

International Forum on the “FutureCity” Initiative  
City Building for Regional Revitalization  
October 27, 2015

**Explanation of Purpose of Break-out Session 1**  
**City-to-City Partnerships and**  
**International Cooperation**  
**for Regional Revitalization**

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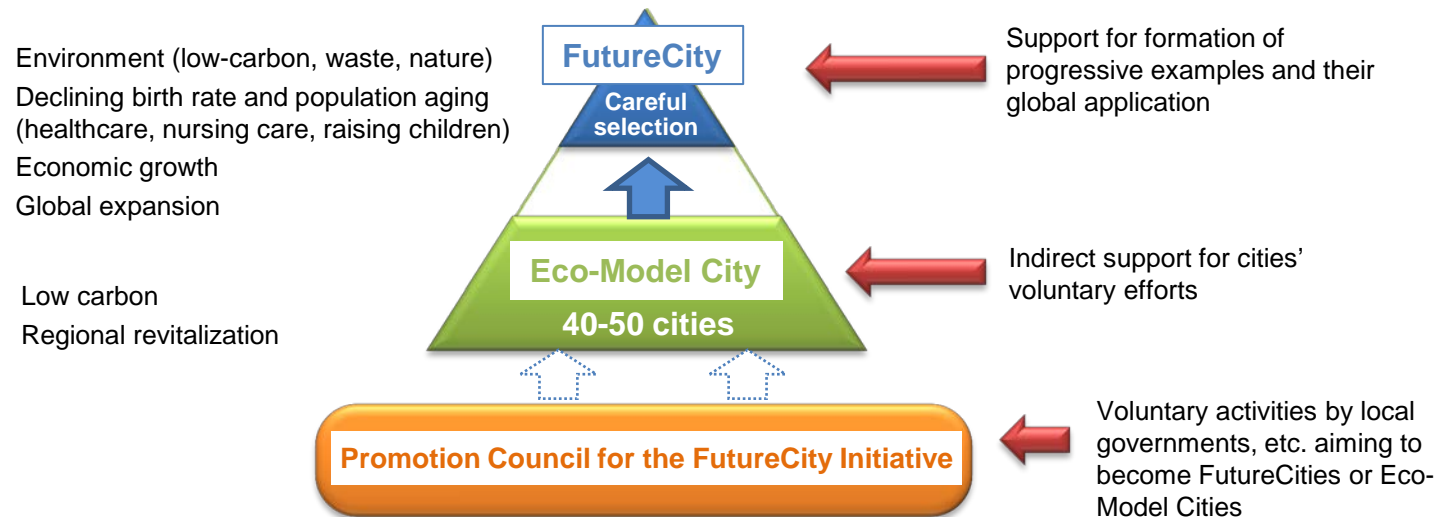
# FutureCities and Eco-Model Cities

## FutureCities

- Sustainable cities of a higher level that excel in all three aspects of environment, society and economy
- 11 cities and regions selected in FY2011 with the basic concept of “cities creating new, human-centered values to deal with issues such as the environment and super-aging

## Eco-Model Cities

- Low-carbon cities that support the foundations of the FutureCity Initiative
- **A total of 23 cities selected**, 13 cities in FY2008, 7 cities in FY2012 and 3 cities in FY2013, as cities and regions that are working on high but achievable goals, such as major reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, and making pioneering efforts to realize a low-carbon society.



\* Cities may apply to be Eco-Model Cities even if not on the Council

# Regional Revitalization from Eco-cities – Keys to Realizing Social Innovation –

- F.W.Geels (2005) [System Innovation](#)

Rather than individual technical innovations in sectors such as transportation, communication, housing, energy and food, innovation of socio-technical systems is needed.

- OECD(2011) [Green Growth Strategy](#)

Market mechanisms alone are not enough to build highly environmentally efficient production and consumption systems.

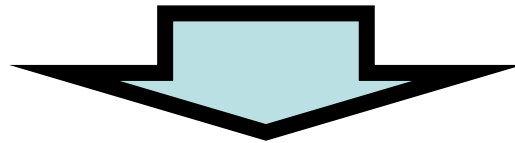
In addition to price signals, along with appropriate regulation, policies to raise awareness among producers and consumers are needed.

# Significance of Realizing Eco-Cities

- Regional Growth Mechanisms

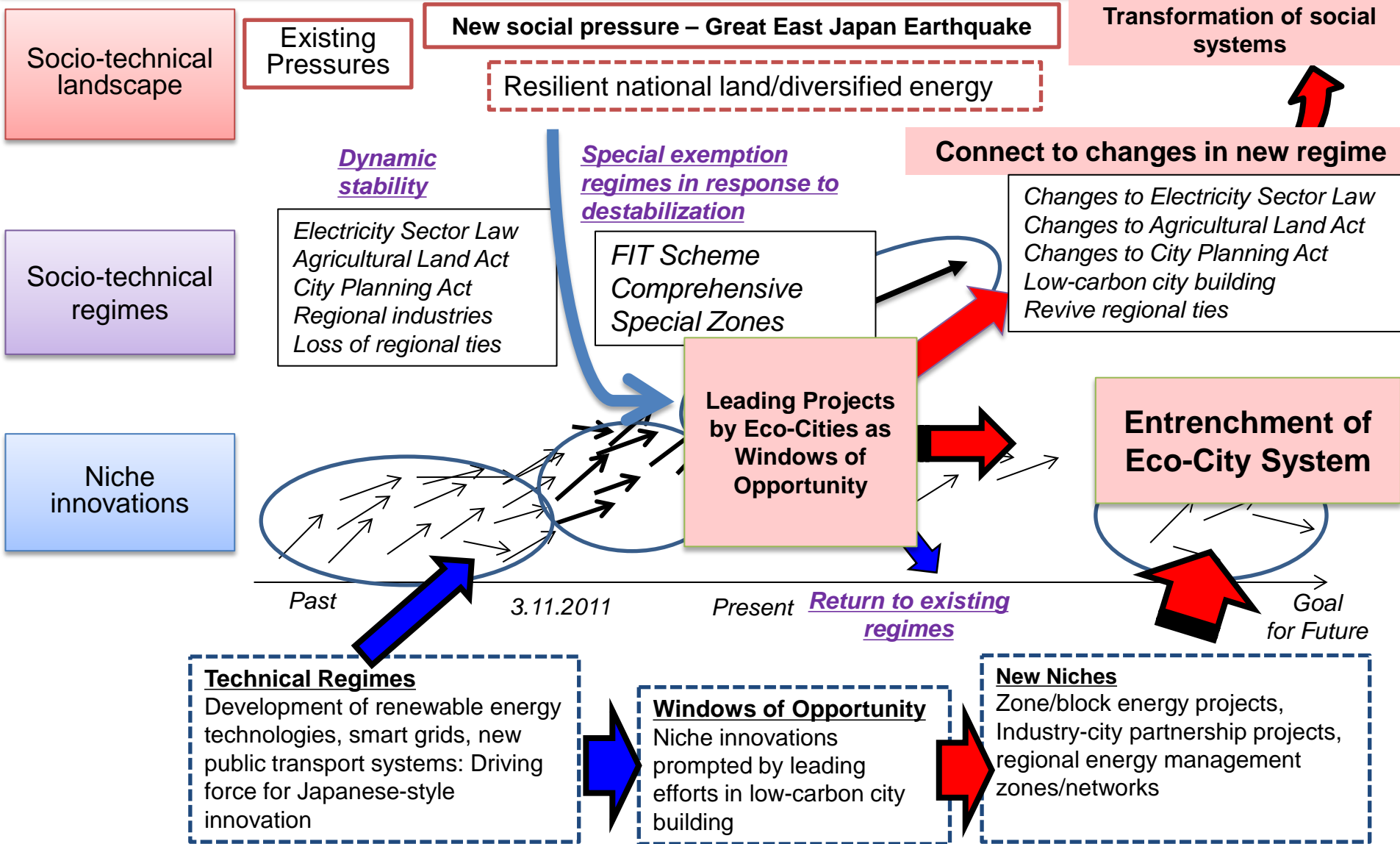
Rapid Growth Period: Industrial complexes,  
population growth

Stable Growth Period: Processing industries,  
service industries



- Regional and Local Growth in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Energy, Resources, Information, Aging

# Hopes for Finding Keys to Regional Revitalization from Eco-Cities

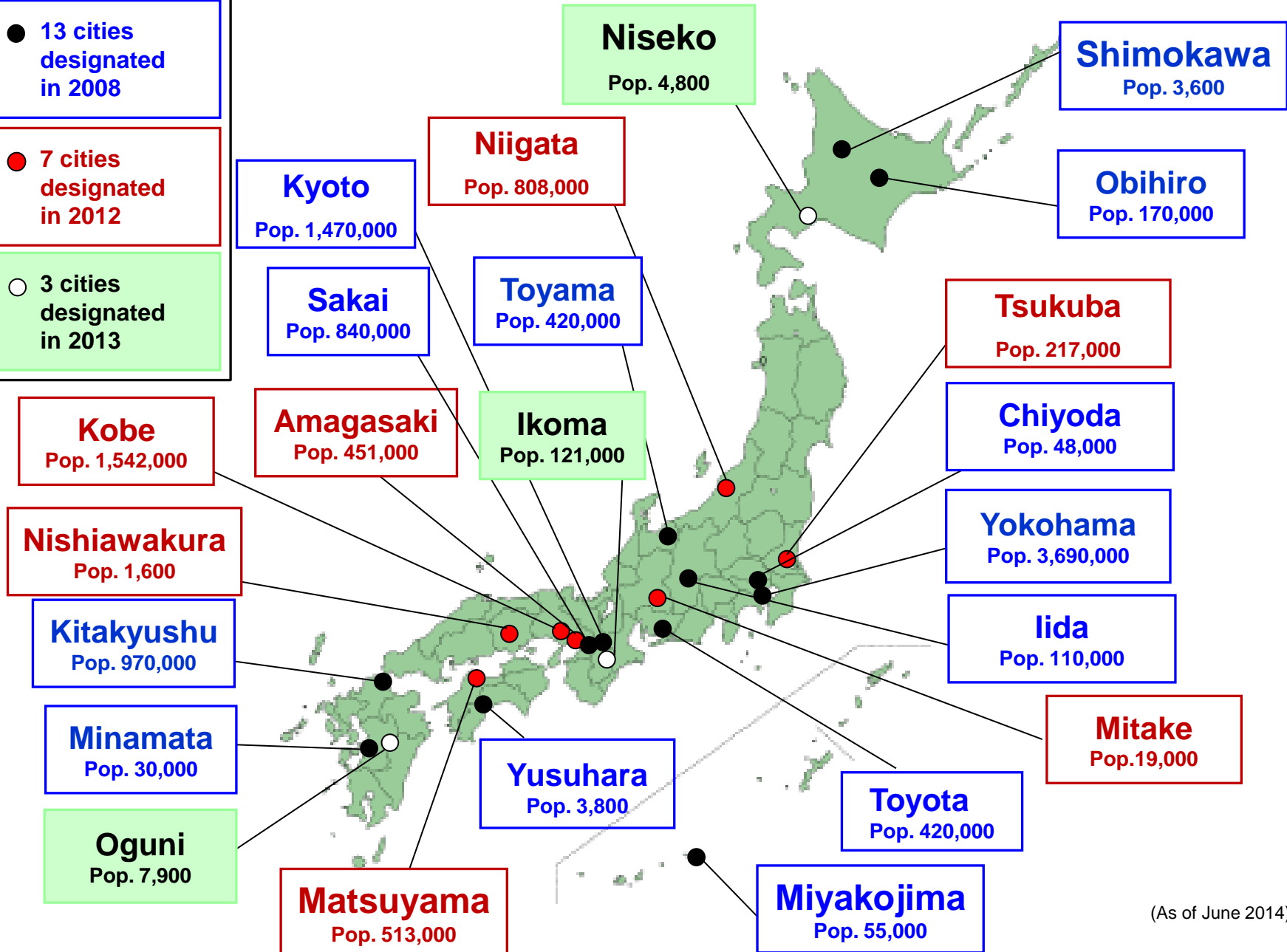


# Japan's Eco-Model Cities

● 13 cities designated in 2008

● 7 cities designated in 2012

○ 3 cities designated in 2013



(As of June 2014)

# Reconstruction Support Data Base Project, Shinchi Town, Fukushima

Two-way data system designated as FY2015 Cabinet Office FutureCity Leading Model Project

## (1) Information on support for standalone regional energy efficiency efforts in reconstruction areas

- Energy consumption monitoring system
- Two-way communication tablet
- Installed in 50-100 households

Your electricity conservation ranking in your area is No. XX  
You saved XX of CO<sub>2</sub>

We saved a lot of electricity today, didn't we?

I'm going to give my friends some tips

## (2) Information on community support for the elderly and health in reconstruction areas

Five friends from the Go club are meeting at the library. I think I'll go too.

## (3) Regional environment and transport information

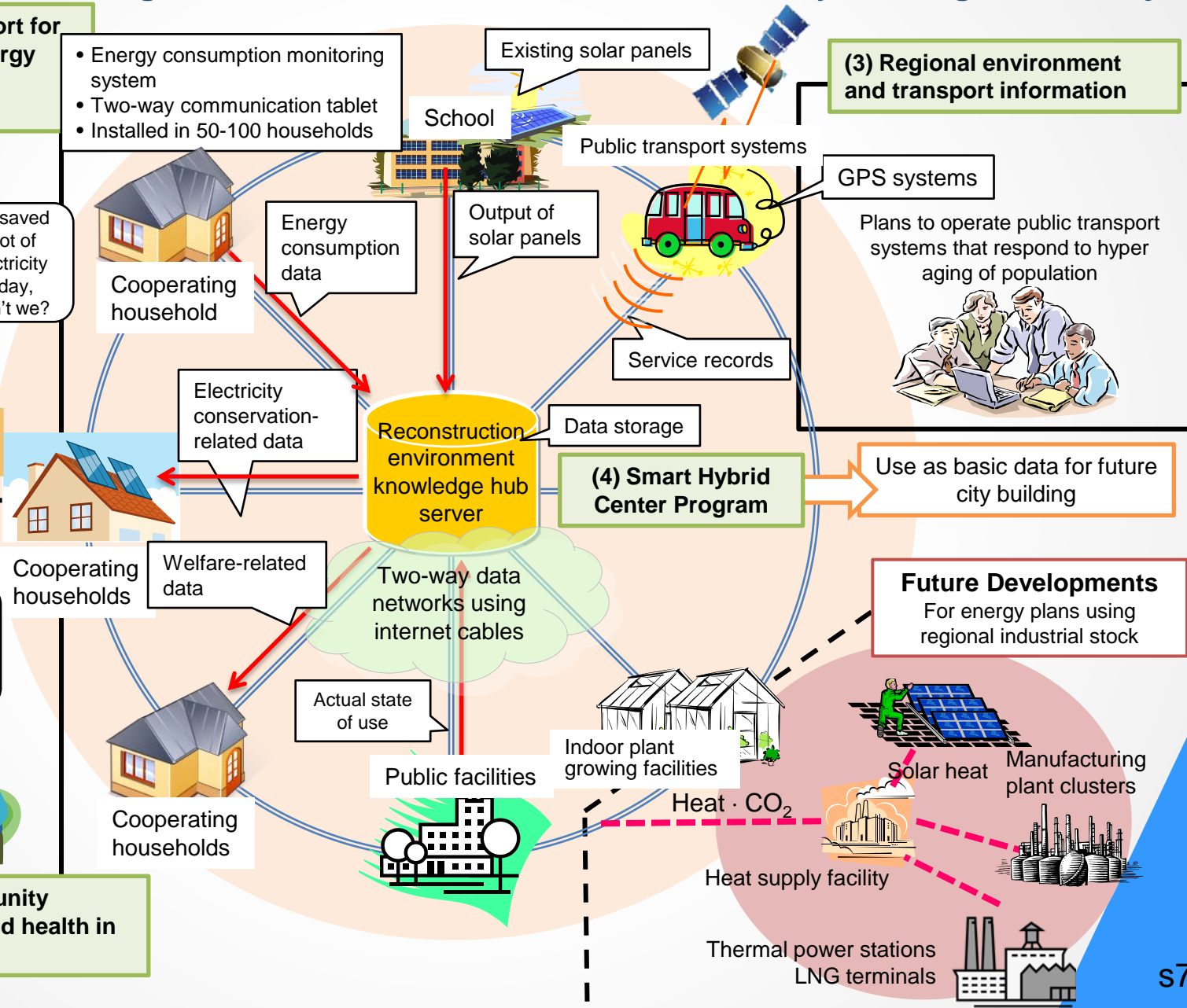
Plans to operate public transport systems that respond to hyper aging of population

## (4) Smart Hybrid Center Program

Use as basic data for future city building

## Future Developments

For energy plans using regional industrial stock



# Past Examples of Regional Revitalization Emanating from FutureCities

Value produced from social innovations to deal with environment and population aging

## **1. Revitalization benefits of progressive development of foundations for low-carbon and aging society (value of region's adaptability to future)**

Benefits of responding to changes wrought from outside the region and disasters, through reduction of risks to health and greater autonomy of region's services

## **2. Benefits of improvement in other types of regional vitality through responses to environment and population aging (value of regional co-benefits)**

Synergy effect for economy, disaster prevention, etc. through development of foundations for environment, energy and daily life

## **3. Improvement of region's autonomous governance through collaborative actions of diverse entities (benefit of autonomous regional management)**

- Benefits of new public-private partnerships through the formation of new strong ties to the region by building trust and cooperation between the region's citizens and businesses



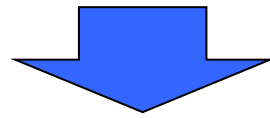
# Issues of Regional Revitalization Through Eco-City Partnerships

## **Issue 1: International partnerships aimed at regional revitalization between FutureCities and overseas cities and their benefits**

- Implement international partnerships among national and local governments and non-government organizations
- Benefits of international partnerships for regional revitalization and future application of initiatives
- Yokohama Y-Port Project: International Technical Cooperation through public-private partnership
- Toyama: Assistance for application of Toyama's projects in Tanaban, Indonesia
- Istanbul: Significance and benefits of partnerships with Japanese cities
- FutureCity partnership mechanisms developed by UN organizations
- Significance of two-way city partnerships at individual city level

# Approaches of Leading Cities to Regional Revitalization

- Frontier of low-carbon society
- Efforts to solve problems of aging society



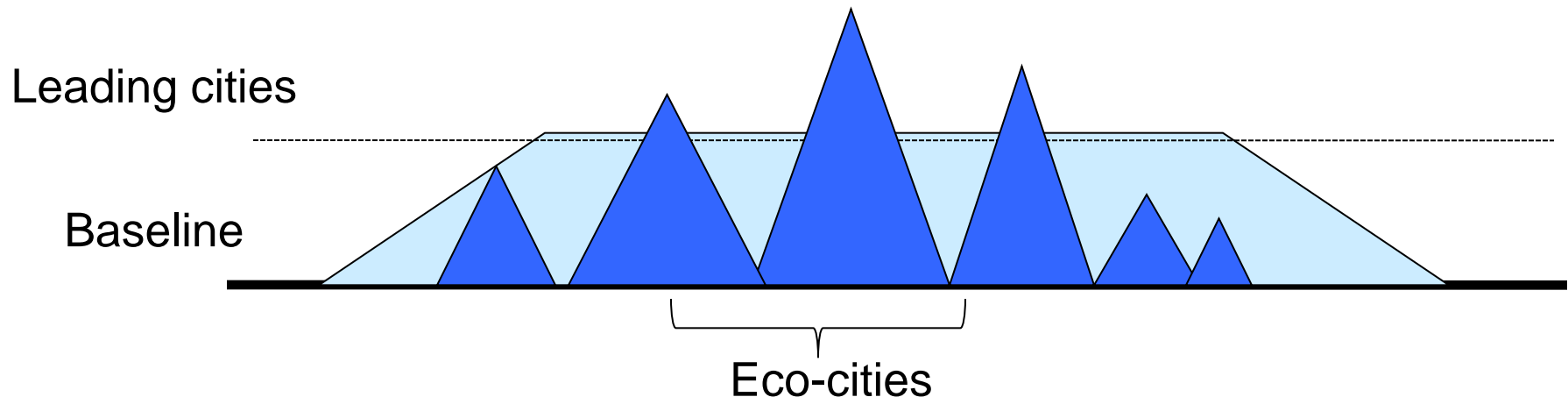
Mutual complementarity

## Regional revitalization approaches

Use of social resources  $\Leftarrow$  Resources, location of foundations

Higher energy efficiency  $\Leftarrow$  use of distribution of stored heat and heat demand

Use of environmental resources  $\Leftarrow$  Water, ecosystems



# Issues of Regional Revitalization Through Eco-City Partnerships

## **Issue 1: Partnerships aimed at regional revitalization between FutureCities and overseas cities and their benefits (2)**

- People (human resources), towns (soft and hard infrastructure), jobs (industrial capital, financial capital) perspectives
  - Benefits of international partnerships for regional revitalization
    - Short-term, direct regional revitalization benefits
    - Long-term, indirect regional revitalization benefits
- of eco-city partnerships

# Issues of Regional Revitalization Through Eco-City Partnerships

## **Issue 2: Key to Self-Sustaining Development of International Partnerships by FutureCities**

- Key to enabling integrated environmental, economic and social growth through international partnerships
  - E.g., Environmental value for Asian cities, economic value for Japanese cities, social value for both
  - Key to government-to-government partnerships and leadership by international bodies to connect all of these values
  - Potential for dissemination of technical, human and capital partnerships to international knowledge base
  - Roles that FutureCities can play and their expectations

# Japan's Low-Carbon Cities in the International Community

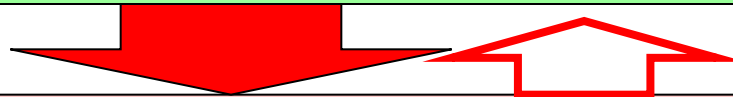
## Knowledge and wisdom of eco-cities in Europe: European style

- Moves towards low carbon society amidst progression of de-industrialization and de-materialization trends
- High level of consideration of environment among citizens and businesses, capacity for partnerships/urban management capabilities among multiple entities



## Knowledge and wisdom of eco-cities communicated from Japan: *FutureCity*

- Low-carbon packages (combination of equipment technology, network technology, and socio-technology), leveraging capabilities in development of technology and products to achieve specific goals
- Social governance systems, including fostering environmental awareness in citizens and businesses
- Regional communities with power to take environmental actions based on experience of pollution



## Eco-city approaches in Asia: Asian style

- Promotion of low-carbon movement coupled with industrialization and economic growth
- Top-down project promotion and policy implementation capabilities

# Issues of Regional Revitalization Through Eco-City Partnerships

## **Issue 2: Key to Self-Sustaining Development of International Partnerships of FutureCities – (2)**

- Key to linking international partnerships with mutual regional revitalization of Japanese and overseas cities

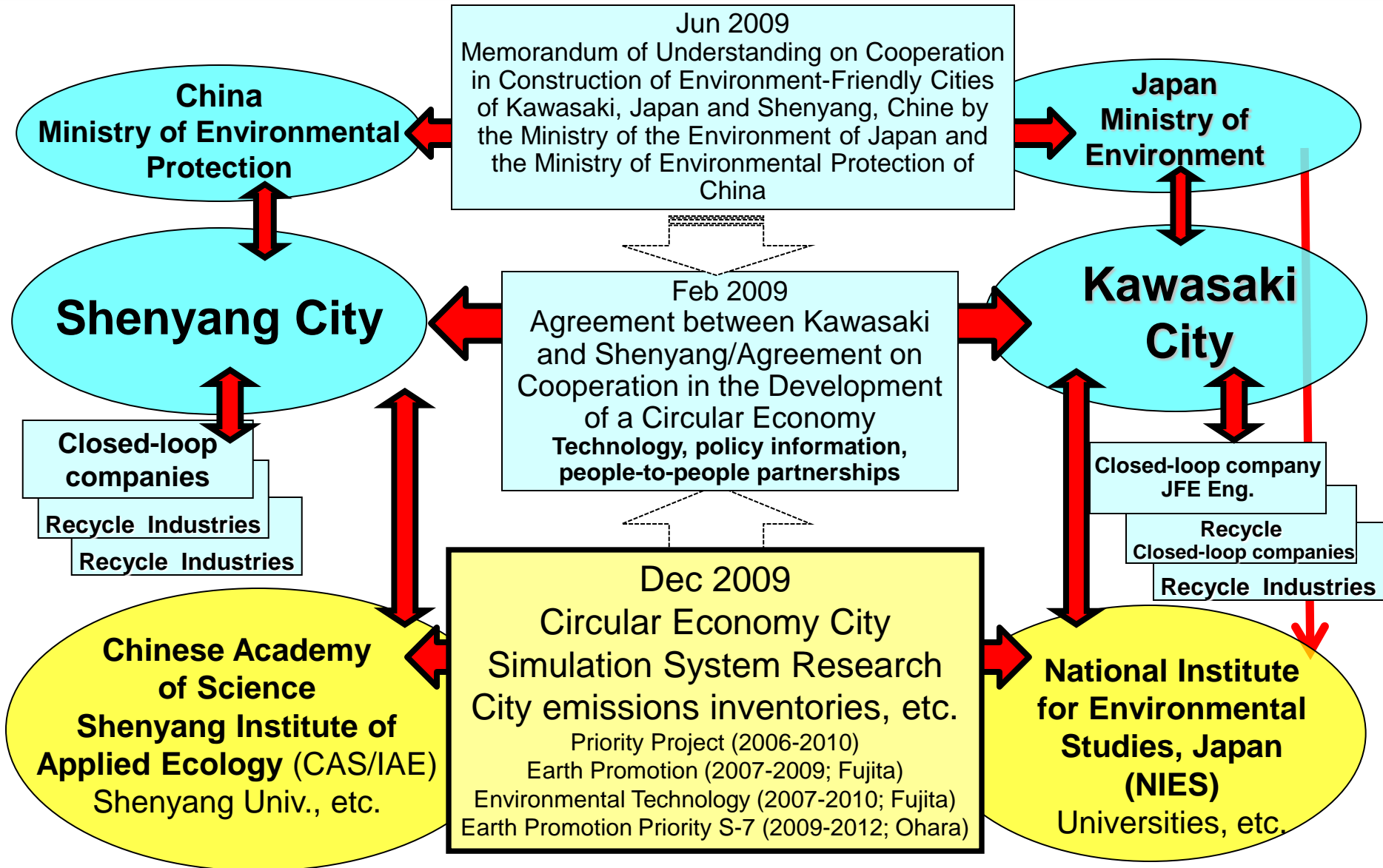
→ E.g., Disseminating initiatives not across-the-board but in stages, as the norm

Phase 1: Benefits of international partnerships through opportunities for knowledge-sharing

Phase 2: International partnerships through stimulation towards self-motivated future green growth at own initiative

Phase 3: Benefits of international partnerships through concrete exchanges of people, goods and capital

# Example of System for Promotion of International Partnerships for Environmentally-Friendly Cities



# Issues of Regional Revitalization Through Eco-City Partnerships

## **Issue 2: Key to Self-Sustaining Development of International Partnerships of FutureCities – (3)**

- Key to creating systems to link international partnerships with regional revitalization
- Division of roles and synergy between international bodies, national governments and local governments
- Partnerships between various entities, including administrative agencies, citizens, companies and universities
- Hopes for leadership in international partnerships in Japan's eco-city projects

*Thank you for your Attention*