

Figure 1: Designated Ports in the ASEAN (47, including 14 in Indonesia) (%)



Source: Zen (2016).

Indonesia has the second-largest fishing industry in the world after China (FAO, 2016), making it the world's eighth most fish-dependent country (Bennett et al., 2018). In 2017, the sector contributed over US\$27 billion to the national economy, or around 3% of Indonesia's GDP (KKP, 2018). Making fishery sustainable and more profitable, however, remains a challenge. The most important step is to maintain fishery resources.

Indonesia's marine ecosystem faces several threats. Climate change harms the marine environment, such as through coral bleaching. Global warming heralds an era of extreme and unpredictable weather. The disruption of the marine environment is likely to affect fishery. Piles of plastic waste on beaches, for example, hurt tourism.

Indonesia is one of the countries most prone to earthquakes and tsunamis. It has been devastated by several tsunamis in recent years. After a 2004 tsunami swept a dozen countries and killed 230,000 people, more than half of them in the Indonesian province of Aceh, an international effort was launched to improve early tsunami warning, especially in the Indian Ocean. A high-tech system of seafloor sensors, data-laden sound waves, and fibre-optic cable was meant to replace the system set up after 2004, but it was disabled by vandalism or theft or just stopped working due to a lack of maintenance funds.

Maritime issues are linked with several Sustainable Development Goals:

- 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development
- 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- 15: Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably manage forests; combat desertification; and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Promoting economic growth, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion, and strengthening ocean ecosystems were brought to the table at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, in 2012.

Key Questions

What common problem can bring Japan and Indonesia together to improve the maritime sector? How can they cooperate to solve the problem of marine pollution and environmental degradation? How can they develop sustainable and responsible tourism? Which maritime areas should they cooperate on first?