

Research Project Report

Program for Asia-Japan Research Development, Asia-Japan Research Institute

April 2016 - March 2019

Redefinition of Asian Urban Theory through the Practices of Policy Science

Tomohiko YOSHIDA*

1. Background and Significance of this Research and Objectives

Due to remarkable economic development, cities in Asian countries have undergone great changes, and it has already become difficult to encapsulate the situation within a uniform framework such as "developed and developing countries," as in the past. The aim of this project, in addition to clarifying the conditions in the diverse cities of Asia, is to accumulate knowledge of urban policy research useful for resolving the issues of different cities. While this research is being undertaken, the focus will not be on regions of Asia, and the project will attempt to avoid the tendency to narrate according to the conventional, polarized argument of "Japan and Asia" by venturing to include European and American perspectives.

2. Activities of Project Members and their Roles

(1) Can “Shrinking” be a positive term for future Asian cities?

Yoshida(2017) discusses that land use regulation in Japan is comparatively looser than in European countries, and as a result of this looseness, urban areas have expanded in the absence of effective methods for controlling the strong demand for development in Japan. Yoshida (2017) analyzes such patterns as well as the locations of suburban developments, focusing mainly on detached houses in Japanese metropolises, and finally, Yoshida proposes a policy framework for enhancing the discussion regarding vacant dwellings and vacant subdivisions in the context of “shrinking cities”. Yoshida(2018b) points out that the Japanese administrative strategy for vacant dwellings has just started from 2015 and there is no sustainable methodology to define, analyze, and fix the number of vacant dwellings. Yoshida(2018a) is seeking a challenging concept of “Smart and Shrinking Cities” that makes the term “Shrinking” more positive and future-oriented.

* Project leader at Asia-Japan Research Institute, Ritsumeikan University, Osaka;
Professor, College of Policy Science, Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto, Japan
Email: tyoshida@sps.ritsumei.ac.jp

Ashardiono(2018) argues on the important roles of tea growers and the tea industry in terms of the sustainability of long-term land use in rural areas. This gives us rich hints on how to combat population decline by the process of branding local specialties like Uji Tea. Tsay(2017) compares the legal systems of the Environmental Impact Assessment Laws in Taiwan, the US, and Germany and suggests the necessity of introducing civil lawsuits in Japanese environmental law. This finding is also informative when we discuss the land-use changes in rural areas.

Kosugi(2018) concludes that we should not discuss residential photovoltaic deployment only from the viewpoint of carbon dioxide reduction but also from local socio-economic aspects like civic participation, consciousness and activities of residents, neighborhood relations and so on. In this sense, Kosugi is supportive of smart technology that can be applied to the “shrinking” process of our society.

(2) Revisions of municipal policies from economic viewpoints in Japan

Mori(2017c) points out that local public expenditure at the municipal level has been occupied by public services such as education and welfare and some public goods have characteristics of history, culture, monuments, and social ideals as well as non-rivalry and non-excludability. Mori(2017c) argues that the orthodox theory needs to be reconstructed according to philosophical perspectives of communitarianism with a traditional merit goods concept and it also describes “fostering self-government”. Mizutani and Hiraoka(2018) analyze the function of local offices of the Prefectural Government and argue that municipal governments should promote mutual cooperation to coordinate the functions of such local offices. We could understand that these researches are showing a movement towards the revision of municipal policies from a financial point of view.

Ishikawa(2017) tries to clarify how a competitive advantage is formed and in what process it evolves as a study of business administration. Ishikawa attaches importance to concepts like “heterogeneous entrepreneurial judgement” and “capabilities” in the theoretical context of entrepreneurship and competitive advantage. On the other hand, Saeki(2017) describes a key strategy of local procurement for Japanese auto parts suppliers and discusses the future narrative, and finally finds that the most significant index is intraregional procurement as compared to traditional local content. These researches show us how entrepreneurship influences regional policies.

Takamura(2017b) examines how Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are run by community-based organizations in the U.S. and argues the reason why it is successful for reducing crime rates and revitalizing regional economies by referring the Ostrom’s and Harvey’s theory. Takamura also discusses the role of law in polycentric governance and the term “polycentric” gives a rich hint to the new urban theory in Asian and Japanese cities as well.

(3) Does the rapid change of mobility in Indonesia really mean “Smart”?

In Indonesia, the new vehicle and motorbike taxi services such as Grab, Gojek, and Uber that can be ordered through smartphone devices are rapidly expanding both in the urban and suburban areas. Hadi and Yoshida(2017) aim to provide a better understanding of the role that motorcycle taxis play in urban transportation through the land use approach in the suburban areas of Jakarta. They show that the existing conventional motorcycle taxi is unavoidably combined with a deficiency in urban transport modes. Even if smart technology is expanding in Indonesia, it doesn’t always mean there is enough public transportation. On the other hand, Hadi and Yoshida (2018) also find that the dependency on motorcycles among factory workers is higher than the average in the region and closer cooperation with municipal transportation policies is needed.

Wijaya and Ishihara(2018) point out that the stakeholders of rural villages claim that village road development is the highest-priority infrastructure in rural areas. Since village development planning focuses solely on infrastructure development to support the rural community's economy, the negative impacts of changing land use have not yet been considered in rural development.

(4) Emergence of shrinkage in metropolitan areas of China

Yao and Zheng(2016) analyze annual rice prices during 19th Century with the Error Correction Model(ECM) and find the Japanese market was more integrated than in China at both the regional and national levels. The findings support the view that a well-integrated market is a cause as well as a result of economic growth. They give us the difference between these countries as a precondition.

It is becoming more popular to enjoy gardening activities in suburban areas of Japan and this is partly because of the decline in population and the increase in vacant land. In this context, allotment gardens are likely to be used as a means of transition from growing cities to sustainable cities. Ye and Yoshida(2019) analyze users' behaviors and evaluations of four existing allotment gardens in Beijing. According to the analyses, Ye and Yoshida conclude that the users' evaluations about the provision of farm tools, seeds, and fertilizers, as well as sanitary facilities have positive impacts on an allotment garden's overall evaluation.

Otsuka and Chen(2017) examine the role of women as professional caregivers in the transitional period of the policy for the care of the elderly by comparing the relationship between family caregivers and professional caregivers in Denmark and China from the perspective of social networks. They conclude that, in China, the local communities do not play an important role and the burden on the family members of the one-child generation is very severe.

These studies show the new emergence of shrinkage in metropolitan areas of China and we should carefully watch and discuss the expansion of such a new phenomenon of developing countries.

3. Result and Perspectives

Through the discussions of the three-year research project “Redefinition of Asian Urban Theory through Policy Science” by the Asia-Japan Research Institute of Ritsumeikan University, we have identified four main aspects as new phenomena of Asian cities. The key concept of “Shrinking cities in Japan” is now reaching its limit for further discussion and facing a shift to the next stage. In the context of economics, polycentric governance and mutual local cooperation are needed in shrinking cities and it's important for us to compare and discuss the common features to enhance the competitive advantage of the private sector. Indonesia and China are separately entering into new stages of urbanization as developing countries and they are experiencing the first step towards shrinking or smart cities. The concept(s) of smart and shrinking cities is meaningful in this context and would be the core concept of the redefinition of Asian urban theory.

Selected List of Publications

- Ashardiono, F. 2018. Protecting Japanese Tea Growers from the Devastating Effects of Climate Change: A Terroir Based Ecosystem Approach for Rural Development, Policy Science Association, RPSPP Discussion Paper, No.34
- Hadi, R. P., & Yoshida, T. 2017. Analyzing the Relation between Ojek and Land Use Factors; Case Study Urban Areas of Sukabumi Regency, Indonesia, Journal of Policy Science, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.24/2, pp.101-116

- Hadi, R.P. & Yoshida, T. 2018. Study on Motorcycle Dependency of Factory Workers in Low-Income Cities: Case Study of Sukabumi District, Indonesia, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.25, No.2, pp.85-102
- Hattori, K., Kaido, K., Yoshida, T., & Matsuyuki M. 2018. Shrinking Planning in the Historical Planning Context, Round Table 69, 18th International Planning History Society Conference, Yokohama Information Culture Center, 18th July 2018
- 飯田未希 (2018.3) 「パーマネント報国と木炭パーマ —なぜ戦時中にパーマネントは広がり続けたのか」榎一江編『戦時期の労働と生活』法政大学出版局、pp.295-323
- 石川伊吹 (2017) 「ダイナミック・ケイパビリティ論の企業家論的展開の課題とその解消に向けて：Harperの企業家論を手がかりに」経営学史学会編（文眞堂）経営学史学会編（年報第24輯）
- Kishi, M. 2017. *A Study on the Possibility of Using ESG Investments in Promoting Living Wages: A Case of Activities of Share Action in the U.K.*, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.24, No.3, pp.373-393(in Japanese)
- Kosugi, T. 2018. Trends and Perspectives in the Analysis of Residential Photovoltaic Deployment for Urban Areas, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.25, No.23, pp.223-240(in Japanese)
- 水谷利亮・平岡和久 (2018) 『都道府県出先機関の実証研究：自治体間連携と都道府県機能の分析』法律文化社 (2,3,6,7章)
- 森裕之 (2017a) 「民主主義が生きるアメリカ：拮抗力の視点から」『経済』263号、pp.53-60、2017/08
- 森裕之 (2017b) 「大阪の政治とまちづくり」『建築とまちづくり』465号、pp.6-11、2017/08
- Mori, H. 2017c. Reconstructing Local Public Finance Theory: Communitarian Perspectives, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.24, No.3, pp.309-330(in Japanese)
- Mori, H. 2018. Significance and Necessity of Critical Policy Think-Tank, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.12, pp.3-8
- Otsuka, Y. & Chen, L. 2017. Who are Care Workers for the Elderly? A Cross-national Study on the Roles of Women in Denmark and China, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.24, No.3, pp.221-233(in Japanese)
- Saeki, Y. 2017. Basic Strategy of Local Procurement for J-Suppliers, *Journal of Asian Management Studies*, Vol.23, pp.45-57(in Japanese).
- Sakurai, M. 2018. *Who is disaster volunteer? Activity principles and the individual characters in Japan*, The 13th International Conference of the International Society for Third Sector Research, VU Amsterdam, 10th July 2018
- 高村学人 (2017a) 「過少利用時代からの入会権論再読 —実証分析に向けた覚書」『土地総合研究』25巻2号 (2017年春号)、pp.40-68、2017/06
- Takamura, G. 2017b. Legal Control on Business Improvement Districts in San Francisco: Observational Research on their Organizational Behavior, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.24, No.4, pp.127-137(in Japanese)
- Tsay, S.C. 2017. The Current Condition of the Environmental Public Interest Litigation in Taiwan:Focusing on the Civil Litigation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Law, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.24, No.3, pp.265-292(in Japanese)
- Yao, K. & Zheng X. P. 2016. A Comparison of Market Integration in Nineteenth-Century China and Japan, *Australian Economic History Review*, Vol.56/3, pp.246-271, 2016
- Ye, M. & Yoshida, T. 2018. A Study on the Locational Distribution of Allotment Gardens and Its Impact Factors in Osaka Prefecture, *Journal of Policy Science*, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.25, No.2, pp.103-125
- Ye, M. & Yoshida, T. 2019. Users' Behaviors and Evaluations of Allotment Gardens -An Empirical Research of Four Allotment Gardens in Beijing, *Urban and Regional Planning Review*, Vol.6, pp.1-21
- Yoshida, T. 2017. Patterns and Concepts of Suburban Development in Metropolitan Areas of Japan, In: Kadono, Y.; Beilein, A.; Polivka, J.; Reicher, C. (Eds.): *Maturity and Regeneration of Residential Areas in Metropolitan Regions - Trends, Interpretations and Strategies in Japan and Germany. city & region, vol. 2.* Dortmund, pp.1-13, 2017/05

- Yoshida, T., Pettit, C., Vardon, V., Lorenz, L., Hiraoka, K., Miyazaki, H., Kim, E. M., Suzuki, K., Ng, Mee Kam., Pushkarna, N., and Nagano, S. 2018a. Smart Cities, Plenary Session, Meridian 180 Global Summit, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 17th June 2018(Oral Presentation)
- Yoshida, T. 2018b. Data Availability as a Challenge for Analyzing Suburban Interrelations in Metropolitan Context, Growing Bad? The Sub-Urban Housing Challenge. International Scientific Symposium on Built Environment and Urban Design with Workshops on Housing for Planners and Researchers, Aachen, Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development in Germany, 6th September 2018(Oral Presentation)
- Wijaya, Y. A. & Ishihara, K. 2018. The Evolution of Community-driven Development Policy and Community Preferences for Rural Development after the Enactment of Village Law 6/2014: A Case Study of Indragiri Hulu Regency, Riau Province, Indonesia, Journal of Policy Science, The Policy Science Association of Ritsumeikan University, Vol.25, No.2, pp.45-69

Selected List of Research Funding/Grants(in Japanese)

- 桜井政成（代表）科研費〔挑戦的萌芽〕『地域の「受援力」概念構築と応用可能性に関する総合的研究』（2018年～2020年）：2018年度：1,690千円（直接経費：1,300千円、間接経費：390千円）
- 岸道雄（代表）〔科研費基盤（C）〕『障害者雇用の促進に関する公共調達・入札制度の国際比較研究』（2018年～2021年）：2018年度：650千円（直接経費：500千円、間接経費：150千円）
- 蔡秀卿（代表）科研費〔基盤C〕『東アジアにおける行政法の基本原則の意味と具体化に関する比較研究』（2017年～2019年）：2018年度：1,170千円（直接経費：900千円、間接経費：270千円）
- 高村学人（代表）科研費〔基盤C〕『パネルデータ分析による入会林野近代化法50年の総括：過少利用時代の入会権再考』（2017年～2020年）：2018年度：1,690千円（直接経費：1,300千円、間接経費：360千円）
- 吉田友彦（代表）科研費〔基盤C〕『インドネシア大都市の低層住宅地における居住者の就業地と通勤特性の分析』（2016年～2018年）：2018年度：1,300千円（直接経費：1,000千円、間接経費：300千円）
- 吉田友彦（分担）科研費〔基盤B〕『シュリンキングシティにおける空間変化と計画的対応策の日米欧比較研究と提案』（2015年～2018年）：2018年度：4,160千円（直接経費：3,200千円、間接経費：960千円）
- 森裕之（代表）科研費〔基盤A〕『アスベスト災害・公害の予防・補償・救済と国際的連関』（2015年～2017年）：2017年度：6,760千円（直接経費：5,200千円、間接経費：1,560千円）
- 鄭小平（代表）科研費〔基盤C〕『日本と中国の内生的な地域経済成長と地域間経済格差に関する理論的・実証的研究』（2014～2017年）：2017年度910千円（直接経費：700千円、間接経費：210千円）
- 佐伯靖雄（代表）科研費〔若手〕『次世代自動車の開発・生産におけるオープン・イノベーションと脱コモディティ化の両立』（2014～2016年度）：2016年度1,040千円（直接経費：800千円、間接経費：240千円）