

## 2019 The 5th PKU-WASEDA Workshop

Theme: "Urban Governance and Community Participation" December 20, Peking University

**Speakers:** 

**Student Presenters:** 



Topic: "A Research on Resilience of Japan and South Ko rea -A Case Study on Kamaishi City and Pohang City" --by Heo Haeyoun, PhD candidate, Waseda University

This presentation focuses on case studies of resilience in both Japan and South Korea. In the case of Japan, the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami were the big issues that damaged areas had to build a new system to overcome the risk.

Kamaishi City in Iwate Prefecture is one of the damaged areas of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in 2011. After the disaster, Regional Committees and Town Reconstruction Councils have been main organizations to overcome the risk and consider creating sustainable development in Kamaishi City.

Unlike Japan, South Korea had not been considering disaster prevention as one of the topics regarding urban planning due to less experience of natural disaster. Pohang City which is a damaged area of 2017 Pohang Earthquake is actually the birthplace of Saemaul Undong, a new community movement in rural areas of South Korea from 1970. After the earthquake in Pohang, along with disaster prevention, the importance of revitalizing Saemaul Undong had resurfaced in Pohang which emphasizes sustainable development. By figuring out revitalization of two cities after the earthquakes, the presentation would like to figure out social characteristics in term of resilience, and the further tasks shown in the two countries.



Topic: "Research on Urban Residents' Autonomy: the Case Study of the Owners' Committee Institutional Dysfunction in Beijing"

--by Hu Baoyi, PhD candidate, Peking University

This thesis intends to discuss the causes of the Owners' Committee( 业 委  $\leq / OC$ ) institutional dysfunction. The onset of urbanization gave rise to increasing number of city dwellers which resulted in the growing demand for high-rise residential community ( 小 区 /Xiaoqu). The community

managing functions undertaken by the Community Committees(居委会/Juweihui) in the bungalow era were replaced by Property Managing Firms(物业公司/PMF). In order to supervise these firms and prevent it from encroaching on the interests of the owners, the law stipulates that the owners can establish an

autonomous organization

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—— the Owners' Committee. Nonetheless, the problem arises. Apart from replacing the PMF with another, the OC can hardly reach consensus amongst its members while the committee cannot be connected with the grassroots government apparatus to solve actual problems. Thus, the OC is generally unsuccessful. Its failure is manifested in the following aspects: the committee is difficult to be formed at the beginning; its effectiveness is doubtful even if it is formed; it cannot assist the property firms to collect managing fees; unable to utilize the Special Maintenance Fund due to lack of consensus amongst owners; it may lead to corruption of public funds.