

# STUDY FOR NOT PROGRESSING ‘LOCAL WOOD USE IN HOUSE CONSTRUCTION’

**-With an approach of local wood use in Shiga Prefecture-**

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*Key Words: Local wood use, Wooden houses, Wood distribution, Network activity, Woods produced by prefecture unit*

## 1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

Nearly 67% of Japan’s land area is Forest. About 41% of this are planted forest that need maintenance. However, recently efficient wood use at the planted forest is not conducted. The other hand, wood is reviewed as building material for house construction. There are some activities for local wood use. But actually the activities are not progressing (Photo-1). Why isn’t that progressing? The study objective is to grasp and analyze the current situation, and know the reason.



Photo-1 Forest not maintained properly in Shiga Prefecture

## 2. CURRENT SITUATION FOR LOCAL WOOD USE IN HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

Presently forest management is unprofitable and forest is not maintained properly. The demand of domestic wood is slightly growing, but the supply of it does not respond. People’s needs for wooden houses are high. Individual activities and establishment of the system are needed for domestic wood distribution.

## 3. APPROACHES OF THE COUNTRY

Approaches of the country are variously implemented. The way to approach depends on the leader of the activity as builder, lumber producer or architect office. They have something in common like regional wood use in the prefecture, cooperation between various industries and tour for wooden houses. Their three points are the features of the activities.

## 4. AN APPROACH OF LOCAL WOOD USE IN COMPANY A, SHIGA PREFECTURE

In the case of Shiga prefecture, regional wood use in the prefecture is carried out with the structure of wood distribution like Figure-1. They used the local government-subsidized project. And the lumber producer, the builder and the architect motivated for local wood use cooperated.

## 5. CONCLUSION

The reasons for not progressing about local wood use for house construction are the high price of local woods than imported woods and that the structure of local wood distribution is not established. This situation is the same for Shiga prefecture. It is required to address these many issues.

The structure of local wood distribution In Company A

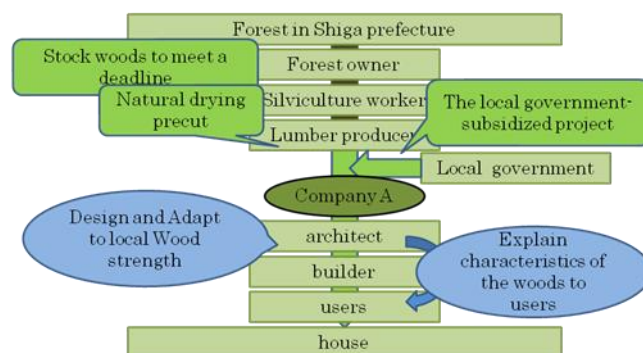


Figure-1 The case of local wood use in Company A, Shiga Prefecture