

## Laboratory / Center profile

### AGRI (Agricultural Laboratory)

[http://lab.sdm.keio.ac.jp/nouto\\_lab/](http://lab.sdm.keio.ac.jp/nouto_lab/) (in Japanese)

Representatives: Professor Takashi Maeno, Project Professor Mikako Hayashi

The “Agriculture Laboratory” was formed in 2008, at the time of the establishment of Keio SDM, as one of its cross-cutting research laboratories. The laboratory seeks a “symbiosis of rural areas and urban cities,” as the concept aimed at the revitalization and activation of local communities. The “Agriculture Laboratory” aims to study, spread and advocate regional revitalization through rural-city symbiosis, and has been made possible by a donation from Norinchukin Bank. Professor Maeno, Project Professor Mikako Hayashi and others are guiding the laboratory. The main activities of the laboratory are as follows:

#### (1) Research into Regional Revitalization based on Rural-Urban Symbiosis

The laboratory holds seminars once or twice a month, as Project Professor Hayashi is based in Sapporo working as a TV broadcaster. The seminar participants are diverse: Master’s and doctoral students and many researchers from the SDM Research Institute are actively conducting research. The laboratory conducts research into themes such as deserted arable land, plant factories and AGRI business using SDM methods, focusing on total optimization instead of localized solutions.

#### (2) Activities Related to Spreading and Advocating Rural-Urban Symbiosis

The laboratory conducts forums every year. This year, a seminar on agriculture, rural villages and regional revitalization was held in March. Project Professor Hayashi has a number of publications, such as *The Secret of Rural-Urban Symbiosis* (Jurosha Publications, Inc.) and *Let's Become Happy with Agriculture in Rural Towns* (Azumi Publications, Inc.) in addition to the Agricultural Laboratory’s annual reports.

#### (3) Research in Agriculture and Rural Areas

Every summer, we visit agricultural and rural areas. Last year, we visited farms and agriculture-related facilities on the invitation of Obihiro Municipal Government Office and witnessed community building efforts as part of our research. On the last day, a workshop and presentation session was held using SDM methods on the theme “Cultivate Tokachi’s Charms,” together with the city government and local residents. We received positive comments from Obihiro City government and local companies, such as: “We would like to utilize what we have learned for the future.” This year, we plan to conduct research at Obuse Town in Nagano Prefecture in collaboration with the Social Design Center of the SDM Research Institute in Obuse. To all of you those who are interested in “Rural-Urban Symbiosis” and “Regional Vitalization,” please feel free to take part in the Agriculture Laboratory’s activities!

**AGRI (アグリ)ゼミ 活動紹介**  
 所属 システムデザイン・マネジメント研究科  
 氏名 林 美香子

1. アグリとSDM

2. アグリゼミとしての取り組み内容

3. 教員紹介

林美香子教授  
 松尾 大正一教授  
 紅野 隆也教授

Hiyoshi Research Portfolio  
 「研」をめぐる社会との交流・協働キャンパス

▶ <http://www.sdm.keio.ac.jp/pdf/agrizemi.pdf> (in Japanese)



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