

Trends & Implications of National Urban Policies Abroad: Case Studies of U.K. & Australia

Kim Tae-hwan, KRIHS Senior Research Fellow, Kim Su-jin, KRIHS Senior Researcher, Jeong Woo-sung, KRIHS Senior Researcher

Summary

1. National urban policy, for continuous urban development, should emphasize the process of forming a cooperative governance to create a vision commonly shared by the central and provincial governments and civil society. In line with shifts in urban problems, the central government needs to redefine its role in urban policy formulation.
2. The U.K., through its National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), has issued guidelines for use in the planning stage, provided an urban vision and institutionalized implementation, and amid the flow of decentralization, the powers and roles of the British central and provincial governments have been redivided and reorganized.
3. In the case of Australia, the Coalition of Australian Governments (COAG) has helped the leaders from the federal, state and local governments discuss and agree on the levels and content of national urban policy, and stressed the leading role of the federal government.

Importance of Consultations on Pushing Urban Policy

1. The developmental aspects of national urban policy can differ by country but similar trends are seen in the flow of decentralization in the bottom-up approach, central places, and capacity building by provincial governments and regional communities.
- 2) Despite the emphasis on the bottom-up approach, to prevent damage caused by the clash between rules reflecting central government guidelines and values and regional self-interest, central government-level planning and means of regulation are needed.
- 3) For setting a national-level vision, the degree of freedom regional autonomy should entail must be examined, and a system is needed to reflect the unique characteristics of a development area in the planning process.