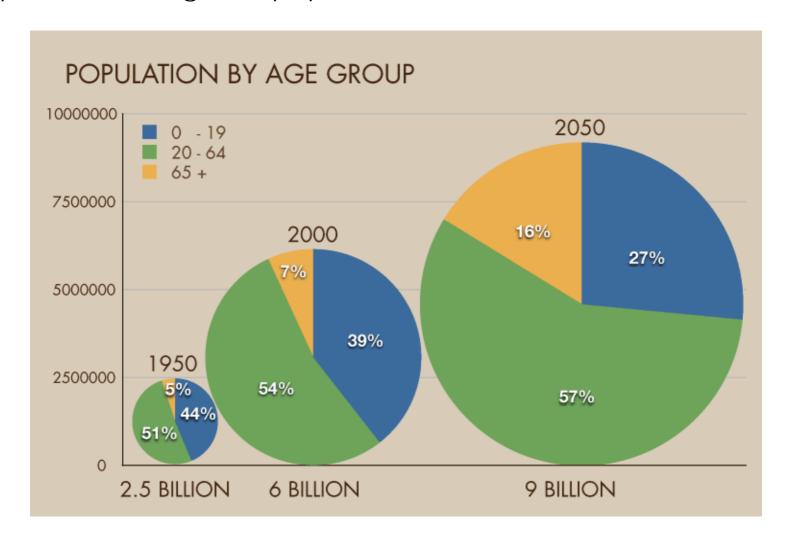


### Responding to change:

An investigation into the processes of rural place-making in the face of ageing

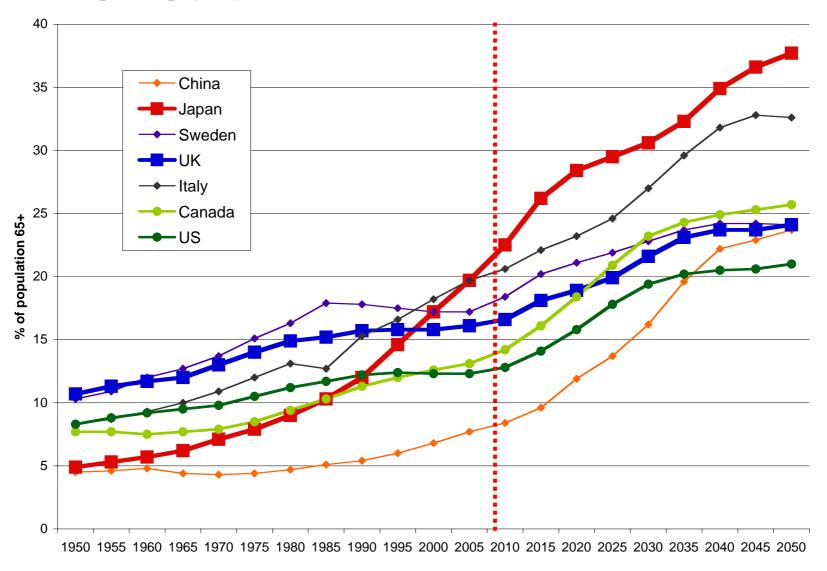
Japan case study 08-09

Kayo Murakami, Rose Gilroy and Jane Atterton Newcastle University, UK Email: kayo.murakami@ncl.ac.uk "The number of people aged 65 and over will double as a proportion of the global population, from 7% in 2000 to 16% in 2050"



Source: http://wisdom.unu.edu/en/ageing-societies/

#### Ageing population (65+) in selected countries



Source: Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, World Population Prospects: The 2006 Revision and World Urbanization Prospects: The 2005 Revision, <a href="http://esa.un.org/unpp">http://esa.un.org/unpp</a>,

### Research objectives

- To explore three key areas of transformation and their interrelationships
  - (1) an ageing population;
  - (2) economic and social change; and
  - (3) the changing shape of local government and shifting governance cultures;
- To conduct evidence-based analysis of the responses to these challenges made by the public, private and voluntary sector to assess the extent and shape of institutional and market responses to ageing

### Hyper-aged society in Japan

- People aged 65+: 25.6 million (20%) .
- The 'old-old' (75+): 11.6 million.
- It will rise to 26% in 2015, 35.7% in 2050.
- Increasing old single household: one in three living alone by 2010.
- Increasing social welfare expenditures
  - pension, medical and other services, the Long-term care insurance: ¥93.6t (£963b) in 2005
  - 17% of GDP (¥537t) in 2005 (1.9 growth rate) \*IMF figure

### **Emerging New Old**

The dankai (post-war baby boomer)

- "at the forefront of radical social, economic and political change"
- Aspiration of 'later life'
  - 'new consumerism'
  - Social involvement
  - Relocation

'Change of pace by a change of place'



# How to respond to hyper-aged society?

- Attitudes towards ageing
  - Anti-ageing: many products & financial commodities for keeping yourself younger and independent
  - Technology solutions: electric gadgets, products designed for older people
  - Free from family dependent care to which?: social (institutional) / private / community-based cares?

Magazines for 50+





Easy mobile phone



Wii Fit



Home repair /



Anti-ageing food restaurants / receipt books

#### Robot suit 'HAL'











Telehealth
Intelligent Toilet,
measuring the
user's blood
pressure, weight,
body fat, urine
sugar level





**Electric kettles / beds** with activity monitoring function via mobile phone

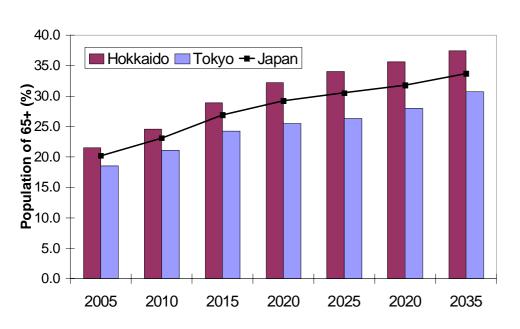
# How public sector respond to demographic ageing?

- Multi-habitation (one in urban, the other in rural, seasonal living) inviting new old
- Community-based case service provision
- Entrepreneurship in care service sector
- Housing strategy
- New 'life support' industry
- Partnership based governance



### Case study in Hokkaido

- Population 5.6 million
- Sapporo 1/3 of the total population
- 1/5 population living 4/5 of land area
- Ageing 21.4% (65+) in 2005





Source: The National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Japan

### Multi-habitation strategy

- 2004: Internet survey
- 2005-2006: ¥50m (£3.3m) initiatives
  - Marketing
  - One-stop information bureau
    - Housing
    - Transport
    - Medical care
    - Community
  - Public-private Consortium
- 417 people spending 8,471 days in Hokkaido using 'testing-out' schemes in 2006.



### Impacts on rural areas?

- Economic multiplier effect of ¥570b (£3.8b), if 1,000 retiree couples per year moved Hokkaido during 2007-2009
- Housing development
- Create new businesses matching the skills of inmigrants to local skill shortage and needs.
- Strengthen community development – community business, volunteer works
- Stimulate an increased supply of health care services





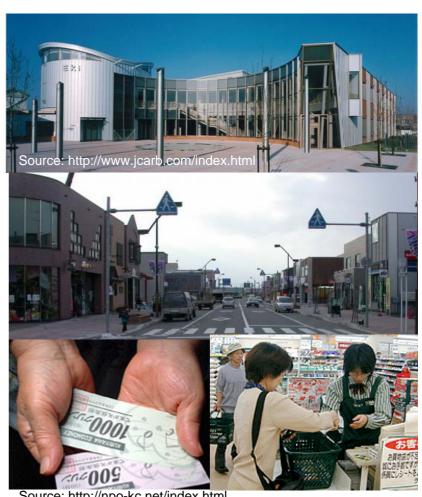
## Community-based social care network

- Kuriyama social welfare model
- 3 principles: community-centred, community-based and universal design
- Involving local business & community
  - a personalised 'care management' system,
  - a home repair service using local building companies,
  - trained home care helpers, Voluntary activities for young people
  - Home stays, Networking events for older people;



### Community businesses and entrepreneurship

- Universal design for public spaces
- Older people-friendly public transport
- Telephone shopping and free delivery service
- The 'Kurin', local labour exchange, time-banking



Source: http://npo-kc.net/index.html

### Community businesses and entrepreneurship

• The 'Shien' - support with high aspiration - established in 2003

by a local young entrepreneur

• 24 local young employees

- Growing and diversifying business:
  - Social care management (2003)
  - Home care service delivery (2003)
  - Housing provision for older people (2004)
  - Nursery support for families with young children (2005)
  - Funiture design 'Little Wood' (2005)



Source: http://www.sien-net.jp/index.html

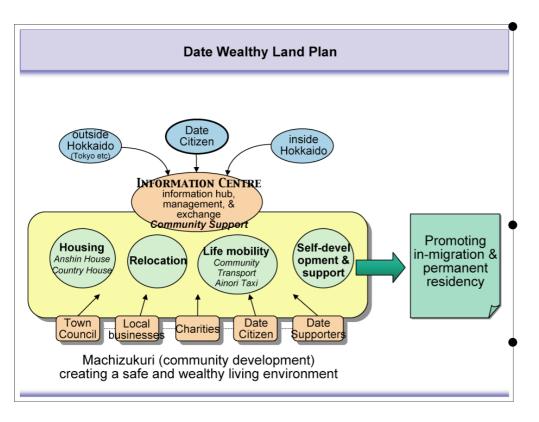
## Relocating older people at the heart of the town

- Nanporo 'Silver' Housing Project
- Social housing development at the town centre
- Barrier free standard design
- A warden office as a hub of care service facilities in the town





# Date 'Wealthy Land' Policy and new style of local governance



To create a new economy based on a 'welfare-support industry' by the deregulation and encouragement of private sector investment in social welfare provision.

Shift from public sector dominance to **private** sector-led care service provision

Shift from the despised onesize-fits-all state control to local governance and discretion

### Housing, transport, and ICT





Date 'safety' homes for elderly



**Local Information Centre** 

Local information centre run by a newly set-up ICT venture company



Local website & free paper



Community taxi scheme

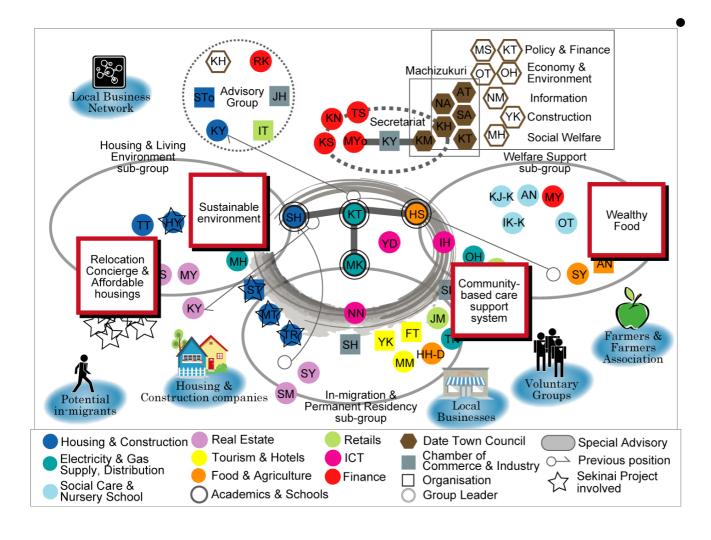






'Excellent countryside housing'

# Creating a better local governance and sustainable economy?



- Matching problems and opportunities in:
- Sustainable environment
- Relocation support
- Affordable housing
- Community
   based care
   support system
- Wealthy & healthy food
- Community engagement

### Impacts on rural-urban balance?

- Successful ageing model in rural community
- Leads to new roles for rural areas and rationales for supporting the rural economy
- Multi-habitation not necessarily lead to permanent migration to rural areas
  - uncertainty makes it difficult to implement mitigating measures (e.g. social care provision at local level)

#### Which direction?

- A highly mobilized consumer society
- Spring board for bringing about overall improvement

### Discussion points

- What lessons might be learned from the Japanese approach to ageing?
- How can societies meet the two challengesfirstly making use of the resource that older people represent and secondly meeting the needs of growing numbers of frail elders?
- What value do we place on later life- what might be the goals and purpose for individuals?