

Research on regional and corporate cooperation for effective utilization of farmland

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1. BACKGROUND

Around the mountain and hill area in Japan, the function to manage the rural resources have declined because of the depopulation and aging, and it has made the abandoned field increasing. That makes more impact into their life in there, as well as the depletion of food self-sufficiency. Because of the aging of the farmers to manage the farmland, increasing the farmers is urgent issue as it's impossible only for the conventional way to do the management by agricultural producers' cooperative corporation and agricultural committees like as it was before.

As consolidation of municipalities resulting in the expansion of governance, it's made it difficult for the administrative officers to do the governance precisely. On the other hand, deregulation of the agriculture land law increases the number of the corporate entry into agriculture. Moreover, the intermediary institution which has the function to accumulate the farmland was founded in each prefecture from 2014, and that encourages the corporate entry into agriculture. The present issues are the withdrawal of the corporate and bad effects on the local production and distribution, while the corporate entry is expected as an important role to invigorate the local communities as useful powers for local agriculture.

2. PURPOSE AND METHOD

This study aims to clarify the outcome factors of utilization of farmland by regional and corporate collaboration including the mediators which is defined as the actor that adjusts the intention of both region and corporation. I selected two different systems of cooperation, "the case 1" of maintaining the regional area (Kyoto-model-farm) and "the case 2" of creating the business (Kigyo-farm), selecting one case example in each. Then, I carried out the interviews and an investigation with the relevant documents.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In "the case 1" of maintaining the regional area, there are the outcomes of helping to manage the crops the farmland and development to the rice distribution under the cooperation among the corporation: Kyoto-Cooperative, the mediators of Kyoto-Model-Farm, and the region: Sodeshi. the mediators of Kyoto-model-farm took a role to make the consensus building between the region and the corporation of the high sociality, and that should be the factor to do nice activity resulting in the outcomes.

In "the case 2" of creating the business, There are outcomes of increasing the utilization of farmland inside and outside the area under the cooperation among the corporation: Mitsubishi-Estate, the mediators of NPO of Egao-tunagete, and the region: Masutomi. NPO of Ego-tsunagete took a role to manage the farmland and to make a network for business between the region and corporation of the high business property, and that should be the one of the most success factors.

4. CONCLUSION

The factors of outcomes in both case 1 and case 2 are initiative activities by the land management agencies before the cooperation with the corporation, and the mediators who making the consensus-building and partnership strengthen between the corporation and the region to make most of outcomes from the corporation.