

# A STUDY ON THE SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE OF LOCAL AREA FOR WIND FARM BUSINESS IN JAPAN

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*Key Words: Renewable energy, Wind power generation, Social acceptance, Environmental conflict, Consensus building, Adjustment of interest, Local community*

## 1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTS

Although promoting renewable energy is desired, there are various problems such as loud noise in local area with the spread of renewable energy. So we need to cope with that problems. It is necessary to solve the conflict between renewable energy and the local community and to find a better relationship between them. Therefore, there are some previous research about social acceptance such as Baba(2005) or Maruyama(2014). However, there are no effective framework to analyze the social acceptance in the previous research. In addition, there are no case study that focus on the process after conflict occurred. In this research, focusing on the wind power generation project, we will create the analysis framework to understand social acceptance of local area for the renewable energy, and clarify the all of the process between conflict occurred and solved by examining the results of case study and previous research.

## 2. METHOD

The figure 1 is the analysis framework created by this research based on previous research. In the case study, we carried out literature survey about environmental conflict of H town in Japan. After that, interviewed to some of stakeholders in the H town. Based on them, we clarified the process of conflict and how to solve it.

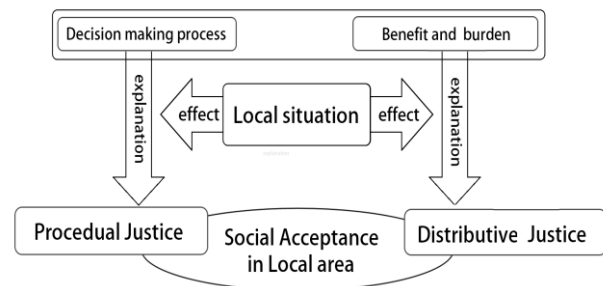


Figure 1: Analysis framework

## 3. RESULTS AND CONSIDERATION OF CASE STUDIES

In the case study in H town, we couldn't find serious legal violations by businesses except for some point. However, there are some problems related to procedural and distributive justice and wind farm caused the health damage for residents. Therefore, some residents object to the wind farm project and conflict was occurred. On the other hand, the local government hold the readjustment process for the company and residents to solve the conflict. After readjustment process, they got the consensus to restrict the operation of wind farm and conflict was solved. Therefore, we clarified that the social acceptance could be changed or increased by the readjustment process include the local situation even after conflict occurred. In addition, we found that the analysis framework is can be used in the readjustment process to clarify social acceptance.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Based on case study, the analysis framework created by this research seems to have certain effectiveness to understand the conflict. Furthermore, we clarified the social acceptance is can be changed or increased by readjustment process and it is can be analyzed by using our analyze framework. However, there are no other case study about readjustment process, so it is necessary to do field research about readjustment process and increase the case study about this kind of research.

### Reference

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