

S U M M A R Y

SUMMARY

Keywords: The Comprehensive National Territorial Plan, Future Agenda

The National Comprehensive Territorial Plan in the 1970s to the mid 1990s have contributed to forming national territorial structure, increasing urban land use, providing infrastructures, developing new cities, etc. and thus to rapid economic growth and to enhancing people's quality of life. However, since the mid-1990s as decentralization and democratization have progressed, the power of execution and consistency of it has been constantly declined. The current "The Revised Fourth National Comprehensive Territorial Plan (2011~2020)" as comprehensive and master plan in terms of national territory was established in 2011 to respond to rapid change of territorial conditions such as climate change and to new policy direction of new government (Lee Myung-Bak government).

The aim of this research is to understand some pending issues of Comprehensive Territorial Plan and to suggest policy directions of improving it for leading the future territory of Korea. Literature reviews, statistical analysis, in-depth interviews with experts, and expert surveys are employed as research methods for evaluating the performance and investigating the major problems of Comprehensive National Territorial Plan. In addition, this research includes case analysis of the national territorial plans of Germany, France, Netherlands, and Japan. These can establish

a basis for policy recommendation for the policy directions of Comprehensive National Territorial Plan, which are related to the division into Seoul metropolitan area and the other area, the functions such as long-term and comprehensive plan, the relationships with other plans, the procedures of planning, the timing of establishment and the period of the plan, new monitoring tools, and the supporting systems for advanced implementation.

As the result of in-depth interviews with experts related to national territorial plans, the pending issues on the crisis of Comprehensive National Territorial Plan are as follows. Most of interviewees and survey respondents (96.7%) say that Comprehensive National Territorial Plan is necessary and valid in spite of shortcomings of it. 52.3% of survey respondents insist that Comprehensive National Territorial Plan is necessary but needs to be changed. They also agree that the execution and coordination power of the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan has been declined during past 20 years due to various reasons such as the arrival of civil society and decentralization, weakened leading role of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, turbulent socio-economic features of society, and the emergence of similar plans spined-off from the territorial planning system etc.

To improve the current Comprehensive National Territorial Plan, there are few policy alternatives below.

First, the large majority of the respondents subscribe to the argument that the division into Seoul metropolitan area and the other areas needs to be changed into other region unit, such as “city-region”. However, the effect on the other areas including regional planning system, public opinion, etc. needs to be considered more carefully before in arriving at this conclusion.

Second, the characteristics as long-term and comprehensive plan have to be maintained to coordinate different spatial levels (e.g., the provincial

comprehensive territorial plans, city region plans) and functional sectoral plans (e.g., National Environmental Comprehensive Plan). However, a new plan needs to reinforce it with the indicative, strategic, and executive characteristics.

Third, participatory planning methods are necessary to be employed in the procedures of establishing the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan including collaboration among central government, local governments, research institutes, and other stakeholders.

Fourth, the current 20-year plan has to take two tracks: 20-year long-term comprehensive plan and 5-year rolling strategic plan. The Comprehensive National Territorial Plan should be established 20-year term as now, while allowing 5-year rolling strategic plan including adjustments to new policies and the 5-year National Plan for Regional Development plan whenever it is revised.

Fifth, this research proposes new monitoring tools and the supporting systems to facilitate the execution of the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan such as introducing regular monitoring system to evaluate the performance and implementation of it, reinforcing linkage between the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan and the National Fiscal Management Plan, and supporting spatial information for practical utilization of evidence-based the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan.

Also, the outcome of this research such as evaluating the performance and analyzing pending issues of the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan can be grounds for future revision of Framework Act on the National Land. In future studies, it is necessary to make more detailed alternatives of the Comprehensive National Territorial Plan on a basis of changing territorial conditions and prospects.