'Barrier Free' to 'Age-friendly' Akita City

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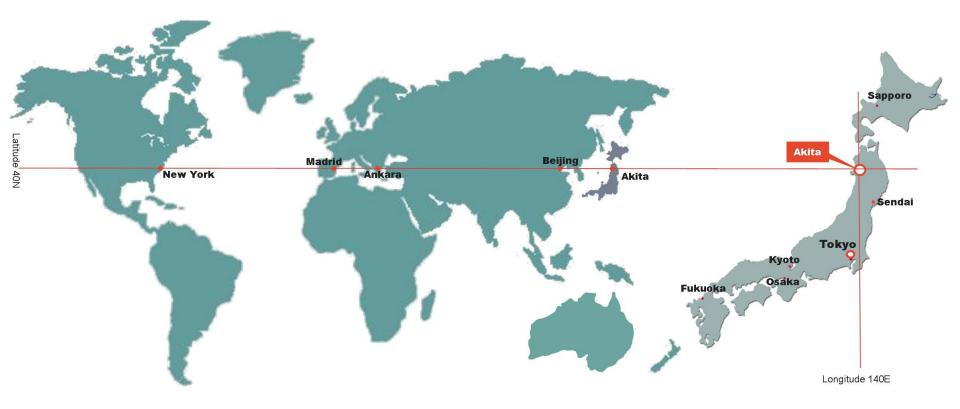
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Basic Facts – population ageing in Akita City, Japan The Early Concepts – 'barrier free' & 'universal design' Toward a more Age-friendly Akita City Future Plans on Akita City's 'age-friendly' Agenda Conclusion



Akita City on World Map





Population Ageing in Japan

Total population: 127,473,000 2010 People aged 65+: 28,735,000 (22.5%) 1 in 4 people – 65+ 86

Life span Women

> Men 79



Projection

2050 **Total population** : 100,593,000 : 35,863,000 (35%) People aged 65+ 1 in 3 people – 65+



Source: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Japan



Population Ageing in Akita

2010 Total population: 323,600 Persons aged 65+: 77,879 (24.0%) 1 in 4 persons = 65+

Projection 2030 Total population : 259,483 Persons aged 65+ : 95,027 (36%)

Source: Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Japan



Toward a more 'age-friendly' Akita City





'Barrier Free'

'Barrier free' concept refers to the modification of buildings and facilities such that they can be used by people who are disabled or have physical impairments





'Universal Design'

'Universal Design' refers to ideas meant to produce buildings, environments and products so that they can be inherently accessible to all people.

children

People with no special needs

Elderly people

People with special needs

People with disabilities

arms, legs, aural / pregnant / elderly - expanding the range of users



'Universal Design'

Universal Design in Akita Train Station





- 1 Passageway entrance has stairs, an escalator and elevator
- 2 The wide passageway has handrails and a ridged guide path for the visually impaired
- **3** Benches meet the need of a wide variety of users
- 4 Bold and well-lit signs show the multifunctional restroom for children, standard men/women and handicapped

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Is Akita City 'age-friendly'?

1. Outdoor Spaces & Buildings



- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian crossing
- Lighting, curbs Resting places

2. Transportation



- Roads, lighting
- Parking
- Snow removal
- Public transportation: cost, availability

3. Communication & Information



- **Reliable** information
- **Central directory**
- Available information



Choices

4. Civic Participation & Employment

- Training
- Recognition



Building on earlier achievements





The Approach



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Promotion

Understanding the AFC Concept in Akita City





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Implementation

Transportation (affordability) – 'one-coin' bus fare





	What Next?		
Domain	10 40 40 M 10 M 10 M 10 M 10 M 10 M 10 M	2013	2016
Outdoor spaces	outdoor parks	93	103
	radiated sidewalks	18	32
Transportation	'one-coin' bus fare	59,319	66,244
Building	earthquake resistant	77,8%	86.0%
Respect & Social Inclusion	community support center	10	18
Courses Alvita City Office			

Source: Akita City Office



Conclusion

Out	comes		
1.	Increase opportunities to engage and be engaged		
2.	To be able to commute – access and affordable transportation		
3.	Live in a safe and secure community		
4.	Improved local supports and services		
5.	Be involved in civic, social and economic campaigns		

The vision of the city is that people of all ages benefit when communities are designed to be age-friendly.



Thank You



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