Community and Human Development through Learning at Kominkan

Regional Development Policy and Community Centers

Healthy Life Extending Urban Matsumoto
1 The Outline of Matsumoto City Community Centers (Philosophy and Characteristics)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Population</strong></th>
<th>242,263</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Households</strong></td>
<td>101,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Area</strong></td>
<td>978.8 km²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population Aging Rate</strong></td>
<td>25.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Industry</strong></td>
<td>Commerce, Electric machinery, Foodstuff, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(As of July 1, 2014)

**National heirloom, Matsumoto Castle**

**35 Civil Townships based mainly on previous Town/Village areas**

Former Matsumoto High School

Kamikochi Mountains
1—2 Communities in Matsumoto City

Construction of Community

Chiku-Chokai Joint Association

“Chiku”-based Decentralized autonomy

City-Town Joint Association

Chokai member households: approx. 80%

Base unit

Tonarigumi (10,766)

Chokai (493)

Chiku, or Township (35)

- Jr. High Area (22)
- Elementary School Areas (30)
1–3 Community Centers in Matsumoto City

Location in close neighborhoods (35 Centers in 35 Townships)

Council

Central Community Center

Community Center

Local Community Center

Cooperation Coproduction

Affiliated Groups in Townships

Chokai / Community Centers
Children’s Association
Hygiene Council
Health Promotion Committee
Welfare Worker
NPO’s / Citizen’s Groups etc.

Five Committees

Steering Committee
Community Center Journal Editorial Committee
Library Committee
Culture Committee
P.E. Committee

Affiliated Organizations

Fukushi-Hiroba in each Township
Schools, Social Education Institutes etc.

Residents
1. In a close neighborhood,

2. Having a strong belief in “Initiatives of Residents, Support by Administrative Authorities,”

3. Tackle a wide range of regional challenges

4. Through coproduction by residents and staff, and

5. Create learning opportunities for Community Development and implement them.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In the 1970’s</th>
<th>Community Center Argumentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1971 Community Center Scheme (The 1st Master Plan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1976 Centralize or allocate around the area (The 2nd Master Plan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1981 Allocated in close neighborhoods ≪22-Center Plan≫ (The 3rd Master Plan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>⇒ Previous village-based Chiku, or Townships, and Community Centers Neighborhood based Principle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In the 1990’s</th>
<th>Fukushi-Hiroba, or welfare program, in each Township</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1993 Matsumoto City Plans for Aged People’s Health &amp; Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1994 Recommendations on the Promotion of 29-Hubs for Welfare Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 1995 Chiku Fukushi-Hiroba, or Township-based Welfare Program was established.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>⇒ Unification of social education and regional welfare Community Centers for Welfare</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In the 2010’s</th>
<th>Policy on Community Development Promotion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 2011 “Community Development Division” was established in the Citizens’ Environment Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 2012 “Community Development Action Plan” was prepared.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 2014 “Community Development Centers” were opened in all Townships.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>⇒ Learning, regional welfare &amp; development Community Development Centers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 Policy on Community Development and Community Centers
The Future City Image of Matsumoto City

Matsumoto, as a City that Extends a Healthy Lifespan

Health of Life
- Lifelong learning
- Sports
- Culture
- Art
- Interaction
- Community
- Human rights
- Child-raising
- Urban Foundation
- Welfare
- Disaster-Prevention

Community Development
- Health of education / Culture
- Health of the area
- Health of Environment
- Health of people
- Health of economy
- Nature
- Energy
- Transportation
- Tourism
- Industry / Economy
- Architecture
- Reduction of the effects of the environment
- Medical care
- Health care
The Background - Why Community Development?

Changes in socio-economy

Regional Challenges increase and become complex
- Keeping eye on those in need of assistance
- Mutual support in case of a disaster
- Supermarket shortage, etc.

Conversion to an interconnected society
- Diluted human relations
- Indifferences to activities in the communities
- Non-affiliation in the neighborhood associations
- Shortage in human resources to take the roles of officers, etc.

Re-acknowledgement of mutual support in the community
- Human relations going with the times, rather than reverting to the past

Reconstruction of Communities – The need for Sustainable Community Development
2-4 The Outline of Community Development System

- **Community System**
  - Loose-knit Consultative Body
    - Various Bodies
    - Chokai-Associations
  - Community Development Plans per Township

- **Administration System**
  - Problem-Solving Team in the City Office
  - Community Development Division

- **Community Development Centers**
  - Fukushi-Hiroba Branch Offices

- **Cooperation / Coordination**

*Community Development Centers were established in all townships in April, 2014.*
The Community Center is one of the bodies that constitutes the center (at the same time, an independent body using uniqueness and expertise).

※ Ensuring and making use of the residents’ voluntary learning
### 2-6 Community Center’s Challenge

**How to Relate “Learning” to “Community Development”?**

#### As the Hub for Comprehensive Community Development

- Review community life from a comprehensive perspective – not from “points” but as an “area”
- Transcend “education / culture” oriented activities – Venture into new fields

#### Question “Learning” at a Community Center

- Regional problems increase in number and complexity – Learning for ”solution” rather than just presentation or edification
- Cooperation/coproduction with other departments and bodies that have not been closely related
- The reality of low birth rate and aging population – foreseeing the community of next decades

#### Make Use of Learning Outcome

- Regional management based on the lives of residents – Community Development Plans of the Townships
- How effectively can learning at Community Centers be connected with policy (Connect the views of residents with policy)
3 Community & Human Developments, Characteristic of Matsumoto, Promoted by Community Centers
The Project of the Education Ministry “The Support Program for Activating Social Education based on Community Centers”

The Project of “Community & Human Developments, Characteristic of Matsumoto, Promoted by Community Centers”

For the creation of “The Sustainable Healthy City, Matsumoto”
A comprehensive course for studying municipal/regional challenges and six themed courses

Practices in 2013: Seven courses (a total of 39 lectures) with 1,285 attendees
Human Development for Forming a Sustainable Mature Society and System Development for Problem Solving

A comprehensive course for the creation of “The Sustainable Healthy City, Matsumoto” and six themed courses

From learning to actual practice
Learning at Community Centers as the center of Community Development

Policy forming based on "community" and "life"

<Spread philosophy of Community Center widely across general administrative services>