Making of a Safety Program for School-Commuting Routes, Utilizing “Safety Check Map (SCM)”

What is “Safety Check Map” ?

An SCM is aiming at making a safety program for school-commuting routes, based on the information on hazardous/charm points found through town walking. Making an SCM requires a lot of works for PTA members and local leaders, and all they could do was checking the current conditions. Therefore, we developed tools that would reduce their burden of works.

An SCM was made in central district of Chichibu City(Fig.1) in September 2014, and a workshop was conducted in 2015 where the tools we had developed were applied. The findings by the workshop, for general and wider uses of SCM and the methods are reported.

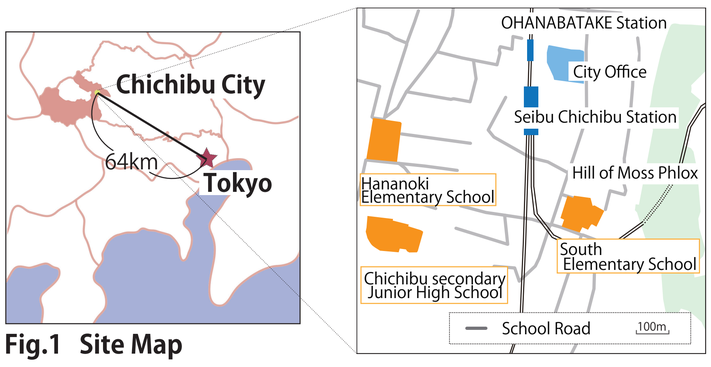


Fig.1 Site Map

Chichibu City

Chichibu-City acquired the certification of SC on 15/11/2015.

Area:577.83 ㎢
Population:63,477 people
Households:24,103 families

Flow of Implementation

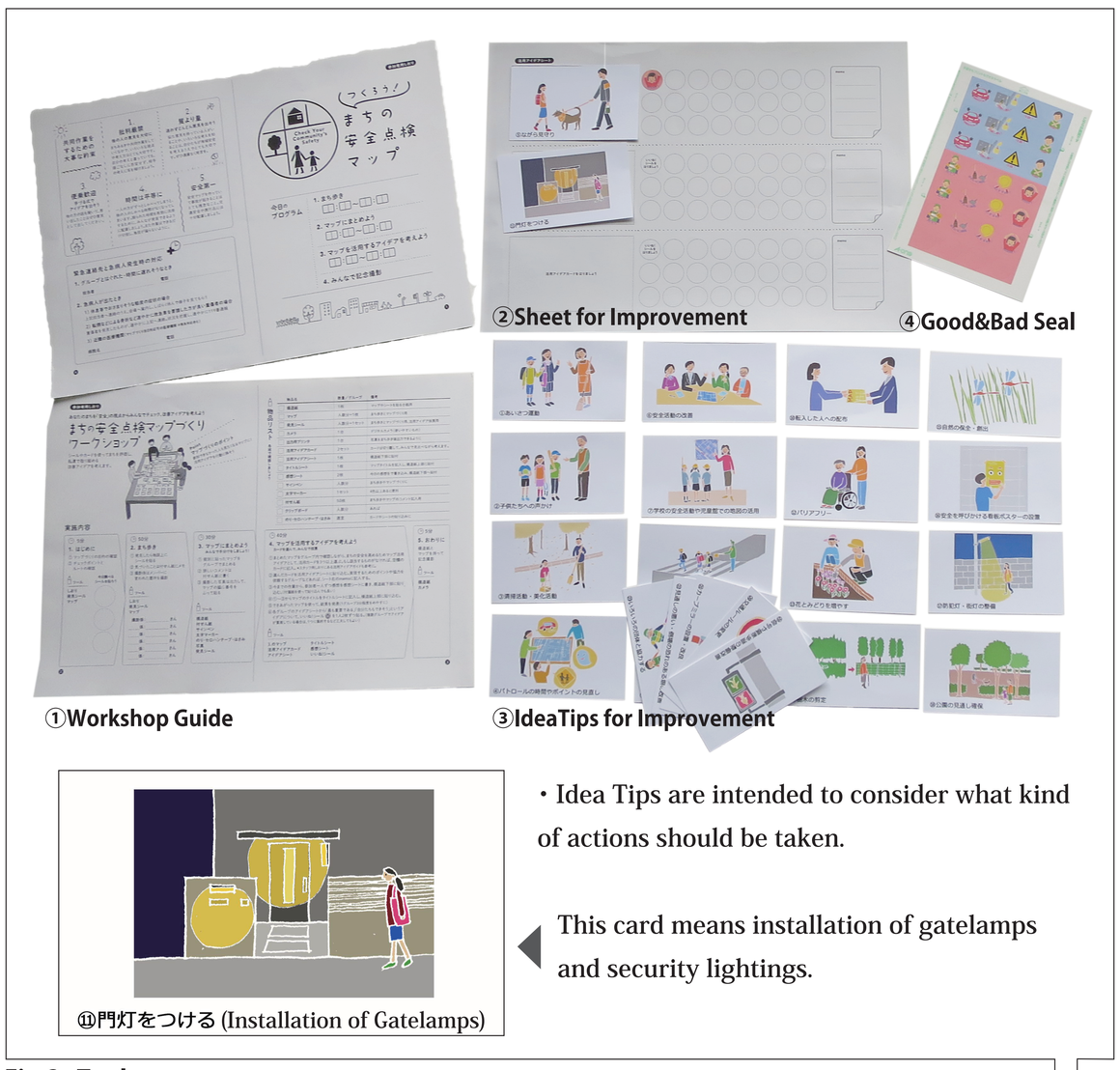
We held the workshop using the tools(Fig.2) including worksheets, cards, and stickers, in a neighborhood of the city hall, on May 17, 2015.

5/17(SAT) Workshop for Safety Check Map

13:00-	Orientation and guidance
13:35-	Grouping
13:45-	Walk-and-check(Fig.3)
14:45-	Group work and Discussion(Fig.4)
16:00-	Final Review
16:45-	Closing and filling out questionnaire

Participants

residents, city officials, children, guardians, and teachers of the three local elementary and junior high schools who aim at getting ISS certification（Total 22 persons）



・Idea Tips are intended to consider what kind of actions should be taken.

This card means installation of gatelamps and security lightings.

Fig.2 Tools

Fig.3 Walk-and-Check

Fig.4 Evaluation

Outcomes of Creation “Safety Check Map”

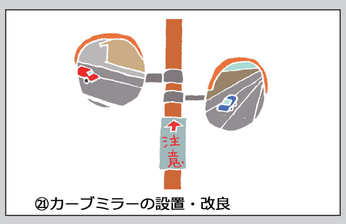
Each group’ s map had 20-30 stickers showing notable places, with photographs and comments(Fig.5). Based on the map, safety improve programs were considered(Fig.6), for street lights, traffic rules and walls/fences etc. The output was more substantial than the previous workshop, within the same time frame. By the results of questionnaire, the tools we had developed were found to be useful to work efficiently, and especially the point that children could participate together was highly evaluated. On the other hand, problems were pointed out for the size of map, and the framing of time in workshop.

Fig.5 SCM of Chichibu Secondary Junior High School

Fig.6 Close-up of the SCM

・There is the Stop Signage but there isn’t traffic mirrors.
・Many cars do not stop.
・Sudden coming out of the bicycle is dangerous.

Installation and improvement of traffic mirrors.



Achievements and Challenges

Through the workshop we conclude that the above described tools would help children’ s participation(Fig.7-8) in making an SCM, and SCM would be useful to make a safety program effectively in short time. To conduct periodical safety checks with children’ s participation, the size of map and the framing of time in workshop need to be reconsidered.

Fig.7 Children’s participation

Fig.8 Announcement of SCM they made

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