Regional Planning System

Hijikata M[*]

Faculty of Social Sciences, Waseda University, Japan

[*]**Corresponding author**: *Masao Hijikata, Faculty of Social Sciences, Waseda University, Japan, Tel: 03-3203-2597, Fax: 507-284-9744, E-mail:* hijikata@waseda.jp

Commentary

I am interested in social design research field. Especially I have been focusing on regional planning system in information society. The main objective of regional planning is designing the better place and space by introducing new social value to the region.

Regional planning process is very complex system including group or organizational decision processes and communication systems. Last five years, I am trying to develop the seamless information system which supports the decision process between the residents and the local authority for developing the resilience plan in Kesennuma where attacked by big tsunami five years ago.

Through my experiences, I realized that on one hand the residents are living in the meaning world based on their daily lives and socio cultural regional characteristics. But their perception and information to the region is fragmented. On the other hand the central government establish the abstract value and realize it efficiently through the bureaucratic system by the vertical and functional operations. As a result conflict situation emerge naturally when designing the resilience plan to the region. The primitive question arises that who should make the initiative to make a plan and to realize it.

The residents should integrate fragmented information and create their own plan for designing their better place and space by collaborative discussion at first. Then the local authority should fill the gap between the residents' plan and the public policy and plan. There are still so many problems around the designing region.

Especially in information society, data, information and local knowledge are disclosed through mass media and Internet. In this new social situation, designing an information management system for regional planning becomes relatively very important. And I hope that creative scientific communication becomes more active and new theory should be created in academic field.