

A Comparative Research on the Construction of Inclusive Housing Support Models for the Housing Poor in Japan and South Korea.

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[SYNOPSIS]

In this research we want to elucidate the “housing and living needs” of those residing in housing poverty as they are currently in need of new social support measures. We therefore examine and evaluate the effectiveness of housing support measures in both countries by focusing especially on measures that make use of potential private housing and human resources instead of existing facilities and systems. The purpose of this research is to set out the importance of composite housing supports as an inclusive support housing model and its issues. For this research we have decided to comparatively consider the “publicly acquired private housing for singletons project”(South Korea) and “Support for Homeless starting an Independent Life in Communities Project”(Japan), which are both composite housing support projects managed on a public-private basis as a part of homeless support measures. Both projects share the same concept of the composite support model of Europe and America, which prioritizes housing, and we have found that it can be highly valued as a comprehensive system that can tackle the diversification of its service users. This also means that the majority of the service users as well as the support staff members are positive about the sustainability of these projects. Most of the service users are economically weak and have eventually through a accumulation of various disadvantageous processes in their life experienced homelessness, which is the extreme form of social exclusion. Therefore, they should not just be divided into several categories based on individual needs, but should be compositely supported in the form of “housing + services”. The results of these projects show that many of the users have become independent again, showing now a strong will to employment and sustain their living, and succeeding in reestablishing contact with their families and society in general. What have made this possible are not just merely the housing supports but also the framework of a support system that corresponds to the detailed living needs from the moment a user starts living in this type of housing. From these findings we can bring forward the following new issues. What is needed is: ①a clear-cut project evaluation and the implementation of a sustainable project, ②the creation of a diverse housing support menu that matches the users’ needs, ③the development of support services that are not limited to categories.