

A Study of Stability Mechanism of the Public Policy System The System Stability Models from the View of the System Output Continuity

Takashi NISHIDE

The purpose of this research is to show a stability mechanism of a public policy system empirically. This public policy system is a system that converts public problems into the policy as a solution. By considering that the public policy with the incrementalism idea is important for establishment of the better relationship between people and governments, this research discusses the stability of the public policy system as that condition. In this discussion, the stability of the public policy system is considered by focusing attention on the system output. That is, the stability of the public policy system is operationally conceptualized as the continuity of the public policy that is the output of the system.

In this research, the stability mechanism of the public policy system is analyzed empirically by applying cases of four municipalities; Joyo City, Yamashiro-cho, Ujitawara-cho, and Ide-cho in the southern part of Kyoto Prefecture. In the process, three stability models; 'Administrative Control Stability Model', 'Overconcentration Stability Model' and 'Multipolar Deconcentration Stability Model' are presented. 'Administrative Control Stability Model' shows the stability mechanism that keeps the public policy continuity in usual administrative operation in municipalities, and 'Overconcentration Stability Model' and 'Multipolar Deconcentration Stability Model' show the stability mechanism when a municipality frames are changed by the synoecism.

The Chapter 2 shows more details about the stability mechanism of 'Administrative Control Stability Model'. In the discussion, it focuses on the frames of planned administration as a mechanism of the public policy continuity in usual administrative operation. This analysis shows concretely that the public policy can be kept continuously when the comprehensive plan controls the municipal administrative operation stably and incrementally. This stability model is important as the stability mechanism of the public policy system in usual administrative operation. However, when the municipality frames are changed by the synoecism, this model can't be applied. Therefore, in the synoecism, the 'Overconcentration Stability Model' and the 'Multipolar Deconcentration Stability Model' can keep the stability of the public policy system.

The Chapter 3 shows more details about the mechanism of the 'Overconcentration Stability Model'. The model tries to keep continuity of the public policy without changing the structure of a current policy system even if the municipality frames are changed. The structure of the existing policy system is an Overconcentration System Structure where a single public policy is executed to one municipality. If the Overconcentration System Structure is continued when the municipality is restructured, the public policy of each municipality will be integrated into one. The 'Overconcentration Stability Model' shows a possibility that the continuity of the public policy is maintained, when such integration of the public policy takes place. This analysis simulates the policy of 176851 patterns in four municipalities, and it presents the most continuous policy pattern. However, the model makes it impossible to keep the essential continuity of the public policy, because its model assumes the integration of the public policy. Therefore, this model is temporizing.

In the Chapter 4, it is discussed that the stability mechanism of 'Multipolar Deconcentration Stability Model' can keep the essential continuity of the public policy in the synoecism compared with

'Overconcentration Stability Model'. This stability model tries to keep the stability of the public policy system by the Multipole Decentralized Policy System. This public policy system multipolarizes the system output in accordance with the change in the regional structure of the municipality when the municipality is restructured. By regional decentralized allocation of the policy function, the public policy is optimized for each region. As a result, the public policy of each region is kept continuously. This analysis shows concretely its allocation of the policy function based on the regional Policy Weight. Because this stability model is not assumed the integration of the public policy, the continuity of the regional public policy is kept essentially.

However, it is necessary to verify whether the model is applicable further, because the Multipole Decentralized Policy System is a mechanism newly presented through the analysis of the change of regional structure in the synoecism by this research. Although the mechanism of the 'Overconcentration Stability Model' is temporizing, this model is realistic, because its stability mechanism maintains the structure of existing system. If the stability model is unreal, and even if the mechanism of the 'Multipolar Deconcentration Stability Model' can keep the essential stability of the public policy system, it is not a useful model. Then, the Chapter 5 verifies whether the model is applicable from the view of the attitude of people. Concretely, the relation between the people's attitude of future development and the people's attitude of the regional cooperation is analyzed by using of the attitude survey that conducted in Ide-cho in 1999. The results of the analysis show possibility that people accept the Multipole Decentralized Policy System by the system design suitable for the direction of the people's attitude.

As a result, the stability of the system has been discussed in usual administrative operation up to now, but the stability of the public policy system has not been discussed when the municipality frames are changed by the synoecism. Although the stability of the public policy system is important in usual administrative operation, its stability is also important when the municipality is restructured by the synoecism for the relation between people and the government. This research has shown three stability mechanisms concretely based on the empirical analysis. With the mechanism of these models, it will be possible to maintain the incremental public policy that became a condition for better relation between people and the government.