SUMMARY OF MASTER'S DISSERTATION

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Title			
Issue of Realizing Telework Society Causing Regional Revitalization and Government			
Project Suggestions			
Abstract The objective of this study is to investigate the way of increasing the rural population			

The objective of this study is to investigate the way of increasing the rural population with telework and suggest a government project improvement for regional revitalization. The Japanese government has started telework projects since around 2015. Establishing telework centers for workplace preparation in rural area is one of the examples. Nevertheless, there is no clear outcome yet. We defined regional revitalization as "the situation of increasing rural population and interactions between residents" and focused on how to increase rural population with telework. The research flow is as follows: 1. considered how to increase rural population with Telework and, 2. quantitatively tested the hypothesis which was created through qualitative research.

First, we conducted interviews with 3 different local telework centers. Comparing the 3 cases, the reason in the successful case in increasing rural population was that it created jobs using bonuses and that attracted people over as teleworkers from other areas. It indicated that establishing telework centers alone is not effective, and creating jobs is a key. Moreover, this research found the objective of telework centers changed its role from increasing population or creating jobs to having interaction between people in rural area. Second, we conducted interviews and literature reviews to find a way to increase rural population with telework without creating jobs. By interviewing people who has telework experience, we found that even for people who work by telework, regular office visits is still required. Additionally, as a result of the literature review, we identified that there are people called dual residents who live between multiple living locations due to caregiving or other reasons. Through these researches, the established hypothesis is the spreading of telework would make the number of dual resident increase because even if people migrate to rural areas by telework, they need to visit their offices in urban areas regularly. Finally, the hypothesis was tested using system dynamics simulation to confirm the impact of spreading telework among the public on increasing dual residents. The result showed that the more teleworkers increase, the more dual residents increase and the hypothesis likely occurs. Therefore, there would be a possibility to increase rural population by promoting dual residence.

In conclusion, to increase rural population with telework for regional revitalization, the suggestion for improvement of the government project in this study is to handle the promotion of dual residence along with the telework project.

Key Word (5 words)

telework, telework center, dual residence, regional revitalization, system dynamics