

# JAPAN : DEVELOPMENT OF DEPOPULATED AREAS IN JAPAN

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## The Present State of Depopulated Areas

The population of Japan as a whole grew by large margins during the years of rapid economic growth in the sixties and early seventies that followed the period of postwar economic reconstruction, increasing 24.1% during the 20 years from 1960 to 1980. As part of this process of high growth, however, the population drifted from outlying areas toward metropolitan areas such as Tokyo and Osaka, creating both

overpopulated and depopulated areas throughout Japan. The term "depopulated area" is used here to describe areas where the functions of regional lifestyles and production have deteriorated due to a marked exodus of population. Typical manifestations of this deterioration include a decline in volunteer fire brigade membership and difficulties in financially maintaining primary and lower secondary schools.

In 1970, special legislation (the Emergency Measures for the Development of Depopulated Areas Law) was introduced to cover emergency measures designed to stimulate the development of depopulated areas. This legislation had a time limit of 10 years, and was replaced in 1980 with the Special measures for the Development of Depopulated Areas Law.

Under the new legislation, depopulated areas are defined as cities, towns or villages whose populations have declined by at least 20% according to national census figures over a 15-year period and whose fiscal capability index (standard financial revenues/standard financial needs) has averaged 0.37 or less in three fiscal years. (Under the legislation introduced in 1970, the definition required a population loss of at least 10% in national censuses over a 5-year period and an average fiscal capability index of less than 0.4 in three fiscal years.)

At present 1,155 municipalities have qualified as depopulated areas. They are located in 45 of Japan's 47 prefectures, the only exceptions being Kanagawa and Osaka prefectures. The total population of these municipalities (1985 census) amounts to 8.17 million. This is a mere 7.2% of the national total in population terms, but these areas cover 173,000 square kilometers, or 45.8% of Japan's total land area (see Table 1).

An analysis of demographic trends in these areas reveals major population declines in excess of 10% at each 5-year census between 1960 and 1970. Although the rate of population loss subsequently slowed, 119 municipalities recorded declines in excess of 50% between 1960, when the process of depopulation began, and 1980. The highest rate of decline was 84.3% (see Table 2).

Moreover, a comparison of the population structures of depopulated areas and the nation as a whole reveals a relative decline in the younger age groups and an increase in the middle and higher age groups in depopulated areas due to a long-term outflow of young people. The resulting preponderance of higher age groups is marked, particularly as regards over-65 age brackets, where percentages are substantially higher than national averages.

Economic weakness is another problem in depopulated areas. They tend to lag behind other regions both economically and industrially. Life in these areas also has other inconvenient and unattractive aspects.

## The Fourth Comprehensive National Land Development Plan and the Depopulated Areas.

### 1 Introduction

Development policy on the depopulated area must be constructed on the deliberate investigation of the Fourth Comprehensive National Development Plan introduced by the Central Government in the year 1987. For Japan is administratively so organized as local governments to follow the basic concept and guide lines of area and regional development established and authorized by the Central Government. This does not necessarily mean a local government has no related to her development plan making, rather it just tells the fact that many of Japanese local governments are still on the way to accumulate enough experience, knowledge and able-staffs involved in the plan-making. This tendency is particularly salient among the depopulated type local municipalities.

As a pre-requisite for having quality area-development plan, a depopulated type municipal government must begin with fostering able-planning staff and deliberate investigation of local development concept provided by the Central Government.

Local governments are expected to discharge a lot of activities related to the implementation of the 4th Comprehensive national Development plan newly enacted in the year 1987.

What are required to the policy-makers in the local governments are as follows; (a) to confirm the geological, cultural and traditional location of their local government, (b) to make assessment on the every potential factor that may develop into a dynamic key-factor for the community development, (c) to develop concrete and substantial measures for the implementation of the development of the local government based upon the selected key-factor and (d) to concentrate every financial, personnel and organizational resource on the realization of the development of the government. Selection or rediscovery of the local key-factors such as accessibility to a metropolitan area, acquisition of traditional or historical assets, remoteness from the urban areas, production of local goods, etc., will be the first obligation of planners and policy-makers in a local government.

Anyway every activity of those who are involved in local development must be started from the strict investigation of the Fourth Comprehensive National Land Development Plan.

### 2 Issues of the plan

Draft of the Fourth Comprehensive National Development Plan was proposed to the planning division of National Land Council (Consultative Committee for the Prime Minister) in June 1987. And the plan was finalized in July through the consensus of the Cabinet and reporting to the Houses of Parliaments.

The National Land Agency intended to finalize the draft through minor revision of the plan that was necessary to gain the final agreement from the governmental agencies related to the national land development.

As the tentative draft that was made public in late 1986 was criticized as the one that placed too much emphasis on the redevelopment of Tokyo, the final draft placed more emphasis on (a) the reversion of the present national land development structure that consisted of point concentration to Tokyo and on (b) the formation of diversified and multi-centered type national land structure.

The National Land Agency that is in the first charge on the draft making of the plan had taken that new policy after auditing pro-and-con on the first draft.

Finalizing a plan through improvement of drafts is a common action proceedings in Japan when governments, both central and local, are engaged in plan making.

The main features of the plan are (a) to reverse the point concentration tendency to Tokyo and (b) to place great emphasis on the strategical and intensive development on the local areas. As the substantial policies for the reversal of point concentration to Tokyo, the draft is proposing (a) dividing and sharing of the international functions, business functions, research and development functions among all local areas, (b) promoting the relocation of the central agencies from Central to Local Area, (c) promoting the location of newly-planned cultural and research facilities outside Tokyo Metropolitan Area, (d) retaining new fund for the development of social capital that necessitates, new tax imposition on the business located in the central part of Tokyo.

### 3 Underlying Concept of the Plan

The 4th Comprehensive National Development Plan aims at the formation of diversified and multi-centered type national land where will exist a lot of local areas that all have peculiar local functions and also where no excessive concentration of population and functions will be seen and areas will be communicating each other supplemented and influenced regionally and internationally.

The diversified and multi-centered type national land is made from a nationwide network of regions duplicated in function each other. The Settlement Area for the Better Human Habitation (Teijuku) becomes the basic unit for each region. Tokyo Region, Kansai Region (Osaka and Kyoto Region), Nagoya Region and the region that makes a local metropolitan city as its core are connected each other and engage in the technical, cultural, educational and sightseeing development of each region cooperatively.

To oppress the excessive concentration of various urban functions and also to enhance their decentralization to local areas successively, the dispersal and relocation of industrial functions from the metropolitan areas to the local areas

must be continued. Some of the central governmental agencies and their branch offices which can execute in function relatively independent way, must be also relocated to the local areas. Facilities newly established for culture promotion and multifarious research promotion, in case their functions are nationwide, must find their places outside Tokyo prefecture.

New policies that precipitate local location of the offices, that increase importance according to the increasing dependence of Japanese economy on servicing industry, must also be considered.

In this connection, to develop the social capital that is vital to improve the urban environment the suppression of sharp land price rise brought by the internationalization and coming of the informative society and the new investigation of the adequate financial imposition of the offices located in the core part of the metropolitan areas.

#### 4 New Policies

National land must be developed as an adequate place for safe and pleasant human activities. And the development must be promoted, paying full attention to conserve the greens and clean water of the national land that are full of seasonable changes, within the present 20 century, when Japan still retains enough vigorous energy compared to the coming 21st century when Japan is anticipated to suffer various side effects of the aged society.

New policies must be considered related to the full consideration to the conservation of natural environment that consists of conservation and multiutilization of forest, rivers, lakes, seashores, coastal areas, territorial sea, conservation of historical environment and planning-oriented large scale earthquakes defense policy. And the vitalization of each locality based upon each local peculiarity. Those local peculiarities are needed for the realization of the better environment for the human habitation. Substantial plans must include the development of each area from the viewpoint of the regional and world-wide scale human communication networking and the improvement of the living environment of cities, agrarian and fishing villages. Implementation of these plans must be promoted, paying full attention to value the local initiative through regional and international development and through the development of area features and also through the creation of adequate living environment both in cities and villages.

Revitalization of local areas, under the drastic change of the industrial structure and the accelerated unification among first, secondary and tertiary industry, require the promotion of new industries such as 1.5 industry, industries related to research and development, information, knowledge and human resources development. Together with the improvement of the infrastructure for the better living environment, implementation of the new policies for local vitalization as the

promotion of sightseeing and recreational industries is needed.

Alongside the creation of main corridor of the national territory, the local area vitalization is advancing steadily. Construction of the traffic networks that carry achievement in the developed areas and vitalization of the communication based upon those networks have to be utilized for the construction of diversified and multi-centered type national land.

In this context, strengthening of the inter-block communication networking and also the strengthening of the international traffic function are vital issues. Therefore, the development of the traffic infrastructure, based upon the consideration of the merit and feature of each traffic measure, must be progressed from the comprehensive and well-planned standpoint of view. The development of information and communication networking has increased its importance.

Considering all of these factors, the 4th Comprehensive National Land Development plan has been proposing as its main policies for the realization of the plan, (a) construction of the safer and environmentally better national land, (b) development of the local area, full of local vigor and excellent living environment, (c) industrial development for the realization of new affluence, (d) development of the traffic, information and communication systems for the realization of better human habitation and communication.

- (1) Creation of the Local Area for the Vigorous and Pleasant Human Activity
- (2) Promotion of the Local Area Construction conserving the Local Features
- (3) Area-oriented Construction of Local Area

For the realization of diversified and multi-centered type national land in the 21st century, each local area, as a constituent of the national land, must engage in the development activity, paying full consideration to unique local features. Therefore, it is important to promote the utilization of geographical, historical conditions and the local resources peculiar to the area.

- (4) Discovery and Development of the Local Features

For the creation of the local area with rich local features, each area must set on the strategic planning. Such strategic planning, considering the future vision of the area and local issues, includes development of high-technology, construction of peculiar urban view, promotion of international communication and inter-area traffic development and the related policies will be implemented comprehensively.

In this connection, to add to the development of various facilities, utilization of such non-physical policies as event promotion, creation of human communication networking and vitalization of public relations activities and promotion of participation of such various groups as local residents, enterprises and private bodies will be useful for the effective realization of the planning. The central government must play sizeable role in discovery of new theme, proposal and

introduction of information and in technical and financial assistance for the tentative implementation of new policy.

- (5) Improvement of the Living Environment Responsive to Regionalization of the Human Activities •
- (6) Comprehensive and Unified Improvement of the Living Environment

The role of cities as the center for economic activities will increase importance. Also provision of various urban services and provision of job opportunities related to merchant activities, culture, education and medical activities by cities will become furthermore important particularly in each region for human settlement (Teijuken) as the area for fundamental unit for human activities. On the other hand, agrarian and fishing villages, as places of daily activity and productive activity for farmers and fishermen, are also expected to play bigger role, to add to their important role of preserving national territory and natural environment, in the provision of the places for contacting nature and roomful living space.

Urbanization of Japanese living way in the background, provision of better access to both various urban functions and relaxation must be accelerated to respond to the growing needs for urban type services of the people including non-urban area dwellers and also to respond to more advanced and various needs for having more access to nature and relaxation. To achieve this purpose, unified and comprehensive development of regions for better human habitation such as provision of urban in cities, improvement of urban residential environment, utilization of local resources in agrarian and fishing villages, improvement of rural residential and productive conditions and the development of traffic, informative and communicative infrastructures must be implemented steadily and strenuously.

- (7) Regional Communication between Urban and Non-Urban Areas

Regional communication between urban and rural areas must be promoted through the enlargement of communication possibility and enlargement of people's activity zones. Through positive communication more relaxed and enriched life of the people and increase of vitality and creativity must be established. The activated inter-area communication will also play key roles for the establishment of new and mutual relationship between urban and rural areas. Realization of this concept deeply depends upon the development of traffic, information and communication networking that enables utilization of research and development function and utilization of accumulation of information functions even to those who live in non-urban areas.

Improvement of resort areas for prolonged stay, where urban residents can warm their close relationship with the nature, must be enhanced. The administrative promotion will be accelerated owing to the enactment of Large

Scale Resort Area Development Act of May 1987.

5 What the Depopulated Areas Learn From the Plan

The plan is providing the depopulated type municipal governments with favourable conditions. First of all, the plan emphasizes more positively the necessity of depopulated area development and proposes various concrete suggestions such as resort-area development for the area. Some of those proposals initiated by the plan will also work good for the area promotion.

However, the plan's more important feature must be found its definition of the "character of the present or age." The plan says the present is apparently tending to move more favourable to the local areas by all means and the depopulated type local governments are of course among the number. Apparently human sense of value is showing much more variety than before. Human society is aging. Advancement of high-technology is offering new possibility to the local areas. Among these significant changes, development of information system and transportation system must be made particularly much of by their overcoming the physical distance of those depopulated areas from the metropolitan areas.

The great change of human consciousness may give new value to the depopulated areas from the viewpoint of the comprehensive human living environment. Development of technology will afford depopulated type governments with chance of conquering their unfavourable conditions when they are engaged in making better comprehensive human-living environment and in establishing local industries. In the present "Age of Competitiveness among the Local Governments," it is no less important for a depopulated type local government to catch and react most appropriately to the trends and policies proposed by the plan than to develop her own original area development plan as a completely creative local product by the hands of the abled local government staffs.

Development Policies-Courtermeasures

Measures introduced under the Special Measures for the Development of Depopulated Areas Law are being implemented on a planned and comprehensive basis at the national, prefectural and municipal levels. The specific procedures involved are as follows.

Depopulated area development guidelines are drawn up at the prefectural level and used as the basis for local development planning by individual municipalities in the depopulated areas. These municipal activities are supported by development plans formulated by prefectural governments on the basis of the same guidelines (see Appendix 1) . These guidelines and plans all cover 5-year periods.

The following measures are typical of the types of action implemented under depopulated area development guidelines and development plans.



The large number of depopulated communities located in sparsely populated regions, mountainous areas or isolated islands urgently requires road construction measures on the part of national and local bodies. Emphasis is therefore placed on road development programs, including the paving and widening of existing roads. In addition, a special system has been set up whereby prefectural governments are responsible for the construction of key roads in local municipalities.

The amalgamation of primary and lower secondary schools is also important. This step is taken in cases where it has become difficult to maintain schools due to the sizable decrease in the number of school-age children. In some areas, however, amalgamation is impractical because of geographical or other considerations, and schools must continue to function even if they are of very small scale. In these cases, steps are taken to improve the quality and content of education.

A third consideration is the maintenance of firefighting capabilities. Efforts are being made to improve mechanical efficiency through the provision of pump vehicles and other equipment to counter possible deteriorations in firefighting systems due to the declining availability of volunteer fire brigade members.

Another vital area is the maintenance of adequate medical services. Many communities within depopulated areas lack local physicians, and various measures are being implemented to deal with this problem, including the construction of medical treatment facilities, the provision of patient transport, the introduction of regular medical visits and the stationing of district nurses.

The measures described here represent a small sample of the projects that are now underway. Other governmental activities related to the improvement of depopulated areas range widely from the construction of public facilities to the promotion of industry. The central government is cooperating through the provision of fiscal and financial assistance and preferential treatment under the investment tax system (see Appendices 2 and 3).

#### Better Future for the Area

##### 1 Introduction

In many respects the depopulated areas lag behind not only metropolitan areas but other less populated areas as well; however, they also offer many benefits not available elsewhere. For instance, their residents enjoy rich and varied natural surroundings and living spaces with interesting possibilities. Other examples include valuable regional resources, highly significant traditional and historical assets, and warm and friendly customs. The rediscovery and reappraisal of the attractions and merits of these features and their incorporation in regional development policies have been accorded fundamental importance in efforts to overcome the problems of depopulation.

For the population increase, for instance, policies must be developed and

implemented based upon the following realities.

Recent national census reveals that the depopulated municipalities with increased population are those that have succeeded in locating of the industrial facilities, re-vitalization of local industries, improving the traffic condition.

Some municipalities increased their population as the result of becoming the Suburban cities of some neighbouring core cities. It must be noted, in every case, population increase is brought by the migration of the young people. Vitalization of the depopulated area will be realized not only through the acceleration of return of once migrated young people to their native town but through the migration of such urban dwellers as pension lodging owners, artists, applicants for new agrarian business etc.. Policies for the stable and settlement of so-called U-turn people and the newly migrated must be (a) to accumulate such urban conveniences and attractiveness as shopping function etc., and (b) to increase job opportunities through the industrial promotion. To answer the former request, development of an urban cluster that functions as a nucleus urban spot for the depopulated type municipality must be accelerated.

## 2 Promotion of the Native Products

As a step in this direction, communities are being encouraged to develop their own regional industries. This includes the production of unique products based on local resources and/or skills and also the creation of new industries. A variety of regional industries have already been established in a number of areas. A particularly well-known example is Tokachi Wine, produced in the town of Ikeda-cho in Hokkaido Prefecture. Other food industries include wine production in the town of Ohazama-machi in Iwate Prefecture, pickling in the town of Yamakawa-machi in Kagoshima Prefecture, and plum and chestnut production in the town of Oyama-machi in Oita Prefecture. Showa-mura village in Fukushima Prefecture now engages in Karamushi-ori, a kind of ramie weaving, and a wood-craft industry has been established in the town of Tsuyama-cho in Miyagi Prefecture.

Promotion of native product that sells regionally means the discovery and invention of value-added goods that are made from native materials. To add to such value-added profitable agricultural products as mushrooms, rare fresh vegetables and fruits in mountainous areas, various fish and meat products, hams and sausages, noodles are increasing their percentage whereas pickled vegetables, fermented soybean paste are decreasing their percentage. This tendency shows product that need more skill and technology for their production are gaining relative success. It must be also noted, as symbolically expressed in the phrase, "To produce native good is one thing, to sell it is quite another". Successful native products will be brought as a result of deliberate and comprehensive policy to make for them. First of all Native products must satisfy following conditions.

- a . They must have standardized and excellent quality. Improvement in the productive process of the native products and technique used for their production may answer to this request. Technical advice and guidance by the experts of prefectural and local governments will be useful to improve the situation. Financial assistance by prefectural or municipal governments to build a facility for cooperative working or training for the local working men can also be an answer when the facility is really in use by the local people.
- b . Advertisement and marketing for the sale promotion of the native goods must be enhanced by co-jointly effort of prefectural and municipal governments. A prefectural government is more influential than a municipal government and usually is much more instructed of such practical matters as having a large scale sales basar of native products in metropolitan areas, making contract with an airplane company for direct transportation of local goods from the capitol to the metropolitan markets.
- c . Stable provision of native products is a pre-requisite for prosperous sales of the native products. The Age of Industrial Competitiveness among the local governments necessitates the stable provision of local goods through investment on the renewal of facilities, improvement of technique and adequate distribution system. Also financial assistance through public loan system or special loan system co-jointly managed by a municipal government and private financing corporations will also supplement this request.
- d . Raw materials for native products must be developed and must be enough provided. Regarding the development and sales of the local products, we must understand that it covers an important side of the area re-vitalization through the promotion of local productive activities and through promoting positive and creative thinking of the area people. However, not the least important is to look for new possibility for the area development based upon the deliberate consideration of the coming new age.

### 3 New Prospect is Being Opened for Depopulated Areas' Industrialization

As well expressed in the Fourth Comprehensive National Development Plan of 1987, each area both urban and rural is requested to take an initiative in its area development. The plan, based upon the concept of construction of the dispersed, multi-center habitation pattern of national land and also based upon policy for accelerating the construction of human intercommunication networking, may be said to have assigned the responsibility of local area development from the Central Government to local governments. Promotion of the local industry must be also considered in this context, that is, each local government must do its utmost to win, so to speak, the local industrial promotion competition particularly in the development and utilization of local resources and local features. Coming of such new industries that depend upon bio-technological, highly informative, or

highly electric technology facilitated local areas to participate in the race for industrial location of those industries on condition that the areas have adequate access to highway interchange or local airports. New industrial products, because of their high value addedness, needless raw materials and are less in weight and, consequently, the access to the market both domestic and foreign has only secondary significance compared to that of heavy and chemical industries in old days.

The acceleration of the location of new industries heavily depends upon whether a local government can provide the following conditions, to add to its traditional type cooperation for the businesses, to the businesses such as (a) adequate access to highway traffic or local airport, (b) attractive living environment for the personnels who work for local business, (c) enough urban type conveniences to the business and their employees etc.

#### 4 Promotion of Sightseeing and Resort Going Industry

Promotion of sightseeing and resort-going activities enlarges the promising-prospect of local industries not only through the promotion of tertiary industry but also its first and 1.5 industry (industry that adds new value to the agricultural products). Many depopulated type municipal government are expecting their local products to increase their sales combined with and inspired by the promotion of its sightseeing and resort-going activities. Not all of the depopulated areas can be qualified to the resort areas. In response to the increase of time for leisure activities and the increase of leisure activity population, only those municipalities that can successfully satisfy the following requests can be the winner in the competition for the resort area construction and sightseeing promotion.

a . They must have enough and quality lodging space that satisfies visitors of comparatively long-term staying. This is particularly important for the tendency moving from sightseeing of short staying type to resort activity type staying.

b . The area must have enough attractiveness for the urban dwellers, for today is the age of urbanization.

Not only those natural environment as excellent mountainview, seview, clean air etc. but also their comprehensive human living environment must be excellent. Lodging facilities with hight modern conveniences will be preferred by the urban dwellers. Present urban dwellers are more getting to like to engage in such creative participative type activities as sports, local events, crafts making and other local goods production etc.. How to attract urban dwellers to the area greatly depends upon how appropriately a local municipality can answer to these requests.

c . Resorting area promotion must be constructed not only based upon natural resources but upon the local tradition and event activities.

Even a depopulated municipality not blessed with natural condition may successfully make up for its demerit by inventing a unique local event and can have enough local charm for the urban-dwellers.

Several successful examples already exist in Japan. Toga village in Toyama prefecture has won world-wide publicity through its summer season "International Drama Festival" and Yufuin town in Oita prefecture is well-known by its summer season "Movie Festival". Examining these successful cases, we can summarize their secret for success as follows.

- a . They began their event activity as a small scale local event and expanded its scale after they had enough confidence of its future prospect.
- b . Innovative and creative concept of the initiators (usually young staffs of the local government) was positively adopted by the mayors. In event planning and resorting area construction, so-called newness and uniqueness are most important factors to beat down the followers and imitators.

Creative policy is urgently need for all the depopulated municipalities.

- d . Cooperation with private business is becoming a booming policy for area development. Business incentives both in management and investment will be an effective way to accelerate development of resorting area. However, such cooperative relation with private business as establishing joint-venture must be introduced after completing every means to retain public control over the activities of the semipublic enterprise.

Another important step toward exploiting the attractive features of the areas is the promotion of exchanges with cities and other areas. The nationwide process of urbanization has deprived a growing proportion of the Japanese people of the emotional roots of a rural birthplace. In Japan, the notion of rural origins conjures up images of beautiful mountains, rivers and so on, all of which can still be found in depopulated areas. This suggests another possible role for these areas as places where the people of major cities could find tranquility and peace of mind. A number of areas have already established "hometown" systems involving regular exchanges of visits with people living in the big cities. Many schools and other organizations also organize regular opportunities for city children to mingle with their country counterparts through such activities as study trips and school camps.

A role must also be found for the historical and cultural assets of the depopulated areas. One example is the Tsumagojuku area of the town of Nagiso-machi in Nagano Prefecture, which has developed a successful tourist industry through the restoration of a historic post-town.

## 5 Conclusion

It will be necessary to experiment with a variety of measures in order to

revitalize the depopulated areas. The most fundamental element in these efforts will be independent initiative and imagination on the part of the people of these areas. Above all residents must raise their community consciousness and strive to achieve improvements through their own efforts.

Other important considerations for contemporary planners include the provision of adequate transportation system, especially for children and the aged, in areas where rail and bus services are being phased out, and the cultivation of active and fulfilling community roles for the aged, who represent a rapidly growing segment in the demographic structures of depopulated areas. We must also turn our attention to new issues, including the utilization of advanced communications systems to enhance the convenience of regional life and provide proper administrative services. Each of these issues must be approached positively according to the particular circumstances of each area. It is especially important that reference be made to the wisdom and determination of regional residents in finding solutions to the problems involved.

Table 1. The Status of Depopulated Areas

Category	All municipalities	Depopulated areas	Ratio (%)
Number of municipalities	3,255	1,151	35.4
Population in thousands (1980 census )	117,060	8,392	7.2
Area in km <sup>2</sup> (Geographical Survey Institute 1982)	377,748	173,077	45.8
Population density (persons per km <sup>2</sup> )	310	48	—

Table 2. Distribution of Municipalities by  
Population Decline Ratio Grouping

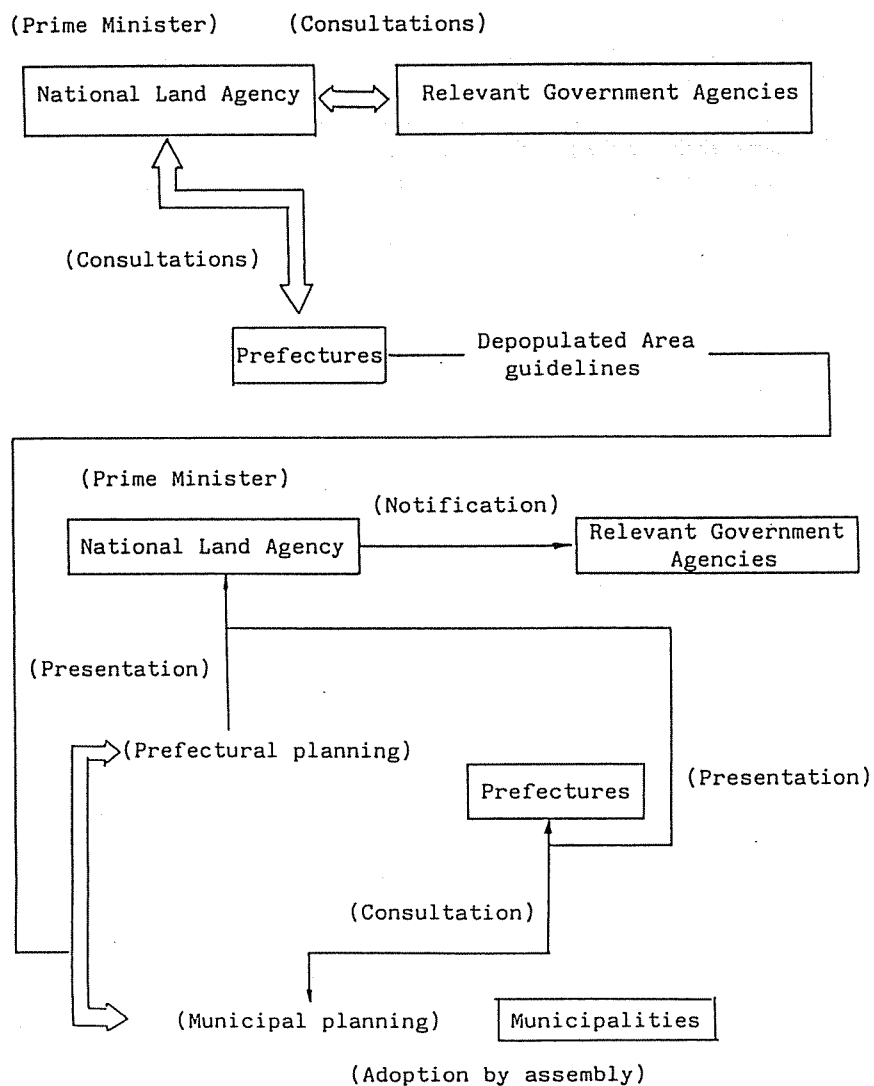
Population decline ratio(1960-1980)	Number of municipalities
Not less than 80%	1 ( 0.1%)
Not less than 70% but under 80%	6 ( 0.5%)
" 60% " 70%	36 ( 3.1%)
" 50% " 60%	76 ( 6.6%)
" 40% " 50%	210 (18.3%)
" 30% " 40%	375 (32.6%)
" 20% " 30%	410 (35.6%)
under 20%	37 ( 3.2%)
Total	1,151 (100 %)

Note: 1. Based on national census statistics  
2. Figures in parentheses represent percentages of total.



Appendix 1

Formulation of Depopulated Area Development Guidelines  
and Local Development Plans Depopulated Areas



Appendix 2

(1) content of Development Plans for Depopulated Areas

- 1) Items relating to basic development policies
- 2) Items relating to establishment of transportation and communications systems
- 3) Items relating to the provision of educational and cultural facilities
- 4) Items relating to the provision of welfare facilities such as those for the aged and facilities to enhance living environments
- 5) Items relating to the provision of medical services
- 6) Items relating to the promotion of agriculture, forestry and fisheries and other industries
- 7) Items relating to the improvement of communities

(2) Expenses for Works Carried Out under the Previous  
Five-Year Development Plan for Depopulated Areas

Item	Prefecture (¥billions)	Municipalities (¥billions)	Total (¥billions)
1. Establishment of Transportation & Communications Systems	2,464.2	2,168.2	4,632.4
2. Establishment of Educational and Cultural Facilities	34.0	1,114.8	1,148.8
3. Provision of Facilities to Enhance Living Environments and other Facilities for Public Health and Welfare	54.4	1,157.8	1,212.2
4. Establishment of Medical Services	49.9	94.3	144.2
5. Development of Industries	1,332.0	1,420.6	2,752.6
6. Improvement of Communities	0.1	12.6	12.7
7. Miscellaneous	—	84.3	84.3
Total	3,934.6	6,052.6	9,987.2

Appendix 3

(1) The Structure of the Special Measures for the Development of Depopulated Areas Law

