

Science and Policy in International Environmental Cooperative Frameworks

Yasunori Hanamatsu

Slavic Research Center, Hokkaido University, Kita 9, Nishi 7, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0809, Japan,
hanamatsu@slav.hokudai.ac.jp

Abstract

It is generally recognized that scientific research and its findings have an influence on the regime building and implementation process in international environmental cooperative frameworks. However, there are still uncertainties of the actual relationship between science and policy in regional environmental conservation frameworks, and it also indicates the necessity for further examination of this relationship from various perspectives. This paper will examine the cases of marine environmental protection in the Baltic Sea and river basin management of the Mekong River, and then introduce some of arguments on the relationship between science and decision-making process from disciplines such as environmental governance, international relations, and science & technology studies.

Keywords: science, policy, knowledge production, scientific research, scientific information, scientific community, epistemic community, Baltic Sea, Mekong River