

*The Policy Evolution of Marine Economic Development
Strategies in China and the Actual Situation Thereof:
A case study of the "Shandong Peninsula Blue Economic
Zone Development Plan"*

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Summary

In addition to expressing clearly the concept of marine development strategies in China, regarding the marine economic development strategies which are the most important ones of those, this paper analyses such things as the policy evolution and the actual situation and challenges thereof, while utilizing a case study of the Shandong Peninsula Blue Economic Zone Development Plan.

In the nations concerned, including Japan, attention to China's marine development strategies has been rising, but that is interest mainly in China's maritime safety management strategies, and particularly in maritime expansion via military force. To begin with, marine development strategies in China are comprised of maritime safety management strategies, marine economic development strategies, and marine science and technology strategies, and with marine economic development strategies being the important part therein, the other two complement the marine economic development strategies.

As has been shown from the Shandong Peninsula Blue Economic Zone Development Plan, the marine economic development strategies in China are in the process of evolution. They don't stop merely at the space for economic development stretching from the land area to the marine area, but at the same time there are also the aspects of a regional development strategy aiming at the revitalization of that region, making best use of its maritime features, and of a strategy of opening to the outside world which aims at the strengthening of cooperation with neighboring countries with the lever of its geopolitical advantages. They are, as it were, tripartite strategies of marine economic development strategies, regional coordinated development strategies and strategies for the expansion of opening to the outside world.

With the limits to onshore resources in China and the promotion of marine development and borderless economic subregions becoming global trends, it is considered that China's marine economic development strategies are opportune and pertinent strategies, and there are high expectations for their potential and effects.

On the other hand, within their actual evolution there exist various issues—such as their differentiation from existing regional development strategies, the securing of the funding for the execution of the plans, the practical application of the marine scientific and technological achievements, the coordination and grading-up of the marine industrial structure, the nurturing of maritime-related personnel, the protection of the marine environment, the international perspective and the strengthening of external coordination and cooperation—and their resolution is required.

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