



## SUMMARY

### **Policy Directions of Central Places for Efficiently Using Public Financial Resources and Securing People's Welfare**

Byun Pillsung, Cha Eunhye, Kim Sun Hee, Lim Sang Yon, Park So Young,  
Lim Ji Young, Lee Yong A

This study deals with policy directions for central places and peripheral places/hinterlands in terms of spatial flows and relationships. The directions enable the policies, which concern national territory, regions, cities, towns and villages, to efficiently use public financial resources and to simultaneously secure people's welfare, in the face of population decrease and aging, depopulation and metropolitanization, and the risk of spatial isolation/social exclusion.

This work discusses the linkages and alliances between central and peripheral places, by analyzing such places within networked hierarchy of national urban system. Encompassing the requirement for efficient use of public financial resources, the linkages and alliances will potentially make every individual provided with the services and goods needed for his/her everyday life without any difficulty in taking trips to central places, regardless of his/her personal ability to travel to the places. At this point, we emphasize connectivity and accessibility to the central places at all levels from the towns or villages within hinterlands. Such towns or villages have generally witnessed population decrease and aging. In addition, they have been negatively influenced by depopulation and

metropolitanization, and many of their residents have been faced with the risk of spatial isolation/social exclusion. As regards enhancement in connectivity and accessibility to the central places at all levels, we suggest that governments should strengthen gateway functions of mid-level central places (where city halls or county mostly are located) which are connected to metropolitan/large cities as well as to the towns or villages within hinterlands.

Based on our discussion, this work presents the following policy directions. First, in order to pursue the people's minimum welfare guaranteed, via spatial and relational approaches, national government has to make the policy tools dealing with the connectivity and accessibility from hinterlands to the central places at all levels readjusted and reorganized. The spatial and relational approaches to people's minimum welfare guaranteed seek to counteract the population aging, depopulation, and resultant risk of spatial isolation/social exclusion with which hinterlands have usually been faced, by coping with the requirement of efficiency in use of public financial resources reinforced by population decrease and metropolitanization.

Second, national government has to draw up and present policy references for planning and implementing spatial plans and projects, taking into consideration the institutional condition of planning sovereignty and devolution. The policy references have to be based on the analyses of central places and hinterlands within networked hierarchy of national urban system, which the government needs to conduct on a regular basis.

Third, the linkages and alliances between central places and the peripheral places/hinterlands have to be considered not only as common resources but as processes generating the resources. In this context, the linkages and alliances have to be institutionally sustained and built up. Especially, the institutions, which facilitates participation by as well as coherence/solidarity between the residents as stake-holders in both central and peripheral places, have to be set up.

Key words: central places and hinterlands, linkages and alliances, urban system, networked hierarchy, people's welfare, spatial flows and relationships