Lily Kiminami and Toshihiko Nakamura (Eds.) : *Food Security and Industrial Clustering in Northeast Asia, New Frontiers in Regional Science : Asian Perspectives*, Vol. 6, Springer, 2016, 282 p.

Reitaku University Suminori TOKUNAGA

This book focuses on food security from the Asian perspective and industrial clustering in Japan, North-east Asia, EU and North America. The book integrates diversified methodologies of area studies, regional economic development, regional science and related fields to construct a strategy for forming the “regional food industrial cluster.” This is done by assigning “innovation” as a core concept, with the basic problem of food security. In particular, the principle of “collaborative advantage” as a key factor is extracted from case studies on food industrial clustering in each area. Thus, this book offers new and rich insights into the studies and policies related to food security and food clustering.

The organization of this book is as follows.

Chapter 1 : Food Security and Collaborative Advantage : Scoping the Scene.

Part I Food Security from the Asian Perspective

Chapter 2 : Defining Japan’s Food Security in East Asia

Chapter 3 : Current Position and Future Direction of Agriculture in Northeast Asia

Chapter 4 : Analysis of China’s Food Supply and Demand Balance and Food Security

Chapter 5 : Korea’s Food Security Schemes

Part II Food Clustering in Northeast Asia

Chapter 6 : The Food System Based on Agriculture

Chapter 7 : The Network Structure of a Soybean Cluster in Hokkaido

Chapter 8 : The Competitive Advantages of Green Tea Clusters in Japan

Chapter 9 : Food and Health-Related Industry Clustering in Niigata Prefecture

Chapter 10 : Agricultural Industry Clusters in China

Chapter 11 : Industrial Agglomeration of the Food Industry in China : An Analysis of Data by Province

Chapter 12 : The Agricultural Industrialization of China’s Heilongjiang Province

Chapter 13 : Agricultural Production and Related Business by Public Firms : A Case Study on Xinhua Farm, Heilongjiang

Chapter 14 : Promotion Policies for Food Industry Cluster in Korea

Chapter 15 : The Trends and Potential for Food Industry Clusters in Korea

Chapter 16 : The Promotion of and Challenges for the Agricultural Senary Industrialization Policy in the Republic of Korea

Part III Food Clustering in EU and North America

Chapter 17 : Cluster Initiatives in Eastern Poland : Good Practices in Agriculture and Food-Processing Industry

Chapter 18 : Main Factors Affecting Food Industry Clustering in France

Chapter 19 : Industrial Cluster Analysis, Entrepreneurship and Regional Economic Development

Chapter 1 provides the core concept of this book, which is a useful guide to the rest of this book. The four chapters of Part I deal with the issues of food security for the following Asian countries : East Asia (Chapter 2) ; Japan and Northeast Asia (Chapter 3) ; China (Chapter 4) ; and Korea (Chapter 5). Chapter 2 elaborates on the concept of Japan's food security ; Chapter 3 reviews the current situation and future perspective of food, agriculture and rural resources in Japan in the context of economic development in Asian countries ; Chapter 4 analyzes the current and future changes in China's food production, consumption and trade ; and Chapter 5 examines the features and issues of Korea's efforts on food security.

Next, the eleven chapters of Part II shift the focus to food and agricultural industries clustering in Japan and Northeast Asia. Chapter 6 analyzes the Japanese food system based on agriculture ; Chapters 7, 8, and 9 discuss food clusters of soybean, green tea, and food and health-related industry in Japan, respectively. Chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13 analyze the agricultural industry clusters, industrial agglomeration of the food industry, agricultural industrialization, and agricultural production and related business in China, respectively. Chapters 14, 15, and 16 discuss policies for the food industry cluster, the trends and potential for food industry clusters, and the promotion of and challenges for the agricultural senary industrialization policy in Korea respectively.

The final chapters — 17, 18, and 19 — which together form Part III of this book, focus on the food clustering in EU and North America. Chapter 17 analyzes the cluster initiatives as good practices in agriculture and food-processing industry in Eastern Poland. Chapter 18 provides insights into the spatial structure of the French food sector by investigating the forces of agglomeration and dispersion that influence the location of food industries in France in 2007. Finally, Chapter 19 clarifies the cluster concept and how clusters are identified, nurtured and grown as elements of regional economies, with a special focus on food-specific clusters.

In sum, this book would be of immense value to research scholars interested in food security, industrial clustering and regional development. In addition, it serves as an informative source for policymakers and practitioners