

Tasks for Urban Regeneration Support Centers for Success of “New Deal” in Urban Regeneration

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□ (Definition) Intermediary organizations for urban regeneration act as a link between governments and citizens to support and promote urban regeneration projects. Urban regeneration support centers that are established for each municipality play a key role in that sense.

□ (History) Since the enactment of the Special Act on Promotion of and Support for Urban Regeneration in 2013, 106 municipal rules on urban regeneration have been established. A total of 77 urban regeneration support centers have been set up at different administrative levels including provinces, cities, districts, and special zones designated for urban regeneration.

□ (Current Status) The majority of the centers are directly operated by their administrative units. In early stages, the centers provide services to strengthen the capabilities and education of citizens. Then they become responsible for providing information and support in relation to urban policies (centers for provinces and metropolitan cities), developing projects that need participation from citizens, and supporting the implementation of projects that are selected from public competition (centers for cities, districts, and special urban regeneration zones).

□ (Operational Model) New operational models of urban regeneration centers that are based on the characteristics of local communities and projects are attracting more attention, such as the Urban Regeneration Consultative Platform (Sejong), a private-public partnership for comprehensive solution on urban issues (Suwon), and the Community Regeneration Corporation (CRC) based on local governance (Changsin-dong and Sungin-dong of Seoul).

Policy implications

① It is necessary to improve legal and institutional systems and seek various support measures at central and local government levels in order to provide sustainable and efficient support for the businesses of urban regeneration centers.

② Governance and business models between municipalities and urban regeneration centers should be established so that the centers can play a leading role in local communities as well as in urban regeneration projects.

③ The central government should provide a guideline by developing best practices for urban regeneration centers at home and abroad for training on operational models that consider the different characteristics of local communities and projects and sharing of best practices.