



Shimokawa Town is an inland town located in the northern part of Hokkaido. About 90% of the area is forested, and forestry and agriculture are its key industries.

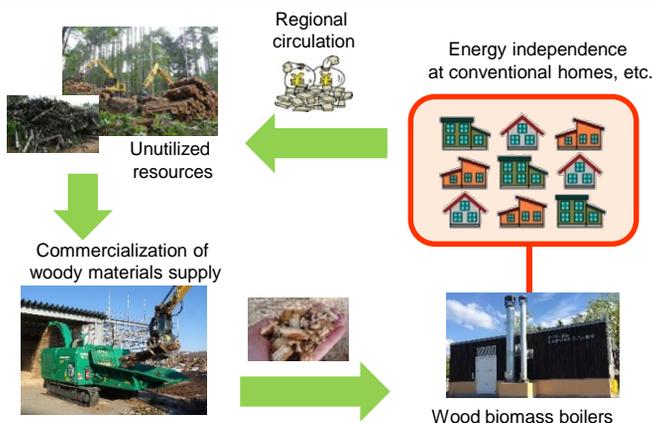
Based on the know-how of the society co-existing with forest that Shimokawa Town has created over the past half century, they will complete a Forest "FutureCity" Model by 2030. And they will export their policies and projects to small municipalities in the Asian countries.

Forest "FutureCity" is a city surrounded by rich forestland where people can gain enough income from forestry, learn and play in the forest, nourish their mental and physical health, and spend a spiritually affluent life surrounded by trees. The modeling of a small municipality with rich forest has started in Shimokawa Town.

Toward the Comprehensive Forestry Business and Being Completely Self-Sufficient in Energy

In order to revitalize the economy through forestry and agriculture based on the rich forest resources, Shimokawa Town has a comparative advantage over the world, and the town works on innovating the forestry system and forest product system on the basis of the cyclical type of forest management and zero-emission wood processing system.

Also, the town will upgrade the small-scale distributed renewable energy supply system centering on the use of woody biomass and aim at being completely self-sufficient in energy. The town will build a comprehensive forestry that covers forestry to biomass and create a forest culture with the townspeople.



International Expansion by Cooperating with a University

Shimokawa Town has been trying to build a network with municipalities in European countries, build a Forest "FutureCity" model, while referring advanced cases, and aim at exporting to Asian countries.

Shimokawa Town has concluded a collaboration agreement with the Center for Sustainability Science, Hokkaido University, and has been proposing its policies and business models to municipalities in Asia while utilizing the network. Also, they have been widely accepting visitors and trainees at home and abroad and exporting their know-how.



Building of a Self-Sustained Community through Collective Living

The town designated the Ichinohashi area in Shimokawa Town, which has a super-aging issue, as a model area, and will make efforts to reduce the environmental burden, by building a collective living area in which area characteristics are used, reconstructing the social community, and being self-sufficient in food to create new industry by the senior citizens and youths.

In the collective living area, wood boilers which totally cover hot-water supply and heating, and the photovoltaic facility have also been maintained in order for the area to become self-sufficient in energy and to create a model that realizes both self-sufficiency in energy and respond to the super-aging issue.



↑Collective living area



↑Research Institute for the Cultivation of Non-timber Forest Products



↑Community restaurant



↑Wood biomass boilers