

Applying SDGs to The Invigoration of Localities

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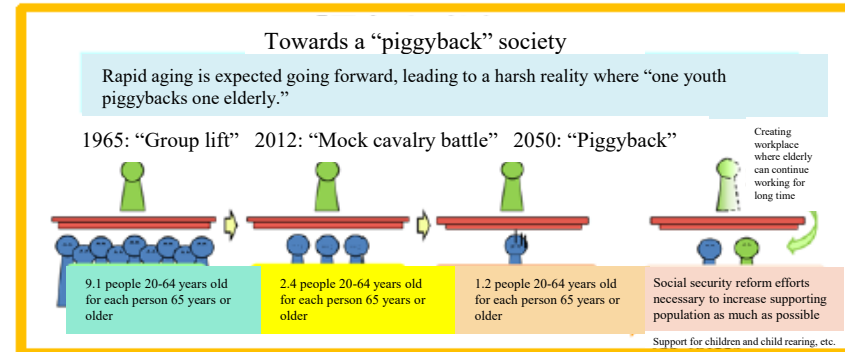
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I Efforts for Invigoration of Localities

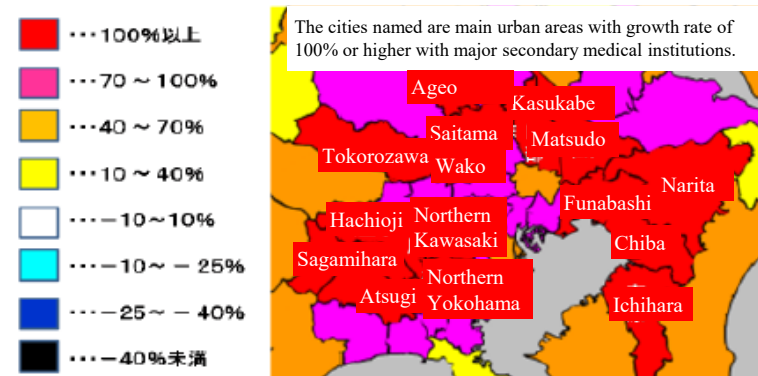
Why Localities Need to be Invigorated

Socioeconomic impacts of a society with declining population

- Social security, etc. become unsustainable
 - Burden per worker increases, workers lose motivation to work
- Economic vitality decreases in hilly and mountainous areas, etc
- Elderly population rises rapidly in Tokyo metropolitan area in the immediate term
 - Securing medical and nursing care
 - Tokyo metropolitan area takes away young labor force



Growth rate of 75-and-older population in Tokyo area from 2010 to 2040



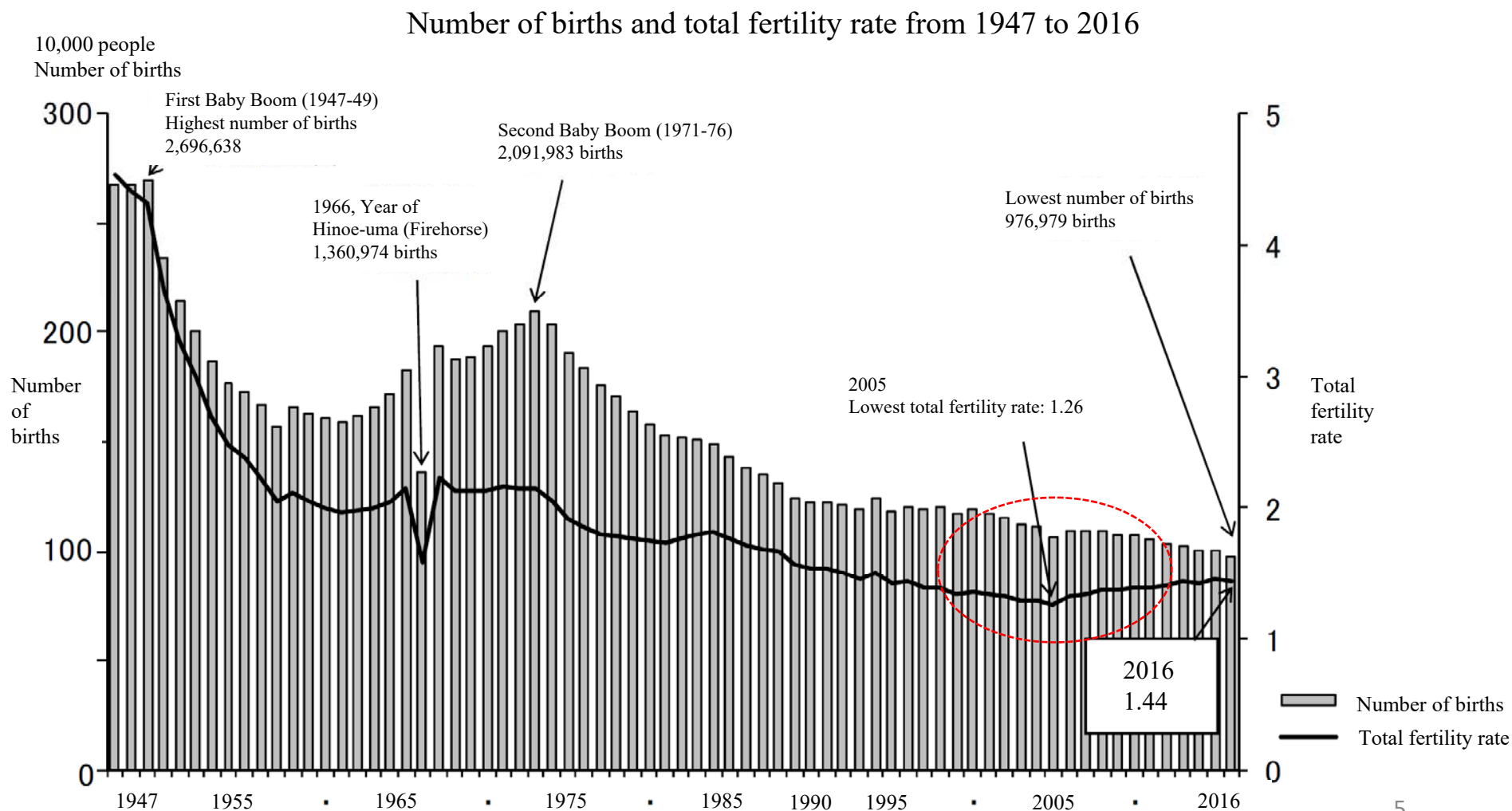
◇ Many of the localities could vanish, leading to the eventual decline of Japan as a whole



Overcome “population decline” and aim for invigoration of localities and of Japan

● Number of births and birthrate in Japan: Japan's future demographic trends

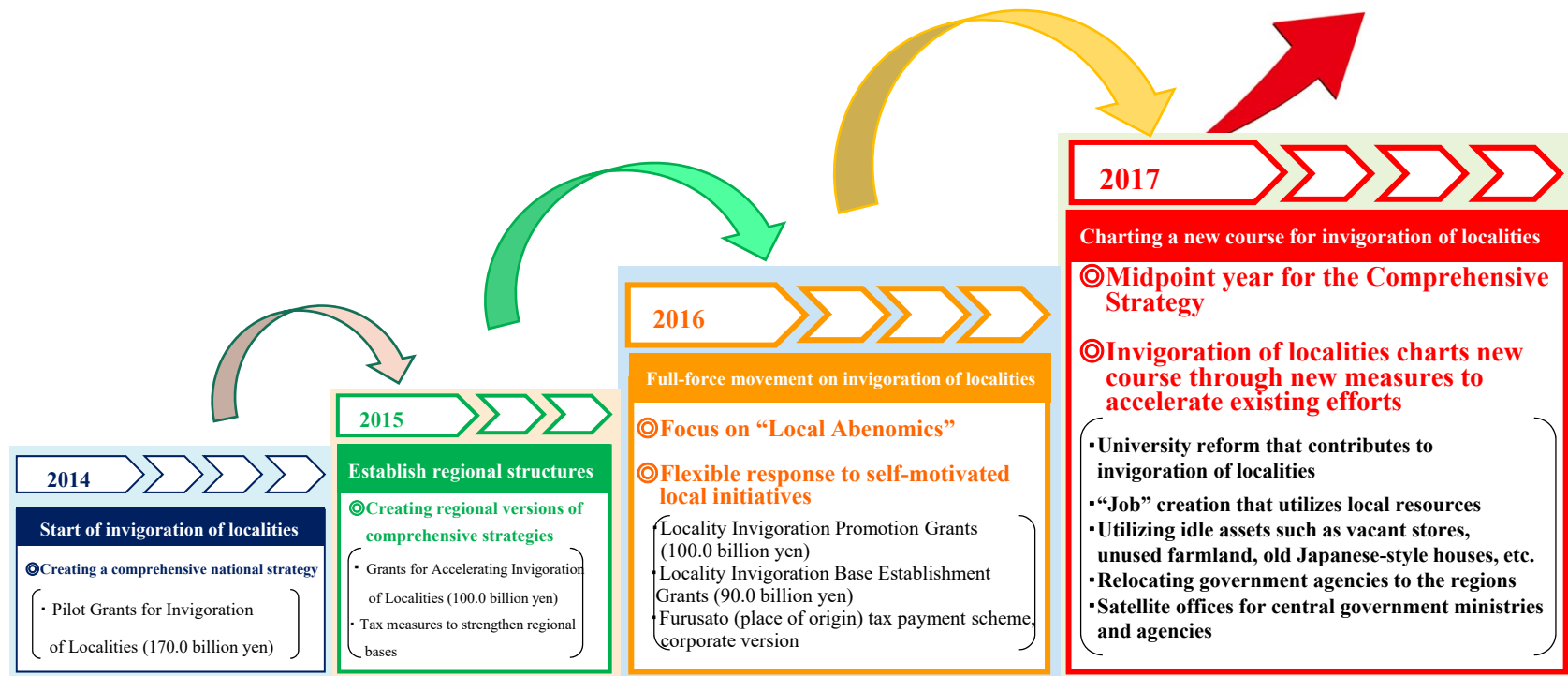
- Number of births and birthrate in long-term decline since mid-1970s.
- Total fertility rate has been less than the population replacement level (the level at which the population size is maintained) 2.07 for approximately 40 years since 1975.



Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, *Vital Statistics*

Charting a New Course for Invigoration of Localities

With FY2017 being the mid-point year for the “City, People, and Work Comprehensive Strategy,” new measures to accelerate existing efforts will be implemented so that the invigoration of localities can chart a new course.



◎Main basic goals/KPI (2020 goals)

Creating “jobs”

- Number of employment opportunities for youths (in the regions)
 - 300,000 in five years**
 - 98,000 jobs created**
- Transforming agriculture, forestry and fisheries into “sixth” industry
 - Market size 10 trillion yen**
 - 4.7 trillion yen (2013)**
 - 5.1 trillion yen (2014)**

Changing the flow of people

- Balance population flow between the regions and the Tokyo area
 - Net annual inflow to the Tokyo area**
 - 100,000 (2013)**
 - 120,000 (2016)**

Achieving dreams of marriage and rearing children

- Total fertility rate
 - 1.43 (2013)
 - 1.44 (2016)**
- Women before/after birth of their first child
 - Continued employment rate **55%**
 - 38.0% (2010)**
 - 53.1% (2015)**

Creating “city”

- Local managing organizations as “small bases”
 - Number of organizations created: **3,000**
 - 1,656 organizations (2014)
 - 3,071 organizations (2016)**
- Number of municipalities creating “siting optimization plan”
 - 150 cities**
 - 100 cities (March 31, 2016)**

Main points of “City, People, and Work Basic Policy 2017”

Aim to “raise average income” in localities in order to extend Abenomics’ reach

Further promotion of “local Abenomics”

- **Creating “jobs”** utilizing local resources
- **Utilizing** vacant stores, unused farmland, Japanese-style houses, and **other idle assets**
- Promoting investment in “Local Economy Driver Projects” that open up the future for local areas
- Promoting **social adoption of near-future technology, etc. and new lifestyle industries**

Correcting unilateral concentration in Tokyo

- **University reform** that contributes to regional revitalization
- Promoting “**Regional Revitalization Internships**”
- **City where people can be active throughout life** (Japanese iteration of the “continuing care retirement community (CCRC)”)
 - Promoting **relocation of corporate headquarters to the regions**
 - **Regional relocation of government organizations**
- Consideration of **satellite offices** of central ministries and agencies
- Raising awareness of **the attractiveness of life in the regions** (revisiting lifestyles)

Responding to issues in the Tokyo area regarding medical and nursing care and the low birthrate

- **Responding to medical and nursing care needs** that are increasing as the population ages
- Promoting a “local approach” for **measures against low birthrate**

Promotion of policies aimed at further invigoration of localities (policy package)

1. Create jobs in the regions so that people there can work with peace of mind
2. Generate new flow of people to the regions
3. Make dreams come true for the young regarding marriage, childbirth, and rearing children
4. Create regions that match the demands of the times, protect secure life, and connect localities with each other

Actively support local governments that ambitiously embark on “Three Arrows: regional revitalization version” and the “spirit of independence”

Arrow of Information Support

- Regional Economy and Society Analyzing System (RESAS)

Arrow of Human Resource Support

- Dispatching public servants, etc. to municipalities
- Locality Invigoration College

Arrow of Fiscal Support

- Locality Invigoration-Related Grant
- Furusato (place of origin) tax payment scheme, corporate version

Activities for local revitalization that bring the state and regions together

LOCAL REVITALIZATION THROUGH PROMOTION OF REGIONAL REVITALIZATION

◎ Regional revitalization

◎ Local revitalization

LOCAL REVITALIZATION REVOLVING AROUND REGULATORY REFORM

◎ National Strategic Special Zones

◎ Special Zones for Structural Reform

◎ Comprehensive Special Zones

LOCAL REVITALIZATION THROUGH ENHANCEMENT OF URBAN FUNCTIONS

◎ Urban regeneration

◎ Revitalization of city centers

OTHER RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC POLICY ISSUES

◎ Local revitalization platforms

◎ Inscription of currently operating industrial assets, etc. on the World Heritage list

“FutureCity” Initiative

◎ FutureCity

(11 cities, selected December 2011) (Cabinet Decision June 2010)

◎ Eco-Model City

(23 cities, final selection March 2014)

(Prime Minister’s policy speech January 2008, Headquarters decision March 2013)

Support measures

- Evaluation and publication of activities
- On-site support by experts

II Activities and Outcomes of the “FutureCity” Initiative

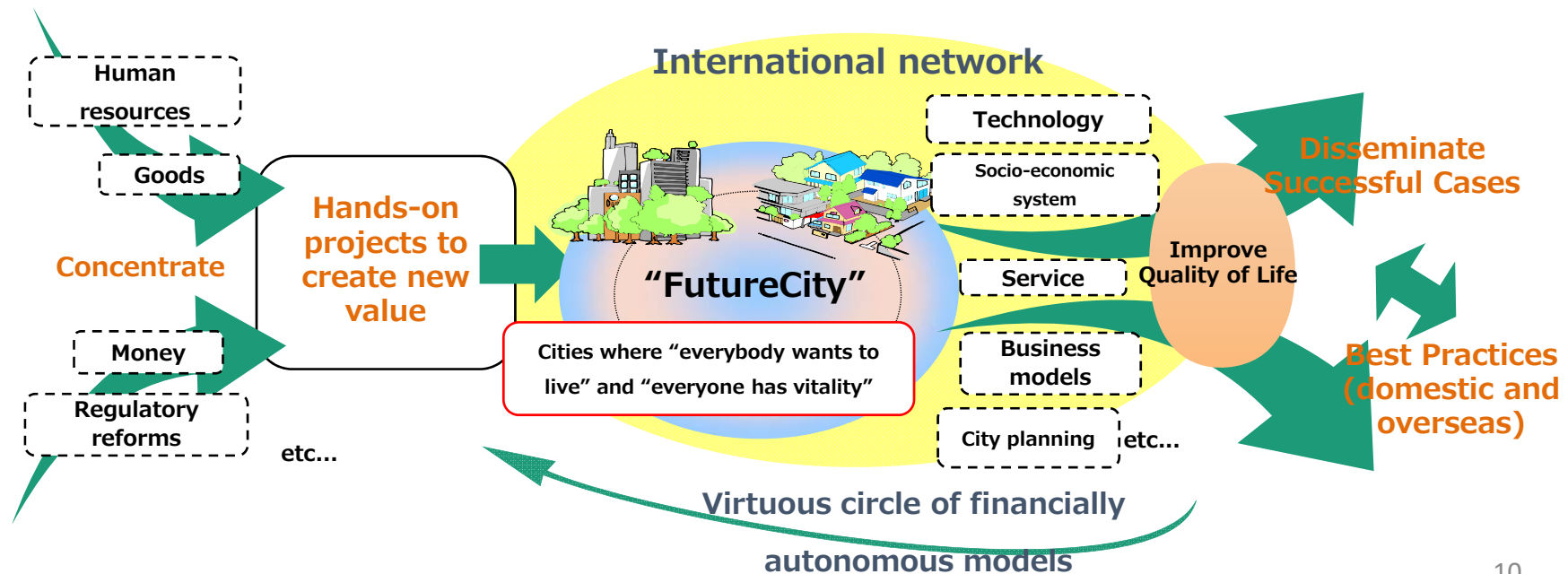
What is the "FutureCity" Initiative?

Image of the "FutureCity" Initiative

The "Future City" Initiative aims to create world-leading **successful cases** in order to **resolve common 21st century challenges, such as environmental issues and aging populations**, and to spread them not only within Japan but also around the world so that we can expand demand, create jobs, and strengthen our ability to resolve international challenges.

To this end, **the Initiative creates space** for implementation and **focuses on the diversity and uniqueness of the individual cities and localities** to encourage strengthening **the local capacity** to resolve issues. Through this, it **creates a wide variety of urban and local models that develop autonomously** in response to global environmental issues and the structural issues that Japan faces, i.e. a declining population and hyper-aging, by using local resources to generate the three values, i.e. environmental value, social value, and economic value.

By spreading such diverse successful cases in urban/community revitalization, we will **promote regional revitalization** and open the way to the future of Japan.



The 21st century is the era of the city

In 2050, 70% of the population will live in cities



Creating sustainable cities is
the common issue of humankind

Issues that Japan faces ahead of the rest of the world

✓ **Low birthrate and aging population**

Population decline 130 million (2004) → 95 million (2050)

Rate of aging 23% (2009) → 40% (2050)

✓ **Environmental and energy constraints**

Serious energy constraints due to nuclear power accident

Global warming measures



Required efforts

- Achieving a new socioeconomic system revolving around the city
⇒ **Revitalize local communities**
- Tackling common issues of humankind before the rest of the world
⇒ **Contribute to the world**

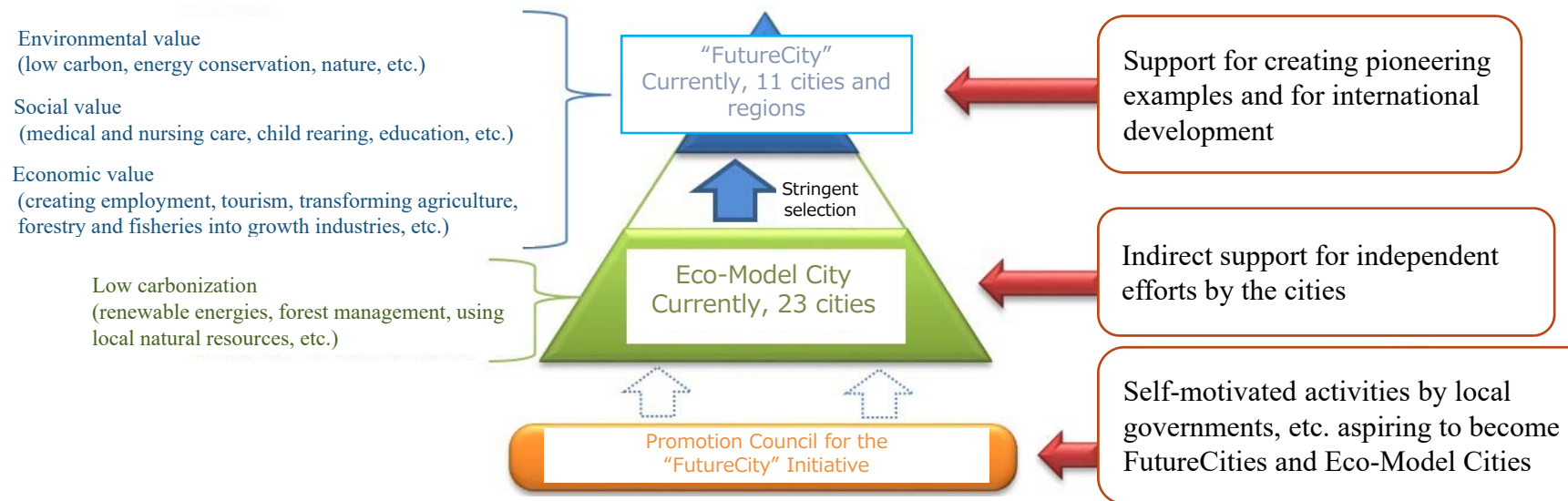
FutureCity and Eco-Model City

【FutureCity】

- City that creates new people-oriented value for **addressing environmental and ultra-aging conditions**

【Eco-Model City】

- Low carbon cities that support the foundation of the "FutureCity" Initiative
- **Diverse community models** to combine **carbon reduction** and **sustainable development** making maximum use of **local resources**



* Non-members of the Council may apply for Eco-Model City designation

Selected Cities and Regions

【 Eco-Model City 】

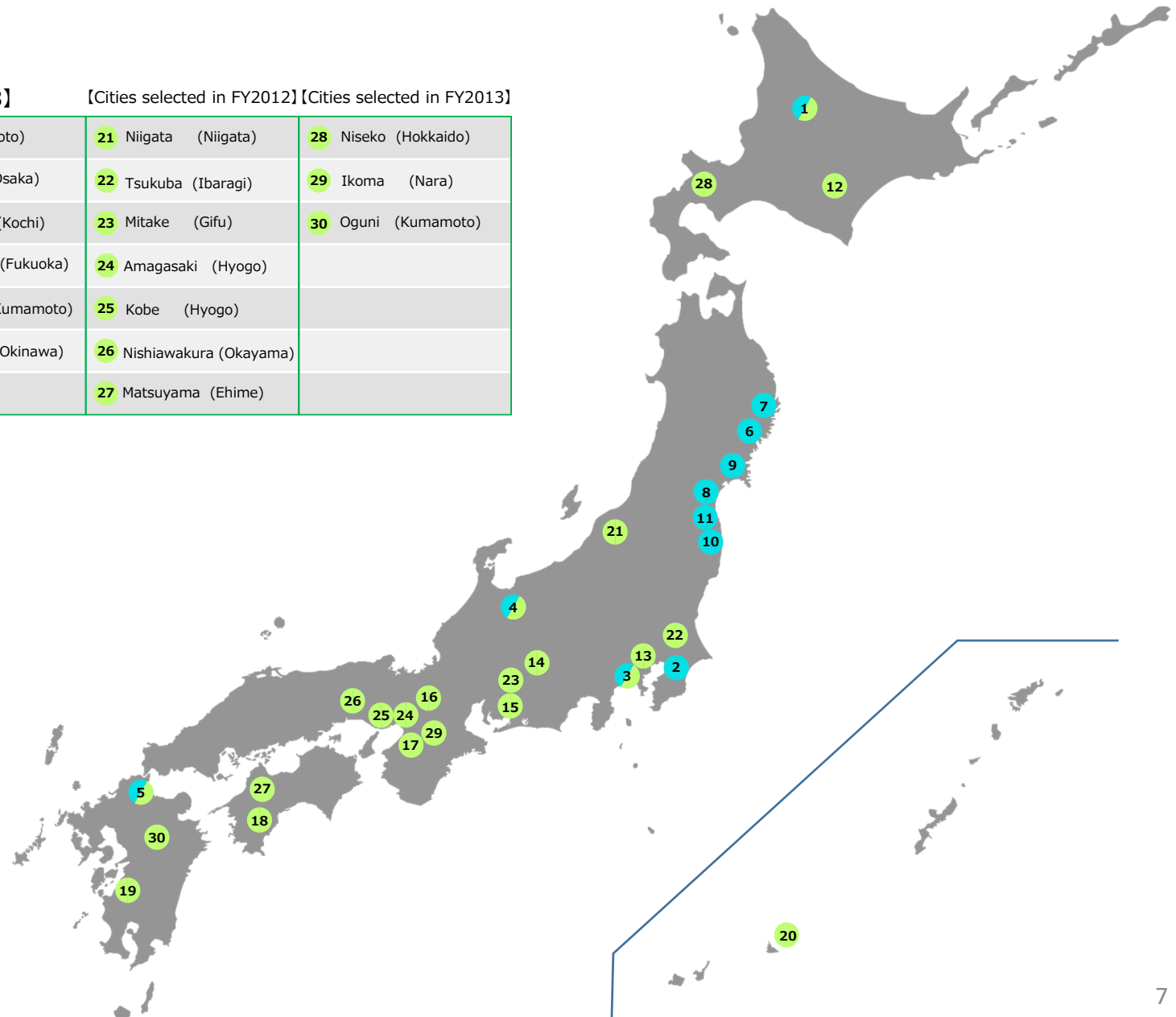
【Cities selected in FY2008】

【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 (Ibaragi) | 29 Ikoma (Nara) |
| 13 Chiyoda (Tokyo) | 18 Yusuhara (Kochi) | 23 Mitake (Gifu) | 30 Oguni (Kumamoto) |
| 3 Yokohama (Kanagawa) | 5 Kita-Kyushu (Fukuoka) | 24 Amagasaki (Hyogo) | |
| 14 Iida (Nagano) | 19 Minamata (Kumamoto) | 25 Kobe (Hyogo) | |
| 4 Toyama (Toyama) | 20 Miyakojima (Okinawa) | 26 Nishiwakura (Okayama) | |
| 15 Toyota (Aichi) | | 27 Matsuyama (Ehime) | |

【FutureCity】

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



Outcomes of the "FutureCity" Initiative

Outcomes of the FutureCity Initiative

Environmental issues

Response to hyper-aging

Locally unique themes

Creating environmental value

- Low carbon, energy conservation
- Water, atmosphere
- Natural environment, biodiversity
- The three Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), etc.

Creating social value

- Health and medical care
- Nursing and welfare
- Disaster prevention
- Child rearing, education, etc.

Creating economic value

- Creating employment and income
- Tourism
- New industries
- Industry-academia-government collaboration, etc.

Enhancing quality of life (QOL) for the public

Promoting invigoration of localities

III Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

What are Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

Predecessor: Millennium Development Goals : MDGs

- Established by the United Nations in 2001. They integrated the United Nations Millennium Declaration that was adopted in 2000 with the international development goals that were adopted at major international conferences during the 1990s.
- Eight goals with 2015 as the target year were set as development goals for developing countries.
([1] Poverty and hunger, [2] Primary education, [3] Women, [4] Children, [5] Pregnant women and nursing mothers, [6] Diseases, [7] Environment, [8] Partnership)

- ✓ MDGs have achieved some success. On the other hand, unachieved challenges remain.
 - Extreme poverty reduced by half (Goal [1]) and HIV/AIDS and malaria measures (Goal [6]), etc. were also achieved.
 - × Halving of mortality rates of children and pregnant women and nursing mothers (Goals [4],[5]) not achieved. Achievement is delayed in Sub-Saharan Africa etc.
- ✓ In 15 years, the international environment has changed significantly as new challenges have appeared.
 - Increasing severity of environmental problems and climate change, expansion of inequality within and between nation-states, expansion of the roles of private enterprises and NGO.

Sustainable Development Goals : SDGs

- Unanimously adopted at the United Nations Summit in September 2015. (Adoption of 2030 Agenda)
- As development goals for the overall international community including developed countries, a comprehensive set of 17 goals with 2030 as the target year have been set. (Details: Next slide. The goals are further broken down into 169 targets.)
- Aiming to realize a society in which “no one is left behind,” (= reflects the principle of human security), integrated initiatives will be taken to overcome a wide range of challenges in the economy, society, and the environment.
- Prioritizes roles of all concerned parties (developed countries, developing countries, private companies, NGOs, experts, etc.)

Details of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

(1 Poverty)



(2 Hunger)



(3 Health)



(4 Education)



(5 Gender)



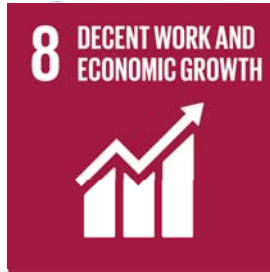
(6 Water and sanitation)



(7 Energy)



(8 Growth and employment)



(9 Innovation)



(10 Inequality, etc.)



(11 Cities)



(12 Production and consumption)



(13 Climate action)



(14 Undersea resources)



(15 Land resources)



(16 Peace)



(17 Implementation methods)



Logos: Prepared by the United Nations Information Centre

Examples of goals closely related to Japan’s own challenges → To implement, many Japanese ministries and agencies will be involved.

- Growth and employment
- Clean energy
- Innovation
- Recycling society (3R: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, etc.)
- Global warming measures
- Conservation of biodiversity
- Women’s empowerment
- Eradication of child abuse
- International cooperation, etc.

17 goals of SDGs

| | |
|---|--|
| Goal 1 (Poverty) | End poverty in all its forms everywhere |
| Goal 2 (Hunger) | End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture |
| Goal 3 (Health) | Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages |
| Goal 4 (Education) | Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all |
| Goal 5 (Gender) | Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls |
| Goal 6 (Water and sanitation) | Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all |
| Goal 7 (Energy) | Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all |
| Goal 8 (Economic growth and employment) | Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all |
| Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) | Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation |
| Goal 10 (Inequalities) | Reduce inequality within and among countries |
| Goal 11 (Sustainable cities) | Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable |
| Goal 12 (Sustainable production and consumption) | Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns |
| Goal 13 (Climate action) | Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts |
| Goal 14 (Undersea resources) | Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development |
| Goal 15 (Land resources) | Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss |
| Goal 16 (Peace) | Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels |
| Goal 17 (Implementation methods) | Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development |

SDGs related trends in Japan

(1) Proactive contribution to discussions and negotiations concerning SDGs

- Even before discussions in international community began in earnest, Japan contributed proactively through opportunities for dialogues, etc.
 - ✓ Policy dialogue held (2011 to 2013). Side events held at the U.N. General Assembly (in 2013, Prime Minister Abe and Minister Kishida attended), and others
- In the process of SDGs negotiations, contributed proactively under the principle of human security. And in the process of SDGs negotiations, contributed aggressively under the ideal of ensuring the safety of humankind. Incorporated development challenges prioritized by Japan. (Quality infrastructure, health, women, education, disaster risk reduction, etc.)

(2) Establishing the SDGs Promotion Headquarters and establishing its Implementation Guiding Principles

- At the United Nations Summit where SDGs were adopted, Prime Minister Abe announced that Japan would do its utmost to implement SDGs
- To play leading roles in both domestic implementation and international cooperation, Japan established the SDGs Promotion Headquarters, and linked concerned ministries and agencies to build a system for integrated implementation by the government. (The next meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters will be held in December 2017.)
- A Roundtable Committee consisting of a wide range of concerned parties (government, NGOs, NPOs, experts, private sector, international organizations, various other groups, etc.) was formed as a forum for participants to exchange views.

[Key events in the process]

(2016)

May 20 Formation of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters chaired by the Prime Minister and composed of all ministers. At its 1st meeting, the Prime Minister ordered establishment of “SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles”

September and November: Roundtable Committee met

December 22 Second meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters was held, decided on the Implementation Guiding Principles

(2017)

May 25 Roundtable Committee met. The participants exchanged views concerning announcements at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and the regional implementation of SDGs.

June 9 The third meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters is held. A decision is made to establish the Japan SDGs Award to honor pioneering initiatives of corporations, groups, etc.



Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Implementation Guiding Principles (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of JAPAN website reference)

Outline of the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles

- Vision: Set out a vision for Japan to be the champion of sustainable and resilient society in which “no one is left behind.” Japan intends to be a leader in creating a better future, in which the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely, economic, social, and environmental, are improved in an integrated manner.
- Implementation principles: [1] Universality, [2] Inclusiveness, [3] Participatory, [4] Integration, [5] Transparency and accountability
- Follow-up: First follow-up will be held by 2019.

【Eight priority issues in the “SDG Implementation Policy” and detailed measures】

① Promote engagement of all people

- Realization of a society that engages all people
- Promote opportunities for women
- Child poverty measures
- Improve education
- Promote autonomy for disabled persons and support participation in society

③ Growth market creation, regional revitalization, and science and technology innovation

- Create attractive markets
- Improve rural districts
- Improve productivity
- Science and technology innovation
- Sustainable cities

⑤ Energy savings/renewable energy, climate change measures, cyclical society

- Adopt energy savings/renewable energy and promote international initiatives
- Climate change measures
- Build a cyclical society

⑦ Realize a peaceful, safe, and stable society

- Promote countermeasures against organized crime, human slavery, and child abuse
- Foster peace and support reconstruction
- Promote rule of law

② Improve healthfulness and promote longer lifespans

- Drug resistance countermeasures
- Address aging societies in Asia
- Infectious disease countermeasures and health system reinforcement in developing countries, address public hygiene crises

④ Build a sustainable and robust nation and high-quality infrastructure

- Promote national reinforcement and disaster prevention
- Water resource development and water recycling initiatives
- Promote high-quality infrastructure investments

⑥ Preserve biological diversity and forests, oceans, and other natural environments

- Address environmental pollution
- Preserve biological diversity
- Sustainable forests, oceans, and terrestrial resources

⑧ Operations and methods for promoting implementation of SDGs

- Multi-stakeholder partnership
- Make SDGs a central component of international cooperation
- Assist SDGs implementation capabilities in developing countries

Outline of Foreign Minister Kishida's attendance at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) for Sustainable Development (July 2017)

"FutureCity" Initiative

1. Voluntary National Reviews

- (1) The Minister attended the Voluntary Reviews session of the HLPF, a ministerial-level conference held every year under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (attended by 43 countries including Japan). He gave a presentation in English (In 2019, a summit-level meeting).
- (2) In his presentation, the Minister drew attention to Japan's initiatives taken to realize a diverse and inclusive society in which "no one is left behind." He also introduced the public-private partnership promoted in Japan called Public Private Action for Partnership (PPAP), and at the same time, announced that Japan prioritizes policies that focus on future generations. He announced that by 2018, Japan would provide assistance of US\$1 billion focused on education, health and well-being, disaster risk reduction, and gender, with the focus on children and young people in particular.

Photographs / materials provided
by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs JAPAN



2. Side Event

A side event was held co-organized with the Governments of India, Thailand, and Malaysia and UNDP. Minister Kishida attended the Ministerial Session with Foreign Minister Don of Thailand and Administrator Steiner of UNDP. While referring to the initiatives of Japanese companies that participated in the side event (Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance Inc. and Japan Food Ecology Center, Inc.), he emphasized the importance of partnerships across nations and of sharing experience in Asia.

3. Reception

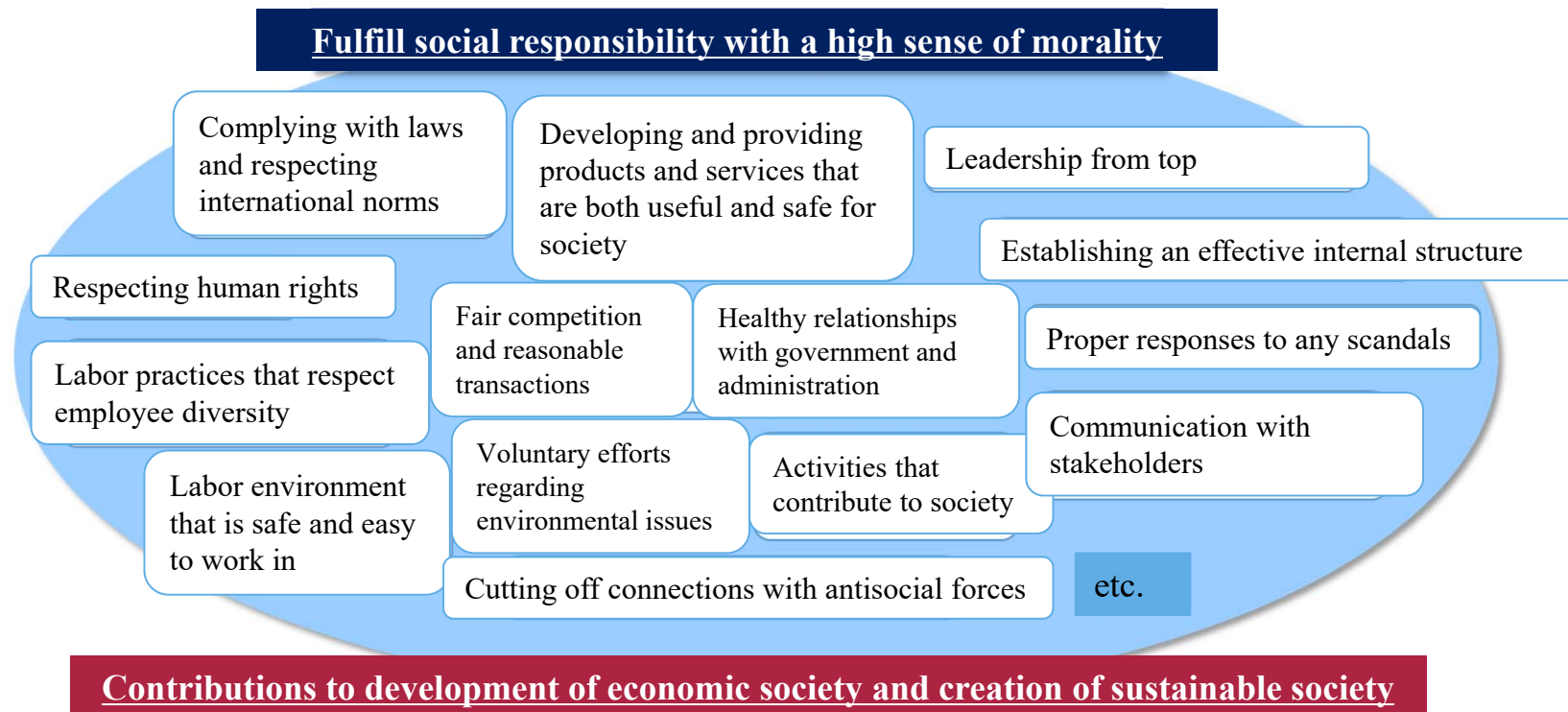
A reception hosted by the Government of Japan was held, providing an opportunity to further expand and strengthen public-private sector partnerships for sustainable development with the participation of Piko Taro, Japanese companies and civil society.

→It was highly evaluated internationally. As an expert in this field Japan is expected to continue to exercise leadership.



Charter of Corporate Behavior for **SDGs**

- Principles on corporate ethics and CSR implemented voluntarily by companies
- 1991: “Charter of Corporate Behavior” was established
- 1996: “Implementation Guidance” was created
- **2017: Charter to be revised to adapt to the SDGs, etc. (Nov.)**



- **SDGs specified in the junior high school course curriculum guidelines (society vers.) (announced June 2017) (P. 151)**

Based around the concept of “no one is left behind”, **the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were set based upon 17 goals and 169 targets** related to the natural environment, finiteness of resources, poverty, and innovation. There should be an understanding of the importance of the role of international organizations, including the United Nations, which is promoting sustainable development efforts based on each country’s national sovereignty.

- **Ways of incorporating SDG concepts were specified in the Fifth Basic Environment Plan interim report (released in August 2017) (P.12)**

This reference is made in Chapter 2, “The ideal sustainable society, environmental policy challenges based upon current situation, and fundamental concepts for implementing environmental policies in the future.”

In order to realize SDGs, they must be directly connected to solving regional challenges. While paying attention to **individual regions and incorporating viewpoints from local public groups, etc., it is necessary to make use of concepts related to SDGs to contribute to improving local planning.**

IV Promoting Local Government SDGs for Invigoration of Localities

Positioning of local governments in the 2030 Agenda and SDG Implementation Guiding Principles

The 2030 Agenda was unanimously adopted during the September 2015 UN Summit.

Local governments are an invaluable core partner for implementing SDGs

- ◆ “When SDGs are implemented by governments and public organizations, close contact should be made with **local governments** and organizations, international organizations, student organizations, charity groups, volunteer groups, and other groups.” (Paragraph 45)
- ◆ Our journey to implement these efforts will involve governments, parliaments, UN systems, international organizations, **local governments**, indigenous peoples, civil society, business and private sector, scientists and academic conferences, and all other people. (Paragraph 52)

SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles decided at the second meeting of the SDGs Promotion Headquarters on December 22, 2016 (Excerpt from “V. Implementation framework”).

- ◆ **Local governments and other local stakeholders** are absolutely essential to the nationwide implementation of SDGs-related measures. The national government will therefore **encourage local governments to incorporate the SDGs into their plans, strategies and policies as much as possible**. Government ministries will support the efforts of local governments through measures to promote partnership among various stakeholders in achieving the SDGs.

Discussion at the SDGs Promotion Headquarters (third meeting) relating to working with local governments

(Excerpt from Prime Minister's statement)

“Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs, are important efforts that all countries, both developed and developing, are responsible for. Japan's standpoint is from that of providing security for people, and through our leadership we plan to realize a society in which no one is left behind, and in which each and every individual can demonstrate their abilities. Focusing on July's UN report and September's UN General Assembly meeting, I will once again provide instructions regarding the following 3 points.

(Abridged)

Second is the promotion of SDGs in the regions. These are sure to contribute to the invigoration of localities. I request that related cabinet ministers work together to consider policies to promote regional efforts to achieve SDGs, as well as implement these policies.

Held June 9, 2017 (at Prime Minister's Office)



Held June 9, 2017 (at Prime Minister's Office)

(Statement by Minister of State for Regional Revitalization Yamamoto)

In order to implement SDGs nationwide, the promotion of efforts made by local governments throughout the country in cooperation with local stakeholders will prove invaluable.

For this reason, further developing the “FutureCity” Initiative, the creation of policies aimed at having local governments achieve SDGs, as well as the fully fledged promotion of these efforts, is sure to lead to the invigoration of localities.

“Basic Policy for Overcoming Population Decline and Vitalizing Local Economy 2017” Cabinet decision (June 9, 2017)

Overview

In order to promote the implementation of SDGs within Japan, fully fledged efforts by local public groups, and stakeholders in these regions, as well as by private sector entities, will prove invaluable for achieving SDGs. In addition to this, Japan aims to be a role model in relation to implementing SDGs. We are currently making efforts within the country, as well as cooperating internationally, to make sustainable development efforts. It is necessary to contribute to these efforts by drawing on the advanced efforts of FutureCities and Eco-Model Cities. It is for this reason that in order to further develop the “FutureCity” Initiative, it will be necessary to consider the promotion of efforts by local public groups towards achieving SDGs, and find an overall direction.

Specific Efforts

◎ Implementation of promotion activities related to local public groups

- With the goal of finding successful examples both within Japan and abroad, and supporting the sharing of knowledge and the creation of a network for this purpose, the International Forum on the “FutureCity” Initiative will continue to be held with SDGs as a theme, aiming for the realization of independent and sustainable cities.
- In order to aim for the creation of more concepts related to SDGs, we will provide support to local public groups to hold forums related to promoting understanding and creating awareness of SDGs.

◎ Formation of model examples of local public groups achieving SDGs

- In order to promote efforts by local public groups that aim to achieve SDGs, we will consider financial support for the formation of model efforts, and obtain a definite plan. At that time we will also consider continuous follow-up support from experts with the aim of forming successful examples from other models, and obtain a definite plan regarding this too.

Overview

Active regional initiatives are vital to implementing SDGs nationwide, and this creates strong expectations for local governments.

In this context, methods used in initiatives to promote the FutureCity initiative and related results offer valuable reference for promotion of SDGs by local governments.

The Japanese government formed the “experts study group on promotion of local government SDGs” to prepare a basic approach to initiatives for realization of local government SDGs targeting regional revitalization in light of FutureCity initiative results and offer recommendations on policy direction.

Members (titles omitted, in order of Japanese syllabary)

【Chairman】

Shuzo Murakami Chairman of Institute for Building Environment and Energy Conservation

【Members】

Hiroko Akiyama Specially Appointed Professor, Aging Society Comprehensive Research Organization, The University of Tokyo

Yasushi Asami Professor, Department of Urban Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo

Norichika Kanie Professor, Graduate School of Media and Governance, Keio University

Hiroshi Komiyama Chairman, Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.

Hideaki Shiroyama Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy / Graduate Schools of Law and Politics, The University of Tokyo

Sachiko Seki Representative Director, Local First Laboratory

Kazuhiko Takemoto Director of the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability

Akiko Nakajo Operating Officer, Google Japan

Tsuyoshi Fujita Specially Appointed Professor, Institute of Innovative Research, Tokyo Institute of Technology

Head of National Institute for Environmental Studies Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research

Schedule

| | | |
|-------|---------------|--|
| No. 1 | June 15 2017 | Confirm commission goals, arrange points in question, etc. |
| No. 2 | July 7, 2017 | Consider fundamental concepts (system, structure, etc.) |
| No. 3 | July 27, 2017 | Concept interim compilation (discussion springboard) |
| No. 4 | Late Oct. | Concept interim compilation (proposed) |
| No. 5 | Late Nov. | Concept interim compilation (proposed) |



No. 1 State of Commission

Index of compilation of opinions by members from first and second commission meetings

I Introduction

II About the "FutureCity" Initiative

1. "FutureCity" Initiative: Outcomes and Future Challenges
2. How these outcomes can be used for the promotion of SDGs by local governments

III Significance of promoting SDGs by local governments for invigoration of localities:

1. What are the significance and merits for local governments of promoting SDGs?
2. From the perspective of citizens and other stakeholders, what is the expected role (strengths) of local governments?
3. What items should local governments tackle in order to promote SDGs?

IV Role of the Government

1. From the perspective of the government, how should the expected roles of local governments be thought about?
2. What items (fundamental direction of policies) should the government tackle in order to promote SDGs by local governments?

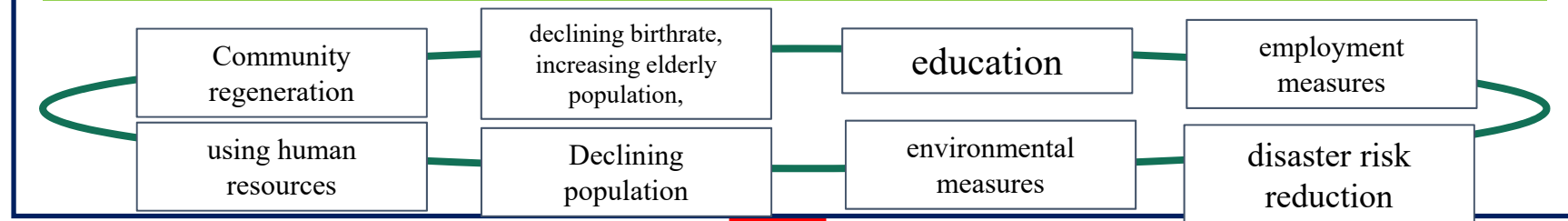
Goals for locality invigoration

Overcoming population decline and reductions in local economies / Overcoming population decline and vitalizing local economy, as well as the establishment of a virtuous cycle

Realizing sustainable city building and regional revitalization in order for people to live with peace of mind

Synergistic effects: Overall optimization of policy promotion/increased speed of resolving regional issues

Promotion of policies that integrate the three aspects of “economy,” “society,” and “environment”



Promotion of SDGs by local governments

◆ Visualization of regional issues

◆ Creation of systems

- ✓ Outfitting local governments with internal execution systems
- ✓ Further collaboration with stakeholders

◆ Deciding/revising plans of local governments

- ✓ Reflect components of SDGs in plans and establishing governance methods that manage progress

◆ Wide-reaching cooperation according to issue

Horizontal deployment of locality invigoration success models within Japan, and promotion outside of Japan

SDGs promotion activities by local governments aimed at invigoration of localities

(Office for Promotion of Regional Revitalization, Cabinet Office)

FY2018 request for budgetary appropriations: ¥1.18 billion (within this ¥1.18 billion is being used for priority issues) (New)

Project Overview/Goals

- The promotion of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by local governments will contribute to invigoration of localities. It is important to promote efforts that aim to achieve these goals.
- For this reason, out of the local governments that have already started implementing SDGs, funding will be provided for advanced efforts which could be models for other areas, and successful examples will be produced.
- The spreading of these successful examples is sure to lead to even further improvements in invigoration of localities.
- The “Basic Policy for Overcoming Population Decline and Vitalizing Local Economy 2017”, decided by the Cabinet on June 9, 2017 mentions that “In order to promote efforts by local public groups that aim to achieve SDGs, we will consider financial support for the formation of model efforts, and obtain a definite plan.”

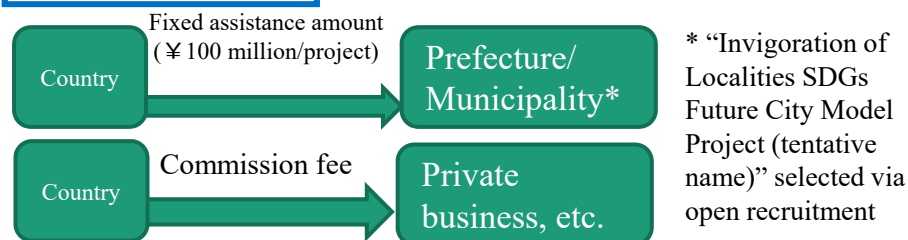
Project Image/Specific Examples

- Amongst the many varieties of projects being carried out by local governments, advanced efforts that will contribute to achieving any of the 17 goals, as well as other efforts that will become models/examples will be supported.
For example, the following projects that involve a variety of stakeholders during their planning stages will be supported.
 - ① The creation of an energy management system for cities that use a combination of renewable energy and next generation vehicles
 - ② Advanced, comprehensive efforts designed to reduce food loss
 - ③ Technology support projects related to environmental issues in developing countries that are initiated by local governments in Japan
- Along with aiming to spread pioneering efforts by local governments related to SDGs through international summits and websites, etc. as much as possible within Japan, the creation of a knowledge network with cities overseas.

Expected Effects

Through creating model examples to promote and share SDGs by local governments, spread SDGs throughout the local governments’ work, which will then lead to further invigoration of localities.

Flow of Funds



FutureCity promotion projects (Office for Promotion of Regional Revitalization, Cabinet Office)

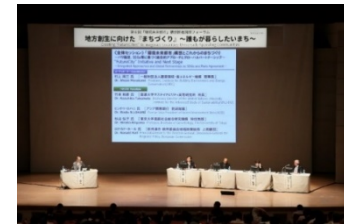
FY 2018 Request for Budgetary Appropriation Amount ¥ 70 million
 (FY 2017 Budget Amount ¥ 60 million)

Project Overview/Goals

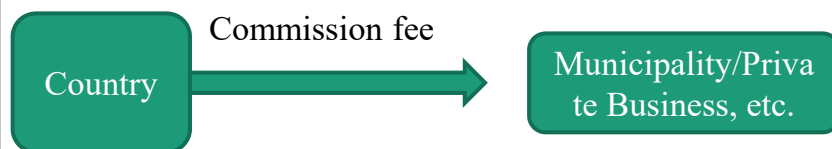
- 「The “FutureCity” Initiative has a limited number of specified cities and regions that are selected as FutureCities. They then create examples of success related to Super-aging populations and the environment etc., which are then shared outside of these cities.
- The Japan Revitalization Strategy (decided on by the Cabinet on June 14, 2013) also contains a section stating “We will continuously and steadily promote policies such as the FutureCities”.
- The project supports cities that were selected as Eco-Model Cities/FutureCities, to promote the “FutureCity” Initiative. It also aims to create an environment where the efforts of these cities can be shared both inside and outside the country.

Project Image/Specific Examples

- The progress of efforts by respective Eco-Model Cities and FutureCities will be objectively evaluated. To ensure these efforts are realized as soon as possible, consulting and other on-site support will be provided by experts. In order to provide sources of reference for efforts, examples from both within and outside of Japan will be analyzed, and information provided to each city.
- In order to deploy and the efforts these Eco-Model Cities and FutureCities are making, an international network of knowledge will be created through international meetings and websites, etc.



Flow of Funds



Expected Effects

- Through creating unequalled examples of success for topics related to solving worldwide issues concerning the environment and Super-aging populations, it is hoped the respective Eco-Model Cities/FutureCities will see increase in demand, job creation, and strengthening of their international problem solving abilities.

V Conclusion

V Conclusion

1. Invigoration of localities aims to assist with low birthrates and aging populations, aims to help reduce depopulation, and also has the aim of creating environments which are easy to live in, and will help to maintain a society filled with vitality in the future.
2. The efforts we are making towards the “FutureCity” Initiative aim to create value amongst the 3 aspects of environment, society, and the economy, Through this ,diverse cities will be realized, and regional models will be created. These have also contributed to invigoration of localities.
3. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted at the UN two years ago aim to promote comprehensive efforts amongst the 3 aspects of economy, society, and the environment, and concur with the fundamental concept of the “FutureCity.”
4. By further developing the “FutureCity” Initiative, adopting policies aimed at allowing local governments to achieve SDGs, and then proactively promoting them, the sustainable city creation and regional vitalization that result from this will result in invigoration of localities.