ARCH’s participatory approach to homelessness in Tokyo

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<td>Vision</td>
<td>A resilient and inclusive city</td>
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<td>Scale</td>
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<td>Organise citizens for a transformative change</td>
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“The night of change”

**Tokyo Street Count**

- Tokyo Govt’s daytime count hides the size of the problem
- Service providers unable to get a picture for entire Tokyo

**Nighttime count**

**Participatory approach**
Biannual counts since Jan 2016
20 nights
16 wards and 7 cities

Rough sleepers estimate for entire Tokyo 2060 (2.8 times)
No. of people ignored 1000+
1021
1910 person-nights in total
The pandemic

Japan: 20,209 cases (979 deaths)
Tokyo: 6,973 cases
“Soft lockdown”: April 7 to May 25

Govt’s response to homelessness

National
• Welfare loan for low-income households
• Housing security benefit for those at risk of losing a house

Tokyo
• Emergency shelter for those staying in 24hr internet cafés
Homeless service providers

- Crowdfunding
- Increased case work
- Extra shelter provision

Unstably housed (Low-income)

Houseless

Roofless

- Decreased volunteer-based activities (e.g. soup kitchen, street outreach)
- Mass participation approach
Nighttime hotspot count

- 6 nights, 222 hotspots in central Tokyo
- Number of people sleeping rough + hygienic environment
Online meeting with TSC participants (5 July)

- 48 TSC participants gathered to share their stories with homeless people and discuss how we could continue participatory street counts.