A series of studies on reorganizing of social relations for community continuation under highly mobile society

Yoshito YAMAZAKI
Professor, Toyo University

This thesis aims at identifying a methodology that can help reorganize social relations in order to ensure the continuity of rural communities. The goals of this study are:

1) to involve people who influence the rural community and who have temporary human relationships and move regions,
2) to reorganize people’s relationships with local lands and places in the rural community, and
3) to induce generational change to inherit the rural community.

The thesis has compiled the findings of 6 chapters and 13 published papers. The first chapter is a general discussion, and the remaining five focus on different arguments.

The thesis clarified the following results as the methodology indicated above:
1) to help supporters of the rural community identify the community environment by “understanding the principle” and “continuing the partnership;”
2) to localize supporters in the community gradually by “reorganizing the communality;”
3) to “enhance the involvement” to the community environment of both the supporters and the residents of the community; and
4) to increase the temporal continuity, by “residences trading” that suit people in different stages of their lives.

The thesis highlights the germination of a new social planning theory in the field of architectural rural planning.