

# **The Promotion of SDGs in Localities, following The FutureCity Initiative**

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# Points for discussion

- **The “FutureCity” Initiative**
- **Local Government Administration and SDGs**

# SDGs as a Global Mechanism

International goals to be attained by 2030



Three-layer structure

Goals (17)  
Targets (169)  
Indicators (232)

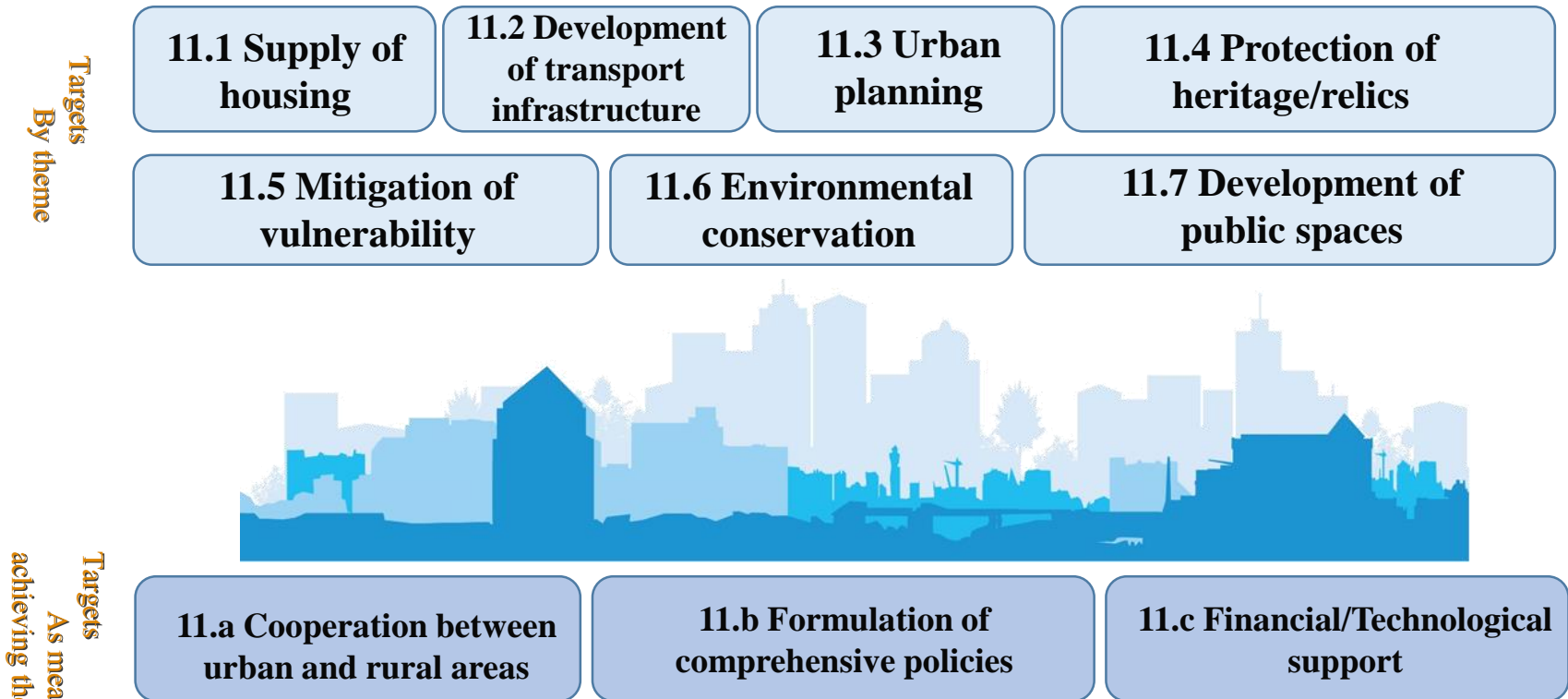


Monitoring and evaluation of the progress status

Applied universally across all countries and regions

# SDGs Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

## 10 targets established under Goal 11:

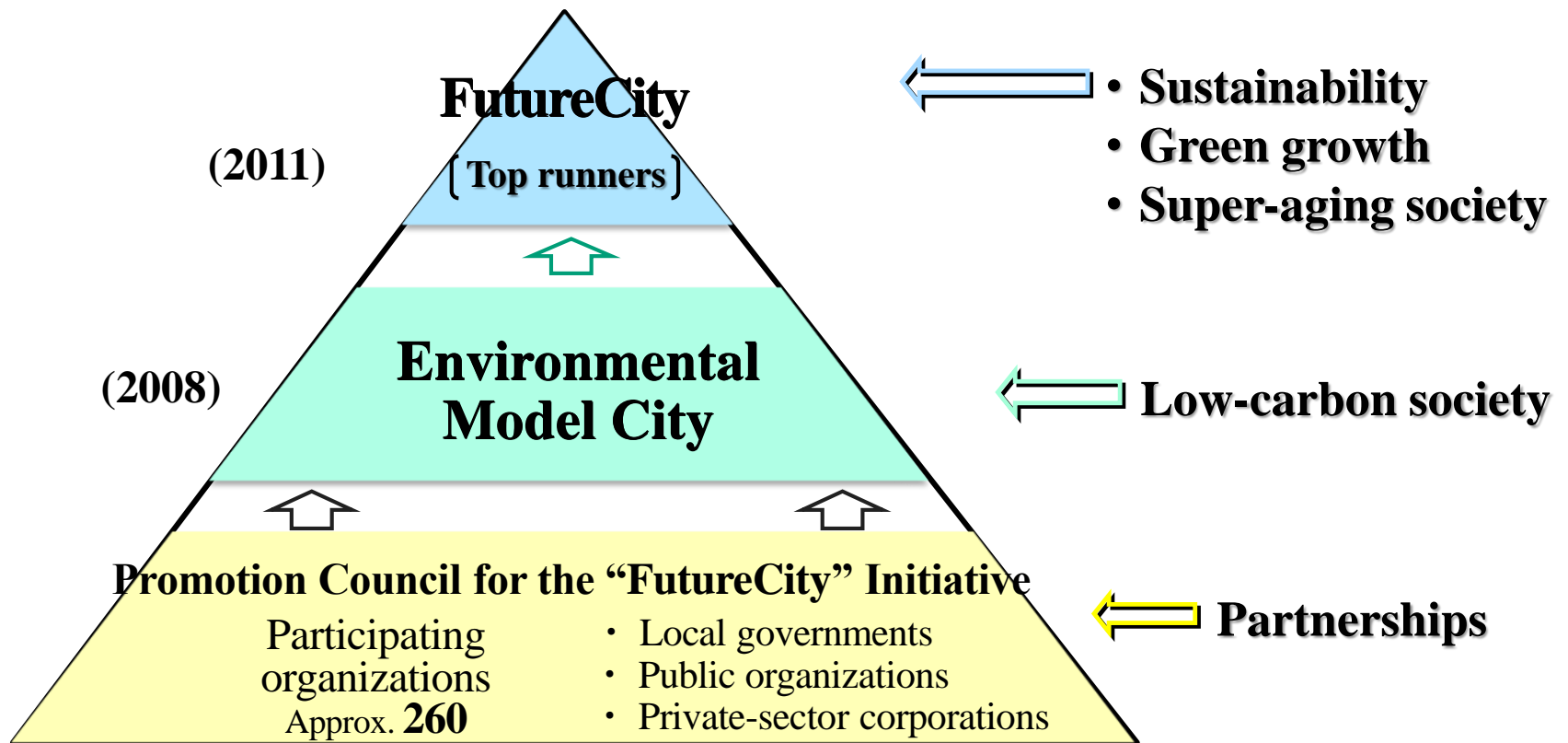


⇒ Goal 11 has the strongest connection with local government administration

⇒ On the other hand, the other 16 goals are also related to local government administration in various ways.

# Examples of Sustainable Community Development Initiatives by the Government

## System for promoting the “FutureCity” initiative



# Overview of Activities Under the “FutureCity” Initiative

1. Accreditation by the central government
2. Presentation of goals that citizens should achieve
3. Interviews and advice from the expert committee
4. Establishment of the Promotion Council for the “FutureCity” Initiative
  - ⇒ Partnerships between industries/public organizations and local governments
5. Evaluation and public announcement by the national government
  - ⇒ Implementation of PDCA and improvement in the governance by the head of the local government
6. Dissemination of best practices within and outside Japan
  - ⇒ Global partnerships

# Selected Environmental Model Cities/FutureCity

## Environmental model cities (Total: 23 cities)

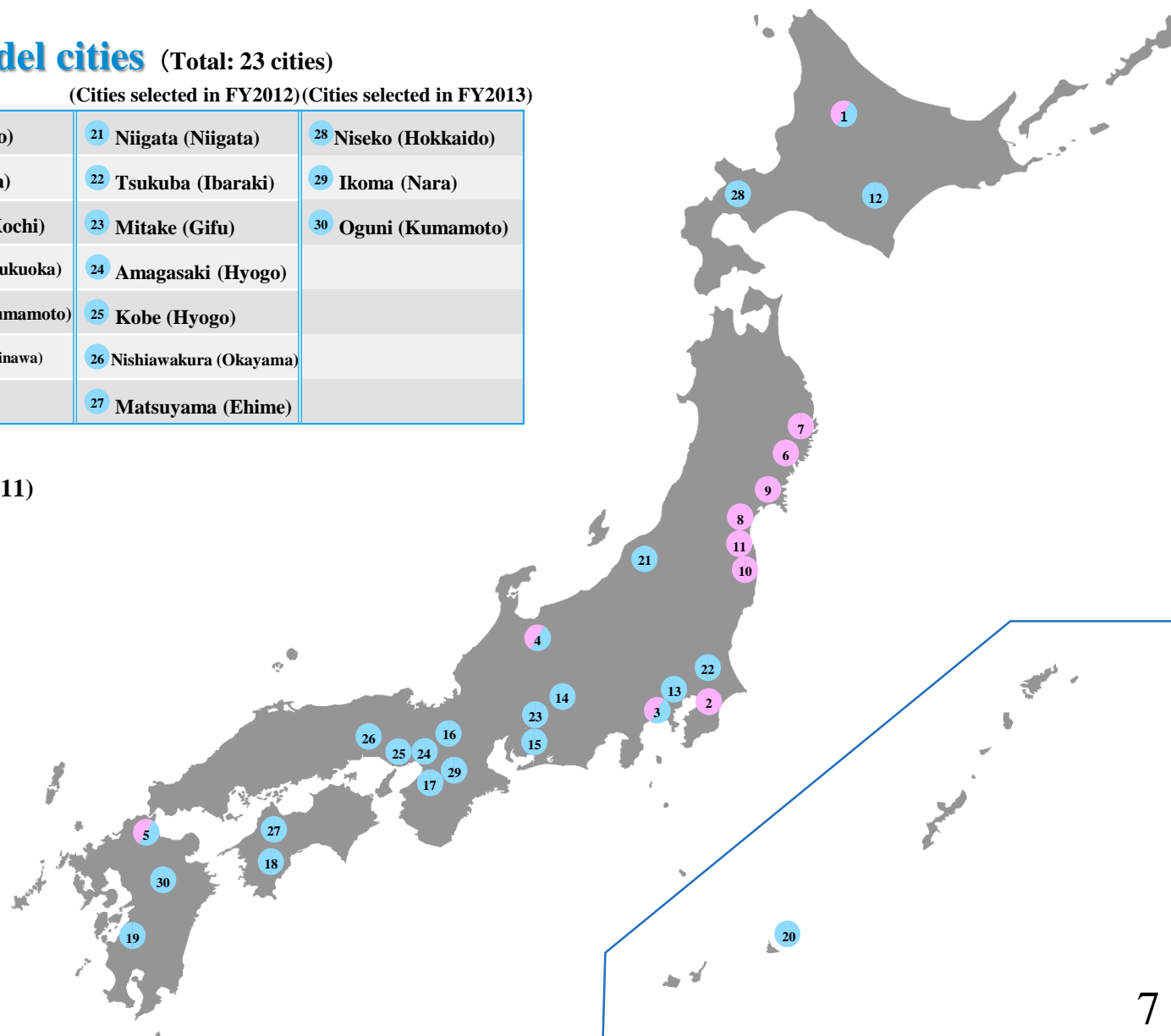
(Cities selected in FY2008)

(Cities selected in FY2012) (Cities selected in FY2013)

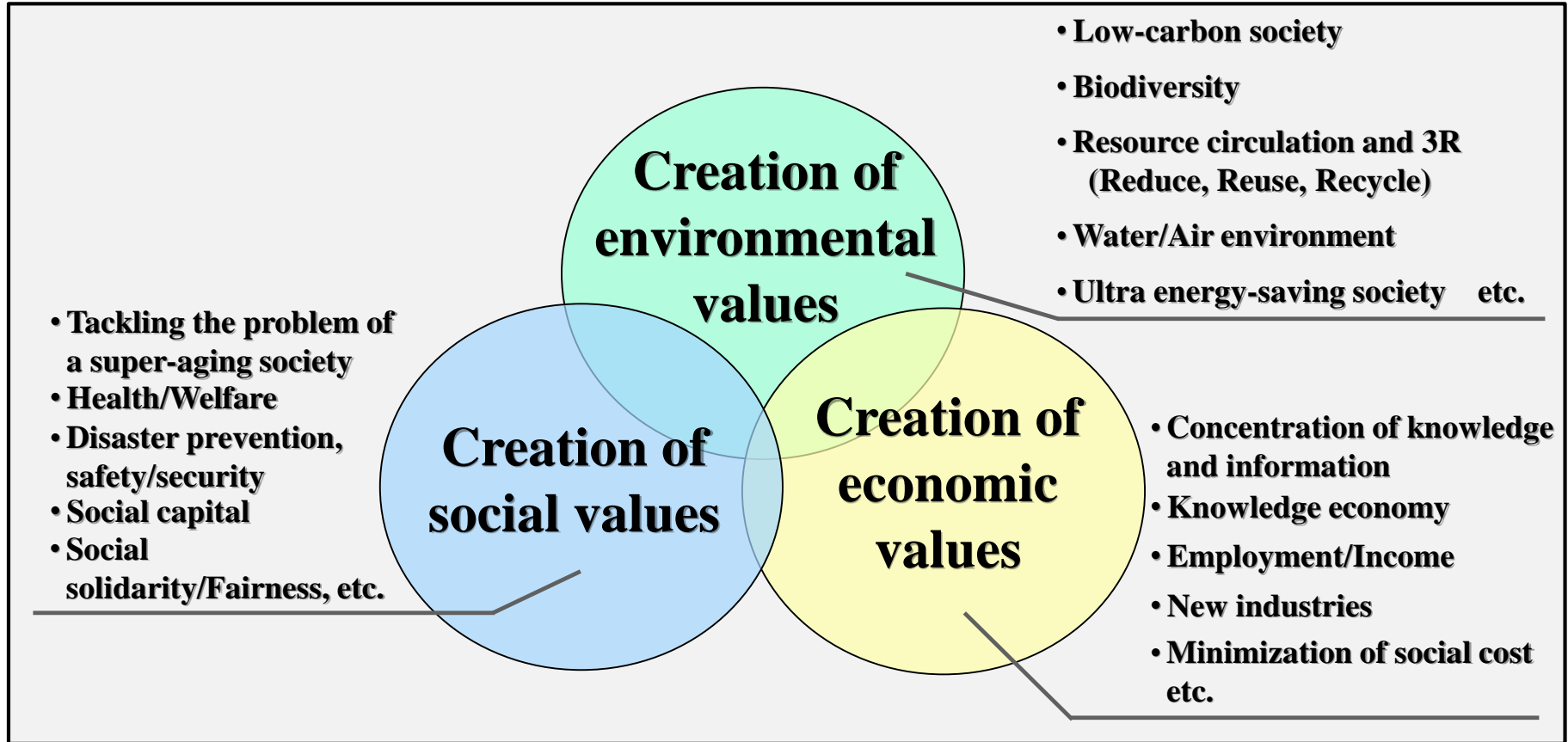
1 Shimokawa (Hokkaido)	16 Kyoto (Kyoto)	21 Niigata (Niigata)	28 Niseko (Hokkaido)
12 Obihiro (Hokkaido)	17 Sakai (Osaka)	22 Tsukuba (Ibaraki)	29 Ikoma (Nara)
13 Chiyoda (Tokyo)	18 Yusuhara (Kochi)	23 Mitake (Gifu)	30 Oguni (Kumamoto)
3 Yokohama (Kanagawa)	5 Kitakyushu (Fukuoka)	24 Amagasaki (Hyogo)	
14 Iida (Nagano)	19 Minamata (Kumamoto)	25 Kobe (Hyogo)	
4 Toyama (Toyama)	20 Miyakojima (Okinawa)	26 Nishiawakura (Okayama)	
15 Toyota (Aichi)		27 Matsuyama (Ehime)	

## FutureCity (11 cities: 2011)

1 Shimokawa (Hokkaido)
2 Kashiwa (Chiba)
3 Yokohama (Kanagawa)
4 Toyama (Toyama)
5 Kitakyushu (Fukuoka)
6 Kesen Region (Iwate)
7 Kamaishi (Iwate)
8 Iwanuma (Miyagi)
9 Higashimatsushima (Miyagi)
10 Minamisoma (Fukushima)
11 Shinchi (Fukushima)



# Creation of Three Values Toward Sustainable Growth in the "FutureCity" Initiative



⇒ The triple bottom-line framework of environment, society, and economy is strongly compatible with SDGs.



# International Dissemination

## 1. Official side-event hosted by the Japanese government at (RIO + 20): “Future Cities We Want”



Speech by the  
Minister of Foreign  
Affairs



(RIO + 20: UN Conference on Sustainable Development)



Introduction to the “FutureCity” Initiative  
by Shuzo Murakami (Chairperson of the Expert Study Group)

## 2. International forum held in cities within and outside Japan: Total of 9 forums held

# Why was the "FutureCity" Initiative able to achieve great success?

1. The title of "Environmental Model City"/"FutureCity" accorded by the central government
  - ⇒ Gave local governments strong motivation toward the realization of sustainable societies
2. Each city promoting initiatives through their own efforts, based on their own concepts and ideas
  - ⇒ Building models of autonomous virtuous cycles
  - ⇒ Provided significant hint to promotion of SDGs by local governments

# Points of discussion

- **“FutureCity” Initiative**
- **Local Government Administration and SDGs**

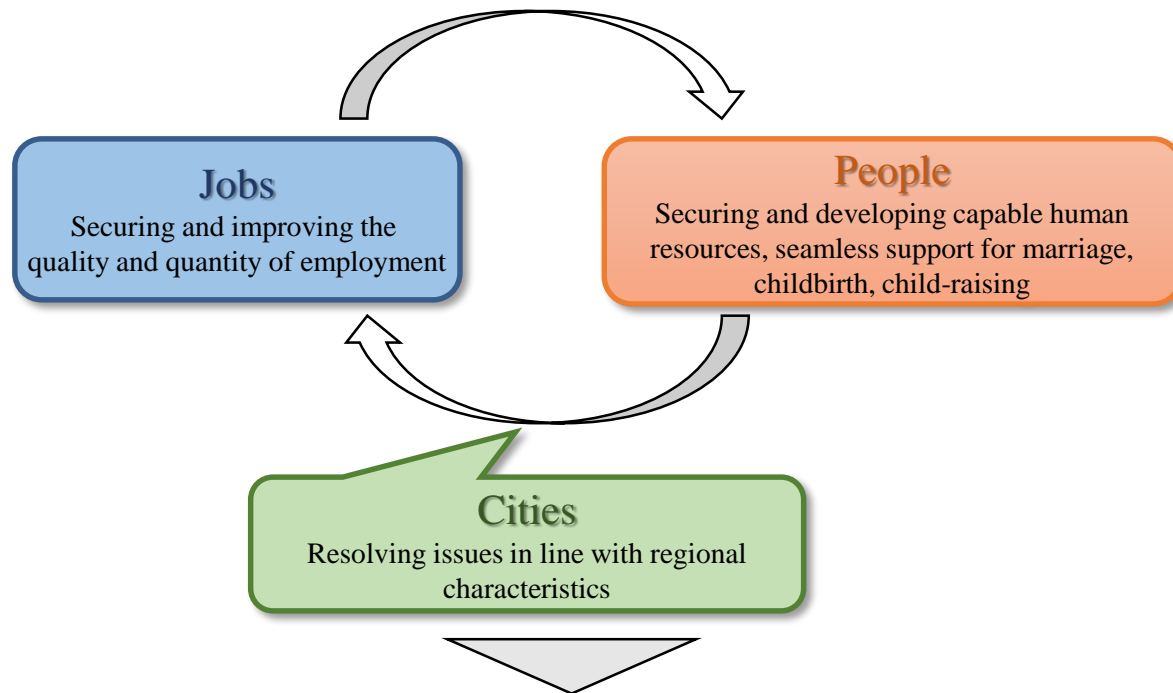
# Act on the Revitalization of Cities, People, and Jobs: The Centerpiece for Regional Revitalization

- Tackling the problems of declining birthrates/aging population, and putting the brakes on population decline
- Remediating the excessive concentration of population in the Tokyo region
- Securing a good living environment in the respective regions
- ⇒ Maintaining a vibrant Japanese society into the future

Need for initiatives corresponding to the characteristics of each region

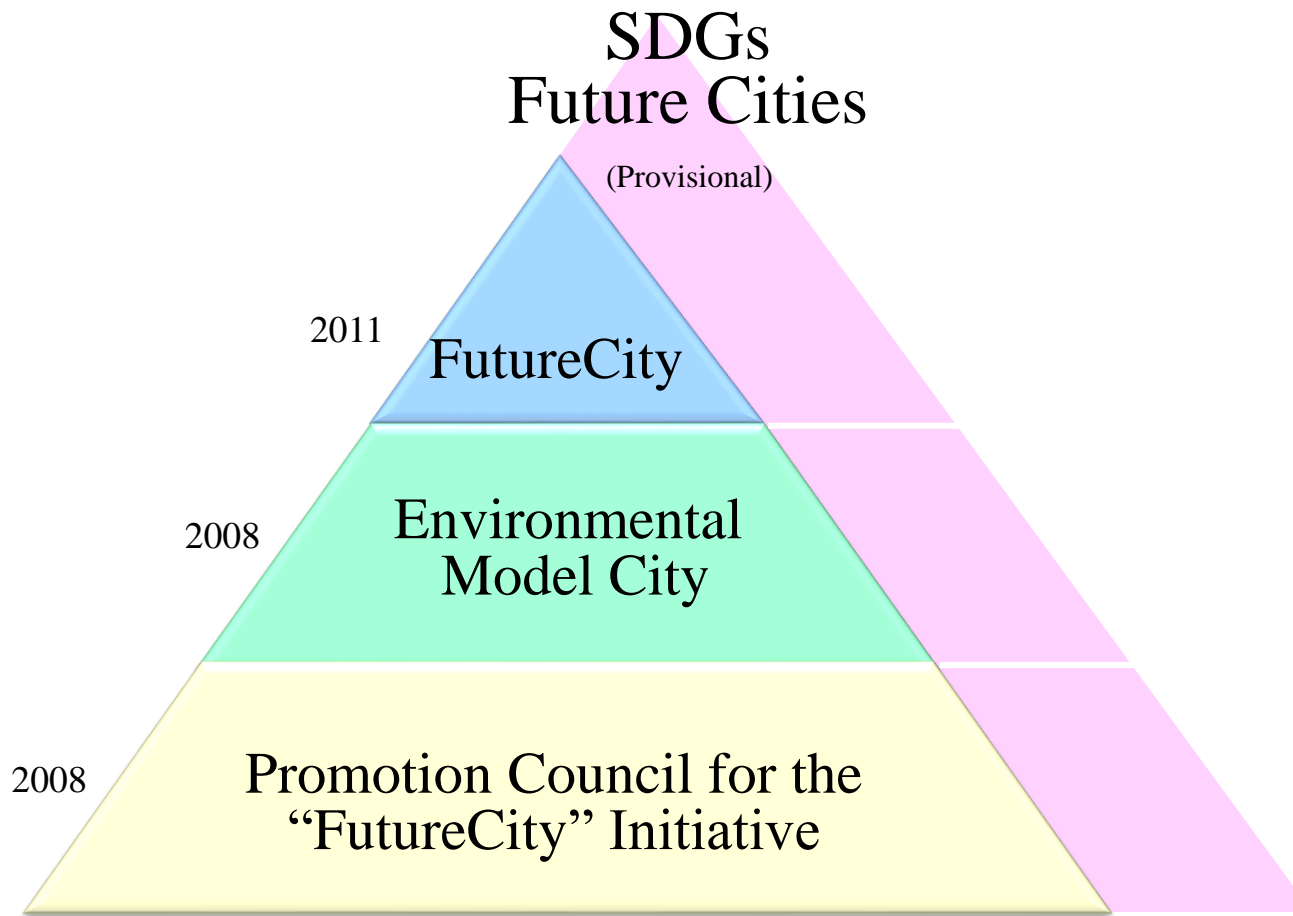
Selection from the diverse menu of SDGs

# Regional Revitalization Through Collaboration Between "Cities, People, and Jobs"



- If there are jobs, people would come, and the cities would be revitalized
- If cities are not attractive, both people and companies would leave

**Sustainable development through SDGs**



- ⇒ One of the concrete policies by the **Cabinet Office’s SDGs Promotion Headquarters** (June 2016): Promotion of the "FutureCity" Initiative toward the further revitalization of local governments
- ⇒ Establishment of **Expert Study Group for the Promotion of SDGs by Local Governments** under the Office for Promotion of Regional Revitalization of the Cabinet Office (June 2017)

# Guidelines for SDGs Implementation, Established by the Government of Japan (December 2016)

## (3) Cooperation with stakeholders (Guidelines for SDGs Implementation, P8)

### (Local governments)

In order to implement the SDGs nationwide, it is vital for local governments across Japan as well as stakeholders active in those regions to take a proactive approach toward promoting initiatives. From this perspective, encourage the respective local governments to reflect elements of the SDGs to the greatest extent possible in the formulation and revision of various plans, strategies, and policies, and at the same time, promote initiatives toward the achievement of SDGs, such as strengthening cooperation with the relevant stakeholders through the policies of the relevant ministries and agencies, and other means.

⇒ Proactive initiatives required of local governments

# Methods of Implementing SDGs by Local Governments (Examples)

## 1. Incorporate into the overall plans

⇒ Link SDGs initiatives with the overall plans that are positioned as the top-level plans of the local government

## 2. Incorporate into overall strategies, basic environmental plans, etc.

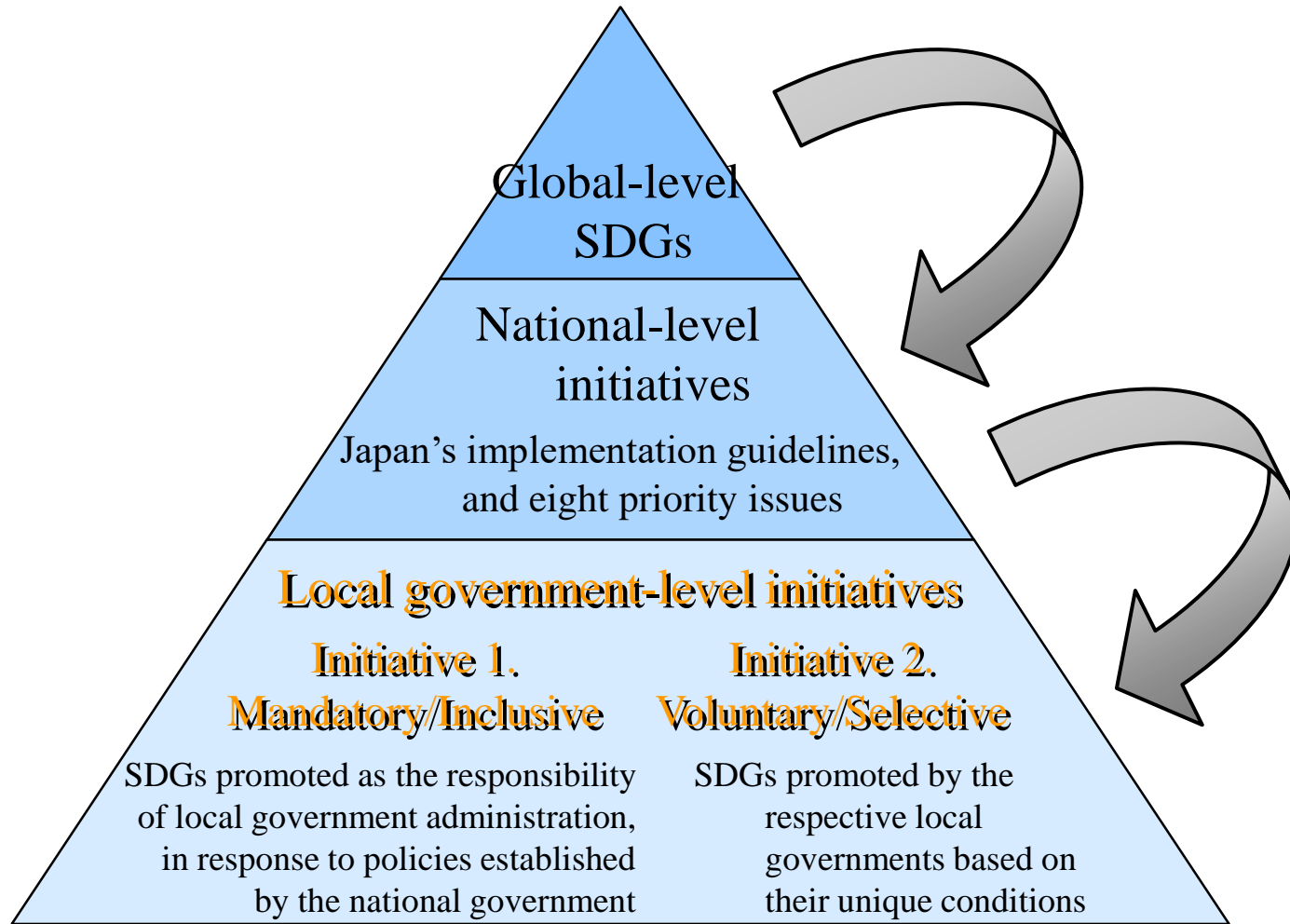
⇒ Incorporate elements of SDGs into individual strategies and plans formulated by the local government

## 3. Work out independent plans for SDGs initiatives

⇒ Work out plans for SDGs initiatives that are independent of existing plans, etc.



# Scaled-down Framework of Introduction of SDGs



**Localization** of SDGs, which is a common language across the world, is important (Incorporating into the local communities)

# **Advantages of Implementing SDGs Initiatives for Local Governments**

- 1. Fostering local identity, and revitalization of the region**
- 2. Integration of economic, societal, and environmental policies, and creation of new values**
- 3. Improvement in citizens' QOL**
- 4. Promotion of partnerships through cooperation with diverse stakeholders**
- 5. Grasping international trends and making international cooperation the mainstream trend**

# **Role of the Government in Promoting Local Government SDGs**

**1. Tie-ups with precedent systems such as the Act on the Revitalization of Cities, People, and Jobs**

**2. Drawing local governments' attention to incentives for participating in SDGs**

- ⇒ Formulation of support policies in the financial aspect, such as subsidies and tax cuts
- ⇒ Support for improving branding, such as certification for outstanding local government bodies awarded by the government

**3. Building partnerships between local governments and the national government**

- ⇒ Close cooperation between local and central governments
- ⇒ For example, establishment of organizations such as the Promotion Council for the “FutureCity” Initiative

# Establishing Policy Objectives for the Promotion of SDGs

## 1. Establishing policy objectives based on goals and targets

- ⇒ Formulating policy objectives with the goals and targets established as priorities as the main body

## 2. Individuality required

- ⇒ Pursuit of unique motivated standpoint
- ⇒ In the treatment of goals and targets, the setting of tailor-made policy objectives that reflect the unique position of the local government is recommended.
- ⇒ Efforts to highlight individuality can enhance the potential of the local government

# Selection of Indicators, and Evaluation of Progress Status

## 1. Selection of indicators

- ⇒ Review of 230 indicators, and selection of indicators that can measure the progress status of initiatives based on goals and targets

## 2. Review of feasibility of use

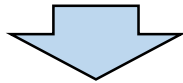
- ⇒ Does the indicator match the purpose of use?  
Is it possible to collect the data required for the calculation of indicator values?

## 3. Proposal of individuality

- ⇒ Propose unique indicators if there are no existing indicators that match the purpose of use.

# Guidelines for the Implementation of SDGs at the Local Government Level

(Published in March 2017)



## Applying the globally universal language of SDGs to community development

Author: Sub-committee for the Review of Local  
Government SDGs (Chair: Shuzo Murakami)

Established under the Institute for Building  
Environment and Energy Conservation



## SDGs for Our City – Guidelines for Introduction

Edited by: Sub-committee for the Review of Local Government SDGs

Published by: **IBEC** 一般財団法人  
建築環境・省エネルギー機構  
Institute for Building Environment and Energy Conservation

# Structure of Guidelines

Step 1: Understand SDGs

Step 2: Systems for initiatives

Step 3: Policy objectives and targets to be achieved

Step 4: Progress management based on indicators

Step 5: Follow-up and PDCA

*Thank you for your kind attention.*