

A STUDY ON PLANNING METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING LOCAL PUBLIC FACILITY IN THE DECLINING SOCIETY

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Japanese society is in decline because of its hyper-ageing and declining population. This study developed a two-section planning method for optimizing local public facilities in a declining society.

The first section is an ideal planning method for care facilities supporting elderly people living in local communities. It addresses urban, community, and facility scale issues, which are important for developing community-integrated care systems based on “ageing in place” being the ideal scenario. Part one outlines a location planning method of providing care to the elderly based on research about their living environment. Part two shows models of local living environments for the elderly. Part three discusses the relationship between activities for the elderly and the available space in the care facility.

The second section presents a plan for restructuring existing system of facilities in a society with a declining population. This method is for optimizing the scale and location of the existing facilities according to decreasing demand. It is different from the established facility planning method, which corresponds to increasing demand under a developing society. For the planning method of local facilities, each section is arranged according to a “plan, do, check, and action” (PDCA) cycle, which would be further developed.