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Sommario/riassunto

Adding a new perspective to the current literature on decentralization in Japan, *Cities, Autonomy and Decentralization in Japan*, approaches the subject from an urban studies and planning approach. The essays in the collection present a cogent compilation of case studies focusing on the past, present and future of decentralization in Japan. These include small scale development in the fields such as citizen participation (*machizukuri*), urban form and architecture, disaster prevention and conservation of monuments. The contributors suggest that new trends are emerging
