

Directions of land use change and their main driving factors in the southern region of Ibaraki, Japan

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In the southern region of Ibaraki, recent rapid land development activities including new town development and the traffic network improvement have brought remarkable changes in land use and landscape patterns. In this study, land use and landscape patterns dynamics over a 100 year period are analyzed for a case study in the southern region of Ibaraki. With the help of old topographic map, GIS and multivariate analysis, factors contributing to land use and changes are studied. Finally, this study reveals the impact of the land condition and the railroad location on the land use patterns.