

Briefing on Session Meeting etc.

◆Session Meeting Report



Kashihara City “Community Development”

HIURA, Yasuo Chief, Imaicho Town Scenery Preservation Office,
Lifelong Learning Division, Kashihara City

On July 28th a session meeting was held in Kashihara City under the theme “Community and Regional Development” with Mr. Kenichi Goto as a lecturer. Participants from four prefectures and eight municipalities took part in the meeting. After a presentation on examples of vacant house utilization projects in the Imai Town Traditional Architectures Preservation District in Kashihara City and on-site study, participants were divided into four groups to exchange opinions.

As a vacant house utilization example, Kashihara City presented a situation where vacant houses are used as an afterschool care facility, medical university guest house, and also as an in-town medical hub based on the MBT (Medicine Based Town) concept (community development based on medicine).

Based on the presentation of examples in Kashihara City, during the opinion exchange session topics including securing funds for community development, the establishment of fiduciary relationships with local groups and residents, and various issues regarding community development were discussed.

To start, regarding securing funds, an example of utilizing resident participation funds for community development was introduced by a participant. Some opinions include that the nation’s first project will generate great publicity and can expect to receive support from the Japanese government. The lecturer advised us that a nation’s first project can be strategically implemented as there are no precedents to compare with.

Next, in regards to establishing fiduciary relationships with local groups and residents, a participant introduced an example where employees who work as conduits between administrations and municipalities are located in each area. The lecturer noted that continuously keeping an optimum distance with them and having conversations and interactions with them will help promote smooth community development.

As for general issues regarding community development, participants said countermeasures against vacant house have become diversified due to the decreasing birthrate and aging population in addition to regulations in each area. Also, tourism spending is slumping as tourists do not stay in the area long enough. The lecturer advised that what is important regarding the vacant house problem is not that the house should merely be occupied but that it is important to sort out the problems of the entire community and cooperate with the Japanese government and prefecture as to how much the appeals of each region can be enhanced.

Finally, the lecturer said that it is first necessary to change the awareness of the residents in order to support community development activities using regional resources. It is important to build a system to continue the activities, such as drawing out the desires to take on challenges as well as and ideas from residents. It is also essential to promote community development with global value and global strength in mind, which are the keywords for community vitalization in the 21st century. Through the presentations of the projects and opinion exchange, the lecturer summarized that issues that communities face and solutions are different from region to region but that the connections between “people and people” and “community and community” are important in promoting community development.

OUTLINE

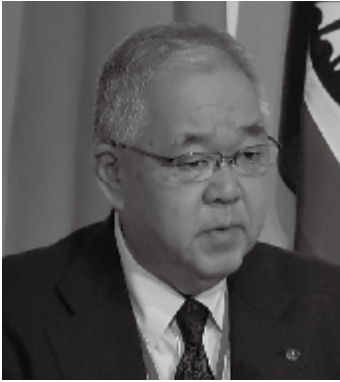
- **Date** 10:00 am – 4:30 pm, Thursday, July 28, 2016
- **Organizer** Kashihara City (Co-organized by Nara Prefecture)
- **Venue** Imai Machinami Exchange Center “HANAIRAKA” , Kashihara City
- **Participants** Shizuoka Prefecture, Mie Prefecture, Wakayama Prefecture, Nara Prefecture, Nara City, Tenri City, Kashihara City, Gose City, Ikaruga Town, Asuka Town, Koryo Town, Shimoichi Town



at the fieldwork



at the exchange of opinions



Shaanxi Province "Tourism Session"

TSUJIMOTO, Hiroshi Director General, Tourism Bureau, Regional Development Department, Nara Prefecture

From October 18th through 20th, a subcommittee meeting was held in Xi'an City, Shaanxi Province in China with the main theme of "Work Together to Share the Prosperity of East Asian Tourism". Fourteen regional governments from five countries participated. This is the first time a session meeting was held outside of Japan.

In this keynote lecture, Dai Bin, president of China Tourism Academy, presented a lecture on "National Vision and Local Responsibility of East Asian Tourism Community". Jeon Young Chan, chief delegate of the Korea National Tourism Organization in the Xi'an Office, also gave a presentation on the "Now and Future of East Asian Tourism". Yang Zhongwu, director of Shaanxi Provincial Tourism Administration, spoke on the theme of "Ushering a New Era of Cooperation in East Asian Tourism".

Following this, representatives from each regional government gave presentations on "Share of Opportunities for Prosperity of East Asian Tourism" and "Seeking the Real Support of Local Tourism Cooperation". Discussions on the presentations followed.

At the end of the session meeting, a tourism cooperation initiative by East Asian local governments called the "Xi'an Consensus", which was formed by Shaanxi Province, was launched. Xi'an Province concluded that regional governments in East Asia have only just become aware that tourism plays an active role in community development and regional development. They would like to develop tourism in East Asian regions together.

OUTLINE

- **Date** Tuesday, October 18 – Thursday, October 20, 2016
- **Organizer** Shaanxi Province, China
- **Venue** Wyndham Grand Xi'an South Hotel (Xi'an City, Shaanxi Province, China)
- **Theme** "Work Together to Share the Prosperity of East Asian Tourism"
 - ① Share of Opportunities for Prosperity of East Asian Tourism
 - ② Seeking the Real Support of Local Tourism Cooperation
- **Participants**
 - (China): National Tourism Administration, China Tourism Academy, Shaanxi Province, Beijing City, Inner Mongolia, Shandong Province, Xi'an City, Luoyang City, Dunhuang City
 - (Japan): Kagawa Prefecture, Nara Prefecture
 - (Korea): Xi'an Office of Korean National Tourism Organization
 - (Malaysia): Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board
 - (Thailand): Thailand-China Tourism Association



◆Report on Related Forum



Shizuoka Prefecture “East Asia Regional Forum on ‘Food and Agriculture’”

HOSOYA, Katsuhiko

Division Director, Agriculture Strategic
Division, Economy and Industry Department,
Shizuoka Prefecture

Following the purpose of the “East Asia Provincial Government 3 Agriculture Forum” held in Chungcheongnam-do Province, Korea last year, the “East Asia Regional Forum on ‘Food and Agriculture’” was held in Shizuoka Prefecture from October 28th to 30th. Many of the members of East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress participated.

Rice farming rooted in the monsoon climate has long been developed in Japan, Korea, and China. In this regard, those countries have a lot in common. Furthermore, they share issues such as decreasing farming population and the globalization of diet due to a drastic change in society accompanied by economic growth. As modern issues that surround food and agriculture we picked three themes: “collaborations between food and agriculture”, “interactions between cities and farming villages” and “the sixth industrialization of agriculture”. After a keynote lecture by Professor Shoichi Shogenji from Nagoya University Graduate School and a panel discussion by Shizuoka Prefecture Governor Kawakatsu, Chungcheongnam-do Governor Ahn and Department of Agriculture of Zhejiang Province Director Cai Yuan Jie, eleven project examples in total were presented by local and regional governments and agriculture workers from each country.

For instance, as the birthplace of farming culture, Ningbo City, Zhejiang Province in China—a metropolitan city with a population of 7 million and a 7,000-year-old history—offered a presentation about the sixth industrial revolution of agriculture. Therefrom we learned that the sixth industrial revolution is one of the major agricultural policies of Chinese local governments. The presentation introduced the way how food companies and farmers have uniformly worked on cultivation management while ensuring safety and reliability through contract farming and so on.

The goals of the sixth industrial revolution by Ningbo City, such as doubling the income of farming village residents, fostering tourism agriculture and agriculture-related industries, have much in common with policies of regional governments in Japan. Many of the project examples regarding collaborations between food and agriculture, a healthy life expectancy, and interactions between cities and farming villages are common to Japan, Korea and China. We re-acknowledged that sharing information is beneficial for the development of agriculture in these three countries.

OUTLINE

- **Date** Friday, October 28 – Sunday, October 30, 2016
- **Venue** GRANSHIP, Shizuoka Convention and Arts Center, etc.
- **Organizer** Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture
- **Participants** Japan : Shizuoka Prefecture, Nara Prefecture, Yamanashi Prefecture, Kagawa Prefecture, Kumamoto Prefecture, Gunma Prefecture, Diet members from Shizuoka Prefecture, agricultural groups, farmers, etc.
Korea : Chungcheongnam-do Province, Korean Embassy in Japan, Korean National Food Cluster Support Center, Agricultural Groups, Farmers, etc.
China : Zhejiang Province, Wenzhou City, Hangzhou City, Ningbo City
- **Languages** Japanese, Korean, and Chinese
- **Themes** ①Collaborations between food and agriculture as well as health and longevity
②Exchanges between cities and farm villages
③Sixth industrialization of agriculture



General Session

Chairman's Report



ARAI, Shogo Governor of Nara Prefecture

○ Hosting the 8th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

This congress has been held for the 7th time, and session meetings about agriculture and tourism have been held outside of Nara. Today, I have an announcement to make.

It has been decided that the 8th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress will be held in Chengdu City, Sichuan Province, China on May 10 and 11, 2017.

I would like to request that many people, including the heads of local and regional governments, participate.

Presentation by the 8th Congress's Host Government



GAO, Jianjun Deputy Secretary General, Chengdu Municipal People's Government

I am very happy to have met you all here in beautiful Nara. As a representative of Chengdu City I would like to extend my hearty congratulations on your hosting a harmonious meeting.

Since joining the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress in 2015, Chengdu City has deepened its exchanges with and understanding of other communities. I would also like to continue these exchanges to further advance cooperation. As Chairman Arai declared a few moments ago, I would like to announce that the next 8th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress will be held in Chengdu City in Sichuan Province, China from May 10th to 11th in 2017.

For your better understanding of the city, I would now like to talk about Chengdu City. Chengdu City is the provincial capital of Sichuan Province, with a population of 16 million people. The city boasts a long history. The name of the city has not been

changed for more than 2,300 years. The city is known as the "city of abundance" and is the home to the pandas. It also features the Dujiangyan irrigation system, a World Natural Heritage Site.

The city was selected as the best sightseeing site and a city of gourmet food by the United Nations World Tourism Organization. It is an open, international city and its influence on the international scene is rapidly expanding.

As of July 2016, Shuangliu International Airport already had 91 international flights which connect to 76 cities around the world. We have a policy where no visas are required for visits lasting less than 72 hours. A new airport is currently under construction and is slated to open in 2020. That will make Chengdu another city, along with Shanghai and Beijing, that has two international airports.

Sixteen countries, including Korea and Singapore, have established consulate offices in Chengdu City, and the city has sister city relationships with seventy-one cities around the world. Since the year 2000, Chengdu City has joined many international organizations, such as the League of Historical Cities, the Union of Scientists and Engineers, and allied organizations around the world and regional governments. 278 companies out of the Fortune Global 500 have bases in Chengdu City.

Furthermore, Chengdu City is an innovative city, which has 46 national-level universities and research institutes, and is a base for automobile, bio, IT, and petrochemical industries. In 2015, the GDP of Chengdu City was 1.08 trillion Chinese Yuan and had 7.9% growth and is still growing by more than 7.0% as of September of this year. The World Bank picked Chengdu City as a city that is most suitable for investment in inland China. In addition, Forbes Magazine ranked the city as one of the top 10 fastest growing cities in the world. Fortune Magazine declared Chengdu City the best city for business in China.

Chengdu City is presently globalizing in Asia and Europe and promoting further development to become the core, innovative city in China.

Lastly, I would like to thank you for giving us this opportunity and am looking forward to seeing you all at the Congress in May next year.

Representatives' Press Conference



ARAI, Shogo Governor of Nara Prefecture

Forty local and regional governments from six counties participated in this year's 7th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress.

This meeting was a meaningful one in which lively discussions took place on the themes of "Community and Regional Development", "Development of Agriculture and Regional Economy", and "Promotion of Measures against Declining Birthrate" with Mr. Kenichi Goto, Mr. Kosuke Motani, and Mr. Shigeki Matsuda as lecturers. Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka, an emeritus professor at the University of Tokyo, presented a keynote lecture as well.

I am pleased to announce that the 8th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress will be held in Chengdu City in Sichuan Province, China, a city other than Nara for the first time, from May 10th to 11th in 2017. Chengdu City is a lively, historic city and I am very happy that the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress can be held in such a city. I would like to express my gratitude to personnel in Chengdu City who made this possible.

The meeting this year became a place for practical discussions in which common issues were acknowledged and countermeasures which might be the key to solving the problems were shared. I would like to seek cooperative and collaborative projects so that this meeting turns into something progressive.

I would like to sincerely thank everyone for coming all the way to Nara and participating in lively discussions this year.



Chengdu City, China

GAO, Jianjun Deputy Secretary General, Chengdu Municipal People's Government

I am honored to have been able to participate in the meeting here in Nara. I could proactively interact and exchange opinions with officials from other countries as well as have discussions on how to solve problems.

Chengdu City has various problems accompanied by rapid development of the city. There are many things that we can learn from Japan and Korea, which are facing serious population aging before us and have already overcome environmental issues. I could learn city development methods and gain knowledge and various views especially in this meeting.

Nara is a lively city full of history and culture. I am hoping to expand cooperation and friendship between Chengdu City and Nara Prefecture.

I am honored that the 8th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress will be held in Chengdu City. I would like to run as successful a meeting as Nara Prefecture did and then pass the baton on to the next hosting community. I hope to see you all in Chengdu City.



Province of West Java, Indonesia

Ahmad Heryawan Governor of West Java Province

I would like to express my gratitude for your giving me this opportunity. I recognize that East Asia is an important area as it is not only the center of the world economy, but also this area is an invaluable source of human resources and wonderful nature.

I would like to seek advice regarding the promotion of tourism centering on Geo Park that West Java Province is currently working on, and also regarding river purification projects to propel the projects forward.

I believe the significance of such meeting is to implement specific cooperation. I think creating safer, more secure and peacefully coexistent areas through each regional government building cooperative relationships with each other as co-inhabitants of the planet.



Melaka State, Malaysia

Mohd Nasir Sheikh Salim Secretary of Local Authority, Melaka Historic City Council

I would like to thank the people of Nara Prefecture on behalf of Melaka State. I believe the meeting this year was a big success. We could deepen our knowledge and views among each other and think about common issues. We discussed how we could solve those problems and learned a lot from those discussions.

There are many historical assets and diverse cultures and ethnic values exist in Melaka State. On the other hand, I am hoping to develop new tourism resources, such as the Melaka River.

I hope the 8th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress will be successful in Chengdu City.

Remarks from the head of delegation representing participating governments



Chungcheongnam-do Province, Korea

YOON, Jong In Vice Governor

I would like to thank the Governor of Nara Prefecture who hosted such a wonderful meeting. Nara, the birthplace of the country of Japan, is where ancient civilizations intersected and gathered. The fact that a regional government congress is held in Nara has a symbolic meaning and I hope the meeting will continue to develop as the exchange of ancient civilizations did 1,300 years ago.

This meeting has practical effects in various ways. It prompts us to cooperate in a wide variety of fields, including community development, agriculture, decreasing birthrate and aging population, and fulfills the areas that cannot be filled at the national government level. This meeting is also meaningful for the fact that we can expect to expand interactions beyond the nations as citizens of the world.

What is important in community and regional development is taking pride in ourselves, showing individuality, and harmonizing with the environment. I learned that there are matters that can be solved by gathering wisdom from regional governments and from working together.



Thua Thien Hue Province, Vietnam

NGUYEN Van Cao Chairman, Provincial People's Committee

We have been participating in this conference since 2011 and I believe this meeting was another success. Through this meeting, I learned about successful project examples and received advice on resident participation and improvement in their awareness. I also learned how regional environmental and climate change measures are affecting life and agriculture. I am interested in the settlement of young people in farming villages and rural areas and how to prevent them from leaving those areas.

Our province is known as a tourism area with various cultural assets, and we focus on the promotion of tourism. We have partnerships with regional governments from multiple countries, including Japan, and we wish to continue working together.

This meeting offered me a great opportunity to meet regional government representatives. I expect this meeting will lead to development in the near future. I would like to thank Nara Prefecture for giving us a warm welcome and would also like to bring the beauty of Nara to the residents of our province.



Niigata City, Japan

SHINODA, Akira Mayor of Niigata City

It is wonderful that this meeting marks the 7th anniversary thanks to the efforts of the Governor of Nara Prefecture. I would like to express my gratitude to him.

During the discussions, I felt all regional governments share the same issues. In Japan, aging farmers and the depopulation of farming villages are critical problems, and it seems like China, Korea, and Vietnam will follow the same path. What should be done to vitalize farming villages was discussed.

It is important to recognize the goodness of agricultural products and consume agricultural products and food in the area (locally produced and consumed) or produce products that can be locally consumed (locally consume local products). In addition, it is important to use wonderful food and produce as a brand to attract consumers for tourism and exchanges. The sixth industrial revolution, which is enthusiastically addressed in all regions, is essential in terms of adding value to agriculture. We had a meaningful exchange of opinions, such as making efforts together to vitalize farming villages and agriculture in combination with turning agricultural products into excellent products and selling them to other regions or overseas (locally produced and consumed outside).

Lecturer's Comment



GOTO, Kenichi CEO of Prot Asia and Pacific Inc.

The local and regional governments who attended the meeting this year were very diverse, as was the case in other years. The participating governments ranged from a city which was created thirty some years ago to a city more than one thousand years old, and from a city with a population of 7,000 to a city with a population of 70 million. Everyone sat together at the table regardless of our differences to find common issues and discuss how we can tackle them.

Environmental issues have been addressed as a main concern in each region, and the words “water” and “rivers” were often mentioned by many participating governments. The natural environment does not only improve residents’ lives, but also can become a tourism resource. The promotion of tourism was also a common theme for discussion.

Furthermore, in regard to promoting change in residents’ awareness of community development, the idea that not only the approaches of the government but also proactive activities by residents are important was also a common issue that was discussed.

I believe local and regional governments being connected with each other beyond various issues will bring a new development to the East Asia region. I think combining the growing power in each region with the experience Japan has will make it possible to create truly ideal communities all over East Asia, which will result in significant achievements from the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress. There should be many things that rural areas in Japan can learn from this. I am hoping this meeting will create such a synergy effect.



MOTANI, Kosuke Chief Senior Economist, the Japan Research Institute, Ltd.

I attended the Congress meetings before, but this time I felt that the state of affairs around the Congress has progressed substantially. Next year, the Congress meeting will be held in Chengdu City, China, outside of Nara for the first time. The objective that Nara Prefecture has been pursuing for a long time will finally be achieved. I think Japanese people should acknowledge and be proud of the fact that Nara Prefecture has made this tenacious effort.

During the keynote speech, it was mentioned that there may be various issues between countries in East Asia, but we have interests in common in that we will be broadly interconnected if each region cooperates with one another. I believe that the representatives of local and regional governments who participated in discussions during this congress had that realization. We recognized that we have many common issues even though our circumstances are different, and so we were able to carry our vigorous discussion in a friendly atmosphere.

Today, we had participants from large-scale farming districts as well as different farming districts, yet our discussion was surprisingly in tune. This is not about how we revitalize agriculture; it is about how we utilize agriculture to revitalize the region. Japan has found in the seventy years after the war that agriculture is an incredibly important tool for revitalization of the region. It was great to know that people in China, Korea, and Vietnam feel the same. I learned a lot and look forward to further development of the Congress in the future.



MATSUDA, Shigeki

Professor at Faculty of Contemporary Sociology, Chukyo University

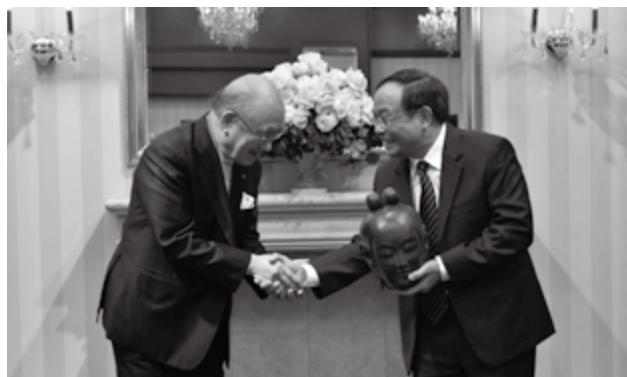
A declining birthrate is a common phenomenon that occurs in developed countries. Asia is now facing the issue as a result of its development. During the discussion, it was recognized that the declining birthrate is a fundamental issue in order for local governments to sustain, and each local government is aware of that. And we shared the recognition that it is a complex issue with diverse challenges, as there are various factors complexly intertwined in the background such as marriage, childcare, and issues about ways of working.

Measures against the declining birthrate are synthetic strategies where local governments will be put to the test of their comprehensive capability, and they require long-term efforts. In addition, developing regional originality will be important to resolve the declining birthrate issue. Because regional originality is a must in order to have people choose their home community where they were born and raised in, and in order to bring in people from other regions. It can be said that it has become the era of competing on childcare support plus regional originality.

There were two memorable keywords as common issues among the participating governments. The first one is that delayed marriages and increased number of people who cannot get married despite their desire to do so are the driving factor of the declining birthrate.

And the second one is that which representatives from Indonesia and China mentioned, which leads in a positive direction. That is the Asian culture of placing importance on family and marriage life. This can be considered as an Asian power that will help break away from the declining birthrate.

Welcome Reception



Commemorative Photo Session



Governor's Banquet



Excursion



Promotion of Nara's "Fuyu" persimmons



Poster Exhibition



Media Coverage

The 7th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress



2016年11月8日(火) 奈良新聞 (朝刊1面)
Nov. 8, 2016 (Tue.) Nara Newspaper (Morning paper P.1)

地域発展へ活発討議

奈良で東アジア 地方政府会合 県内事例も報告

共通する課題について相互理解を深め合う第7回「東アジア地方政府会合」(県主催、総務・外務両省など後援)が7日、奈良市三条本町のホテル日航奈良で開かれ、開会式に続き、首長レベルの約20人による討議などを行った。今回は中国や韓国、インドネシアなど計6カ国40地方政府の代表が参加した。



テーマごとに議論を交わした東アジア地方政府会合
＝7日、奈良市三条本町のホテル日航奈良

「いろんな地方政府と交流を深め、地域発展」のきっかけをつかんでもらいたいと語った。

討議は「まちづくり、地域づくり」「農業と地域経済の発展」「少子化対策の推進」の3テーマで実施。

「農業と地域経済の発展」の討議には中国や韓国、ベトナムの地方政府の代表者のほか、県内の自治体からは奈良市や御所市、広陵町、明日香村の首長が参加。荒井正吾知事も同グループに加わって発言するなど、活発な議論の輪が広がった。

奈良市の仲川元甫市長は観光協会などと連携して食のブランド化を推進していることや、市内の学校給食に地元産品を使用していることなどを紹介した。

2016年11月8日(火)毎日新聞 奈良版(朝刊 24面)
Nov. 8, 2016 (Tue.) Mainichi Newspapers (Morning paper P.24)

奈良 東アジア自治体 行政課題を議論 市内で政府会合 東アジアの地 方自治体が行 政課題を話し合う

「東アジア地方政府会合」が7日、奈良市であった。県主催で今年7回目。日中韓、フィリピン、マレーシア、インドネシアの6カ国40自治体が参加し、地域づくり▽農業と地域経済の発展▽少子化対策――の三つのテーマで議論した。

少子化対策の分科会では、日韓の自治体若者が進学や就職で都市に流出する現状を報告。一方、静岡県は大学教育に特色を持たせるなどの取り組みを示し、天理市はインターネットなどを活用した在宅勤務で育児と仕事を両立している例を紹介した。

紙面編集 北山久美子

【和田明美】

た。一方、明日香村の名誉教授の北岡伸一氏が「東アジアの未来を考える会」と題して基調講演。北岡氏は「東アジアの地方都市同士で抱える問題は共通している。交流を深めて共通問題を解決してもいい」と参加者に呼び掛けた。

2016年11月8日(火) 朝日新聞 奈良版 (朝刊29面)
Nov. 8, 2016 (Tue.) The Asahi Shimbun (Morning paper P.29)

少子化対策など議論

奈良で東アジア地方政府会合

6カ国40自治体首長ら

県主催の「第7回東アジア地方政府会合」が7日、奈良市で開かれた。日中韓など6カ国の40自治体のトップらが参加。まちづくりや地域経済の発展、少子化対策など共通の課題について意見を交わし、それぞれの施策を学んだ。

県出身でJICA理事長の北岡伸一・東大名誉教授が「東アジアの未来を考える」をテーマに基調講演した。東アジアは「世界の成長センター」であり、衝突を避ければさらに発展していくと指摘。「都市の関係は重要。共通の課題に取り

組み、プラスの関係を築くことができる」と述べた。首長ら自治体代表は、3つのテーマに分かれて議論した。「まちづくり、地域づくりに」にはインドネシア・西ジャワ州やマレーシア・マラッカ州などが参加。プロ



記者会見に臨む各国の代表たち＝奈良市三条本町

■参加した地方政府一覧

- 【中国】安徽省、成都市、西安市、宿州市、東營市
- 【インドネシア】西ジャワ州、ジョクジャカルタ特別州
- 【マレーシア】マラッカ州
- 【韓国】京畿道、忠清南道、公州市、瑞山市、慶尚北道
- 【ベトナム】フートー省、トゥアティエン・フエ省、フエ市
- 【日本】山形県、福島県、新潟県、福井県、山梨県、長野県、静岡県、三重県、京都府、和歌山県、鳥取県、徳島県、香川県、奈良県、宮城県多賀城市、新潟市、奈良市、天理市、橿原市、御所市、斑鳩町、明日香村、広陵町、下市町

ットアジアアンドパシフィック社長の後藤健市氏が「地域の個性を住民が認識し、個性を生かしたまちづくりにつなげる」ことが重要」と指摘。6カ国13自治体の代表が、それぞれの取り組みや悩みなどについて意見を交わした。「農業と地域経済の発展」には韓国・公州市やベトナム・フートー省などが参加した。養谷浩介・日本総合研究所主席研究員は「農作物を加工し、ブランド化して販売することが注目されている」と6次産業の可能性を提案。代表らは農家が経営するレストランなどの事例を出し合った。中国・西安市などが参加した「少子化対策の推進」では、中京大の松田茂樹教

授がアジア諸国の少子化に共通する要因として未婚化や晩婚化を挙げた。自治体の結婚支援策にも議論が及ぶ。若者が結婚しやすい環境づくりに力を入れている事例も紹介された。次回(来年5月、中国・

た。成都市で開かれることは大変うれしい」と述べた。(討議の詳しい内容は後日の紙面で紹介します)
(荒井ひろ、市野地)

2016年11月10日(木)読売新聞 奈良版(朝刊 29面)
Nov. 10, 2016 (Thu.) Yomiuri Shimbun (Morning paper P.29)

東アジア連携呼びかけ

奈良で40地方トップ会議

県主催の国際会議「東アジア地方政府会合」が7日、奈良市内のホテルで開かれ、中国や韓国、ベトナムなど6カ国の40地方政府・自治体のトップらが参加。住民の高齢化など地域の課題を話し合った。

開会式で荒井知事が「地域発展のきっかけにしてもらいたい」とあいさつ。基調講演した国際協力機構(JICA)の北岡伸一理事長は「東アジアではナシヨナリズムが激しくなっているが、国家間の衝突がなないようにすれば更に発展する」と述べ、自治体レベルでの連携強化を呼びかけた。

2016年11月21日(月) 朝日新聞(朝刊27面)
Nov. 21, 2016 (Mon.) The Asahi Shimbun (Morning paper P.27)

発展への歩み 奈良から



東アジア各地の地方自治体の代表者が様々な課題を話し合った

農業と地域経済



人口減、「6次産業」に未来

「農業と地域経済の発展」では、中国・宿州市や韓国・公州市など4カ国の計13自治体が地域の活性化のため、農業を生かす方策などを議論した。

進行役は日本総合研究所の藤谷浩介主任研究員。東アジア共通の課題として「人口が減る中、いかに農業を生かしていくか」と述べ、農家が生産から加工、販売まで一貫して手がける「6次産業」の可能性に言及した。

小川氏は「農業と地域経済の発展」では、中国・宿州市や韓国・公州市など4カ国の計13自治体が地域の活性化のため、農業を生かす方策などを議論した。

藤谷氏は「農業と地域経済の発展」では、中国・宿州市や韓国・公州市など4カ国の計13自治体が地域の活性化のため、農業を生かす方策などを議論した。

奈良県橿原市の伝統的な町並みが保存されている今井町地区で7月、「まちづくり分科会」が開かれた。三重県や和歌山県など国内の12自治体が参加した。

江戸時代の建造物が多い同地区では、空き家をどのように活用するか模索が続いていた。調査では行政と住民団体が協力

し、学童クラブや宿泊施設として利用する事例を視察。資金確保のほか、行政と住民の関係づくりなどについて意見を交わした。

参加者からは地域と行政を結ぶ人材の配置や、まちづくりに関わる住民の意識改革の重要性などが課題として挙げられた。

日本、中国、韓国、ベトナム、インドネシア、マレーシアの6カ国40地方政府(自治体)の首長や代表が共通の課題を話し合う「第7回東アジア地方政府会合」(奈良県主催)が7日、奈良市のホテル日航奈良で開かれ、まちづくりや農業、少子化対策について活発な議論を交わした。



「足元にある個性」大切に

参加者からはまちづくりの課題に少子高齢化を挙げる声があったほか、インドネシア・西ジャワ州のアーランド・ヘリヤン知事は、地域が直面している飲み水や川の汚染問題について助言を求めた。また、マレーシア・マラッカ州のモド・ナセル・シェイフサリム歴史都市委員会自治体担当局長は「我々は多民族国家。異なる文化を持つ人々の中で、同じシナリオを描くことができるかが重要だ」と述べた。

一方、今年5月に伊勢志摩サミットが開かれた三重県の横田浩一・雇用経済部副部長は、地域の食文化を発信する取り組みを紹介しながら「一つの地域だけでなく、広域で進められるものもあるのではないか」と提言した。

まちづくり・地域づくり

参加者からはまちづくりの課題に少子高齢化を挙げる声があったほか、インドネシア・西ジャワ州のアーランド・ヘリヤン知事は、地域が直面している飲み水や川の汚染問題について助言を求めた。また、マレーシア・マラッカ州のモド・ナセル・シェイフサリム歴史都市委員会自治体担当局長は「我々は多民族国家。異なる文化を持つ人々の中で、同じシナリオを描くことができるかが重要だ」と述べた。

少子化対策

「少子化対策の推進」には4カ国の計14自治体が参加。現状について報告し、地方自治体ならではの取り組みを模索した。

中国・西安市は、長年続いた国の「一人っ子政策」で少子化が進み、介護問題が深刻になっている。市衛生・計画生育委員会副主任の段重利氏は「現在の子の出産率が緩和されたとしても、子供は少ないほうがいいという文化が根強く残っている」と述べ、産後休暇の拡充などの対応策を説明した。

進行役の松田茂樹・中京大学教授(家族社会学)は、各地の少子化問題に共通する原因の一つに「未婚・晩婚」を挙げた。子育てや教育にかかる費用の負担増などが背景にあることも指摘し、「少子化は地方自治体の核心的な問題。総合的、長期的な取り組みが必要」と話した。

福島県と福井県など、日本の自治体からは婚活イベントなど



未婚・晩婚 働き方提案も

「結婚支援」の報告が相次いだ。香川県はビッグデータを活用し、見合い相手を紹介する事業について説明した。

一方、韓国・京畿道のカン・ギョン女性家族局長は「出会いの場を提供したが、どれほどの効果があるかわからない」と発言。今年から政策の方向性を転換し、雇用創出や住宅事情の改善など、若年層が結婚しやすい環境作りを少子化対策の柱に据えたという。

奈良県天理市は少子化の要因を20・30代の人口流出だと分析。奈良労働局などと協力し、子育て世代が働きやすい環境整備を進めていると説明した。並河健市長は「魅力を感じる場所に住み続け、子育てしてもらえよう働き方の改革も提案していきたい」と語った。

分科会の報告から

静岡県で10月、「東アジア『食と農』地域フォーラム」を開催した。日中韓の11地方政府代表などが参加し、「食農連携と健康長寿」「都市と農村の交流」「農業の6次産業化」を議題にして討論会や事例発表が行われた。

中国浙江省の寧波市は、6次産業化の一環として、食品企業

農業で交流拡大

と農業者が一体となり、栽培や安全管理に取り組む事例を紹介。「農村住民の所得倍増」「観光農業の育成」などを目標として掲げた。

静岡県の担当者は「日本の地方自治体の政策と多くの共通点がある」とし、農業分野での交流拡大を提言した。

第7回東アジア地方政府会合



東京大名譽教授
北岡 伸一氏

国際協力機構（JICA）理事長。国際大学長、国連政府代表部次席大使などを歴任。専門は日本政治外交史。著書に「外交的思考」など。

東アジアは「世界の成長センター」となっている。中東やアフリカのような混乱はなく、難民の直接的な影響がない点で欧州とも異なる。

基調講演

共通課題 互いに成果共有

なる。ナショナリズムの高揚や軍事的膨張を適切に処理し、衝突がないようにさえしていけば、さらに発展していくと考えられる。

東アジアの安定のため、自治体の役割は大きい。国家と比べて機動的に意思決定ができ、住民のニーズをじかに反映することも可能だ。実現できる自治体は中央省庁より感度が高いのだろうと思う。

足がついた外交が可能な点でも、地方と地方、都市と都市との関係は重要だ。（東アジアの）都市には様々な共通課題があり、同じように苦労している。今回の会合でも、少子化の問題が取り上げられている。互いの成果を共有し、一方が損をする「ゼロサム」ではなく、「双方が利益を得る」プラスサムになることが重要だ。「共通の問題を解決する」という切り口をさらに強化し、東アジアの一層の発展につなげていきたい。

来年は中国で開催 奈良以外では初

平城遷都1300年を迎えた2010年、奈良県の呼びかけで始まった。地方に共通する課題を話し合い、交流を深めることで平和で安定した東アジアの発展を目指す。中国、韓国、ベトナム、フィリピン、インドネシア、マレーシア、日本の7カ国・68地方政府が加盟している。次回は来年5月、初めて奈良を離れ、中国の四川省成都市で開催する。



会場では奈良県特産の柿が振る舞われた

◆会合に参加した地方政府（自治体）

- 中国＝安徽省、成都市、西安市、宿州市、東營市
- インドネシア＝西ジャワ州、ジョグジャカルタ特別州
- マレーシア＝マラッカ州
- 韓国＝京畿道、慶尚北道、忠清南道、公州市、瑞山市
- ベトナム＝フート省、トゥアティエンフエ省、フエ市
- 日本＝山形県、福島県、新潟県、福井県、山梨県、長野県、静岡県、三重県、京都府、和歌山県、鳥取県、徳島県、香川県、奈良県、宮城県多賀城市、新潟市、奈良市、天理市、橿原市、御所市、斑鳩町、明日香村、広陵町、下市町

◆この特集は荒ちひろ、市野堀、山西厚が担当しました。