

# What is Community Informatics in Japan?

日本における“Community Informatics”とは何か？



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447 名前:731こと電車男 投稿日:04/0

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450 名前:Mr.名無しさん 投稿日:04/03/17 22:35

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451 名前:Mr.名無しさん 投稿日:04/03/17 22:35

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カップのお礼に食事に誘え  
カップのお礼に食事に誘え



Train Man suggests that community informatics is strong in Japan. What can we learn?

The Community Informatics Lab is working across physical distance but within Japanese culture and language to test our definition of community informatics as local, historical community uses of information technology. Informed by Shoji (2007) and Toyama (2007), we searched the web for community informatics in Japan, selected 12 cases of local communities using information technology that featured content-rich websites, and analyzed these cases against two intersecting conceptual frameworks from community informatics work in the UK and US.

The 12 Japanese community informatics projects reflect collaborations that shift over time and allow for a productive combination of top-down and bottom-up mobilization. Differences in these projects' geographic reach suggest differences between US and Japanese perceptions of community.

Citations

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## Coding of 12 cases

Descriptive and analytical categories draw from Community Technology on Earth project (Ritzo & Williams 2008), public computing sites (Williams & Alkalimat 2004), and a recent definition of community informatics (Williams & Durrance, 2009).

### 1. Typology of Community Informatics

1. <b>Actual</b>	: Public computing sites (i.e. Internet café)
2. <b>Virtual</b>	: Online community and resources such as community networks
3. <b>Combination of A &amp; V</b>	: Places having both Actual and Virtual
4. <b>Organic</b>	: Projects borne out of community efforts not particularly concerned with technology but which now involve information technology or computers

### 2. Metadata for each project

Areas	Description of Areas
Name & Location	Name of project and location of the host institution
Purposes	Goals and objectives for the project
Origines	Chronology of the project
Social Forces	Background information of and related social issues to the project
ICT Use	Information and communication technology they refer in use
Website	Description of website information of the project
Host Institutions	Description of host institutions: Civic, Profit, and Government sectors

### 3. Classification for technology used in projects

Codes	Description
Websites	Information about activities, contact, links, the like
e-Commerce	Acquiring products is available via technologies used on the website
Online registration	Automatic response from the host institution for further instruction
BBS	Bulletin board system opened for public to exchange information
Emails	Correspondence available via emails
Computers on site	It mentions about onsite computing sites available
Databases	Access available to their databases
Blogs	Blogs open for public to communicate personally to individual staffs in the host institution and/or project members
Brochures/PDF	PDF files are available

## 5 Key Findings

1. We find **collaborations** across government, commercial, education, and non-profit sectors
2. Community informatics is applied for **community & network building** across generation, gender, distance – even the entire country
3. Community Informatics **revitalizes the regions outside Tokyo -地方-** in education, culture, and economy
4. **None of 12 cases are solely actual CI (public computing)** as of today, though several began as actual
5. Only 2 cases were organic, grown out of non-technology issues; **10 began life as technology focused projects**

## 12 community/technology projects: Actual, Virtual, Combined, and Organic

Description	Initial stage	Present stage
1 e-learning and regular schooling programs for local community members who are both interested in learning and teaching, for all of Japan.	V	C
2 Online cataloging and archives (database) for 1995 Kobe earthquake, for public to share the memorial collection both online and at the local university library, located in the central west of Japan.	A	C
3 Online brochure and information about their annual booklets of victims of 1995 Kobe earthquake, for all of Japan.	O	C
4 Online brochure and daily communication tools by the school websites and personal blog spaces provided by the staff of the school including the principal, for not only the school related but also the local communities located in a rural mountainous region.	O	C
5 Online information sharing and exchange space for local merchandiser/shop owners located in Tokyo with people who is interested in the community, primarily for residents, workers, and visitors of the community.	A	V
6 e-learning and regular schooling programs for local community members, for a rural mountainous and coastal region of Japan.	A	C
7 Emergency childcare services for local community members, for those who have work obligation but need immediate help for sick children.	C	C
8 Social networking service sites for local community members, provided by the city, for a central city of rural mountainous region in southern Japan.	V	V
9 e-Learning and regular schooling programs for local community members, for a rural mountainous region.	A	C
10 Interactive online space for information about job provided by well-known individuals and general publics, for youth in all regions of Japan.	V	V
11 Online information gateway for all NGO and NPO, for all regions of Japan.	V	V
12 Social networking service sites for local community members, provided by the local broadcasting company, for all the residents and people affiliated with the area located in Southern Japan.	V	V

