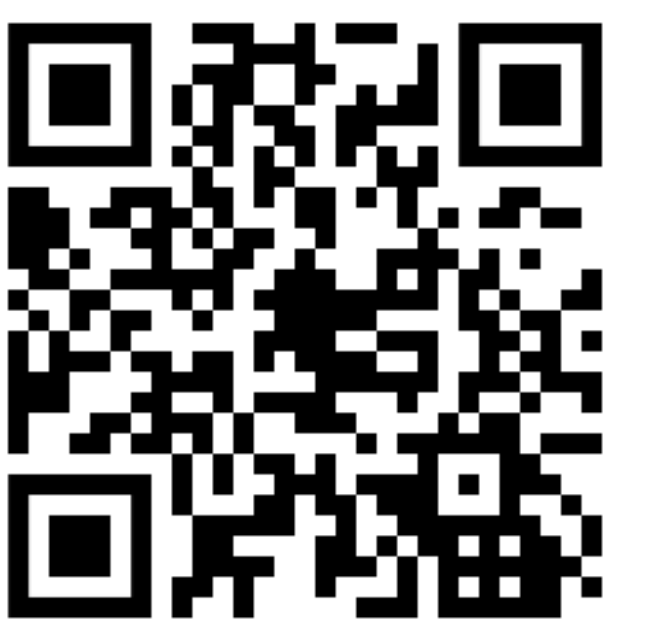




NOWPAP

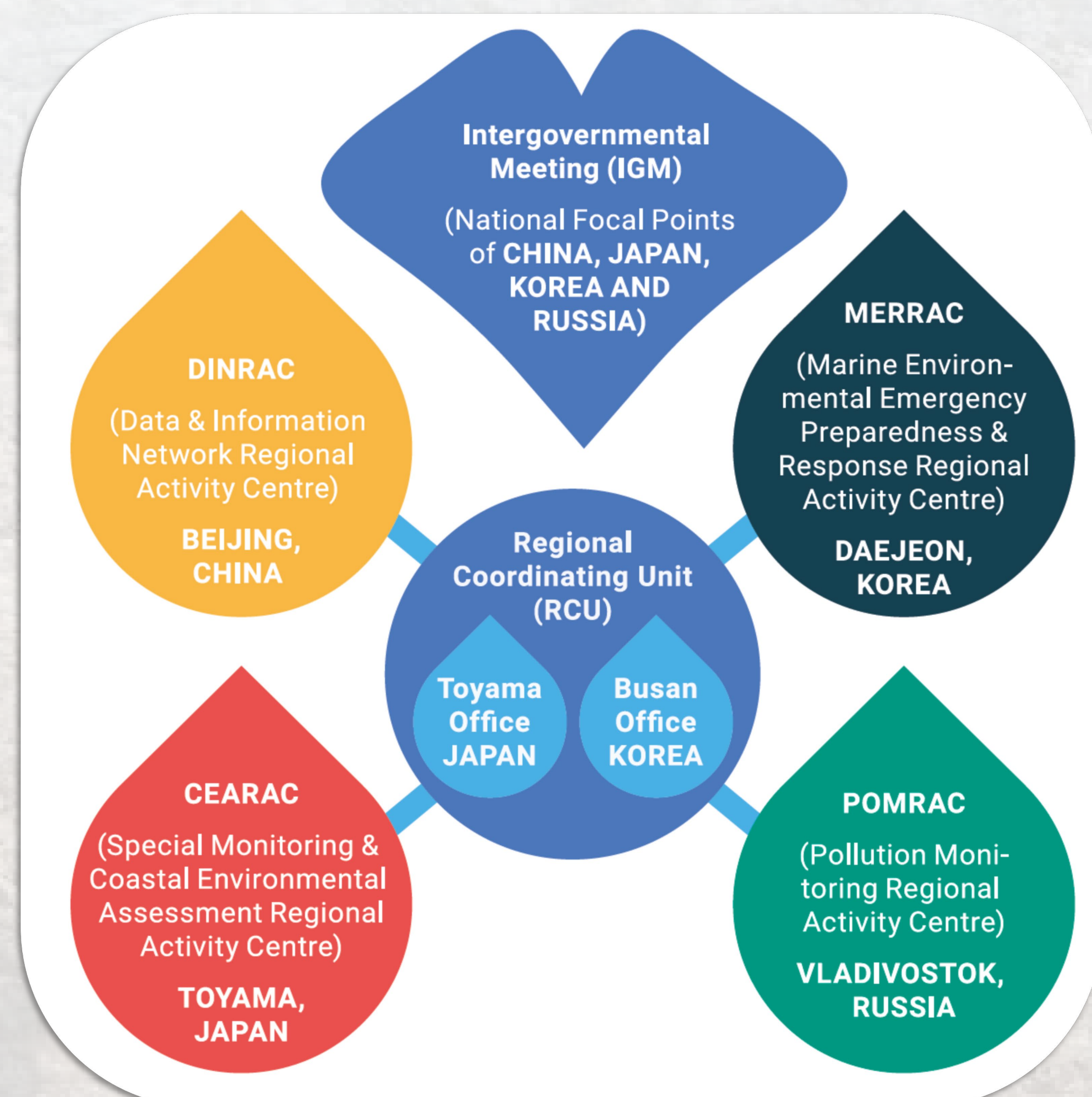
Northwest Pacific Action Plan



NOWPAP

The Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) was set up in 1994 by Japan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation as an intergovernmental mechanism to support “the wise use, development and management of the coastal and marine environment so as to obtain the utmost long-term benefits for the human populations of the region, while protecting human health, ecological integrity and the regions sustainability for future generations“. Its geographical scope extends from 121°E to 143°E longitude, and from 33°N to 52°N latitude). NOWPAP is part of the over four-decade-old UN Environment Regional Seas Programme.

NOWPAP Institutional Framework



NOWPAP's Role in Addressing Marine Litter

NOWPAP has been responding since 2005 to the growing threat of marine litter in the Northwest Pacific. This includes data collection, assessments, development of best practices, and regional coordination. Participation of all stakeholders is central to the NOWPAP Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) adopted by member states in 2008. Sectoral guidelines for marine litter management focused on the fishing, shipping and tourism industries have been published. Public awareness and participation have been mobilized through annual International Coastal Clean-up Campaigns organized in each NOWPAP country since 2006. Governments, the private sector and civil society have been involved in the reduction, monitoring and removal of marine litter from Northwest Pacific coasts and seas. Since 2015, marine litter issues in the region are discussed annually in the NOWPAP and TEMM (Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting involving China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) Joint Marine Litter Workshops.

Selected Activities of NOWPAP

Data and Information Network Regional Activity Centre (DINRAC)

- Collection of Data and Information on Species Filed in the Red Lists of NOWPAP Member States: 1) more endangered species are living in NOWPAP member countries than those listed in the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); 2) the distribution range of these species to be wider than the area reported by IUCN.



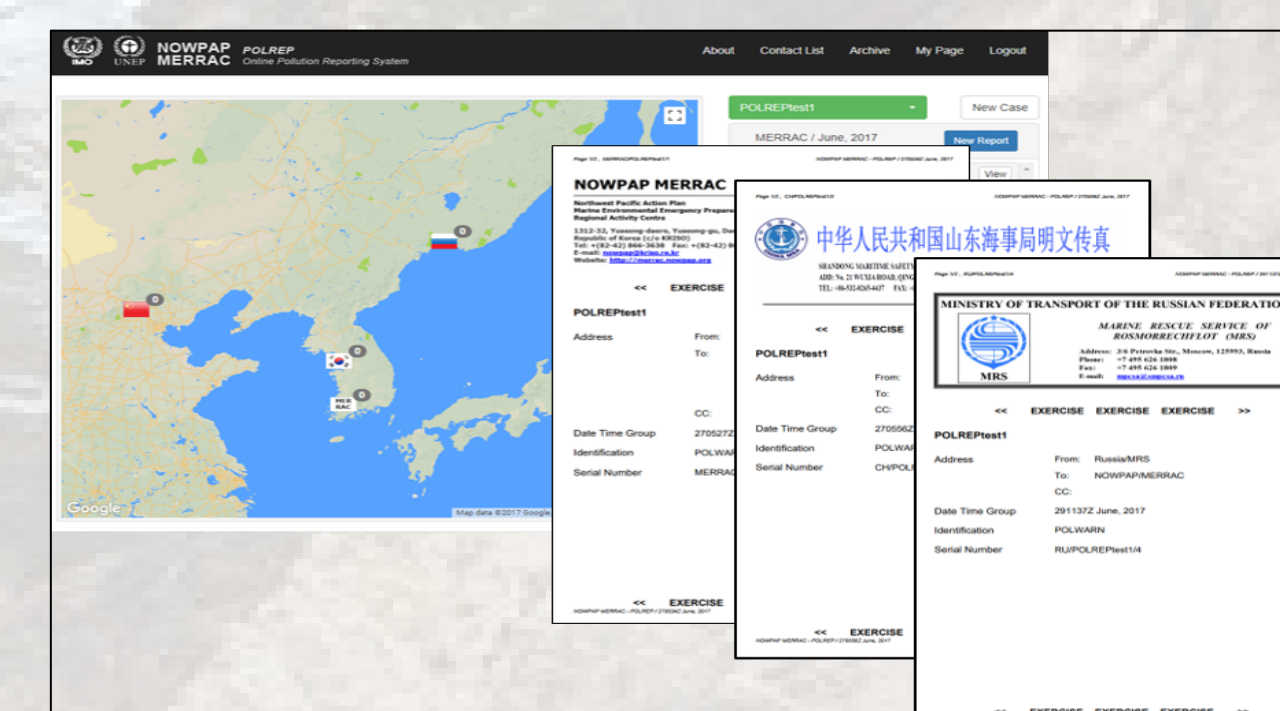
Japanese Sea Lion, stuffed specimen (Credit: Tennōji Zoo, Osaka, Japan)

Marine Environmental Emergency Preparedness and Response Regional Activity Centre (MERRAC)

- Developing and continuously updating the MERRAC information system by collecting information on: 1) oil recovery equipment; 2) institutions and experts related to the marine pollution preparedness and response.
- Review and analysis of floating Marine Litter prediction models in the NOWPAP region; Understanding of Floating marine litter sources and flows
- Development and implementation of Simple Online Pollution Reporting System (Online POLREP) as early warning system on oil and HNS spill accidents in the NOWPAP region.

Country	Location	Sampling depth	Target size	Abundance	Unit	References
Korea	12 coasts around Korea	2 m	>25 mm	1.0	Items/m ²	Lee et al (2016)
Korea	Nakdong River Estuary		>25 mm	0.97 (before rainy)	Items/m ²	Lee et al (2015)
Korea	Heungnam beach (southeastern coast of Korea)	0 m	50-50 mm	50 "1" "50" high (standard IWC)	Items/m ²	Lee et al (2015)
			> 50 m	14 x 4 (high standard IWC)	Items/m ²	
				7 x 4.5 (cross-section)	Items/m ²	
Korea	6 beaches around Korea	>25 mm		0.5	Items/m ²	Lee et al (2016)
Korea	20 beaches around Korea	>25 mm		405.9 ± 267.7	Items/m ²	Lee et al (2014)

A Part of studies on levels of marine litter on the beaches



Webpage of Online POLREP

Medium-term Strategy 2018-2023

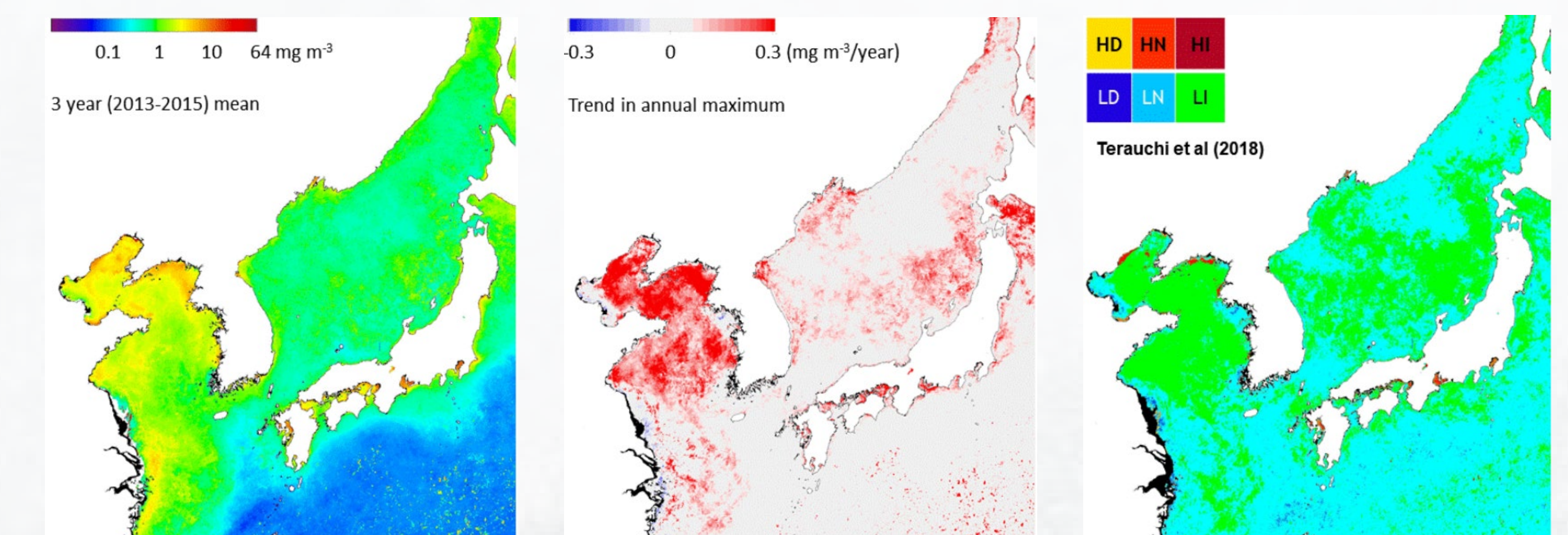
The NOWPAP Medium-term Strategy (MTS) for 2018-2023, endorsed by Member States in June 2018, envisions “a resilient Northwest Pacific marine and coastal environment. The MTS envisages a leadership responsibility for NOWPAP in the regional implementation of the ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular SDG 14 “Life Below Water” and SDG 17 “Partnerships for the Goals” as well as SDGs 6, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 15.

Working through its four Regional Activity Centres (RACs), NOWPAP will implement MTS 2018-2023 focusing on the following areas:

- Integrated coastal and river basin planning and management for healthy and productive coastal and marine ecosystems.
- Regular assessments of the state of the marine environment.
- Developing and adopting effective measures for mutual support in marine pollution emergencies and in mitigating coastal and marine pollution.
- Biodiversity conservation.
- Strengthening regional cooperation through partnership building and resources mobilization.

Special Monitoring and Coastal Environment Assessment Regional Activity Centre (CEARAC)

- Developing the tool for mapping seagrass distribution in the NOWPAP region
- Assessment of eutrophication in the NOWPAP region with satellite Chl-a from 1998 to 2015 using Northwest Pacific Action Plan Eutrophication Assessment Tool (NEAT)



Satellite imagery, a tool for early detection (Credit: Genki Terauchi, NOWPAP CEARAC)

Pollution Monitoring Regional Activity Centre (POMRAC)

- Periodic publication of the “State of Marine Environment Report (SOMER) for the NOWPAP region”
- Assessment of trends in river and direct inputs of contaminants affecting the marine and coastal environment in the NOWPAP region during the last decade
- Developing Ecological Quality Objectives as benchmarks to assess threats to the region’s marine and coastal environment, and formulating six indicators in accordance to UNSDGs : 1) Nutrients concentration in the water column; 2) Nutrient ratios (silica, nitrogen and phosphorus); 3) Chlorophyll concentration in the water column; 4) harmful algal blooms (HABs); 5) Concentration of contaminants in water, sediments and organisms; 6) Trends in the amount and composition of litter washed ashore