

Summary

● Opening Article

The Urban Policy Issues in World Urban Forum

Toshiyasu NODA
Special Researcher,
Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center/
Professor, Department of Law, Seinan Gakuin University

We have World Urban Forum as an international conference to widely discuss global urban policies. Since 2002, “Sustainable City” is at the center of deliberation and more priority is given to environmental concern as “Sustainable City and Community” was designated as part of new development goals of the United Nations in 2015. With regard to urban policies, improving energy efficiency in entire cities, reducing emission of greenhouse gas and alleviating global warming become mainstreaming now. It was stressed in the 9th World Urban Forum this year that sustainable cities should be realized through formulating comprehensive development plans at national as well as local level. In this connection, the Spatial Planning Platform proposed by the Government of Japan and to be established by governments concerned will expectedly make important contributions.

Keywords : United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), World Urban Forum (WUF), New Urban Agenda (NUA), Sustainable Cities, Spatial Planning Platform (SPP)

● Research Report

The Tendencies of Food Waste Generation from the Commercial Sector in Fukuoka City From the Perspectives of Economic Incentives

Ikuyo KIKUSAWA
Chief Researcher
Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center

The treatment of waste and recyclables is often conducted in accordance with the market principle. A variety of legislative approaches have been introduced in Japan to build a circular society. Fukuoka city has set a goal of reducing 110 thousand tons of general waste by 2025 based on the base year of 2009. This paper focuses particularly on food waste, which has a low resource conversion ratio among commercial waste of the city. In this study, the treatment costs are calculated after sorting out the emission tendencies of waste disposal by type of business. As a result, it became clear that the accounting system based on the volume of collection and transportation costs squeezed the total processing fee of waste after separating food waste. Thus, it turned out that economic incentives are not working for food waste segregation in the current waste treatment system.

Keywords : Food waste recycling, Fukuoka city, Economic incentive, Collection and transportation cost, Commercial waste

● Research Report

A Study on Realization of Various Ways of Working in Fukuoka City: Toward Utilization of Human Resources Incorporating Telework

Yumi NAKAMURA
Researcher
Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center

In Japan, the lack of labor caused by the decrease in the production age population has become a major issue. In Fukuoka City, while many companies are facing a serious shortage of workers, how to utilize human resources is questioned. For the utilization of human resources, it is imperative to correct long working hours and develop diverse and flexible working methods. This paper focuses on teleworking ("flexible way of working regardless of location and time leveraging ICT (Information and Communication Technology)") as one of ways to realize various ways of working in Fukuoka City, and the consideration was made. Telework can be expected to have effects such as "Improve labor productivity", "Secure employment of talented people", "Respond to vulnerable commuters (handicapped, elderly people, women in childcare, etc.)". On the other hand, the introduction rate of telework varies depending on the industry, due to excuses such as "there is no job suitable for teleworking". Toward the realization of various ways of working in Fukuoka City, it is required to accept a new way of working, for example, after selecting a work content that is suitable for teleworking, carrying out the selected work with a multiple human resources, and also to create a mechanism that enables an individual to display his/her ability without restrictions in the way of working.

Keywords : Lack of labour, Various ways of working, Reform of workplace, Utilization of human resources, Telework

● Research Report

The Roles of Sports Community in the Community-based Disaster Prevention Activities

Misato YAMADA
Researcher
Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center
Ikuyo KIKUSAWA
Chief Researcher
Fukuoka Asian Urban Research Center
Tsuyoshi HAKKAKU
Associate
Fukuoka D.C.

The authors have been seeking the potentials of the sports community as one of the organizations accelerating the mutual assistance in times of disaster. While the purpose of disaster prevention education is set to have "preparation", "connection", and "knowledge", the sports community has advantages in terms of physical "preparation" and every day "connection". On the other hand, a "Community-based Organization for Disaster Prevention (CODP)" consisting of local residents is the main body that supports the mutual assistance in the local community. In this paper, based on the roles and challenges of CODP in Fukuoka City, we examined the possibility of new roles in times of disaster that the sports community could complement. As a result, it was revealed that the aging and the short of manpower have become issues although the CODP is expected to play a central role in opening and operating a local evacuation shelter. Another issue is that the support for the non-designated evacuation shelters is insufficient. As a potential role of the sports community, we proposed 1) assisting the operation of evacuation shelters, 2) rescuing and aiding in times of evacuation, and 3) assisting the support for non-designated evacuation shelters. The study pointed out the importance of efforts in times of peace in order to turn these roles into actions, such as acquiring disaster prevention skills and understanding the local contexts.

Keywords : Sports community, Community-based organization for disaster prevention, Mutual assistance

● Research Report

What Are the Regional Resources and Environmental Conditions for the Attractiveness of Cities?:
A case study of Shinjuku city

Haruka WATANABE
Part-time Lecturer, Tsuda University
Nahoko ABE
City of Yokohama, Urban Development Bureau

This paper aims to investigate the environmental conditions under which people contribute to the attractiveness of cities from the viewpoints of the theories of city and culture. And it investigates what makes cities attractive.

We conducted a case study of Shinjuku. Shinjuku is a large city. It has Shinjuku station whose number of passengers per day is highest in Japan and attracts many people for various purposes. However, Shinjuku has not only skyscrapers but also medium sized buildings. This fact allows people with various backgrounds to come and communicate with each other, resulting in unique business and culture.

This paper points out that city planning with multi functions and creation of both new and old space are the essential factor to make the attractive city sustainable. This conclusion would contribute to the city planning in the future era of population decline in the case of Fukuoka city, which like Shinjuku also is attracting many residents and visitors.

Keywords : Attractiveness of cities, Regional cultural resources, City planning