

# Grasp of Current State and Issues Spatial Development in Coastal Waterfront Areas

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## 1. Introduction

Changes are occurring in the coastal areas of Japan based on the recent trend of the weak yen, lower labor costs in Japan, rapid economic growth in Asia, the spread of COVID-19, various international conflicts, and various disasters, etc. This study aims to understand prominent trends in coastal areas and to extract and organize the issues.

## 2. New Locations of Plants, etc. in Coastal Areas

Table 1 shows examples of major new locations of plants, etc. after the spread of COVID-19. The features include locations for the building of new plants with an awareness of disaster business continuity plans (BCP), and plants that include disaster prevention measures themselves. Other examples include a few cases of creating vibrant spaces within port green spaces and the creation of recycling bases with environmental awareness.

Table 1 Examples of New Locations in Coastal Areas in Japan

Location Facilities	Facility Features
Machinery manufacturer logistics warehouse	Raising of ground level to prevent flood damage
Chemical product manufacturer plant	Consciousness of BCP and development of alternative manufacturing base
Craft beer plants and restaurants, etc.	Development of vibrant space within the port green space

Plasterboard recycling plant	Collection and recycling of waste materials from all over Hokkaido
Demonstration test facility	Expansion of development and manufacturing base

## 3. Expansion of Japanese Companies into the ASEAN Region, etc.

Along with the trend of Japanese manufacturing returning to Japan, which was introduced last year, there has also been a trend of companies expanding to the ASEAN region. This is expected to accelerate the trend within the ASEAN region towards local production for local consumption with the formation of production bases, etc., contributing to the strengthening of supply chains in countries into which companies are expanding. Major examples of this are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Examples of Expansion into ASEAN Countries

Industry	Destination Country
Air conditioner manufacturer	Indonesia
Machinery manufacturer	Malaysia
Food manufacturer	Vietnam
Chemical products manufacturer	Thailand
Cement manufacturer	Philippines

In relation to this, some Japanese underwear

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manufacturers and others have closed plants in China to consolidate their manufacturing bases in Japan, confirming this trend towards local production and local consumption in Japan as well.

#### 4. Future Issues for Consideration

Future issues to be considered include the collection of additional cases (particularly those related to the use of former thermal power plant sites), interviewing appropriate business operators and port administrators, etc., the collection of cases of coastal area reorganization to identify and examine further issues, and the consideration and examination of measures to be taken in coastal areas going forward.