

Title	地域の閉鎖性を克服する地域移住クラフト起業家による内発的発展:北海道東川町及び高知県佐川町の移住起業家の事例研究
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Abstract

As migration to rural areas continues to grow, cases are emerging in which migrants are taking on the responsibility of revitalizing their local communities. This study focuses on cases in which migrant entrepreneurs have overcome community insularity that could be a barrier to business development as a part of the local institutional environment, achieved new knowledge creation in the host region, and further contributed to the endogenous development of the region.

With this background, this study aims to elucidate the process by which "local migrant craft entrepreneurs"—those who migrate from urban areas to rural areas and engage in entrepreneurial activities based on craft production utilizing local resources and their own skills—space contribute to the endogenous development of the community through knowledge creation.

The case study sites selected were Higashikawa Town, Hokkaido, and Sagawa Town, Kochi Prefecture, where the unique activities of local migrant craft entrepreneurs are present. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 13 people active in the region (6 from Higashikawa Town and 7 from Sagawa Town) to obtain life story data about their career development, livelihood, turning points, and future plans. Participant observation and interviews with local government officials were also conducted.

As a result of life story analysis, the author was able to extract three key characteristics related to the knowledge creation of local migrant craft entrepreneurs: "brokering" (the ability to connect both inside and outside the local area), "reflexivity" (introspective transformation through individual metacognition), and "creativity" (involvement in addressing local issues). Furthermore, it was shown that these three characteristics act as a catalyst for the endogenous development of local communities in three modes: the informal collective mode, the formal institutional mode, and the private personal mode, as a reflection from the local community.

This study revealed that local migrant craft entrepreneurs provide the local community with the results of new knowledge creation generated by their "creativity," which is supported by both "brokering," and "reflexivity," forming a cycle of transformative learning between them.

Furthermore, by clarifying the transformative learning process brought about by creative knowledge of local migrant craft entrepreneurs, this study showed that they are not simply outsiders, but function as "catalysts" in the region's endogenous development and are "actors of the community" who contribute to regional revitalization.

Keywords:

rural areas, craft, migrant, entrepreneur, endogenous development, Higashikawa Town, Sakawa Town