

# Expansion of New Landscape Concept and Creation of Landscape Value

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## [ SYNOPSIS ]

In 2004, Landscape Law was enacted. Although this has led to a certain beneficial effect on landscape maintenance in historic cities, the poverty of landscapes in Japan was yet to be solved. How to deal with this problem was the mission imposed on city planning researchers. The Lifescape that reflects the activities of people's daily lives is the closest scenery to citizens. Lifescape has a great importance, where it includes not only something visible but also accumulation of local history passed from generation to generation as well as the local culture created based on the local history.

Recently, more studies are focusing on vanishing landscape from livelihood in Japan. Rediscovery and reevaluation of the Lifescape that could not be grasped with the conventional aesthetic landscape theory and elaborate morphology analysis on urban spaces are now attempted throughout country.

The landscape plans under preparation throughout Japan strongly tend to put an emphasis on grasping panoramic landscape structures and ensuring landmark views. Landscape businesses are limited to maintenance and restoration of the landscape of partial spaces. However, there are only a few activities to restructure the entire landscape from the developed partial spaces, and experiences are not accumulated sufficiently. Now it is required to reorganize the entire picture, of cities and communities with a broad perspective to foster a number of Lifescape.

The following is a summary on value improvement of Lifescape from a perspective of social capital.

### **1) Value improved by connecting people**

The Lifescape is the standard of the social networks that connects the citizens and observers, or people in the past, present, and future. The value of the landscape is improved through human connections.

### **2) Value improved by reality of lives**

The government, administrations, markets, and companies cannot be an alternative to provide the Lifescape. The Lifescape is provided by citizens, and thus, improved through the reality of their lives.

### **3) Value improved by accumulation**

The Lifescape becomes able to express regional characteristics and enhance its value by being accumulated in terms of space and time, but the value is rapidly lost if the interrelation is disconnected.