Start of the Futrure Earth Coasts Japan -from LOICZ to FE Coasrts-

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Future Earth Coasts is one of a core project of Future Earth started in 2015. It was conducted following LOICZ, one of the core project of IGBP started in 1993. LOICZ became a joint project between IGBP and IHDP from 2004. Then it included social and economic studies in the coastal area. FE Coasts strengthened the science-policy interface to contribute to securing sustainable coastal futures in the new epoch called the Anthropocene.

About LOICZ, Japanese researchers related before it started. One of the typical research projects in Japan related to LOICZ was MAFLECS. It estimated the carbon flux from the East China Sea to the Pacific Ocean and clarified that the continental shelf region in mid latitude is a sink of CO2.

There has been no SSC member from Japan in LOICZ from 2012 and there was no counterpart for FE Coasts in Japan. To solve this situation, FE Coasts Japan started in 2017 based on the Coastal Oceanography Research Committee of the Oceanographic Society of Japan. Therefore, the collaboration with FE Coasts is just started now. At first, we must rebuild the relationship between the international activities. However, there are several research projects in Japan which match the aim of FE Coasts; e.g., "Transformation and Resilience on Urban Coasts (JSPS G8 Research Councils Initiative)", and "Development of Coastal Management Method to realize the Sustainable Coastal Sea (Environmental Research and Technology Development Fund)". I think it is important to introduce these activities as the contribution for FE Coasts from Japan.

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