Possibility of a workshop for sharing information about vacant spaces to promote socio-spatial fluidity of cities facing population decline

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[SYNOPSIS]

To promote cooperation of local communities for utilization of vacant spaces including vacant houses, vacant lots, and abandoned agricultural land, this study selected Ogoto village, Murakami, Niigata as the targeted site, and it is surveyed how vacant spaces have been increasing owing to population decline and whether the spaces can be utilized or not referring their management conditions.

The results of analyses in the chapter 2 show that the smaller a house is, the more likely to become vacant it is. In addition, management conditions of vacant spaces vary particularly according to their age and job types of families belonging to them. Furthermore, the results of analyses in the chapter 3, which focus on degree of place attachment and acceptance of migrators, indicate that those who usually cultivate their agricultural land or forest tend to be attached to their houses and neighborhood and willing to join voluntary activities of their community.

The results above suggest that raising cooperation of local communities to share information of peripheral vacant spaces should require following three key elements: promotion of spatial activities using agricultural land and forest, equipment of an online application with an intuitive and easy-to-use interface, and activation of interchange of people and products within and without the neighborhood. Considering the state of COVID-19 pandemic, we are going to accumulate investigation and discussion for establishing close connections with various stakeholders.