

For clean beaches



Everyone has to make efforts not to generate excessive marine litter



It is important to gather our knowledge and take actions under the cooperation of the four member states.

What is NOWPAP?

The Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) was adopted in 1994 as a part of UNEP Regional Seas Programme. The People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation are currently members of NOWPAP. Each member state hosts one of the four Regional Activity Centres (RACs) which are responsible for individual NOWPAP activities.

About NOWPAP RAP MALI

NOWPAP RAP MALI (Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter) was approved by the four member states, and has been implemented since March 2008. Objectives of NOWPAP RAP MALI are (1) prevention of marine litter input to the marine and coastal environment, (2) monitoring of marine litter quantities and distribution, and (3) removing existing marine litter and its disposal. To achieve the objectives, the four member states, NOWPAP RCU and NOWPAP RACs are implementing various activities.



NOWPAP CEARAC

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Current situation On marine litter in the NOWPAP region



NOWPAP National Monitoring

NOWPAP member states (China, Japan, Korea and Russia) monitor marine litter quantities using "Guidelines for Monitoring Marine Litter on the Beaches and Shorelines of the Northwest Pacific Region" developed by CEARAC in 2007. The results of the monitoring are submitted to NOWPAP and Ocean Conservancy and shared with the member states and all over the world.

Location of the NOWPAP National monitoring sites

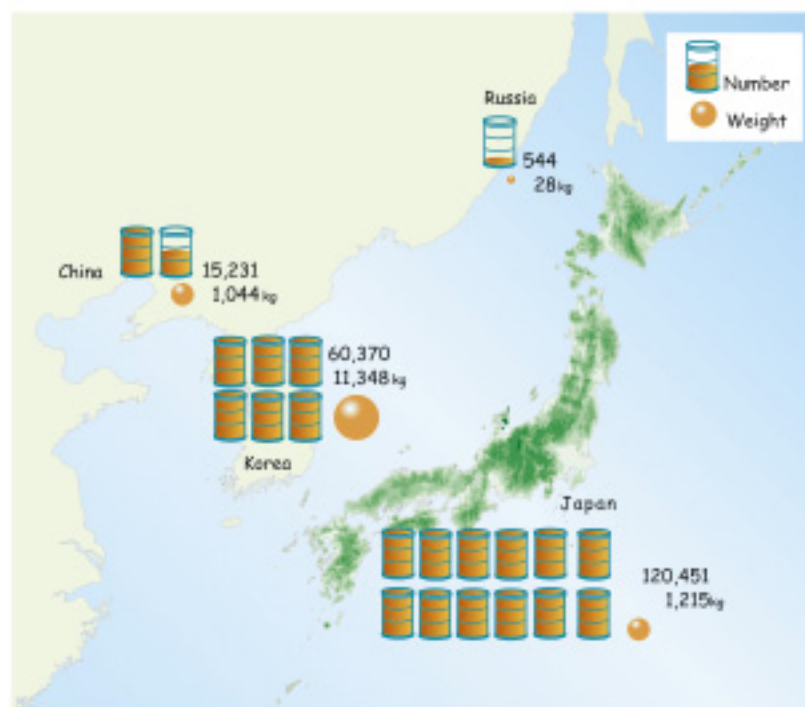
In 2008, NOWPAP marine litter monitoring was conducted in 80 sites.



Location of monitoring sites in the NOWPAP region

(China: 2 sites, Japan: 57, Korea: 20, Russia: 1)

Situation on marine litter in each member state



Number and weight of marine litter in the NOWPAP region

- China: total survey length is 3km, total number of participants is 798, total number of marine litter is 15,231, total weight of marine litter is 1,044kg
- Japan: total survey area is 46,280m², total number of participants is 2,415, total number of marine litter is 120,451, total weight of marine litter is 1,215kg
- Korea: Total survey length is 12km, total number of marine litter is 60,370, total weight of marine litter is 11,348kg.
- Russia: Total survey length is 200m, total number of participants is 42, total number of marine litter is 544, total weight of marine litter is 28kg.

Characteristics of marine litter in the NOWAP region

A lot of plastic items such as cigarette filters, plastic bags and beverage bottles were observed in all the countries. In case of Japan and Korea, foamed polystyrene buoys were also observed.

In the NOWPAP region, the following artificial litter is often found on the beaches. To reduce these types of marine litter, we should change our consumption-intensive lifestyles. In addition, the litter is recyclable, so we have to enhance recycling programs to reduce marine litter. Also, try to use reusable materials as much as possible.

- Don't use disposable materials produced by plastic and foamed polystyrene.
- Use returnable beverage glass. Recycle broken glass.
- Implement separated collection of metal for recycling.
- Use your own shopping bags

Do you know the 3 Rs?

- The principle of reducing waste, reusing and recycling resources and products is often called the "3 Rs."
- Reducing means choosing to use things with care to reduce the amount of waste generated.
 - Reusing involves the repeated use of items or parts of items which still have usable aspects.
 - Recycling means the use of waste itself as a resource.

Waste minimization can be achieved in an efficient way by focusing primarily on the first of the 3 Rs, "reduce," followed by "reuse" and then "recycle."