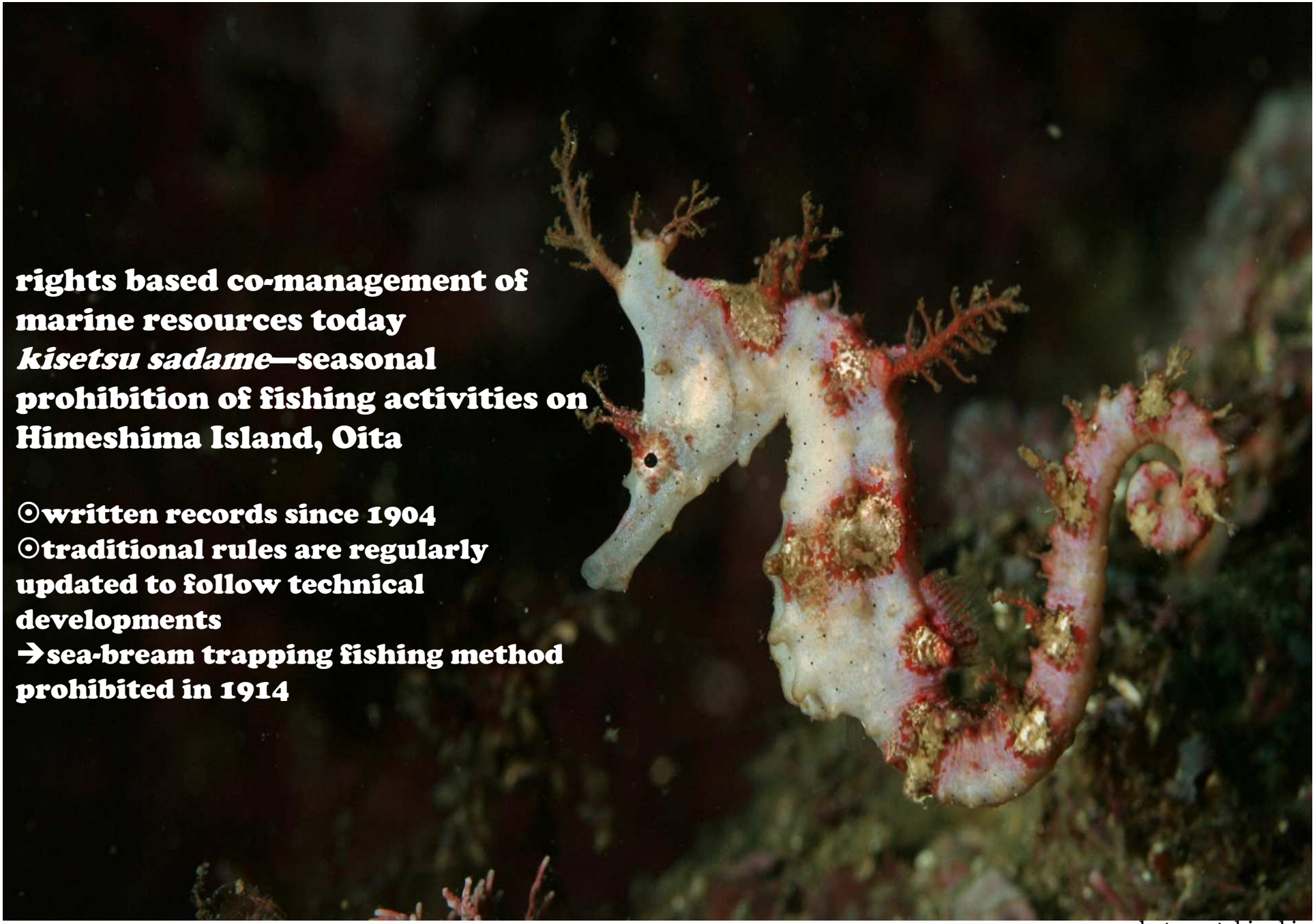
⊙600 AD written records referring to hereditary fishing rights and community based management of marine resources in Japan

⊙Tokugawa Era (1603-1868) various remote coastal communities developed their own fishery resource management rules

⊙Meiji Era (1868-1912) government survey of traditional local rules, attempts to incorporate traditional rules into the new government legal system

Fisher cooperative associations (FCA)—local co-management unit of coastal fisheries →1092 in total, 30% of Japan style MPAs (no take zones) are self-initiated, voluntarily self-managed by FCAs

- ❖ many unlisted on governmental legal framework



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HEGURA ISLAND, Ishikawa prefecture, Japan

⊙ **6,852 islands make up the Japanese Archipelago**

⊙ **6,847 are designated as remote islands**

⊙**Hegura Island is 1 of the 258 inhabited remote islands**

⊙**1.04km² island located on Japan Sea, 50 km from mainland Noto peninsula**

⊙**at the intersection of *tsushimashio* warm and *oyashio* cold ocean current → climatic and marine biodiversity unique, recorded differences with mainland**

舳倉島
海女

female ama free divers of hegura island

hereditary collective resource management

Ama free divers of Hegura Island
⊙2nd largest female ama diver population in Japan

⊙in 2010, 364 registered households → 179 active

⊙age range → 20 to 93 years old

⊙8,000 JPY (approx $90) ama community association annual fee ensures continuance of hereditary fishing rights for each ama household

⊙annual fishing/harvesting license fees (20,000 JPY for ama divers under 70 years of age; 10,000 JPY ama divers over 70) used towards fisheries management activities

community-based management
⊙matriarchal hereditary fishing rights

⊙all decisions made by the collective whole →
i) technological innovation + adoption ii) voluntary no-fish zones
iii) resource management activities

photo go tabinuki

customary rights-based initiatives in a contemporary setting:
Hinase, Okayama prefecture
→degradation to regeneration activities revitalization of
spawning grounds---25 years of seagrass bed regeneration

photo go tabinuki

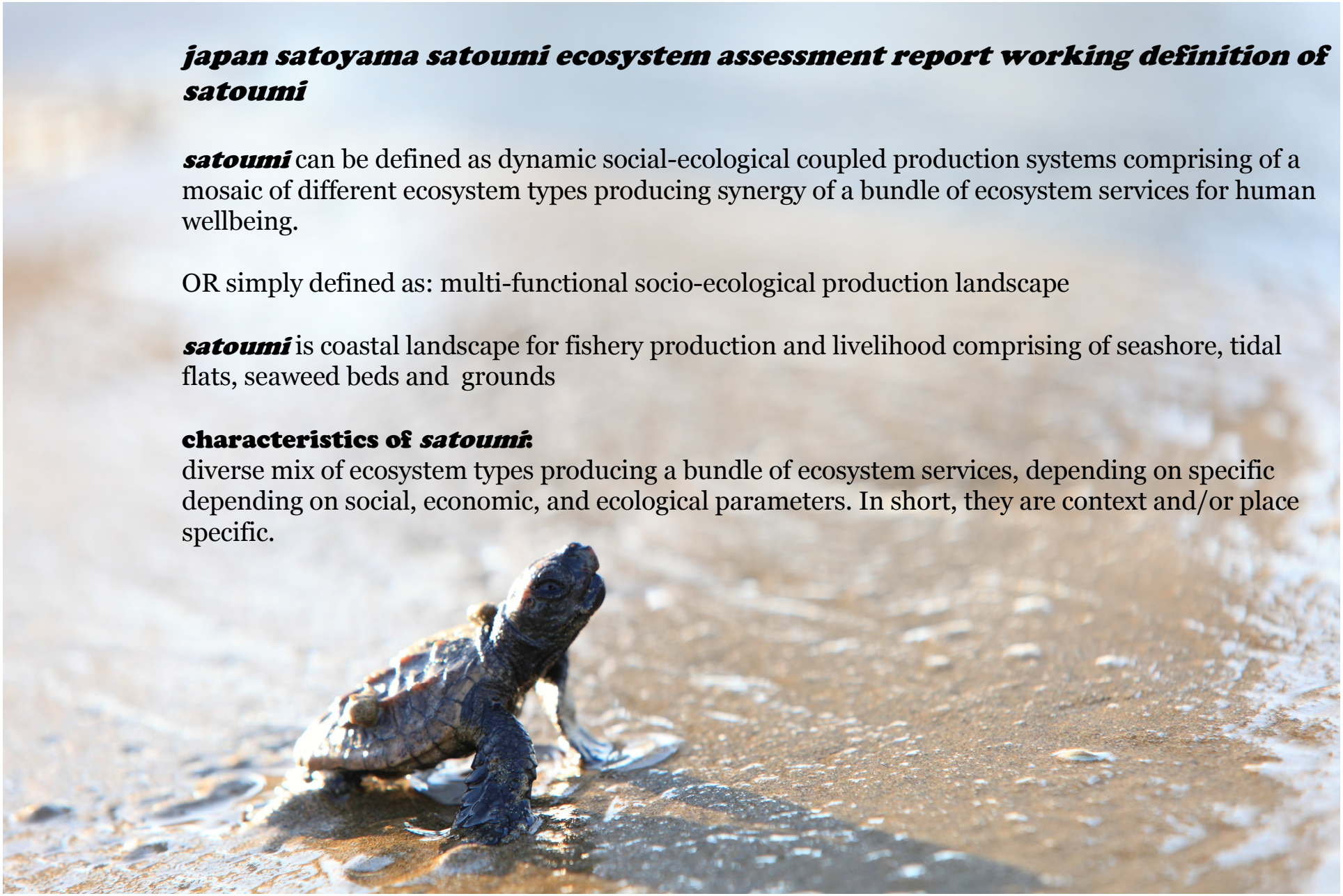
japan satoyama satoumi ecosystem assessment report working definition of satoumi

satoumi can be defined as dynamic social-ecological coupled production systems comprising of a mosaic of different ecosystem types producing synergy of a bundle of ecosystem services for human wellbeing.

OR simply defined as: multi-functional socio-ecological production landscape

satoumi is coastal landscape for fishery production and livelihood comprising of seashore, tidal flats, seaweed beds and grounds

characteristics of *satoumi*:
diverse mix of ecosystem types producing a bundle of ecosystem services, depending on specific depending on social, economic, and ecological parameters. In short, they are context and/or place specific.



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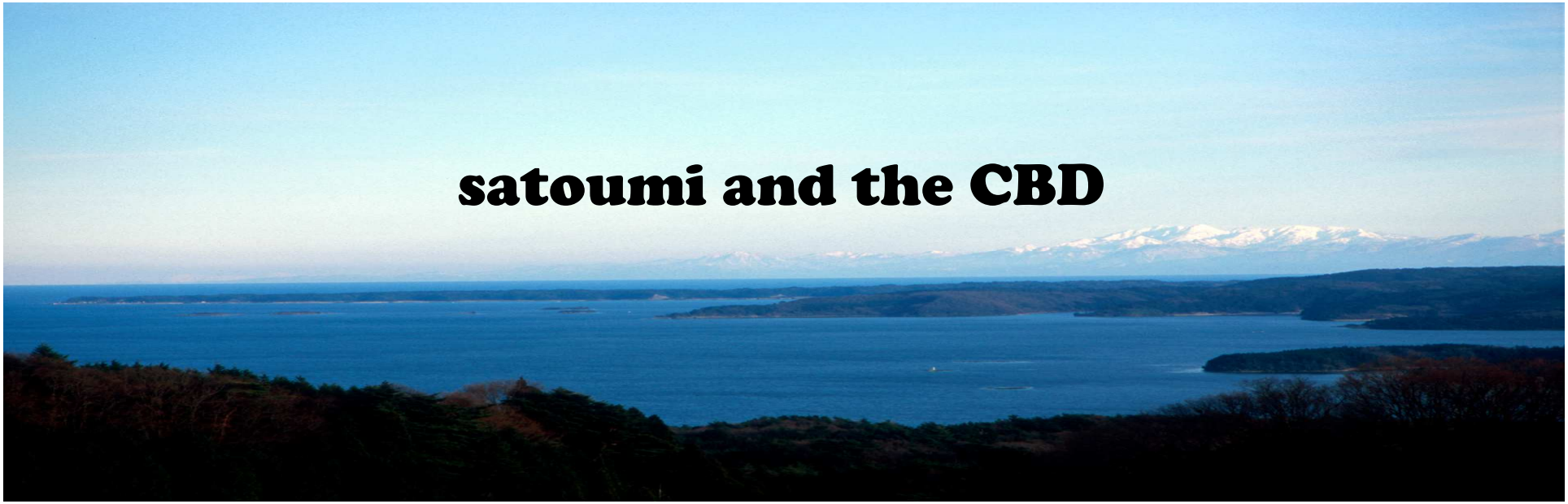
why the interest in satoumi today?

nostalgia driven attempts to recapture fading past traditional rural landscapes? or attempts to look to past traditions of resource management and human societies relations with nature as potential keys to unlocking the challenges of the future?

i) interest in s*atoyama satoumi landscapes* and recognition of their potential as a prototype for a sustainable system has grown beyond conservation ecology circles to include policy makers and citizens concerned with the socio-cultural and environmental impacts of contemporary lifestyles in Japan.

ii) this growing interest in *satoyama satoumi landscapes* is in a sense reflective of the gradual shift in focus of the nature conservation movement; specifically that from conserving designated protected zones and/or remote areas separate from human settlements to conservation wherein human intervention in nature is recognized as an integral element. This has led to analysis of habitat modification and environmental degradation patterns observed through *satoyama satoumi landscapes*. Of particular interest to researchers is human intervention within *satoyama satoumi* environments and its impacts on species diversity, sustainable resource extraction, use and management.

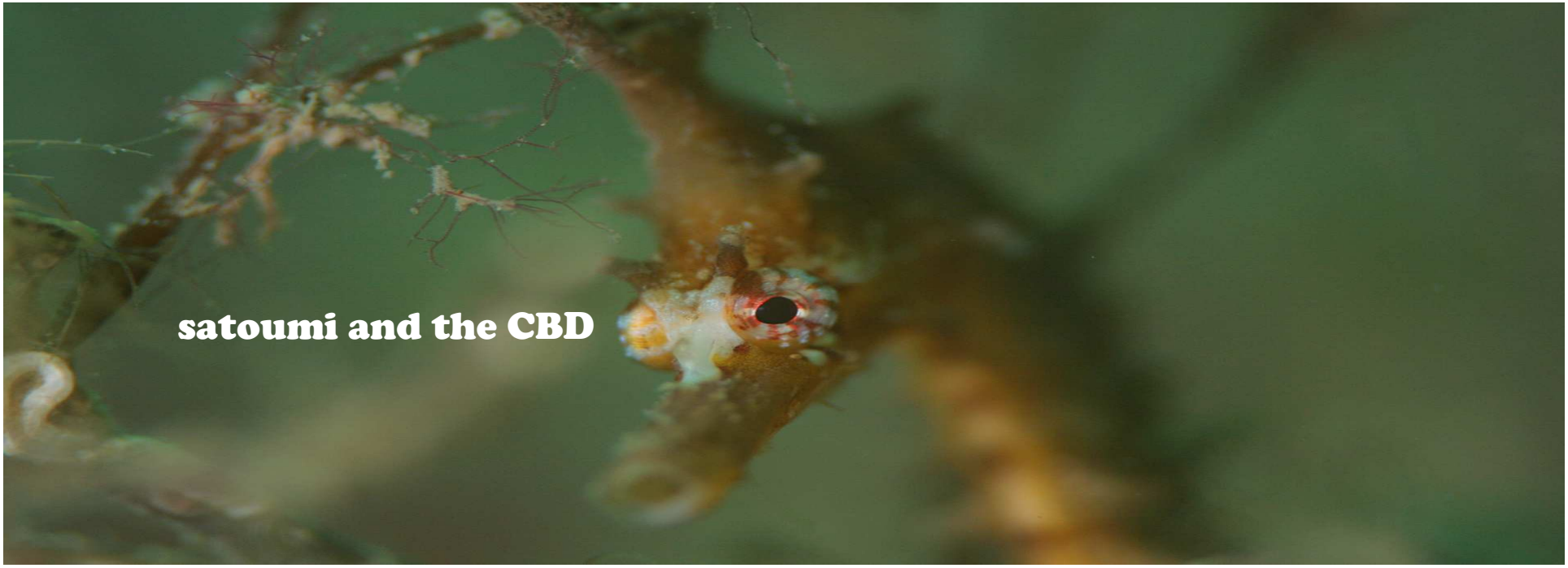


satoumi and the CBD

⊙CBD = framework convention
⊙CBD lays out general provisions, goals and targets (what needs to be achieved)
⊙Countries implement those provisions in a way that is appropriate for their national circumstances

⊙upcoming CBD Technical Series Report BIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN COASTAL COMMUNITIES: Exploring the Potential of *Satoumi* for Implementing the Ecosystem Approach in the Japanese Archipelago

⊙Satoumi provides a culturally-appropriate way to implement CBD provisions on coastal and marine biodiversity



satoumi can be used to implement at least the following CBD provisions:

☑Programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity

☑Ecosystem approach

☑Aspects of Article 8j on traditional knowledge (satoumi is rooted in traditional ecological knowledge and cultural history)

☑Restoration of urban water quality and biodiversity (a new area for CBD with applicability around the world)

Ecosystem approach is the primary framework for action under the CBD

- **Described as:**

  A strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. Application of the ecosystem approach will help to reach a balance of the three objectives of the Convention. It is based on the application of appropriate scientific methodologies focused on levels of biological organization which encompass the essential processes, functions and interactions among organisms and their environment. It recognizes that humans, with their cultural diversity, are an integral component of ecosystems.

- **12 principles, and 5 points of operational guidance**

Some ways in which satoumi implements the ecosystem approach:

- ☑recognizes the intricate connections that exist between land and sea, as well as human communities
- ☑encompasses priorities of different sectors, as well as scientific, cultural and spiritual values
- ☑implementation generally on community level with government support
- ☑grounded in an understanding of the local socio-cultural context and focuses on restoring ecological services and enhancing livelihoods

CBD programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity

Originally adopted in 1998, the earliest thematic CBD work programme

5 Priority areas:

- **Integrated marine and coastal area management (IMCAM)**
- **Sustainable use of marine and coastal living resources**
- **Marine and coastal protected areas (MCPAs)**
- **Mariculture**
- **Invasive alien species**

Some ways in which satoumi implements the CBD programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity:

- ☑coastal and riverbasin management
- ☑sustainable fisheries
- ☑restoration of seagrass beds
- ☑involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including sectors and communities

MG-1900
MG-1900

水産庁

MAZDA

thank you for
your attention

further reference:

⊙upcoming CBD Technical Report BIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN COASTAL COMMUNITIES: Exploring the Potential of *Satoumi* for Implementing the Ecosystem Approach in the Japanese Archipelago

⊙UNU Media Center Our World 2.0 videobrief

http://ourworld.unu.edu/en/japans-ama-free-divers-keep-their-traditions/

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