

Overseas Information Monitoring on Water Technological Policies Considering Climate Change.

(Study period: FY2015-)

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1. Introduction

It is important to grasp the trends of technological policies in other countries, to confirm the advanced level of Japan's current technological policies, and to use the knowledge of other countries to promote domestic policies as needed. This paper introduces the initiative of the "Overseas Information Monitoring on Water Technology Policies in Light of Climate Change," which has been continuously conducted as one of the foundations for the smooth promotion of cross-disciplinary research activities in the Climate Change Adaptation Research Group (the "Research Group"; Head: Director-General of the NILIM).

2. Overseas information monitoring

The Research Group has been grasping technological policy trends related to climate change adaptation in 13 countries through case studies of climate change adaptation measures for water disasters and water resource management in the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands, as well as by obtaining technical standards and guidelines from other countries and visiting these countries to interview engineers and other experts directly.¹⁾ Considering the information thus accumulated and the efficiency of the survey, the initiative introduced in this paper serves to collect and summarize information on advanced climate change adaptation measures from websites of mainly overseas public organizations and post it on the Research Group's website as the latest overseas information, based on "fixed-point observation, " by regularly checking the official websites of selected priority organizations by country for information collection and tracking information updates as shown in Table.

Over the seven years from FY 2015, when this initiative was launched, to FY 2021, a total of 23 information aggregations were conducted and a total of 138 articles were published²⁾.

Table: Number of articles published and target organizations for priority information collection by country

Country	Target organization for priority information collection	Number of articles
USA	Federal Emergency Management Agency, Army Corps of Engineers, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Geological Survey, etc.	64
U.K.	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Environment Agency	42
Netherlands	Delta Commission, Royal Water Authority, etc.	11

*Number of articles is up to March 2021.

* In addition to the three countries listed above, the EU and other international organizations, foreign media, etc. were added to the survey in 2015 (10 articles), as well as France (8 articles) and Germany (3 articles) in 2019.

The number of articles by country shows the active movement in this field in the U.S. and the U.K., while the advanced technological policy trends in the Netherlands, which is systematically promoting flood control measures considering the progress in climate change prediction, are also interesting and suggestive references for Japan.

3. Future development

It is important to continue to collect, organize, and analyze the latest information on climate change adaptation measures in other countries, since the status of surveys, studies, and policy examination and implementation are changing constantly. We intend to continue the initiatives described in this paper, and promote effective and efficient technological policy monitoring combined with field surveys as necessary.

☞ See the following for details.

1) Technical Note of NILIM No.749 pp. II-163-210

<http://www.nilim.go.jp/lab/bcg/siryou/tnn/tnn0749.htm>

2) Website of the Climate Change Adaptation Research Group, Overseas Case Studies

<http://www.nilim.go.jp/lab/kikou-site/20info.html#T02>