

**Minutes: Round table discussion international seminar “Politics and Pitfalls of maritime Governannce  
19 June 2019, 14:00 - 15:30  
50-52 College Bounds room CB202**

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1. Agenda

- **Seminars:** The seminars focussed on coastal ecologies, with a specific attention to seaweeds, industries and growth problem, as well as architecture and smaller structures along coastlines. It appears that both countries, UK and Japan, complement each other on these questions. Furthermore, there is also room for other issues such as walking, bird conservation, and golf project development.
- **Development of future research and collaboration:** The seminars between Scotland and Japan shows a possibility for funding a UK-Japan joint research. After the seminar in Sendai, Japan, in February 2019, and in Aberdeen, UK, in June 2019, the different actors need to agree and discuss on the possibilities for further research and projects and look for other funding.

2. Dates

Dates are linked to funding and meetings: The participants emphasized the importance of next meetings and the due dates of funding (see Prof David Anderson slides).

Seminar in Sendai, planned for **24th -27th October 2019**: There will be a follow-up seminar in Sendai, Japan, in October to discuss further research and decide on collective/ individual projects that are linked to the political ecology of coastal communities. To showcase and further academic excellence coupled with societal relevance through multidisciplinary project

3. Discussion

There are many similarities between political ecologies of coastal societies between Japan and UK, with various connections that can be compared.

- What could be interesting are a methodological comparison and innovative methods/ approaches, like filmmaking or record communities' voices to capture.
- The concept of “blue economy” seems to be differently apprehended in Japan, some Japanese researchers said that this concept was not making much sense for them (but the concept of “blue tourism” was

known). There is maybe room for discussion about the concepts used and their cultural history.

- What seems interesting for some researchers is to focus on the cultural perceptions of the communities, their histories, in order to understand political ecologies.
- Making social research concise, clear and straightforward to communicate research findings (e.g. natural capital) that can be backed up legally since there is clear evidence to back up claims, leading to better decision-making.

#### 4. Agreements/Decisions

- Develop common projects: After the first two meetings in Japan and UK, there is a need to develop common projects that would make sense in UK and Japan.
- Develop a network and stay in touch: Some researchers proposed to develop a network for “political ecology of coastal societies” in order to keep in touch and involve other people interested.

#### 5. Action Points

1. Common UK/ Japan: The participants need to investigate further about the commons between UK and Japan in order to develop coherent joint research.
2. Call for paper for meeting in Sendai: There will be a call for paper in Sendai (October 2019) in order to choose the participants to the next seminar.
3. The need to find project for funding: If the project seems to be based on one main call for funding, there are also several other sources of funding that may be interesting to consider and apply for. Both teams have to work on the application for funding, especially the ESRC standard research grant (3-4 years, no deadline but very competitive).
4. The need to develop a network UK-Japan: An international network about the issue of political ecology of coastal communities seems important to develop international connections and get in touch more easily with researchers worldwide (from UK and Japan, but also from other countries).
5. Seminar in Sendai, October 2019: The UK team needs to sort out who will be the 6 UK people who will participate to the seminar in Sendai.