



# **Initiatives in Kochi University's Community Partnership and Utilization of SUJI Service Learning**

**Hiroshi Wakiguchi  
President, Kochi University**



# **“University for the Community”, the highest priority**



- **To make countermeasures against community problems together with regional stakeholders.**
- **To promote Community Collaboration Education, developed 20 service learning field**



# Kochi : Aging society with fewer children



**Causes such problems as;**

- **deteriorating conditions of life in the rural areas,**
- **declining industries,**
- **frequent occurrences of natural disasters.**
- **serious gap between urban and rural**





# "Tosa Food Business Creators"

**A collaboration of the University, local governments, and industries**





# "Tosa Food Business Creators"

- To provide nearly 200 hours of lectures and practices per year in food processing, hygiene, marketing.
- 150 people completed the courses





# Center of Community

- Kochi Univ. designated as one of 52 Univ.
- Aim: strengthening the functions of universities as leaders within their local communities
- University function: the focal point of human resources, information, and technology that can be applied to community problems.



## COC reform (1)

# Establishment of New Faculty of Community Collaboration

- Educate students as future leaders of community collaboration through the study on community policy
- Enhance action research in industry and economy, life and welfare, culture and sports, and disaster prevention
- Provide local community education



## COC reform (2)

### Establishment of 7 branches and University Block Coordinator

- Enhance the relations with Kochi prefectural government and other municipalities in Kochi.
- Establish 7 regional branches within Kochi Prefecture stationed by University Block Coordinators (UBCs).
- Function as a advisor and HRD course conductor for students and local people.

# 7 Branches and University Block Coordinators

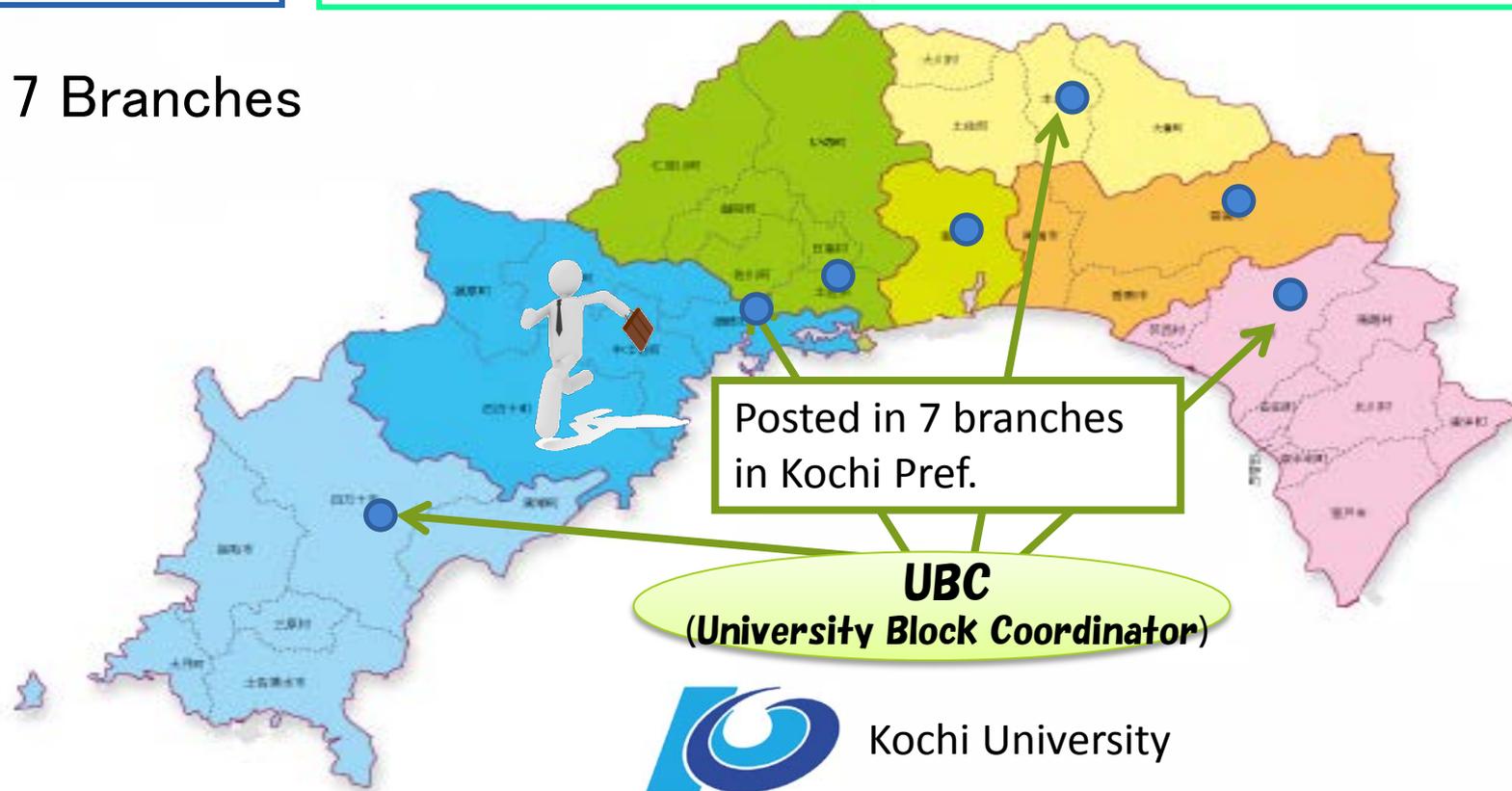
## UBC Function

- ① Advisor
- ② HRD  
course  
conductor

Match various problems of local communities with our academic resources.

Conduct human resource development of both students and community.

## ● 7 Branches





# University and communities (1)

- The University's relations with local communities have been focused on the application of the University's scientific knowledge for the solution of community problems.
- Nowadays, the traditional knowledge of the local communities is increasingly recognized as of considerable value among academic establishments.
- Some instructors take students into communities so that they can connect what is learned in the classroom with an actual problem in the fields. As these cases show, we can learn much from local communities.



## University and communities (2)

- Absorbing the wisdom to be found in the local communities is very important for education.
- Instead of merely offering the University's scientific knowledge to the local communities, our stance to learn from them is the key to progress in the collaboration between the University and the local communities.
- Kochi University as a COC will come together with the local communities in an invaluable long-term relation.



# SUIJI Service Learning: An Opportunity to Develop International Perspective

Community collaboration leaders must have broad vision based on the experience abroad

Learning in Japan



Activities in Japan



Apply

Activities in Indonesia



Apply



Learning in Indonesia

I believe the students will develop international Ideas and perspectives.



Thank you for your kind attention!

Hiroshi Wakiguchi  
President , Kochi University