

## Discussions on the theme of "An Era of Transformation, Future Housing and Cities" with housing and urban development agencies from South Korea, Hong Kong, and Singapore

From November 19th to 21st, the 28th Conference of Housing and Urban Public Corporations in Asia was convened in Seoul. The conference was participated by four agencies: South Korea as the host country, Hong Kong, Singapore, and UR.

The theme of this year's conference was "An Era of Transformation, Future Housing and Cities." Participating agencies presented their initiatives and exchanged views on the declining birthrate and aging population, technology development addressing climate change and AI.

In response to the challenges of a super-aged society, Mr. OZAWA Tadayuki presented that UR rental housings have been working since 2016 to establish community-based welfare hubs. These initiatives aim to strengthen collaboration with communities, promote the extension of healthy life expectancy for seniors, and foster community development. He also introduced the case of Urayasu Marina East 21 as a good practice of services designed to ensure that child-rearing households can continue living there with peace of mind amid the ongoing trend of declining birthrates and aging populations.

As the impacts of climate change become increasingly severe, Ms. TAKEDA Nao highlighted UR's efforts to promote environmental sustainability, including initiatives for decarbonization and harmony with nature. She presented specific examples from Tamadaira no Mori and Sunvarie Sakurazutsumi to illustrate these measures in UR rental housing.

Other agencies expressed strong interest in initiatives such as strengthening community ties through multi-generational community cafés and preserving

### 5 (1-1) Child Engagement Supporters

- Activities began in 2022.
- Share casual updates on Instagram to reach interested child-rearing households, steadily increasing followers.
- Plan events that engage children using familiar materials. The bath bomb making event was fully booked.
- Fathers actively participated, creating new bonds.


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### 5. Contribution to international goals

Tamadaira no Mori and Sunvarie Sakurazutsumi are registered on the World Database on OECMs\*, contributing to biodiversity conservation other than protected areas such as national parks.

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green spaces to protect biodiversity.

Presentations from other agencies included interesting topics such as the use of AI for building and resident management, as well as solutions for resolving noise-related issues from upper floors.

Korean organizer summed up that the conference had provided valuable information that could be utilized in the future. The four agencies signed an agreement to continue holding this conference and confirmed that UR will host the next meeting in 2026.

On the third day, guided by the Korea Land and Housing Corporation (LH), we visited the Dongtan new town in Hwaseong City, Gyeonggi Province, located about 50 kilometers south of Seoul. Dongtan spans 3,000 hectares, making it a vast development comparable in scale to Tama New Town a representative development by UR. Seoul is facing a severe housing shortage, and in this new town, not only housing and office spaces are being developed, but an expressway line is also under construction.



We also visited a detached housing community town, which is Zero Energy Housing. This area consists of approximately 300 detached and townhouses. The detached houses are provided as affordable homes, under a scheme that allows rental for the first eight years, after which households can purchase them.



Ms. AKASAKA Kaori, Head of UR delegation concluded this conference as follows. "It was a very beneficial and wonderful conference. I hope we can continue working together as trusted partners who are addressing the challenges of housing and urban development in changing times. In 2026, UR will be the host. We look forward to welcoming you to Japan".

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