

# Promote Revitalization of an Urban Area After the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake

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## ABSTRACT

The Yamamoto District, a part of Takarazuka City, is a residential area that is famous for being one of the three big horticultural production areas of Japan. After the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake devastated this area, however, reconstruction of town houses, promotion of the horticultural industry and improvement of the environment have been serious issues. In this research, I investigated the effects of workshops held from 2000 on for the improvement of the environment of this area. I investigated the process of the workshops and examined the opinions of the participants to study group characteristics, expectations about participation, and evaluation of the workshop results. I found that expectations about large-scale issues were greater than those for specific issues, but that participants took greater concern with the programs to make specific improvements and evaluated them more highly. Furthermore, communication and understanding were increased as a result of the programs. I also examined the results of citizen efforts and analyzed the connection between citizen organizations and the management of green spaces. From this study, I gained new understanding about the relationships between citizen organizations and the forms of participation in urban regeneration.