

# Trends in Research on Internationalization of Technical Standards in the Port and Harbor Field

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## 1. Introduction

In this research, a study on methods for customizing Japanese domestic technical standards responding to the needs of the counterpart country was carried out based on Japanese technical standards in the port and harbor field, through a survey/analysis, etc. of technical standards in the developing countries of Asia and elsewhere.

## 2. Internationalization of technical standards

To enable Japanese companies to continue to carry out business development advantageously in other countries in the future, for example, in Asian countries where strong demand for infrastructure is foreseen, in addition to top-level sales through the combined efforts of government and the private sector, efforts to secure standards in countries where investment is expected are also necessary. However, because the technical standards which are used in the design of port and harbor structures in Japan are premised on different natural conditions and levels of technology, they are not necessarily suitable in their existing form for the actual conditions in object countries.

Therefore, we are conducting out a study on methods for developing custom-made standards which are based on Japanese port and harbor design standards but respond to the needs of the counterpart country, in collaboration with the Ports and Harbours Bureau of Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), with the cooperation of the Port and Airport Research Institute, etc. Our partner in this study is Vietnam which is a country where we have built at cooperative

relationship through surveys and studies up to the present.

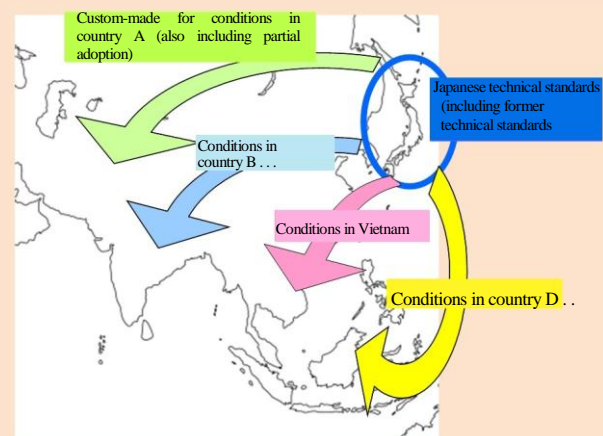


Fig. Custom-made standards responding to conditions in object countries

MLIT and the Ministry of Transport of Vietnam signed a “Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Establishment of National Technical Standards for Port and Harbor Facilities” in Hanoi, Vietnam in March 2014. The two sides are now engaged in joint research based on that agreement.

## 3. Status of progress in Japanese-Vietnamese joint research

Our counterparts on the Vietnamese side are the Ministry of Transport Office of Science and Technology and Institute of Transport Science and Technology (ITST). We are holding workshops that include persons of knowledge and experience on the two sides, and are also exchanging views regularly. Among the technical standards, during the present fiscal year, we held discussions on the General Provisions, Loads and Actions

and Material Conditions volumes, and prepared a rough draft of standards for Vietnam. The main items discussed were, in connection with general provisions, the thinking on the design working life and degree of importance of structures; in connection with loads and actions, the setting of wave conditions and earthquake conditions; and in connection with material conditions, specifications that consider the durability of steel materials and concrete. The coming fiscal year is the final year of this research. We plan to prepare draft standards for foundations and ground improvement and facility design standards specializing in structural types of breakwaters and mooring facilities which are widely used in Vietnam. We will also finalize the full set of standards in the coming year.



Photo Workshop in Vietnam

**【Reference】**

- 1) Technical Note of National Institute for Land and Infrastructure Management, No. 769  
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