

1. Introduction

(1) Why restore the river environment?

In the global hydrological cycle, rivers play a crucial part, especially in their relationship with humans. Rivers accommodate and nurture numerous living things, including we humans. We cannot live without the blessing of rivers.

We, humans, have received many blessings from rivers, as we obtain drinking water and foods from them, and use river water in our livelihood and economic production, as well as for hydraulic energy in transportation and power. Thus, we have found numerous ways to use rivers. At the same time, we have changed their flows skilfully, one way or another, to prevent floods from taking people's lives. In short, we have got along with rivers. The specific way to get along differs, needless to say, depending on each region's climate, land contour, etc. And this getting along has shaped each region's culture and socio-environmental climate.



Funan River, China

Anyang River, Korea



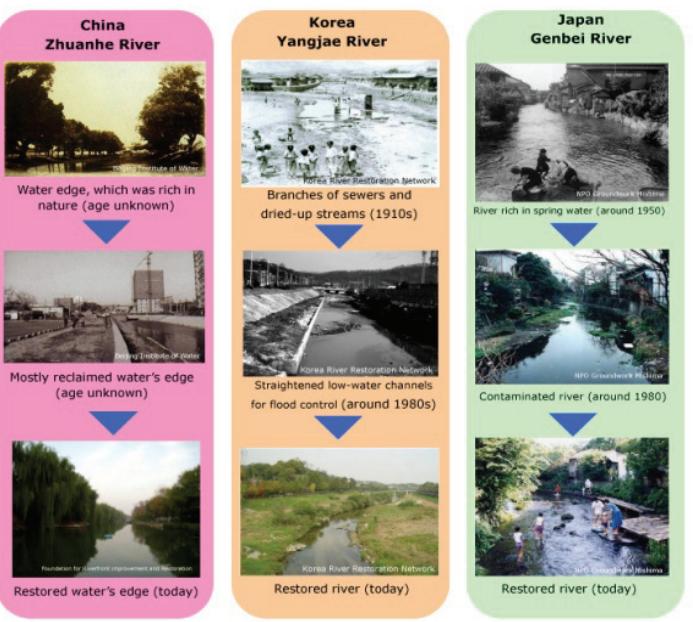
Ochiai River, Japan

2. Important viewpoints in understanding the true nature of a river

(1) Being familiar with the natural, historical and cultural transition of rivers

Since ancient times, rivers have brought great benefits to us such as water for drinking, food, amenity, and healing. At the same time, rivers have sometimes caused damage through floods and droughts. The history of the relationship between human beings and rivers is diverse, and rivers show how nature operates from past to present as well as the consequences of human beings' activities regarding rivers over a period of time.

To consider the future of rivers, it is of utmost importance to understand their historical and cultural change. This leads to a heightening of people's awareness to take good care of rivers as something familiar and to pass on a rich river environment to the following generations.



Publication Announcement (online)

URL: <http://www.a-rr.net/publication/>

Ver. 2

Reference Guideline for Restoration by Eco-Compatible Approach in River Basin of Asia

ARRN's New Publication: Reference Guideline for Restoration by Eco-Compatible Approach in River Basin of Asia **ver.2**

Asian River Restoration Network is pleased to publish a new revised guideline to assist all practitioners involved in the river restoration activities in Asia. (Online)

Download URL from ARRN website: <http://www.a-rr.net/publication/>

Purpose of this Guide

This guide is to show basic ideas and policies indispensable for restoring desirable river environments in Asia, raise the interest of readers in a river nearby, create an opportunity toward new projects for river restoration, and also support current river restoration projects.

Target Readers

This guide targets all people who want to bring rivers and waterfronts back into a healthy form and pass on rich river environments to the following generations.

Background and Progress

In the nature restoration session of the 4th World Water Forum (held in Mar. 2006 in Mexico), two proposals were made in connection with establishing an Asian network related to river restoration and the **preparation of an Asian river restoration guide toward improvement of river restoration technology**. In response to these proposals, the "Asian River Restoration Network" (ARRN) was established by Japanese, Chinese and Korean agencies jointly concerned in November of the same year. In the ARRN, preparation of this river restoration guide was positioned as one of the primary objectives of the network activities, and Japanese, Chinese and Korean specialists are working toward establishing a practical guide that can contribute to creating healthy river environments in Asia.

[Revision history of this Reference Guideline]

Mar. 2009: Reference Guideline for Restoration by an Eco-Compatible Approach in River Basin of Asia Ver.1, published

Jan. 2011: Case studies as a separate volume of the Reference Guideline ver.1, published

Mar. 2012: Reference Guideline for Restoration by an Eco-Compatible Approach in River Basin of Asia Ver.2, published

Main Updates in ver.2

In this guideline, a menu of basic ideas and concrete measures toward river restoration is explained in a comprehensible form so that even non-specialists who are interested in improvement of the river environment can understand them easily.

The revision in this Guideline **ver.2** is intended to enhance the contents of the guideline so that it can serve as basic data that show the features and differences between Japan, China and Korea as regards various backgrounds, problems and measures regarding river environment restoration in Asia. A list of online resources (websites in English) has also been added to the Appendix as a reference.

ARRN members will make continuous efforts to upgrade the glossary of river environment restoration terms, and to collect as many as possible reference cases containing lessons learned from experience in river environment restoration for ver.3.

Publishing: Asian River Restoration Network (ARRN)

Writing: China River Restoration Network (CRRN), Korea River Restoration Network (KRRN), Japan River Restoration Network (JRRN)

Supervisor: ARRN Technical Committee

Editing: Japan River Restoration Network (JRRN)

Publication: March 2012 (online)



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- (1)Being familiar with the natural, historical and cultural transition of rivers
- (2)Perceiving the river as a basin
- (3)Understanding dynamism of rivers
- (4)Grasping the role of rivers and stakeholders



3. Basic items to remember in restoring river environment

- (1)Clarifying problems of the river environment to set targets for restoration
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- (3)Considering river restoration based on dynamism of rivers
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4. Implementation approaches for river environment restoration

- (1)Outline of measures toward river environment restoration
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Appendix 1

Countermeasure Chart for River Restoration (draft)

Appendix 2

List of online resources for river restoration (website in English)

Epilog

For promotion of further river environment restoration in Asia

Contact: Japan River Restoration Network secretariat

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Japan River Restoration Network (JRRN) has a role of ARRN secretariat from Nov. 2006 to Oct. 2012.
Secretariat of ARRN and JRRN is operated by **Foundation for Riverfront Improvement and Restoration** and
CTI Engineering Co., Ltd. as joint study on development of Asian River Restoration network.



Foundation for Riverfront Improvement and Restoration

CTI Engineering Co., Ltd.