

11E- "Happy \& Healthy"
Thursday, June 27, 2019
Time: 15.30-16.30

# Bicycle Usage Incentives to Motivate People for Health Promotion in Japan 

Hirotaka Koike<br>Utsunomiya Kyowa University<br>Katsuhiro Ito<br>Kokusai Kogyo Co. Ltd.<br>Teppei Osada<br>Utsunomiya University

## The Japan Syndrome

## The Shrinking Society with aging population



## Elderly Population Share in Japan



## Japanese Life Expectancy



## Private Automobile vs. Diabetes



## Soaring Social Security Expenditure



## Smart Wellness City

- To delay the frailty of elderly, the best approach is to maintain/improve health.
- It involves not only health care, but also the improvement of living environments.
- The basic objective of SWC is to promote active transport such as walking and cycling to form healthier communities.
- Now there are more than 80 SWCs in Japan and the number is increasing.


## Four Elements of SWC

1. Infrastructure for public transport, bicycles and walking
2. Objective evaluation based on health and medical data analysis (Evidence-based Analysis)
3. Health promotion incentives to change citizen's lifestyle
4. Enhancement of health literary and social capital formation

## Effect of Exercise Program

Physical age change of 4.5 years due to exercise program in Mitsuke City


## Effect of Health Program

Average medical expenditure for 70 years old citizens in Mitsuke City


## Utsunomiya City - a Case Study

- A regional capital with half a million population.
- Located 100 km north of Tokyo.
- Highest auto-dependency in Japan.
- From Sprawl to Compact City
- New LRT, the first in Japan.
- Cycle City Utsunomiya Plan.
- Revive CBD with pedestrian.
- New campaign to improve city image.



## Cycle City Utsunomiya

## Japan Cup Cycle Road Race

since 1990. Upgraded to UIC Class 1.HC. in 2008. The highest race in Asia.


## New LRT in Utsunomiya

- The first new LRT in Japan
- 15 km route with 19 stops
- 5 Transit Centers (TOD ) planned
- The construction started now, to be in service in spring, 2022



## Citizen Willingness to Participate Exercise



## Utsunomiya Health Point System



## Point Conversion table and additional points



- Additional points will be given by achieving daily or weekly walking steps or cycling distance targets
- Also by weight measurements, medical checkup, BMI improvement
- Participation to walking rally and sport events


## Utsunomiya Health Point System App



## 1. Main Page

Automatically measures walking and cycling amount and converts to points acquired.
Bottom shows daily activity amount
converted to equivalent steps.

2. My Page

Height, weight, BMI at the top History of activity records.

3. Activity Record Amount of activities by mode, Route moved on map

After registration, health points are automatically added by just carrying a smartphone.

## Encouragement for continuous commitments

- Walkathon with automatic check-in function


Automatic goal setting and encouragement of exercise


## Profile of participants (2019.5.31)

| Sex | Male | Female | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number | 4,688 | 6,830 | 11,518 |
| Ratio | $40.7 \%$ | $59.3 \%$ |  |


| Age <br> Group | Under 20 | 30 s | 40 s | 50 s | 60 s | 70 and <br> over |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number | 1,199 | 1,997 | 2,682 | 2,067 | 1,668 | 1,905 |
| Ratio | $10.4 \%$ | $17.3 \%$ | $23.3 \%$ | $17.9 \%$ | $14.5 \%$ | $16.5 \%$ |

## Results after one year

- More than 11 thousand people participated
- High participation of middle aged group
- Average increase of 2,000 steps after one year
- (4249 steps in April 2018 => 6,277 steps after 1 year)
- $72.2 \%$ of participants improved their BMIs
- 55 sponsors donated gifts
- 2,830 participants exchanged their points to gifts
- Total points exchanged is 4.6 million points as of May 22, 2019 (= about 38,000 Euro)


## Accumulated user traces for GIS analysis



## Thank You for Your Attention

