The Potential of Promoting EBPM in Local Community Development: A Case Study of a Population Projection Tool Based on an Idea Originating from Local Government Officials
— The Case of Supporting Municipalities in Planning the 8th Long-Term Care Insurance Administrative Business Plan in Hokkaido —

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Ten years have passed since the Law for Creation of Town, People and Work came into effect in 2014. During this period, "EBPM (Evidence Based Policy Making)" was initiated at the national level under the leadership of the Cabinet Office, and now, in addition to the conventional PDCA cycle, local governments are also required to conduct policy planning and policy evaluation based on EBPM or evidence-based PDCA. EBPM, or evidence-based PDCA is now required in addition to conventional PDCA in local governments. The most commonly used evidence is probably data on population, but in some cases, the results of population projections conducted by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research cannot be used as they are. However, many local governments cannot make their own future population projections due to staffing issues and other factors. This paper introduces a case study of the development of a population projection tool for Hokkaido municipalities by Hokkaido Officials' voluntary independent research and evaluates it in the context of the promotion of EBPM for local development. The original purpose of this population projection tool was to support municipalities in Hokkaido in formulating their 8th long-term care insurance administrative business plans, but the results of population projections are not limited to a specific purpose. This paper explains the background of administrative planning, which led to the development of this projection tool, and demonstrates the possibility of connecting it to the government-wide discussion of regional development by repositioning and evaluating the voluntary efforts of officials in the framework of EBPM promotion.

Key words: Population projection, Long-Term Care Insurance Administrative Business Plan, Hokkaido, Voluntary independent research, EBPM