

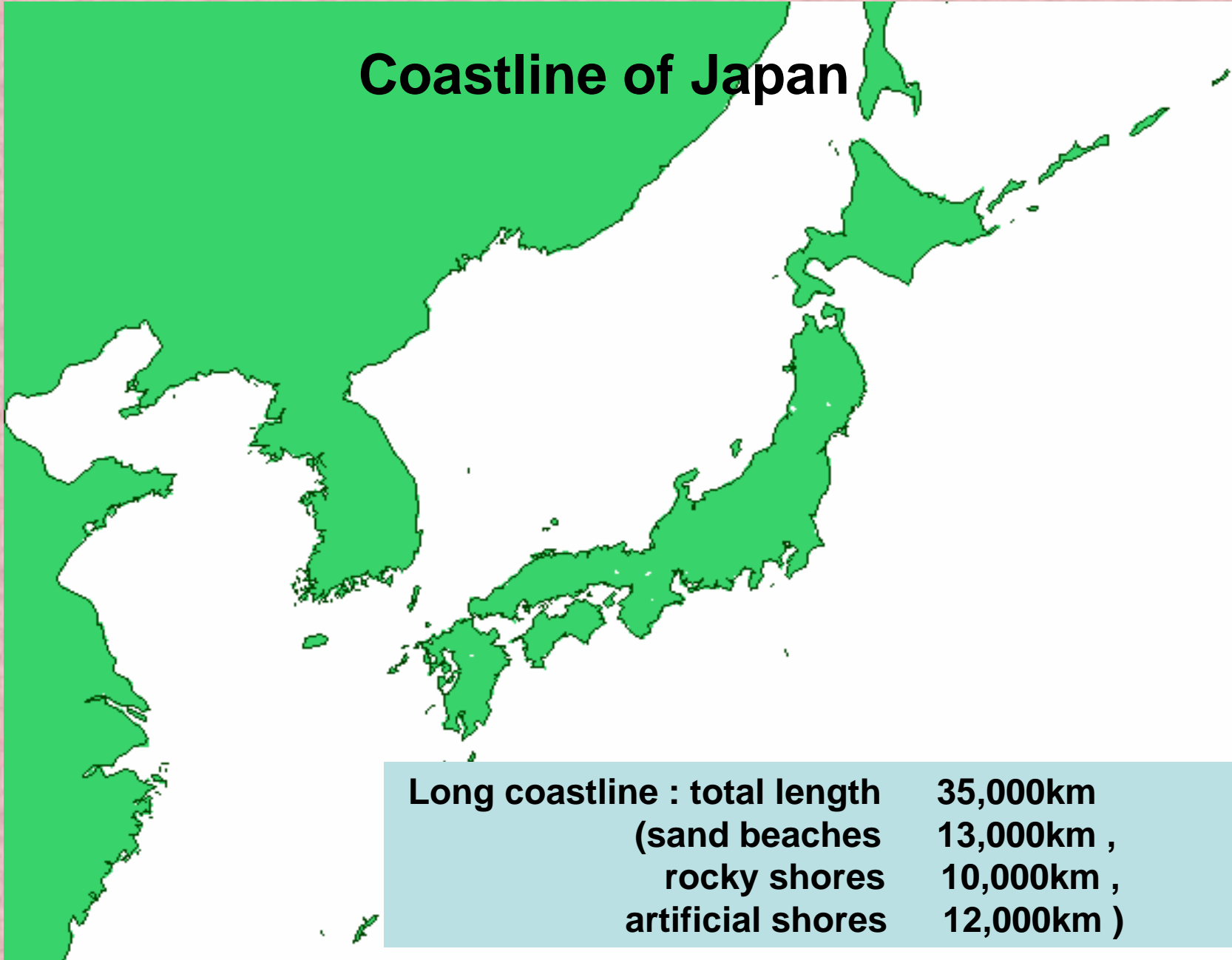
Recent Overview and Provision of Marine Litter in Japan



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Coastline of Japan



Long coastline : total length	35,000km
(sand beaches	13,000km ,
rocky shores	10,000km ,
artificial shores	12,000km)

Current in Japan vicinity (1)

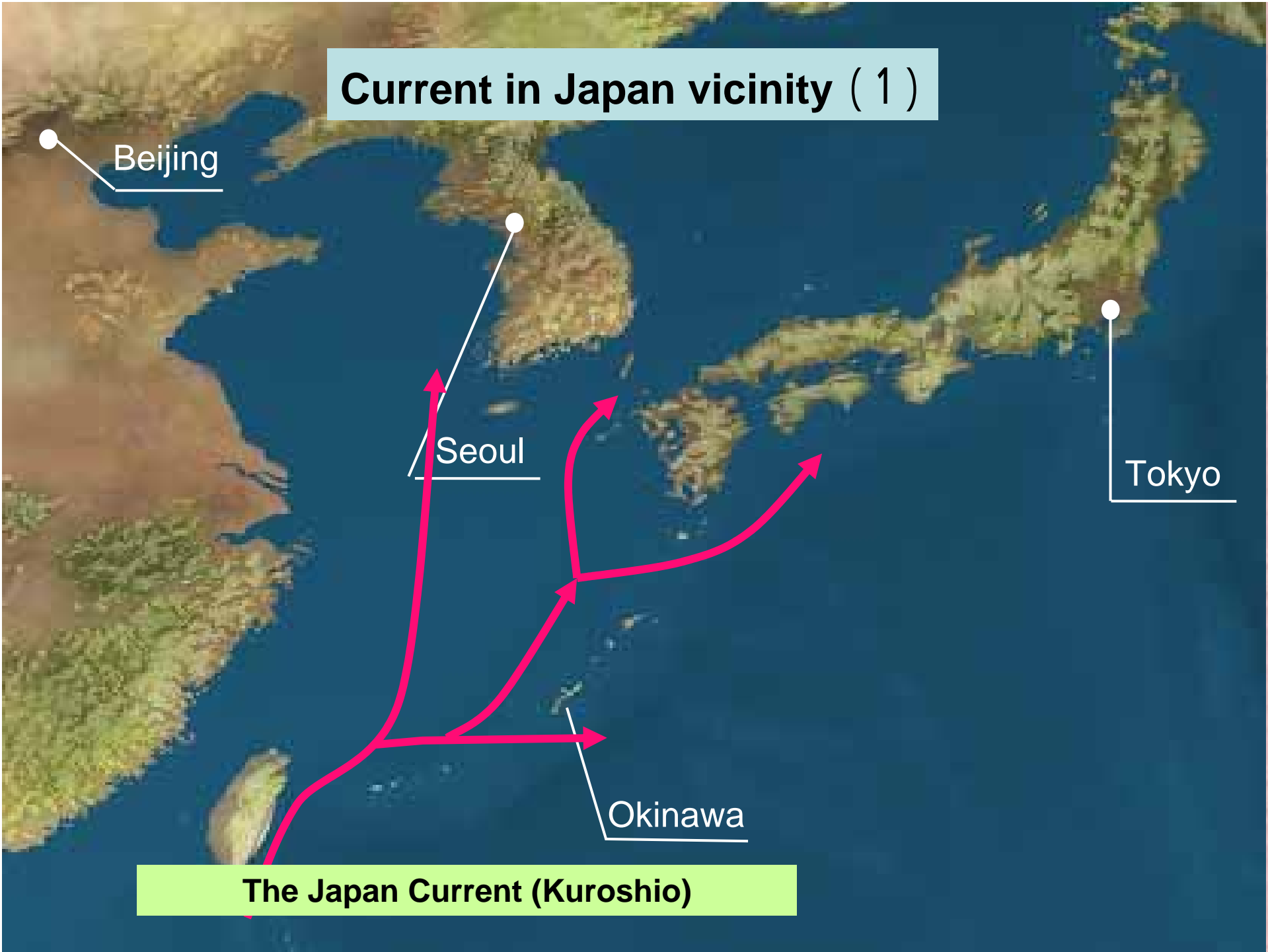
Beijing

Seoul

Tokyo

Okinawa

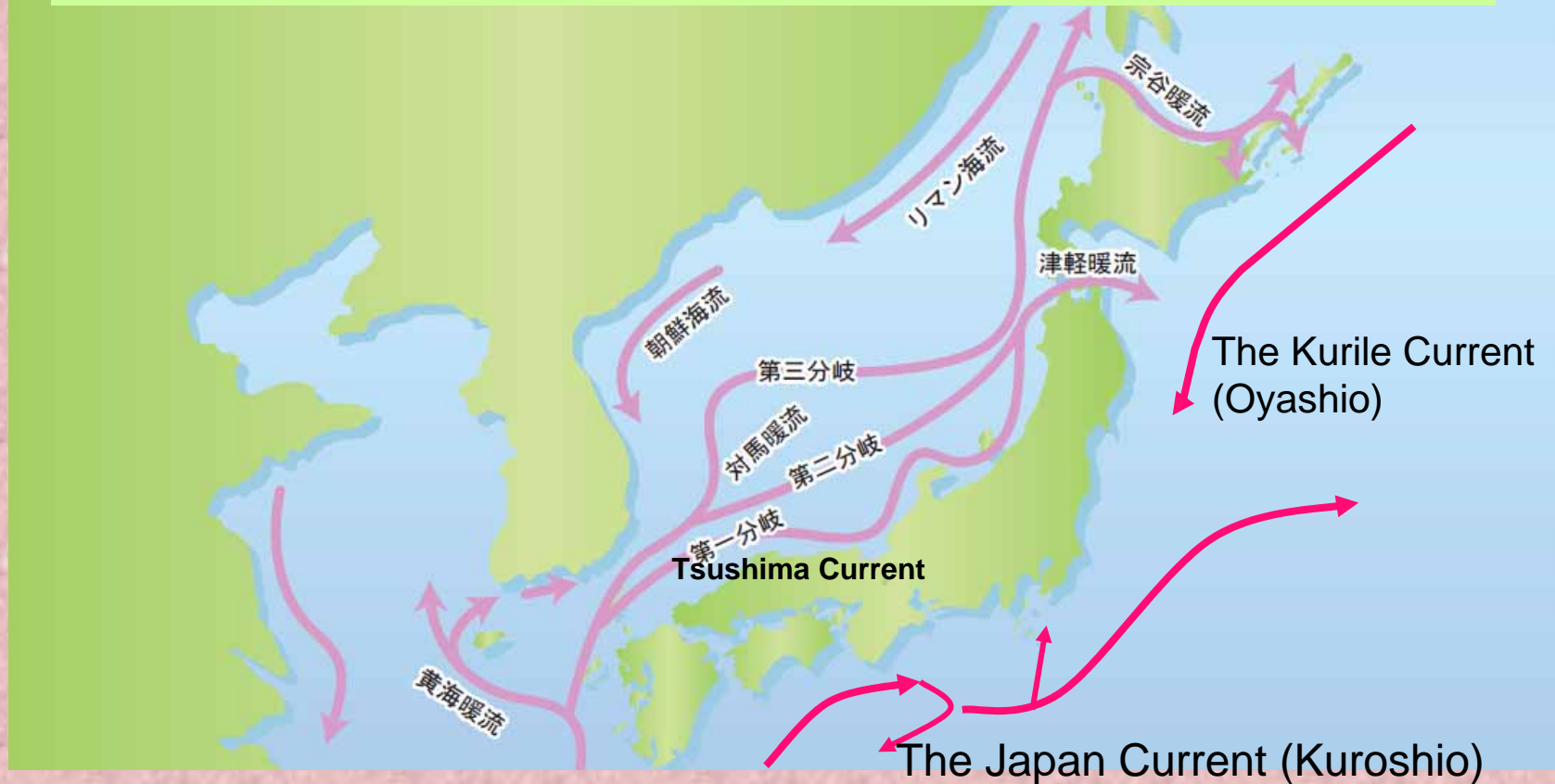
The Japan Current (Kuroshio)



Current in Japan vicinity (2)

Located downstream of strong tides (Kuroshio, Oyashio, and Tsushima Current.)

Tends to be the place for foreign litter washed-up.



Recent overview of washed up litter

Northwestern coasts in Mainland

Western coasts in Kyushu

Southwest Islands

The areas have high ratio of foreign litter.

The amount of washed up litter to the coastline of Japan is up to about 100,000t per year, about 1% comes from abroad.



Monitoring of washed up litter

JEAN promotes monitoring of washed up litter as one of nationwide coastal clean-up activities and monitoring



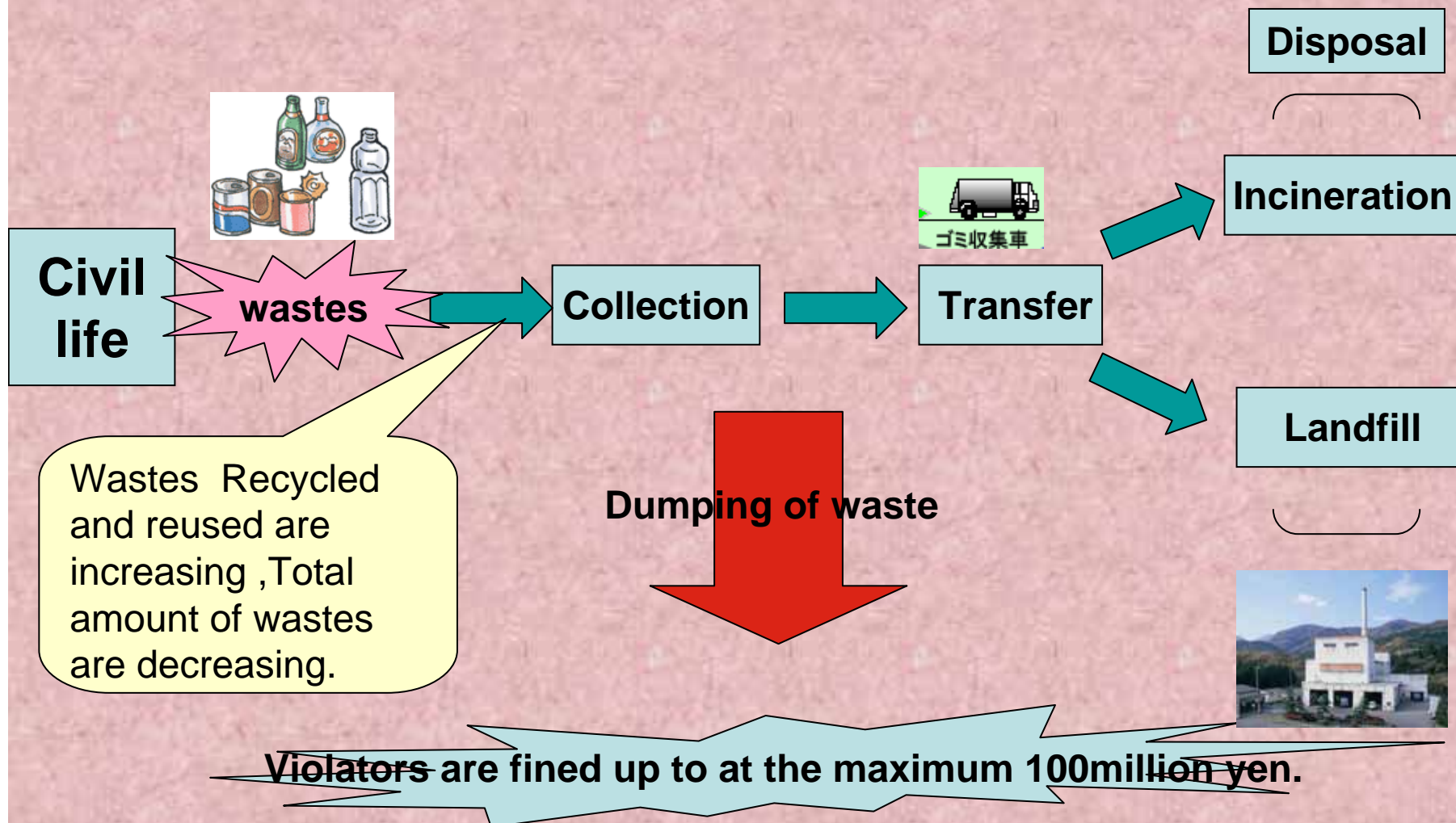
REF: JEAN HP

NPEC surveys buried objects and washed up litter on the coasts along the NOWPAP Sea Area.



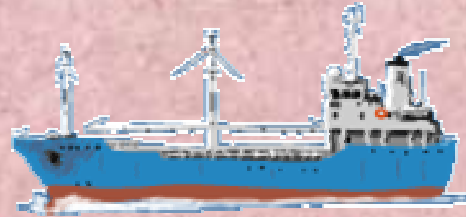
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Prevention of marine litter



Treatment of wastes on vessels

Treatment of wastes on boats and vessels are regulated by domestic law corresponding to MARPOL 73/78 Convention, Annex V.



R & D

An organization related to the government and others facilitates technological development of recycling of fishery wastes to prevent those wastes from being flown out to the sea.

Clean-up of coastline

“Management” of coastline areas



“Any person or groups which supervise swimming beaches, rivers, ports, and other public places shall make efforts to keep them clean”. (Waste management Law)

Prefectural governments responsible for “management”

- Various groups such as local governments, port managers, local associations, volunteers, and so on conduct the clean-up activities.
- Practically in most cases, local government or commissioned companies which is responsible for the disposal of municipal wastes take charge of disposal of gathered up marine litter.
- In 2002, special arrangement on local allocation tax grant, “Coast Management Expense” was established for prefectural governments and this expense could be spent on collection of washed up litter.



City of Tsushima , Nagasaki Prefecture

Foreign language college students of Busan got to know the problem of a lot of litter which was washed up on the seashore of Tsushima city . The students have been visiting Tsushima city since 2002 every year, and performing cleaning activities in collaboration with local residents .



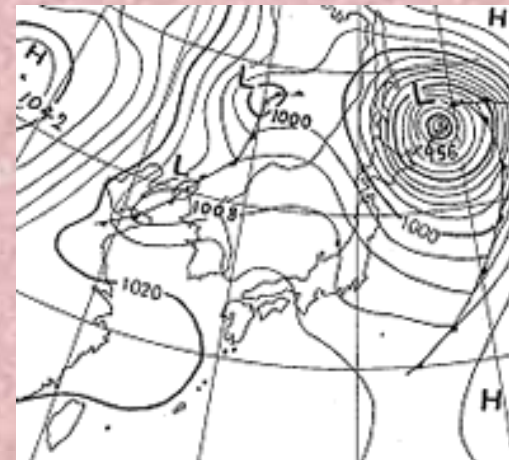
Measures in case of disasters (typhoons)

- In case of the large amount of litter such as drift woods washed up by disasters like typhoons, special financial supporting regimes are applied.

Ex)

Financial support for disposal of driftwood in case of disasters (prefectural governments responsible for “management” of coastline areas)

Financial support for disposal of wastes originated from disasters except driftwood (municipality)



Government efforts

Many related ministries are making efforts on financial support, technical development, education and enlightenment on the problem of marine litter. For the purpose of information exchange, “liaison meeting of related government ministries about Drifting / Washed up debris” was established in 2000 .

“Liaison Meeting of Related Government Ministries about Drifting / Washed up litter”



Members of “Liaison Meeting of Related Government Ministries about Drifting / Washed up Debris”

- Chemicals Division, Manufacturing Industries Bureau ,Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
- Marine Division , Global Environment and marine department, Japan Meteorological Agency
- Environment and Engineering Division, Ports and Harbours Bureau ,Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport
- Seacoast Office, River Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport
- Environmental and Oceanographic Research Division, Hydrographic and Oceanographic Department, Japan Coast Guard
- Marine Environment Protection & Disaster Prevention Division, Guard and Rescue Department, Japan Coast Guard
- Conservation Office, Resources and Environment Research Division, Ecosystem, Fisheries Agency
- Waste Management Division , Waste Management and Recycling Department ,Ministry of the Environment
- Global Environment Issues Division, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment

Action hereafter

- To solve the problem of marine litter, various organizations' participation is needed as heretofore. Recently, there are several opportunities for government, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), and experts to exchange their opinions such as “Meeting by the Affiliates of Marine Litter” and “Conference on Issues of Marine Litter on Island Beaches”.
- Through these opportunities, it is important to discuss about the required provision and form a partnership among each body.

