

Panel for Studying How the Capital Function City Should Utilize IT

The National Land Agency established the "Panel for Studying How the Capital Function City Utilize Information Technology (IT)." The Panel consists of ten experts in areas such as information and urban planning. The chairman is by Dr. Hideo Aiso, Dean of the Tokyo University of Technology and the Vice-chairman is Mr. Jitsuro Terashima of Mitsui Global Strategic Studies Institute. The Panel held its first meeting on September 11. In addition, the Agency will conduct a large-scale survey covering local public bodies and private enterprises as part of the panel study.

Details of Study

A Rough Sketch of Highly Electro-Networked Capital Function City

- An international, electronicized political and administrative city with goals of improving policy planning functions, upgrading the effectiveness of the administrative systems, and assuring the functions of an international political city
- An epoch-making, electronicized disaster prevention city seeking to establish measures for safe and reliable networks to fully demonstrate a control-tower function even in cases of a large-scale disasters
- An IT-networked model city trying to mitigate and solve current urban and community problems

Re-sorting the Significance and Effects of Capital Functions Relocation in the Era of Advanced Information Networks

- Reform of overall national politics by coordination between capital functions relocation and IT networking
- Capital functions relocation and correction of monopolar concentration of information
- Augmentation of capability to respond to electronic information disasters through capital functions relocation

The results of the study will not only be utilized for the future studying of the capital functions relocation but will also be released to the public after being summarized.

The constitution of the Panel and a summary of its proceedings can also be seen in the "Latest Information" section of the National Land Agency Capital Functions Relocation Homepage on the Internet (address: <http://www.nla.go.jp/daishu/index.html>).

The public is also invited to give opinions to the Panel. Please send your opinions by E-mail (address: itenka@nla.go.jp).



Welcome to the Capital Functions Relocation Homepage

Capital Functions Relocation Pavilion Displayed at the Internet Exhibition

The National Land Agency will display the Capital Functions Relocation Pavilion at the Internet Exhibition (Inpaku) which will be held from December 31, 2000, to allow more people to deepen their understanding of the capital functions relocation while amusing themselves and to encourage them to further consider this issue. The main projects (draft) of the Inpaku are introduced below.

For details of application for, and participation in, the Capital Function Relocation Pavilion, please check them on the National Land Agency Homepage (<http://www.nla.go.jp/daishu/index.html>).

【Project (Draft)】 1. Construction of a Virtual Capital Function City ~ Let's Construct the Capital Function City Together! ~

This is the biggest project to date focused on bidirectionality characterized by utilizing the Internet, the most dominant theme of the Inpaku, and will be implemented over a year as the main project of the Pavilion.



Example: Diet Square

When the Inpaku starts, the capital function city in the Pavilion displaying the new city, the destination of the capital functions relocation, originates in the Pavilion (by summarizing the Capital Function City Experiencing CD-ROM).

A scene (Diet Square, Embassy District, and others) is extracted from the virtual capital function city. Your opinions about the image are solicited on the Internet for a given period (about two weeks)

Four to five images will be produced by the Secretariat to reflect opinions of the applicants.

The images produced will be introduced in the Pavilion.

Examples of Opinions about the Diet Square
Plaza with more greenery is desired.
Plaza where people gather naturally and get relaxed is desired.



Image No. 1 "Diet Square with Full of Greenery"



Image No. 2 "Diet Square where People Get Relaxed"



The First Place 2,890 Votes
Image No. 2 "Diet Square where People Get Relaxed"



Second Place 1,572 Votes
Image No. 1 "Diet Square with Full of Greenery"

Popularity voting is conducted for a given period (about two weeks) on the Internet, and the most popular image will be built into the virtual capital function city in the Pavilion.

The above procedures will be reiterated for about ten images over a year to change the images of the capital function city based on people's opinions.

First Opinion Invitation: From December 31, 2000 to January 15, 2001 Popularity Voting: From January 22 to January 29, 2001
Second Opinion Invitation: From January 29 to February 13, 2001 Popularity Voting: From February 19 to February 26, 2001

The virtual capital function city reflecting public opinion will be completed in the pavilion in November 2001 or later.

2 . Inpaku Capital Function City Image Contest

We would like people to freely depict images of the city either by Computer Graphics (CG) or sketches without reference to the various imagery drawings of the city, the destination of the capital functions relocation, drawn in the past. We will then collect them for introduction into the Pavilion, when popularity voting will be held on the Internet. Applications are invited in two sections, the primary and junior high school student section and the general section.



Period of the Invitation: From November 1, 2000 to October 31, 2001

Period of Popularity Voting: From December 31, 2000 to November 30, 2001

In the primary school and junior high school student section, the applicants should be elementary school or junior high school students as of the date of application.

In the general section, a brief explanation of 250 words or less should be attached to the images because innovative ideas are expected in the concepts as well as in the images themselves. Images can be submitted via CG or the Internet.

3 . Invitation for the Pavilion Guide Character Design



We plan to have an amiable virtual character that can effectively act as a guide to the Pavilion come on stage in the image. To open the Pavilion, characters (still images by CG or sketch) will first be solicited on the Internet, and the winning character will be decided by popularity voting. The character selected will explain the ideas of the Pavilion and support the image operations using animation.

An Example of Application: "Itenshi-kun"
(By a female in Tokyo Metropolis)

Period of Invitation: From November 1, 2000 to January 31, 2001

Period of Voting: From February 1, 2000 to February 28, 2001

4 . Capital Function City Image Puzzle

The public is requested to complete the capital function city image by assembling individual pieces, and compete with other competitors.

5 . Summary of the Capital Functions Relocation Introduced

The Pavilion guide character will introduce details, questions and answers about the capital functions relocation as well as reports of the Council for Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations.

6 . Urban Planning, Architectural Concepts, and Landscapes of Various Countries Introduced

Urban planning and landscapes of foreign capitals are introduced

7 . Opinion Exchange Space 2001-Version

Opinion can be exchanged about the capital functions relocation and the Pavilion are conducted.

What is Inpaku? (<http://www.inpaku.go.jp/>)

The Internet Exhibition (Inpaku) is a memorial event held for a year from December 31, 2000 and defining the year of 2001 as the "Year Starting a New Millennium."

We would like all the people throughout Japan and foreign countries to participate in Inpaku so that people related to national and local public organizations, enterprises, nonprofit organizations, and international organizations may develop events on various themes utilizing the Internet. Inpaku is, so to speak, an event in which the pavilion for an exhibition is laid out on the Internet.

★ Topics

Capital Functions Relocation Discussed at Various Schools and Other Institutions

Eiji Hosoda Research Group of the Economics Department, Keio University

Members of the Eiji Hosoda Research Group of the Economics Department, Keio University, took up the capital functions relocation as a subject of discussion and intensely discussed the pros and cons for the relocation as part of their debate study. Because of their careful preparations, plenty of arguments from both sides were developed in spite of the time limit of several minutes for each side in the process of arguments, questions, answers, responses and conclusions.



Social Studies Research Group of the Kaisei Gakuen College

In the Gakuen festival held on September 23 to 24, people belonging to the Social Studies Research Group of the Kaisei Gakuen College announced the results of their study on the capital functions relocation as part of their research activities. Prior to that event they studied independently with activities such as collecting various remarks and data and sending questionnaires to local residents.



"On-Line Lecture Meetings" Being Held

On the National Land Agency Capital Function Relocation Homepage, lecture meetings have been held inviting knowledgeable persons in different disciplines such as academic and economic sectors, and four new lecturers are invited. Please visit this web site.

(http://www.nla.go.jp/daishu/online/online_f.html)

<August> Mr. Hiromichi Toba (President of the Dotor Coffee Co., Ltd.)

Theme: "Seek for Capital Functions Relocation to Enrich the National Life"

<September> Mr. Hidehiro Sonoda (Professor of International Research Center for Japanese Studies)

Theme: "Capital Functions Relocation from the Viewpoint of 'Miyako Theory'"

Mr. Kent Gilbert (A lawyer in California State)

Theme: "Capital Functions Relocation Should be Implemented Giving Priority to Decentralization"

<October> Mr. Tsuyoshi Sasaki (Professor of the University of Tokyo)

Theme: "Let's Settle the Problem by Referendum!"

Accessing Various Information

Various information concerning the capital functions relocation has been provided on the National Land Agency Homepage on the Internet.

Also if you are interested in items in this leaflet and others, please let us know. We will pleasingly send related documents to you. We are awaiting your contact.

We are Waiting for Your Contact

Address : Capital Functions Relocation Planning Division, Metropolitan Areas Development Bureau, National Land Agency
2-2 Kasumigaseki 1-Chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-9972
Japan

Homepage : <http://www.nla.go.jp/daishu/index.html>

E-Mail : itenka@nla.go.jp

Telephone : +81-3-3597-5858 FAX : +81-3-3501-5481