

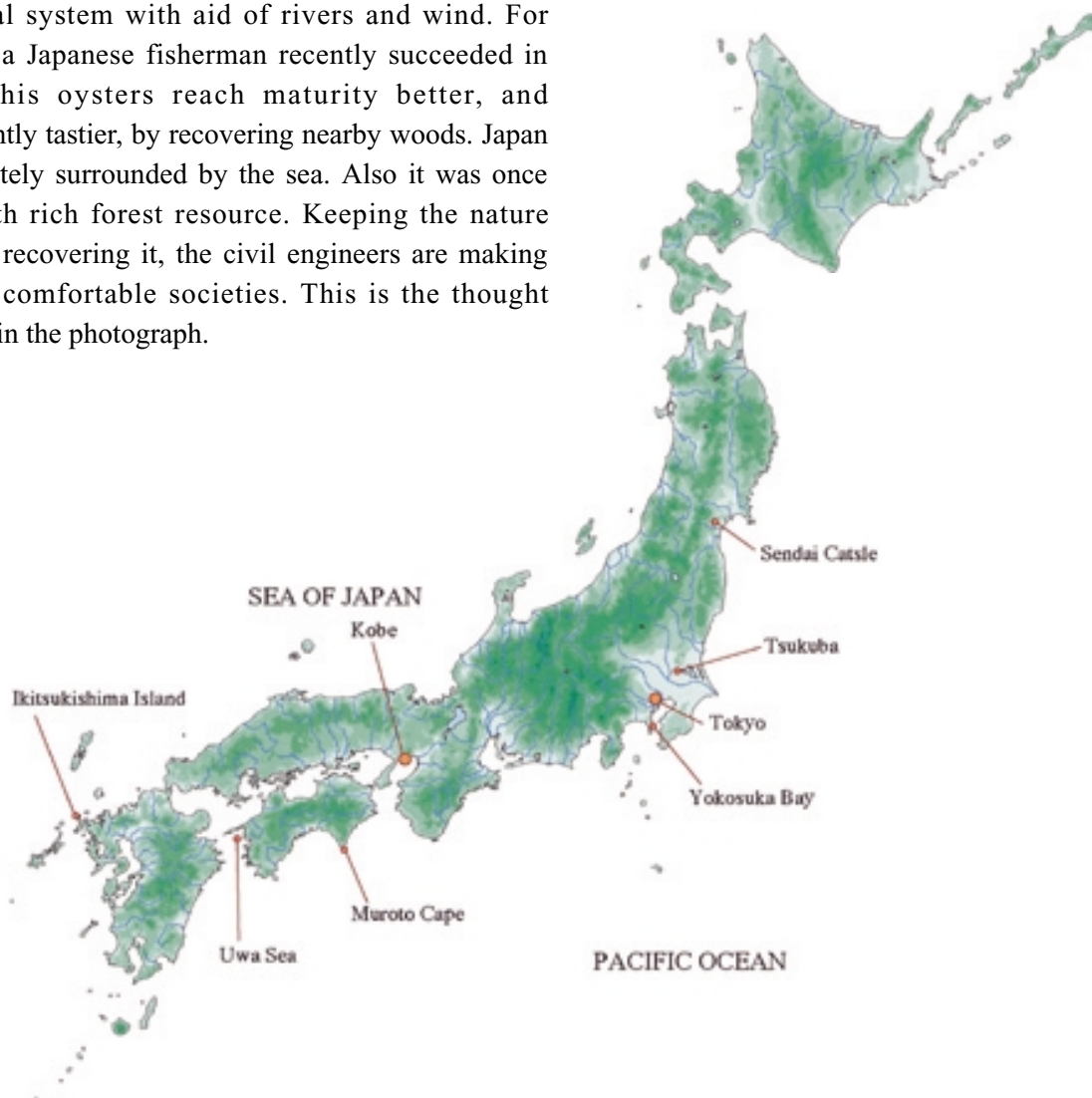
## Editor's note

The spectacular view on the cover is the tip of the Cape Muroto on the southern side of Shikoku Island, Japan. Developing such narrow space between mountains and seashores, the Japanese has penetrated roads and has constructed ports. It is a typical scene in Japan where 70 % of the land is covered by mountains. This Cape Muroto is also the place which marked the Japanese record of the maximum wind velocity 69.8 m/s when a strong typhoon hit this area in 1965. The record still stands. So this cape also symbolizes another aspect of Japan, a nest of natural disasters; earthquakes, typhoons, volcanoes and others.



(Cover Photo)

However, these are not the only reasons for the editorial committee to have chosen this photograph. The other reason is that we can see the woods and the sea simultaneously. The woods and the sea consist of a local ecological system with aid of rivers and wind. For instance, a Japanese fisherman recently succeeded in making his oysters reach maturity better, and consequently tastier, by recovering nearby woods. Japan is completely surrounded by the sea. Also it was once filled with rich forest resource. Keeping the nature intact, or recovering it, the civil engineers are making safe and comfortable societies. This is the thought embedded in the photograph.





Japan Society of Civil Engineers

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