

Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake
After the “Reconstruction and Revitalization Period”

“Changes to the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake in the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period”¹ lay out the basic direction for reconstruction after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period,² while the “Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2019”³ stipulates that basic guidelines must be decided during 2019 in order to take appropriate measures after this period.

This document will summarize the reconstruction measures implemented to date, clarify the progress and results of these measures, as well as future challenges, and establish the basic guidelines for reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake on actions in each field, systems to support reconstruction, and organizations after the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period, based on provisions in Article 3 of the Basic Act on Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake.⁴

There will be no revitalization of Japan without reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake.

As set in the basic guidelines, the Japanese government will continue to launch full-scale efforts to reconstruct the areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, maintaining a completely hands-on approach at the sides of those affected by this disaster.

I. Summary of Past Reconstruction Measures

The Great East Japan Earthquake, the largest earthquake to hit Japan in recorded history, generated a devastating tsunami over a widespread area. The release of radioactive materials as a result of the accident at TEPCO’s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station caused an unprecedented complex disaster, forcing the evacuation of countless residents, damaging industries and causing negative reputations.

The Basic Act on Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent Basic Guidelines on Reconstruction from the

¹ Cabinet Decision, March 8, 2019

² FY 2016 to March 31, 2021

³ Cabinet Decision, June 21, 2019

⁴ Act No. 76 of 2011

Great East Japan Earthquake⁵ based on this act were enacted in response to the massive level of damage that occurred in comparison with other large-scale disasters in the past. Unprecedented generous support was provided in response to the disaster, including the formulation of a “Reconstruction Financial Resources Framework”, legislation of special measures, development of mechanisms to provide human and financial support to local governments affected by the disaster, and the implementation of various measures in each field, in addition to measures based on various laws and regulations, such as the Act on Special Financial Support to Deal with the Designated Disaster of Extreme Severity.⁶

Reconstruction has made substantial progress as a result of these initiatives, with areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami now in the final stages of reconstruction and areas affected by the nuclear disaster entering the full-scale reconstruction and revitalization stage.

However, along with the progress of reconstruction, projects that must continue to be addressed and new challenges have come to light, requiring responses based on a summary of the reconstruction measures implemented to date.

Based on the above description of the current situation, the following sections provide a summary of the reconstruction measures taken to date in the formulation of the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake After the “Reconstruction and Revitalization Period”.

1. Summary of actions in each field

(1) Support for affected people (health and daily life support)

① Mental health care support for affected people

(Results)

- Immediately after the disaster, a maximum of about 470,000 people evacuated due to the massive damage over a wide area, such as the collapse of buildings. To immediately secure housing options, a maximum of approximately 123,000 temporary housing units were provided under the Disaster Relief Act.⁷ Subsequently, evacuees relocated to permanent housing as a result of the construction of public housing for disaster-

⁵ Decided by the Reconstruction Headquarters in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake on July 29, 2011

⁶ Act No. 150 of 1962

⁷ Act No. 118 of 1947

affected people and relocation to elevated areas, as well as the payment of Support Grants for Reconstructing Livelihoods of Disaster Victims under the Act Concerning Support for Reconstructing Livelihoods of Disaster Victims,⁸ which has reduced the number of evacuees to approximately 49,000.⁹ The government aims to eliminate temporary housing in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

- In order to response to health-related issues that have resulted from prolonged life as evacuees, as well as issues related to setting up new lifestyles in public housing for disaster-affected people, continuous support is being provided according to the evacuee's stage of rebuilding his or her lifestyle, such as consultations regarding housing and rebuilding lifestyles, as well as watching over, support for daily life and community development. There has been a marked decrease in the number of households requiring support, such as watching over.

(Future challenges)

- It will be necessary to consider how support can be provided to affected people after the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period, including the continuation of such types of support for a certain period of time, for example, support for formulating communities in districts that will be rebuilt at the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, mental and physical care of the elderly and other groups, "mental recovery" to help people find purpose in life, watching over and lifestyle consultations, while also continuing to keep in mind the differences in the progress of projects by region in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami.
- Detailed support must continue to be provided to evacuees from areas affected by the nuclear disaster, taking into account the prolonged life as evacuees and status of the areas.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- In collaboration with diverse stakeholders, such as local governments and NPOs and other private organizations, various projects have been implemented to support affected people in line with the stage of reconstruction. It is important to build networks among these stakeholders in times when there are no disasters to ensure the smooth development and implementation of systems after a disaster occurs.

⁸ Act No. 66 of 1998

⁹ As of November 2019

- Good practices, lessons and know-how should be collected so that stakeholders, such as local governments and NPOs and other private organizations, can use these as reference.

② Support for children affected by the disaster

(Results)

- School facilities damaged in the Great East Japan Earthquake have been largely restored in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami.
- An educational environment has been secured for children affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, as a result of prolonged life as evacuees or the loss of their parents or guardians. This has been done through educational support with the assignment of special teachers and school counselors and support for children attending schools who are having difficulty for financial reasons caused by the disaster.

(Future challenges)

- Methods of supporting children and schools should be examined based on differences in the state of progress of reconstruction from the nuclear disaster, clarification of difference of categories with general measures and examples of past cases of large-scale disasters, in consideration of situations where children and students continue to require learning support and mental health care, as well as children and students who have difficulty attending school for economic reasons caused by the disaster.
- Support should continue to be provided to reopen schools and other facilities in areas affected by the nuclear disaster, as well as for the development of an attractive educational environment at Futaba Future School and reopened school facilities.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is necessary to develop disaster measures and raise awareness, such as through the distribution of disaster-prevention educational materials in schools and hands-on experiences, such as conducting evacuation drills in regular times on the basis of a newfound recognition in schools of the importance of preventing disasters before they happen.

(2) Reconstruction of homes and cities

① Restoration of towns and housings, and improvement of living environments

(Results)

- With support from surveys under the direct control of the national

government and the dispatch of support staff from local governments around Japan, local governments in disaster-affected areas are continuing to set the scale of projects for disaster public housing for disaster-affected people and uplands relocation, based on the intentions of affected people, and review of plans as necessary. During the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, approximately 30,000 public housing for disaster-affected people and about 18,000 residential lots in uplands are expected to be completed.¹⁰

- With the provision of Support Grants for Reconstructing Livelihoods of Disaster Victims, the government is contributing to the development of stable lifestyles and quick reconstruction in affected areas.

(Future challenges)

- With the generation of residential land that is not being used due to changes in the intentions and plans of affected people, it will be necessary to promote actions for the effective use of land developed through residential land reallocation projects to create bustling towns.
- It will also be necessary to formulate land use plans for original relocation areas that have been acquired by projects promoting collective relocation for disaster preventions and also encourage local governments to take action in utilizing these areas according to specific needs.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is necessary to pass on know-how and mechanisms for measures to improve the operation of systems and simplify procedures to accelerate the restoration of towns and housings.
- It is necessary for local governments to put preliminary preparations in place, such as collaboration with related organizations, confirming local characteristics and possible damage, sharing anticipated issues, examining reconstruction systems and procedures, and reviewing potential candidate sites for projects, in order to formulate plans for early and accurate reconstruction projects.

② Building transportation and logistics networks that form the foundation for economic development of disaster-affected areas

(Results)

- Massive amounts of disaster waste and tsunami deposits were generated

¹⁰ Of the public housing for long-term evacuees from the nuclear disaster, this excludes housing where maintenance is pending and public housing for residents who have returned home from evacuation sites following the nuclear disaster.

mainly along the Pacific coast. However, with the exception of some areas in Fukushima Prefecture, the disposal of this debris has been completed.

- With transportation infrastructure, such as Reconstructed Roads and Reconstruction Support Roads, railways and ports which form the foundation for economic development of affected areas, and coastal protection forests being built, projects are slated for completion, with the exception of areas affected by the nuclear disaster. The effects of reconstruction can be seen, such as the integration of production bases inland and connections with ports on the coast through these transport and logistical networks.

(Future challenges)

- It is necessary to take actions to complete projects for the development of transportation and logistic networks that form the foundation for economic development of disaster-affected areas as quickly as possible during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period so that impacts from Typhoon Hagibis and other disasters in 2019 will not affect reconstruction efforts.
- The managing body must continuously maintain and manage the infrastructure developed for reconstruction in the future.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- A system should be developed for the smooth implementation of waste management, such as the establishment of a support system using expert networks, formulation of treatment plans for disaster waste, and organization of joint training in communities at times when there are no disasters.
- It is important for related organizations to collaborate in the overall management of projects at individual locations when developing transportation and logistics networks.

(3) Revitalization of industries and livelihoods

① Acceleration of industrial revitalization

(Results)

- As industries and livelihoods have been revitalized, shipments of products manufactured in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures have generally recovered to pre-earthquake levels, as a result of special measures for the restoration of business facilities and equipment with group subsidies for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), new or additional facilities such as factories with subsidies on relocating businesses, special depreciation system for replacement of disaster-damaged assets, and special depreciation tax system in special zones for reconstruction.

(Future challenges)

- It is necessary to consider ways of providing adequate support to businesses depending on local conditions and issues to establish and open up sales channels and secure human resources in light of a broad difference in the status of recovery among local governments located along the coast.
- Support for rebuilding SMEs and other groups and support through subsidies on relocating businesses should be appropriately reviewed, including the extension of applications and operational deadlines with a focus on target areas based on the status of reconstruction to date in areas where land development necessary for recovery has been completed in the final year of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.
- With regard to tax systems for special zones for reconstruction, with the remarkable decline in population and workplaces, time is needed to improve basic infrastructure through land readjustment projects in areas that have experienced massive damage from the tsunami. As there will be areas where companies will not relocate, it will be necessary to consider extending application deadlines for tax systems for special zones for reconstruction after prioritizing target areas, so that areas that have been severely damaged can continue to steadily work on its industrial revitalization.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- Understanding the status of business activities at the local government level and examining how support can be provided when a disaster occurs in times when there are no disasters will help promote prompt support in the event of a disaster.
- When businesses take advantage of subsidies, it is important to be proactive in providing information on market trends and advice on repayment plans.
- It is necessary to carefully identify and actively utilize expert human resources both in and outside of disaster-affected areas when providing support to businesses affected by disasters.

② Promotion of tourism

(Results)

- The national government positioned the year 2016 as the “first year of the Tohoku tourism revitalization” and promoted a revival of tourism, including promotions in major overseas markets and support for efforts by local governments to attract inbound tourism, toward the goal of increasing the total number of foreign visitors staying overnight in the six prefectures in Tohoku to “1.5 million nights” by 2020. As a result, since FY 2016, the number of foreign visitors staying overnight in six prefectures in the Tohoku region

has been growing steadily at a rate higher than that of the entire country. This number significantly exceeds levels before the earthquake.

(Future challenges)

- Additional independent tourism policies must be developed by prefectures in Tohoku.
- It is necessary to promote measures to avoid continued reputational damage in Fukushima Prefecture, such as how the growth rate of the total number of guests staying overnight over the entire period since the earthquake in 2011 has remained particularly low in comparison with the rest of the country.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- Similar to reconstruction tourism, programs that allow people to directly experience the lessons from the disaster and status of recovery and reconstruction on site can also be used for educational trips and study tour, improve knowledge and awareness of disasters, and contribute to disaster prevention and mitigation measures in the future.

③ Revitalization of the agricultural, forestry, and fishery industries

(Results)

- The restoration of agricultural, forestry and fishery infrastructure in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami, such as farmland, agricultural facilities, timber processing and distribution facilities, fishing port facilities, and fishery processing facilities, has largely been completed. Together with such restoration efforts, actions are being taken to raise production efficiency and increase added value, such as large-partitioning of agricultural land.
- With this in mind, agricultural and forestry output in Iwate and Miyagi prefectures have shown a level of recovery comparable to that before the earthquake and that are generally on the same level as other areas in the country.

(Future challenges)

- It is necessary to aim at completing the development of farmlands affected by the earthquake and tsunami and provide assistance for the resumption of farming in Fukushima Prefecture, in particular, where recovery is delayed.
- Activities to restore sales channels must be implemented to promote the recovery of fishery catches and sales in the fishery processing industry, a core industry in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is important to take measures to support businesses affected by the disaster to recover from damage caused by the loss of sales channels, in conjunction

with the restoration of damaged infrastructure used for production.

- In addition to actions to restore industries, support measures must be taken to help advance the development of production areas, such as large-partitioning of agricultural land, introducing cutting-edge production technologies, and converting to high value-added crops.

(4) Reconstruction and renewal from nuclear disaster

① Solutions of accident (decommissioning, contaminated water management)

(Results)

- After achieving a cold shutdown state in reactors at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, the removal of fuel from the spent fuel pool has partially been completed based on the Mid- and Long-Term Roadmap,¹¹ and preparation work to start the removal of the remaining fuel is moving forward. Internal investigations are being conducted on starting the removal of fuel debris.

(Future challenges)

- Work should be implemented steadily with the top priority on safety based on the Mid- and Long-Term Roadmap while communication is strengthened with local communities. Research and development should also be promoted based on the needs of decommissioning sites.
- Comprehensive discussions should be conducted on how to handle water purified by multi-nuclide removal equipment (Advanced Liquid Processing System/ALPS) by the Sub-committee on Handling ALPS Treated Water, including social considerations, such as reputational damage, to allow the government to draw evidence-based conclusions. It is also important to continue to disseminate and disclose accurate information based on scientific evidence in Japan and overseas.

(Lessons for future decommissioning)

- Flexible reviews should be conducted in response to newly discovered events, such as the addition of safety measures and changes to the content of work, based on risks that may occur.
- It is important to improve the technical skill level of workers and strengthen the management capacity of TEPCO, in light of the voices of local communities worried about problems resulting from errors and mistakes

¹¹ Mid-and-Long-Term Roadmap towards the Decommissioning of TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (Revised on September 26, 2017, Inter-Ministerial Council for Contaminated Water and Decommissioning Issues)

during operation.

- It is important to compile and use wisdom from Japan and abroad, such as by making full use of the knowledge and experience from overseas, in order to efficiently and effectively promote actions for decommissioning.
- In order to decommission the reactors over the long term, it is essential to gain the understanding of the local community and society and enhance two-way communication with local residents.

② Removal of radioactive materials, etc.

(Results)

- By the end of March 2018, decontamination had been completed in all areas of municipalities, with the exception of areas where return is difficult, based on the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Handling of Pollution by Radioactive Materials¹² and Basic Guidelines¹³ based on this law.
- With the understanding and cooperation of Fukushima Prefecture, Okuma Town, Futaba Town and other stakeholders, interim storage facilities to which removed soil that have been temporarily installed in Fukushima Prefecture is transported are being developed with approximately 70% of the land acquired and about one-third of the amount of soil transported.¹⁴ Progress has also been made in restoring temporary storage sites to their original conditions and returning land. The transfer of specified waste to landfill facilities in Fukushima Prefecture is also being promoted, with about 30% of the target volume transferred.¹⁵

(Future challenges)

- In light of the damage caused by Typhoon Hagibis in 2019, temporary storage sites shall be properly and thoroughly managed in anticipation of disasters in the future.
- Continuing to safely and quickly transport removed soil temporarily stored in

¹² Act on Special Measures concerning the Handling of Environment Pollution by Radioactive Materials Discharged by the Nuclear Power Station Accident Associated with the Tohoku District – Off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake Occurred on March 11, 2011 (Act No. 110 of 2011)

¹³ Basic Guidelines Based on the Act on Special Measures concerning the Handling of Environment Pollution by Radioactive Materials Discharged by the Nuclear Power Station Accident Associated with the Tohoku District – Off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake Occurred on March 11, 2011 (Cabinet decision, November 11, 2011)

¹⁴ Target transported volume: Approximately 14 million m³, completed: Approx. 5.025 million m³ (as of November 30, 2019)

¹⁵ Transported in: Approx. 102,000 bags (as of November 30, 2019)

Fukushima Prefecture (excluding areas where return is difficult) to interim storage facilities and promote the prompt removal of this soil from temporary storage sites. It is necessary to restore temporary storage sites to their original conditions once stored soil is removed and promote measures to resume farming. The national government must be responsible in following laws on the final disposal of removed soil in Fukushima Prefecture stipulating that necessary measures must be taken to complete the final disposal of soil outside Fukushima Prefecture within 30 years from the start of interim storage.¹⁶ To achieve final disposal of soil outside of the prefecture, it will be necessary for the national government to work together to promote the reduction and recycling of the volume of soil in order to reduce the amount of waste sent to final disposal. It is necessary to confirm safety through demonstration projects when promoting volume reduction and recycling and to create an environment of understanding on the necessity of recycling and reuse, as well as safety concerning radiation. Measures for the disposal of soil removed from areas outside of Fukushima Prefecture are also needed.

- Information about the safety of landfill projects should continue to be disseminated and specific waste transported from within Fukushima Prefecture to landfill facilities. It is also important for measures to be promoted to reduce the amount of specified waste from areas outside of Fukushima Prefecture and for each local government to take precise and careful measures.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- Collaboration and coordination with related organizations is key to promoting activities with the understanding of residents and other stakeholders. To gain understanding, it is important not only to disseminate information, but to also deepen trust and understanding through information-based dialogue with local communities to build good relationships with residents and promote projects.

③ Expansion of efforts for lifting evacuation orders and for return, etc.

(Results)

- Evacuation orders put into place after the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station accident have been lifted sequentially since 2014. With evacuation orders issued for Okuma Town removed in April 2019, evacuation

¹⁶ Act on Interim Storage and Japan Environmental Storage & Safety Corporation (Act No. 44 of 2003)

orders have been lifted in most areas with the exception of areas where return is difficult. In areas where evacuation orders have been lifted, there has been progress in improving living conditions to allow residents to return home with the support of the Fukushima Revitalization Acceleration Subsidy Program and other incentive systems. As a result of these actions, the number of evacuees from Fukushima Prefecture, which was approximately 165,000 at its highest, has declined to about 42,000.¹⁷ The number of residents in all areas where evacuation orders have been lifted has gradually increased from approximately 4,000 in April 2017 (approximately 75,000 registrants in basic resident registers) to approximately 9,000 in April 2018 (approximately 73,000 in basic registers), and approximately 13,000 in November 2019 (approximately 70,000 in basic registers).

- Demolition and decontamination of houses and other infrastructure started in areas designated as Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Bases (SRRB) in six towns and villages,¹⁸ with the aim of lifting evacuation orders around each station in the base area in line with the opening of all JR Joban lines scheduled for completion by the end of FY 2019, as well as lifting evacuation orders for the entire base area by the spring of 2023.
- However, as some evacuees are spending a prolonged period in evacuation shelters and housing, 26 livelihood reconstruction support bases have been set up nationwide providing information and consultation support. In addition, various types of support measures have been implemented under the Children and Victims Support Act,¹⁹ including easing income requirements to allow people to move into public housing.

(Future challenges)

- It is necessary to make further efforts to make the necessary improvements to the environment to allow residents to return home and to promote relocation from outside the region, as well as expand the number of visitors and related populations.
- It is necessary to demolish and decontaminate houses and restore infrastructure with the aim of lifting evacuation orders in SRRBs in six towns and villages, as well as promote measures to counter damage from wildlife and improve the living environment. The situations of local governments in

¹⁷ As of November 2019

¹⁸ Futaba Town, Okuma Town, Namie Town, Tomioka Town, Iitate Village, Katsurao Village

¹⁹ Act on Promotion of Support Measures for the Lives of Disaster Victims to Protect and Support Children and Other Residents Suffering Damage due to Tokyo Electric Power Company's Nuclear Accident (Act No. 48 of 2012)

areas where return is difficult are all very different, so it is necessary to promote activities through individual and detailed discussions with towns and villages on issues pertaining to help needed for residents to return home and live in areas where evacuation orders have been lifted and SRRBs.

- Measures should also be considered to resolve issues in areas where return is difficult based on the resolution to "lift evacuation orders for all these areas in the future, even if it takes years, and take responsibility for reconstruction and revitalization". For this reason, it is necessary to consider measures for areas other than SRRBs where return is difficult, including how land can be used, based on actual situations and opinions of each local government.

- Detailed support must continue to be provided to evacuees from areas affected by the nuclear disaster, taking into account the prolonged life as evacuees and status of the areas

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is important to develop networks between stakeholders, such as local governments and private organizations like NPOs during normal times in order to ensure the smooth development of systems after a disaster.
- In cases where affected people are evacuated over a wide area because of a large-scale disaster, recent initiatives to provide evacuees with information and develop nationwide consultation systems will be of reference.

④ Industrial clusters based on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework (Results)

- Based on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework,²⁰ which aims to create a new industrial base in the Hamadori area of Fukushima Prefecture, there has been progress in the development of bases for decommissioning, robotics, and energy, which is contributing to the creation of new industries, formation of core industries that can replace nuclear power-related industries, and the development of educational and human resources.
- In addition, Fukushima has accelerated the advancement of companies into disaster-affected areas through the creation of industrial parks and provision

²⁰ Framework aiming at the establishment of a new industrial base in the Hamadori area of Fukushima Prefecture to restore industries and employment in areas destroyed by the Great East Japan Earthquake and nuclear disaster.

A report was compiled in June 2014 by the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework Study Group. The framework was clearly stated in the 2017 revision of the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima. A priority plan to achieve the objectives of the framework was formulated by Fukushima Prefecture, which was certified by the Prime Minister in April 2018.

of subsidies for the relocation of companies with the Fukushima Revitalization Acceleration Subsidy Program. Gross prefectural domestic product in Fukushima has also recovered to pre-earthquake levels.

(Future challenges)

- Based on the blueprint for industrial development²¹ set in the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework, it will be important both to develop new businesses and expand new trades by local businesses and to attract companies and investors from outside the region, with the aim of achieving independent and sustainable industrial development in the Hamadori area of Fukushima.
- The challenge will be to create an international educational and research base where people from around Japan and abroad gather to promote the reconstruction and revitalization of the Hamadori area in Fukushima (increasing the permanent population, etc.), cross-disciplinary research and creation of new industries through collaboration among industries, academia and government, sustainable development of human resources, and promoting Fukushima reconstruction research clusters and dissemination of information to the rest of the world.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is remarkably difficult to restore industries to their original state after a complex large-scale disaster. In addition to support for helping residents return to their homes and to revive businesses, it is necessary to help business operators affected by the disaster resume business activities and create new industries by attracting companies and investors from outside the region.

⑤ Reconstruction of businesses and agricultural, forestry and fishery industries

(Results)

- The Fukushima Soso Public-Private Joint Reconstruction Team,²² which

²¹ Summary of the region's image of independent and sustainable industrial development from a medium- to long-term and wide-area perspective and the direction of activities to be promoted by the national government, Fukushima Prefecture, municipalities and related organizations to achieve that aim based on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework (Ministry of the Economy, Trade and Industry, Reconstruction Agency, Fukushima Prefecture, December 2019)

²² Established in August 2015 as an entity consisting of the national government, Fukushima Prefecture and the private sector to provide support measures to help businesses affected by the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station become independent, based on the revised "For Accelerating the Reconstruction of Fukushima from the Nuclear Disaster" (Cabinet decision, June 12, 2015).

consists of the national government, Fukushima Prefecture and the private sector, provides detailed and individualized support through private visits to businesses and farmers. Approximately 2,700 businesses²³ have continued or resumed business activities in local areas or at evacuation sites, with agricultural activities resumed by about 350 farmers.²⁴

- Farmland in 12 municipalities²⁵ affected by the nuclear disaster has been completely decontaminated, with the exception of areas where return is difficult.
- Restoration work has been completed at most fishing ports in Fukushima Prefecture.

(Future challenges)

- To date, steady support has been provided for businesses and farmers, but the situation of the reconstruction of businesses and livelihoods in each affected area varies depending on the cancellation status of evacuation orders and other conditions. For this reason, it is necessary to continue providing detailed support to businesses and farmers and assistance for wide-area urban development through the Fukushima Soso Public-Private Joint Reconstruction Team.
- In the agricultural sector, farming has resumed in less than 30% of the 12 municipalities affected by the nuclear disaster. It is necessary to continue to encourage the resumption of farming by providing assistance to farmers affected by the disaster, improving farmland and agricultural facilities, introducing agricultural machinery and livestock, and introducing measures for radioactive materials in ponds and other water sources, as well as to counter damage by wildlife. In addition to this, it is necessary to accelerate the resumption of farming by promoting the large-partitioning and integrated use of agricultural land, including entry from outside businesses, creation of wide-area, high value-added industries and development of sixth industry facilities (production, processing and distribution/sales) with the aim of achieving large-scale farming with extremely high labor productivity utilizing the latest technology.
- In the forestry and the forestry industry sector, forest management must be integrated with countermeasures for radioactive materials, production areas

²³ As of December 2019

²⁴ As of December 2018

²⁵ Tamura City, Minamisoma City, Kawamata Town, Hirono Town, Naraha Town, Tomioka Town, Kawauchi Village, Okuma Town, Futaba Town, Namie Town, Katsurao Village, Iitate Village

for unprocessed forests and special forest products should be restored, a wood product safety certification system must be established, the effective use of bark should be promoted, and appropriate measures should be implemented based on the results of *satoyama* restoration model projects, so that forests and the forest industry, which have been impacted by radioactive materials, can be regenerated.

- In the fisheries sector, since volume of landings by coastal fisheries and offshore trawlnet fisheries in Fukushima Prefecture, where test operations are continuing, are only at 15% of that before the earthquake, it is necessary to promote activities to resume full-scale operations by increasing fishery catches and developing sales channels based on the results of monitoring and inspections of radioactive materials in marine products and the surrounding sea areas. Sales channels must be recovered and newly developed in the fishery processing industry.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is important to provide detailed support for the reconstruction of businesses and livelihoods through individual visits according to the diverse needs of individual businesses.

⑥ Measures to dispel harmful rumors and risk communication

(Results)

- Price differences between products from Fukushima Prefecture and the national average are gradually narrowing as a result of the dissemination of information based on the Guidelines to Strengthen Measures against Negative Reputations²⁶ and Strategy for Eliminating Impacts from Negative Reputations and Enhancing Risk Communication.²⁷ In a survey on consumer attitudes,²⁸ the percentage of people who cite radioactive materials as the reason for their hesitation to purchase products from Fukushima Prefecture is on a downward trend.
- Import restrictions were initially enforced in 54 countries and regions. Since then, 33 countries and regions have lifted restrictions, while 19 countries and

²⁶ June 23, 2014, formulated by the Task Force on the Nuclear Disaster's Influence Including the Negative Reputation Impact

²⁷ December 12, 2017, formulated by the Task Force on the Nuclear Disaster's Influence Including the Negative Reputation Impact

²⁸ Survey on consumer attitudes regarding damage from harmful rumors or misinformation (12th) (Consumer Affairs Agency)

regions have eased import restrictions.²⁹

(Future challenges)

- Measures must be promoted to address persistent harmful rumors or misinformation about the agricultural, forestry and fishery industries in each stage of production, distribution and sales to effectively disseminate information on the status of reconstruction and scientific knowledge on radiation, improve the brand power of agricultural, forestry and fishery products, and expand sales channels.
- In addition to our gratitude for the support received from around the world, it is important to disseminate information through the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games to people from around the world on the organization of competitions and events in disaster-affected areas that are continuing to reconstruct, the Torch Relay that will start in J-Village in Fukushima, and efforts to use food and materials produced in areas affected by the disaster.
- Import control measures are still in place in 21 countries and regions. Measures must be taken to dispel harmful rumors or misinformation overseas.
- Actions must be taken to provide appropriate health management and eliminate the health concerns of affected people.
- It is necessary to encourage the further use of a revised edition of the radiation supplementary reader at schools based on the results of a follow-up survey on the status of its utilization compiled in FY 2019.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- Using a diverse mixture of media, information must be actively disseminated not only in Japan, but overseas as well.

(5) Creation of “New Tohoku” and collaboration with diverse entities

① Creation of “New Tohoku”

(Results)

- Based on the fact that the areas affected by the disaster can be likened to “advanced areas in challenges”, it is not simply a matter of restoring the area to its original state, but also solving issues facing all areas in Japan, such as population decline and the hollowing out of industry, thereby creating a “New Tohoku” as a model for Japan and the rest of the world. Model cases are being developed that can lead to solutions to regional issues, such as the formation of communities, and revival of industries and livelihoods in line with the characteristics of the region by maximizing the use of human resources and

²⁹ As of December 2019

know-how from the private sector and engaging in model projects, collaboration through the provision of spaces for business matching, such as “Yuinoba”, and dispatching experts.

(Future challenges)

- It is important to create an environment where the entities in disaster-affected areas who are involved in disseminating and developing the collective know-how to address regional issues can utilize regional revitalization measures to carry out sustainable activities.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is important to create an environment where diverse entities, including local governments, private organizations and residents from both inside and outside the areas affected by the disaster, can share and use their knowledge and experiences and set up an environment in which various entities can carry out community-based activities and easily cooperate with one another in times of peace.

② Collaboration with volunteers, NPOs and various entities

(Results)

- NPOs, volunteers, companies, universities and other entities have demonstrated their strengths at each stage of revitalization and reconstruction and implemented projects in collaboration with government agencies in a wide range of fields, including the revitalization of industries, restoration of towns, and support to rebuild communities.

(Future challenges)

- The progress of reconstruction and regional and individual issues are diversifying, which requires a detailed understanding of needs and actions. There continues to be high expectations of actions and roles played by groups, such as NPOs and volunteers. To this end, sustainable local communities must be created by utilizing the policies of the entire government, including for regional revitalization, while making the most of know-how and connections with various entities that have been developed throughout the reconstruction period. In the future, it will be important to create an environment where private organizations can carry out independent and sustainable activities.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- A cooperative system must be developed between stakeholders in times of peace, such as collecting and organizing knowledge about the Great East Japan Earthquake, training and developing related organizations, and

developing a system to accept volunteers, in order to promote community-based mutual assistance and cooperation.

(6) Dissemination of the image of reconstruction and passing on the memories of the Great East Japan Earthquake and lessons learned to future generations

(Results)

- Japan expressed its gratitude for the support received from around the world and broadcast images of the disaster-affected areas that are being reconstructed to the world through the Rugby World Cup 2019 with matches held in Kamaishi City in Iwate Prefecture in September 2019.
- Japan promoted actions, such as the dissemination of information, through opportunities to exchange ideas and opinions with ambassadors to Japan and at various international conferences, such as the G20 Osaka Summit held in June 2019, as well as through visits by embassy officials in Tokyo and media from overseas to disaster-affected areas, with an eye on the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- State-run memorial and prayer facilities are being constructed in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures, with some ready for use in Iwate Prefecture, to remember and pray for the repose of souls of the victims, and pass on the memories and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake to future generations.

(Future challenges)

- It is necessary to develop a response to harmful rumors or misinformation persisting in the agricultural, forestry and fishery industries, as well as the tourism industry, and take measures to counter reputational damage overseas through the effective dissemination of information on the status of reconstruction and scientific knowledge about radiation.
- There is a need to start using state-run memorial and prayer facilities in Iwate and Miyagi prefectures around the end of fiscal 2020 and promote the construction of facilities in Fukushima Prefecture with an eye to start using some facilities in fiscal 2020.
- It is necessary to promote the integration and compilation of actions taken in all aspects of reconstruction, including reconstruction techniques and methods, through the collection, organization and preservation of records from the Great East Japan Earthquake and reconstruction by the national and local governments.
- As disasters have frequently occurred in different areas throughout the country since the Great East Japan Earthquake, efforts must be made to

enhance education on disaster prevention in order to connect the valuable lessons learned and know-how from the Great East Japan Earthquake with improving disaster prevention efforts nationwide.

- In addition to our gratitude for the support received from around the world, it is important to disseminate information through the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games to people from around the world on the organization of competitions and events in disaster-affected areas that are continuing to reconstruct, the Torch Relay that will start in J-Village in Fukushima, and efforts to use food and materials produced in areas affected by the disaster.

2. Systems to support reconstruction

(1) Scale and financial resources for recovery and reconstruction projects

(Results)

- With the formulation of the “Reconstruction Financial Resources Framework”, financial resources were secured in advance and the Special Account for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake was established, indicating the scale of projects during the reconstruction period. Unprecedented levels of financial support were provided, including reducing the burden on local governments by raising subsidy rates for reconstruction projects and offering the Special Local Allocation Tax for Recovery from Earthquake Disaster. This allowed local governments in disaster-affected areas to calmly work on reconstruction projects, which also helped to accelerate the pace of reconstruction.

(Future challenges)

- Even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, it will be necessary to consider what mechanisms are required to support reconstruction efforts, so that necessary projects can be arranged and implemented, based on verifications of the progress and effectiveness of past reconstruction measures, demands from local governments in areas affected by the disaster, appropriate roles of the national and local governments, and examples of actions taken in large-scale disasters in the past.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- In looking at the examples of the Great East Japan Earthquake, it is necessary to consider appropriate levels of financial support for recovery and reconstruction measures for large-scale disasters in the future.

- Discussions should continue on ways to secure financial resources in preparation for a large-scale disaster in the future, such as the Nankai Trough earthquake.

(2) Legal systems

① Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

(Results)

- The enactment of the Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake³⁰ has made it possible for local governments in areas affected by the disaster to select and apply special cases that match their situation and direction for reconstruction. As a result, the use of special measures positioned in plans have contributed to the smooth and quick promotion of reconstruction projects.
- Almost all local governments are expected to complete plans for the Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Grant Funded Project.

(Future challenges)

- It is necessary to consider how to focus on target areas, taking into account the status of past reconstruction and prospects for required projects in regard to special regulatory cases, reconstruction and development plans, and special financial cases.
- With regard to tax systems for special zones for reconstruction, with the remarkable decline in population and workplaces, time is needed to improve basic infrastructure through land readjustment projects in areas that have experienced massive damage from the tsunami. As there will be areas where companies will not relocate, it will be necessary to consider extending application deadlines for tax systems for special zones for reconstruction after prioritizing target areas, so that areas that have been severely damaged can continue to steadily work on its industrial revitalization.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is effective to consider systems according to the scale and type of disaster, damage status, and regional characteristics. Of the measures available, those that have not adequately been leveraged should be examined, and timely and appropriate reviews must be made based on the different stages of progress of reconstruction in different areas.

³⁰ Act No. 122 of 2011

② Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima

(Results)

• The enactment of the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima³¹ and revision of the same act in accordance with the progress of reconstruction efforts established a basic policy and institutional base specifically for reconstruction from the nuclear disaster. This has contributed to the reconstruction and revitalization of Fukushima, including the improvement of the living environment to help residents return home, promotion of the development of SRRBs, reconstruction and revitalization of industries through the promotion of the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework, and promotion of efforts to eliminate harmful rumors or misinformation.

(Future challenges)

• In addition to measures to improve the living environment to allow residents to return home based on the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima, it is necessary to carry out further reconstruction and revitalization in the area by strengthening measures to encourage new vitality, such as promoting relocation and increasing the visiting population and related populations.

• It is necessary to accelerate the resumption of farming through the concentrated use of farmland and promoting the development of sixth industry facilities (production, processing and distribution/sales), including entry from the outside, in addition to all activities that have been carried out to date in the agricultural sector.

• It is necessary to further accelerate the development of industrial clusters and train human resources based on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework.

• Measure should be promoted to counter persistent harmful rumors or misinformation in Japan and overseas.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

• Because of the specificities of the nuclear disaster, a new law specific to reconstruction from the nuclear disaster was enacted and revised in accordance with the progress of reconstruction efforts, allowing the national government to establish a basic policy and institutional foundation.

Should a large-scale disaster occur in the future, it will be necessary to consider the establishment of a system that is in line with the scale and type of disaster, damage status and local characteristics.

³¹ Act No. 25 of 2012

③ Act on Corporation for Revitalizing Earthquake-Affected Businesses, other (Results)

- Support was provided to revive business activities of companies affected by the disaster using double loan measures, such as factoring transactions by the Corporation for Revitalizing Earthquake-Affected Business and the Industrial Reconstruction Corporations that were established based on the Act on Corporation for Revitalizing Earthquake-affected Businesses,³² which helped maintain a significant level of employment.

(Future challenges)

- It will be necessary to make the maximum use of the period until the end of fiscal 2020, which marks the deadline for decisions on support for double loan measures by the Corporation for Revitalizing Earthquake-Affected Business, and make sure that support measures are well-known, and as many companies as possible make every effort to utilize this system.
- Both organizations will provide assistance to businesses that are currently receiving support until project revitalization plans are complete.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- Support activities by both organizations will be helpful in cases with double loan measures in the event of a large-scale disaster in the future.
- It is important to establish a system that enables cooperation at an early stage with third parties similar to the Fukushima Soso Public-Private Joint Reconstruction Team, as well as information sharing and close cooperation with financial institutions.

(3) Local government support

(Results)

- Many small-scale, poorly-financed local governments were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. Financial support through the Special Local Allocation Tax for Recovery from Earthquake Disasters and measures implemented to secure human resources through the dispatch of support staff from local governments throughout the country to local governments in areas affected by the disaster contributed to the smooth implementation of revitalization and reconstruction projects by local governments in the disaster-affected areas (Number of staff dispatched to Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures was highest in fiscal 2014 at approximately 1,700 and

³² Act No. 113 of 2011

about 900 in fiscal 2019. The highest number of staff dispatched to municipalities in the three prefectures stood at 2,500 in fiscal 2015 and 2,000 in fiscal 2019).

(Future challenges)

- In order to ensure that projects that require support even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period can be implemented, it is necessary to consider ways to assist local governments with mechanisms to support reconstruction, such as with the Special Local Allocation Tax for Recovery from Earthquake Disasters and measures to secure human resources.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- Even in the event of a large-scale disaster after the Great East Japan Earthquake, the mid- to long-term scheme in which local governments throughout the country dispatch support staff to areas affected by the disaster functions effectively. It is necessary to examine the scale and type of disaster and consider and implement appropriate levels of support with reference to this example of support for large-scale disasters in the future.
- In addition to preparing for a large-scale disaster in the future, it is necessary to work to secure and train technical staff in each local government from the perspective of continuous maintenance and management of infrastructure under normal conditions. It is important to establish a system that takes into account all matters from emergency measures to reconstruction in the event of a large-scale disaster in the future, by securing staff in advance.

3. Organizations

(Results)

- The Reconstruction Agency was established under the direct jurisdiction of the Cabinet Office in February 2012 and charged with conducting independent and integrated tasks related to reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake, aiming at the smooth and prompt execution of projects. With the Prime Minister serving as the competent minister of the Agency, and the appointment of the Minister of Reconstruction to assist the competent minister and oversee the affairs of the Reconstruction Agency, the government is working together to create a system for reconstruction, make decisions quickly and play a role in promoting the reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake. Specifically, the Reconstruction Agency is responsible for planning, drafting and comprehensive coordination of reconstruction measures, integrating and supervising projects by related ministries and agencies, consolidating requests and securing budgets for

reconstruction projects. With the establishment of reconstruction bureaus in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures as a point of contact with local governments, the Reconstruction Agency is promoting one-stop measures for reconstruction.

(Future challenges)

- “Changes to the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake in the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period” has been decided that the government continues to decompartmentalize ministries and agencies by functioning as a command tower and to establish an organization to achieve reconstruction under political responsibility and leadership. It is necessary to consider the development of a successor institution while listening to the opinions of local governments in areas affected by the disaster.
- It is necessary to consider where each reconstruction bureau is located, taking into account the status of reconstruction projects in disaster-affected areas.

(Lessons for future large-scale disasters)

- It is important for the Reconstruction Agency to share and utilize the know-how on reconstruction gained to date with related governmental organizations in order to achieve an organic connection between disaster prevention and reconstruction.

II. Basic Guidelines After the “Reconstruction and Revitalization Period”

As a result of reconstruction efforts to date, areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami are now in the final stages of reconstruction. In addition, although areas affected by the nuclear disaster are entering the full-scale reconstruction and revitalization stage, a medium- to long-term response is needed in the future, with the national government continuing to stand at the fore. There are significant differences in the progress of reconstruction between areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami and those affected by the nuclear disaster. Therefore, the areas have been divided into two types, with basic guidelines for reconstruction after the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period shown below.

1. Basic stance of reconstruction and actions in each sector

(1) Areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami

Reconstruction in these areas has entered into the final stages, with the restoration of towns and housing mostly completed and the steady progress of revitalizing industries and livelihoods. However, there are still some projects that will require a constant level of support in the future, including support for affected people, such as mental health care, so the national government shall steadily promote detailed actions with the aim of completing revitalization and reconstruction projects as early as possible.

Through these activities, in disaster-affected areas that are “advanced areas in challenges” with medium- to long-term issues common to regions around the country, such as population decline and hollowing out of industries, it is desirable not only to aim to “help people return to cities,” but also to create an attractive area—“New Tohoku”—by introducing advanced technologies and promoting the use of local resources to promote industry, livelihoods, education and research, and increasing the visiting population, related populations and number of people relocating to the area, aiming for independence in disaster-affected areas. In doing so, communities shall be rebuilt and become sustainable and vibrant by maximizing the connections and know-how of NPOs, volunteers, businesses, universities and other various entities that have been developed over the reconstruction period, as well as their diverse perspectives on gender equality, in addition to infrastructure strengthened through revitalization and reconstruction projects, and by utilizing the policies of the entire government, including

those for regional revitalization.

For this reason, most of the projects, mainly the development of public infrastructure, are expected to conclude during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period according to “I. Summary of Past Reconstruction Measures”, in promoting reconstruction after this period in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami. Based on examples of activities in past large-scale disasters and the status of support through general measures, the national government and local governments in the affected area shall continue to work together for five years after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period on remaining projects, including providing support for affected people, with the aim of having reconstruction projects fulfill their objectives.

① Infrastructure projects

- Infrastructure projects, such as the construction of public facilities, shall be completed as soon as possible during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period. However, some projects that have not been completed during this period due to unanticipated situations, such as coordination with related construction projects, shall continue to be supported within the budget allocated during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

However, disaster recovery projects that will not have been completed during this period should be promptly completed to ensure the safety and security of local residents. Support shall continue to be provided during this period until projects are completed, even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

- Projects subsidized by the Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Grants (hereinafter referred to as the “reconstruction grants”) are expected to be mostly completed within the Reconstruction and Revitalization period. The reconstruction grants will be discontinued at the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period once necessary measures have been taken to ensure that reconstruction grants projects have effectively concluded.
- Infrastructure projects subsidized by the General Social Capital Development Grants and implemented as reconstruction measures other than disaster recovery projects and reconstruction grants projects, will be terminated at the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period. Projects that are not completed during this period shall be shifted to general measures and continued to be implemented.

- ② Support for affected people, such as mental health care, etc.
- Support shall continue to be provided in line with the progress of projects through general grants for affected people, based on past examples of measures taken in large-scale disasters, because support must continue to be provided for community development in areas that were rebuilt at the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, the physical and mental care of affected people, including the elderly who require care due to the impacts from the Great East Japan Earthquake, “mental recovery” to create a purpose in life, watching over and lifestyle consultations, and assistance for children who have lost their parents or guardians due to the Great East Japan Earthquake.

In addition, appropriate methods of support should be considered for consultations and support measures at mental health centers based on actual conditions.

With careful understanding of individual circumstances, methods of support for projects that will not be completed within five years after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period shall be considered in line with the progress of the project and responses taken accordingly.

- Disaster condolence money and disaster relief funds shall continue to be provided until the end of support after properly notifying those eligible for support.

③ Support for children affected by the disaster

- As there are still schools where a certain number of children who have lost their family members and homes because of the Great East Japan Earthquake and need learning support and mental health care continue to attend school, support shall continue to be provided according to the progress of projects, such as for children who need assistance, with the additional allocation of teachers and placement of school counselors and support for attending school, all special measures that have been taken in light of the effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake, based on past examples of large-scale disasters.

With careful understanding of individual circumstances, methods of support for projects that will not be completed within five years after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period shall be considered in line with the progress of the project and responses taken accordingly.

④ Reconstruction of homes and cities

- During the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, the aim is to discontinue

living in temporary housing, but if demolition and removal of these housing is not completed after the end of the period in which temporary housing is provided, support shall continue to be provided, with the aim to complete the project as soon as possible.

- Payment of Support Grants for Reconstructing Livelihoods of Disaster Victims is expected to be mostly completed during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami. However, it is possible that some payments may not be completed by the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period in areas where residential land has been rebuilt at the end of this period. Support shall continue to be provided until the end of support after properly notifying those eligible for support.
- Support shall continue to be provided for projects to lower rent and special projects to reduce rent for public housing for disaster-affected people after reconstruction subsidies are discontinued and supports from past reconstruction grants shift to other types of assistance. At that time, a review of appropriate levels of support shall be conducted, taking into account the future financial management status of public housing for disaster-affected people in local governments affected by the disaster, past examples of actions taken in large-scale disasters, appropriate role sharing between the national and local governments, and fairness among local governments from disaster-affected areas with different management start periods.
- The activities of local governments in disaster-affected areas shall continue to be promoted, such as presenting a future image of the town, sharing information on vacant land, and matching activities, with an eye on the creation of a place filled with vitality after the development of residential land through land readjustment projects. In addition, the efforts of local governments affected by the disaster on the utilization of original relocation areas that have been acquired by projects promoting collective relocation for disaster prevention shall continue to be promoted based on the support and achievements that have been made throughout the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, such as the formulation of land use plans, promotion of the consolidation of public land through tax exemptions for registration and licensing taxes, and support for infrastructure development for industrial land in line with specific land use needs.

⑤ Industry and livelihoods

- Support shall continue to be provided for rebuilding only SMEs and other

groups that could not stage a recovery due to reasons not attributable to the company, such as in areas where land development required for recovery is completed in the last year of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

- Based on the status of reconstruction to date, the application and operational deadline for subsidies on relocating business shall be extended a maximum of four years (until the end of fiscal 2023) and a maximum of five years (until the end of fiscal 2025), respectively, after focusing on target areas in where companies have not relocated because time is required to improve the environment through land readjustment projects, such as in areas where land development needed for recovery is completed in the final year of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.
- The revitalization of infrastructure in the agricultural, forestry and fishery industries, such as farmland and agricultural facilities, wood processing and distribution facilities, fishing port facilities and fishery processing facilities, is expected to be mostly completed in areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami. However, the recovery of catches in the fishery industry, a core industry in these areas, and recovery of sales in the fishery processing industry will be issues in the future. For this reason, support shall continue to be provided, such as the recovery of catches by removing debris from fishing areas and the recovery and development of sales channels for the fishery processing industry after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

⑥ Locally independent projects

- Support shall be provided for locally independent projects, such as independent disaster recovery projects that were not completed during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period and measures to secure human resources (dispatching staff, recruitment of fixed-term staff, etc.) in order to support projects that remain after this period.
- Measures shall be taken to compensate for the reduction in local tax revenue caused by the Local Taxation Act and the Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

⑦ Projects arising from the nuclear disaster

- Support shall continue to be provided for measures to counter reputational damage (monitoring and inspections of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products for radioactive materials) (Individual projects are described in the relevant section on areas affected by the nuclear disaster).

(2) Areas affected by the nuclear disaster

In areas affected by the nuclear disaster, reconstruction and revitalization efforts have begun in earnest, with evacuation orders that were issued in response to the nuclear accident lifted in areas in 10 municipalities other than those where return is difficult, with the exception of Futaba Town.³³ In areas where return is difficult, the development of SRRBs has been progressing steadily in six towns and villages, and efforts are being made to lift evacuation orders in phases. However, in areas where return is difficult, the government will work steadily, step-by-step from where it is possible to work on reconstructing these areas as soon as possible, based on the resolution to "lift evacuation orders for all these areas in the future, even if it takes years, and take responsibility for reconstruction and revitalization".

Medium- to long-term response is needed for the reconstruction and revitalization of Fukushima, and the national government shall continue to take the lead even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period. In light of this situation, actions shall be taken for the next 10 years toward full-scale reconstruction and revitalization, with detailed responses to new challenges and diverse needs that arise when moving onto a new stage of reconstruction. Specifically, in addition to common matters with areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami, activities shall continue to be promoted, such as improvements to the living environment in areas where evacuation orders have been lifted, provision of support for long-term evacuees, development of SRRBs, promotion of the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework, rebuilding of businesses, agriculture, forestry and fishery industries, and elimination of harmful rumors or misinformation based on actual local conditions and the special characteristics of each area (acceptance of interim storage facilities, etc.).

In addition, the overall status of reconstruction projects shall be reviewed in fiscal 2025, five years after the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, taking into account the situations of local governments that differ significantly from one another and based on the progress of reconstruction measures and verification of effects.

① Solutions of accident (decommissioning, contaminated water

³³ Evacuation orders are slated to be lifted by the end of fiscal 2019 in Futaba Town in areas where evacuation orders are ready to be lifted.

management)

- The national government shall take the lead and utilize the wisdom from around Japan and abroad to promote research and development based on the needs of decommissioning sites and safely and steadily promote necessary measures by utilizing the results of research and development, with the aim of completing decommissioning in 30 to 40 years, based on the medium- and long-term roadmap for decommissioning and contaminated water management at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. In addition, accurate information shall be promptly disseminated on the progress of measures and radiation data in an easy-to-understand way, while promoting the understanding of residents and strengthening trusting relationships through two-way communication.
- In the future, with reconstruction and revitalization in Fukushima shifting into full gear, efforts shall be made to achieve both reconstruction and decommissioning more so than ever, as unprecedented actions, such as the retrieval of fuel debris, will be carried out. Specifically, activities shall be carried out to reduce risk in early stages to help achieve reconstruction quickly. Decommissioning shall be promoted steadily taking into account that safety should be given top priority with the perspective of ensuring safety first, rather than being based on a process.
- To ensure that TEPCO, which is responsible for decommissioning, carries out activities in a reliable manner, measures shall be taken to ensure that leveled portions in power transmission and distribution, which are regulated rates, will continue to be allocated for funds required for decommissioning, so that there will be no barriers to the generation of necessary funds even while promoting the resilience of the power network from the viewpoint of securing a stable supply of power in response to disasters.
- Appropriate measures shall be taken based on discussions at the Subcommittee on Handling ALPS Treated Water on how to handle water purified by multi-nuclide removal equipment (ALPS) and the opinions of local actors and other stakeholders.
- In response to the decision on decommissioning the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, TEPCO shall continue to fully communicate with stakeholders while taking into account the impacts on the local economy to smoothly and actively promote the decommissioning of reactors. In doing so, attention shall be focused so the decommissioning process at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station will not experience any delays.
- A system shall be developed to train human resources with advanced skills

on nuclear power and decommissioning with researchers and engineers in a wide range of fields from Japan and overseas that are involved in decommissioning and reconstruction in Fukushima, together with developing research and development bases with related organizations, such as universities, to steadily carry out R&D.

② Actions to restore the environment

- By the end of March 2018, decontamination has been completed in all municipalities, with the exception of areas where return is difficult, based on the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Handling of Pollution by Radioactive Materials and basic guidelines based on this act. Temporary storage sites shall be properly managed as safety is ensured, and the maintenance, continuous transport of waste and appropriate management of interim storage facilities will be performed.
- Removed soil temporarily stored in Fukushima Prefecture shall be promptly transferred to interim storage facilities. The transfer of removed soil, with the exception of soil in areas where return is difficult, shall be completed by fiscal 2021 (in addition, prior to this, the aim was to remove temporary storage sites from the main roads and close locations by the first half of 2020.) In addition, since the planned volume of removed soil for transport has increased significantly compared to the past since 2019, safety shall be thoroughly ensured during transport. Temporary storage sites where transport is complete shall be restored to their original state on the basis of restoration with feasible, rational ranges and methods.
- The law on the final disposal of removed soil in Fukushima Prefecture stipulates that measures be taken to complete final disposal outside of Fukushima Prefecture within 30 years after the start of interim storage, therefore, the national government shall be responsible for this. In order to reduce the volume of waste sent to final disposal, it is important for the government to work together to reduce and recycle the removed soil with the understanding of local communities. Volume reduction technologies shall be developed and verified in accordance with the Technology Development Strategy for Volume Reduction and Recycling of Removed Soil for Interim Storage and its schedule³⁴ and information shall be disseminated on the safety of these actions. Efforts shall be made with the government working together to strengthen cooperation among related ministries and

³⁴ Formulated April 2016, revised March 2019 (Ministry of the Environment)

agencies to create destinations for recycling. Reviews and investigations shall be conducted on final disposal sites outside Fukushima Prefecture. In addition, efforts shall also be made for the disposal of removed soil other than in Fukushima.

- Specified waste in Fukushima Prefecture shall be transported to landfill facilities utilizing existing managed disposal sites, making absolutely sure to ensure safety and security while striving to further secure trust from the local community. In cooperation with local governments, efforts shall be made to provide detailed explanations on designated waste other than that from Fukushima Prefecture to obtain the understanding of local communities so it can be sent for final disposal. Initiatives shall also be promoted that are tailored to individual situations with the use of mechanisms, such as cancelling waste designations. In addition, the disposal of agricultural and forestry waste that fall below standards shall continue to be promoted.

③ Promotion of efforts to help residents return/relocate and reconstruct livelihoods, etc.

- Improvements to the environment needed for daily life—such as creating attractive towns and communities, shopping, medical care, nursing care, welfare, education, childcare, transportation, crime prevention, disaster prevention, measures to counter damage by wildlife, and personal dose management to promote the return of residents to their homes and achieve the reconstruction of areas where evacuation orders have been lifted—shall be promoted in terms of both infrastructure and services. Necessary measures shall be taken in line with the actual situations on-site, including follow-up decontamination and risk communication.
- However, in the nine years that have passed since the disaster, the affected areas are facing additional challenges, including population decline, aging and hollowing out of industry. In considering the intentions of residents, it is difficult to achieve the reconstruction and revitalization of the area simply by promoting the return of residents to these areas. For this reason, actions shall be taken to enhance the attractiveness of the region and encourage new vitality to support the reconstruction and revitalization of Fukushima, such as promoting relocation and increasing the number of visitors and related populations, in addition to the development of an environment that allows residents to return home. At the same time, the national, prefectural and municipal governments shall cooperate in considering a wide-ranging and sustainable structure for the future on efficient and sustainable operation of

- public services and facilities and responses to regional issues such as measures to counter damage by wildlife, prevent crime and mitigate disasters.
- Measures for improving infrastructure and formulating related communities in municipalities that have accepted evacuees required for the development of reconstruction public housing³⁵ are expected to be mostly completed. Necessary support shall continue to be provided until this is complete, and the relocation to permanent housing shall proceed carefully, while confirming the individual intentions of evacuees who are living in temporary housing.
 - Detailed support shall be provided in response to local needs in cooperation with the prefectural and municipal governments to promote the improvement and reopening of medical, nursing care and welfare facilities, secure local medical systems, such as the Futaba Medical Center, secure necessary functions in local areas, such as insufficient medical practices, secure the management of medical and nursing care facilities after reopening, and secure the employment of medical and nursing care professionals.
 - With regard to the development of the educational environment, in addition to elementary, junior/senior high, and special support schools that have not yet reopened, some schools have only a small number of students after they have reopened. For this reason, the creation of an attractive educational environment shall be promoted with support provided for reopening schools, as well as support for a distinctive type of education to deepen connections with the community, such as "*Furusato Sozogaku* (or Hometown Creation Studies)" at Futaba Future School and reopened schools, and the provision of support and mental health care for children affected by the disaster in attending school and learning.

Some schools continue to enroll a certain number of children who need support for learning and mental health care as a result of the nuclear disaster. For this reason, in addition to the prevention of bullying someone, including those children who have evacuated, support shall continue to be provided in line with the progress of projects, including the situation of children who need assistance, with the additional allocation of teachers and placement of school counselors and support for attending school, all special measures that have been taken in light of the effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

- With regard to support for affected people, such as mental health care, detailed assistance shall continue to be provided in line with the progress of projects to affected people who have individual and complex issues due to

³⁵ Name of public housing for long-term evacuees from the nuclear disaster

prolonged life as evacuees. In addition, careful support shall continue to be provided to evacuees living across the country by local governments both in evacuated areas and in locations where they have evacuated, including the provision of information and consultations needed to rebuild their lives.

- Tax exemptions to reduce insurance premiums and service fees (user payments) for medical and nursing care insurance were put into place in all areas affected by the disaster, including areas affected by the earthquake and tsunami, from after the Great East Japan Earthquake struck until the end of September 2012. However, since then, special governmental tax exemptions have continued to be implemented only for residents who lived in areas under evacuation orders. These measures shall be reviewed appropriately from the perspective of fairness among the insured, taking into account the fact that reviews are being conducted on tax deductions and exemptions for residents by local governments, such as those in areas under evacuation orders, as well as the situations of insurance and financial affairs of local governments affected by the disaster.
- Relevant ministries, prefectural and municipal governments shall cooperate in conducting a thorough review of the progress of proposals for the “Future Vision of Fukushima 12 Municipalities”,³⁶ which has been formulated from a wide-area, medium- to long-term perspective, as of 2020 and shall work to materialize and realize these goals.
- With regard to compensation for damage from the nuclear accident, required measures shall continue to be taken for the smooth implementation of necessary and sufficient compensation commensurate with the actual situation of damages in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Dispute Reconciliation Committee for Nuclear Damage Compensation. In addition, the national government shall also guide TEPCO to ensure that sufficient compensation is provided to affected people.
- With regard to areas where return is difficult, under the resolution to “lift evacuation orders for all these areas in the future, even if it takes years, and take responsibility for reconstruction and revitalization”, first, demolition and decontamination of houses and development of infrastructure shall be implemented in SRRBs in the six municipalities to lift evacuation orders based on reconstruction and revitalization plans for SRRBs. The living environment, such as shopping, medical and nursing care, shall also be improved, while the

³⁶ Compilation of an expert review meeting on the Future Vision of Fukushima 12 municipalities, on July 30, 2015.

environment will be improved to allow residents to return home, such as by strengthening measures to counter damage from wildlife. Necessary measures shall be taken according to actual local situations, including follow-up decontamination and risk communication. In addition, the smooth and rapid development of SRRBs shall be supported through the flexible use of various support measures, including the Fukushima Revitalization Acceleration Subsidy Program.

- Situations vary greatly for each of the local governments in the six municipalities with areas where return is difficult. For this reason, individual and detailed discussions shall continue and activities shall be encouraged with municipalities on issues related to residents returning home and living in areas where evacuation orders have been lifted, as well as SRRBs.
- In addition, with regard to areas where return is difficult other than SRRBs, environmental monitoring for radiation and other inspections shall be implemented reliably and systematically, and results shall be disclosed in an easy-to-understand way. Based on the actual situation in each area, analyses of the current situation of land use intentions and trends, and requests from the local governments, the direction of future policies shall be considered in the lifting of evacuation orders. In addition, in areas where return is difficult, measures to control deterioration and prevent crime and disasters shall be promoted taking into account the possibility that evacuation orders will continue to remain in place for a certain period of time even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

④ Industrial clusters based on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework

- Actions shall be promoted in the Hamadori area of Fukushima to achieve independent and sustainable industrial development in this area, based on a blueprint for industrial development founded on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework.
- At that time, it will be important both to promote the development of new business and the expansion of new trades by local businesses and to attract companies and investors from outside the region. Initiatives shall be promoted to cluster industries, focusing on priority areas, such as decommissioning, robotics, energy, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, as activities built on the three pillars of an “area where all challenges are possible”, “local companies in leading roles”, and “human resource development to support the framework”.
- Based on the issues under the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework to

date, the reconstruction and revitalization of the Hamadori area in Fukushima (increase in settled population, etc.), creation of new industries through cross-cutting research and collaboration between industries, academia, and the government, sustainable development of human resources, the clustering of research on reconstruction in Fukushima and dissemination of results to the world shall be promoted with a focus on the above priority areas, while cooperation is strengthened with related facilities, such as the Fukushima Robot Test Field. For this reason, the Expert Meeting on the Development of an International Educational and Research Base in the Fukushima Hamadori Area is conducting a study on the development of an international educational and research base by the national government that would bring together human resources from both Japan and abroad, with the final report expected sometime during the summer of 2020. The Reconstruction Agency shall play a central role in coordinating with other related ministries, such as the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of the Environment in a study on the development of an international educational and research base, while also taking on the opinions of relevant local governments, industries, and educational and research institutes, and shall plan to submit a draft report in 2020.

- In addition, the economic effects of decommissioning, which is expected to take between 30 and 40 years, shall spread to surrounding areas by improving the technical capabilities of local companies and expanding the scope of business to a wide range of related industries, so that local companies can take active part. In addition, the involvement of local companies shall be promoted not only in decommissioning projects, but in a wide range of other fields.
- In order to promote industries in the Hamadori area of Fukushima, the relocation and establishment of companies that will have a large ripple effect on the region, research, development and demonstrations by various entities, such as local companies and local governments, and the strategic acquisition and use of intellectual property shall be promoted. In addition, deregulation shall be carried out to enhance the region's competitive edge, and efforts shall be made to respond to the diverse funding needs of local companies and establish a collaborative system with related organizations for hands-on support by experts.
- Support shall continue to be provided for distinctive educational programs at

primary and secondary educational institutions, as well as educational and research activities by higher educational institutions.

- Research and development and industrial clustering with base facilities, such as the Fukushima Robot Test Field as the core, and the expansion of the resident population shall be promoted through the use of the base by companies. The path to future independent and sustainable management shall be examined, such as securing income through the expansion of users in order to achieve stable operation.
- Tax measures shall be examined in response to accelerated activities to cluster industries in the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework.
- In order to achieve the goals of the Fukushima Plan for a New Energy Society,³⁷ which promotes the entire prefecture of Fukushima as a model base that anticipates the new energy society of the future, initiatives shall be steadily promoted to introduce and expand the use of renewable energy, build models to realize a hydrogen society, and create smart communities.
- In order to respond to local needs and aim at a new stage for reconstruction through measures for decarbonization, resource recycling, and co-existing with nature, actions under the Fukushima Regeneration: Future Oriented Project³⁸ shall be promoted, such as supporting a balance between the restoration of towns and decarbonization, supporting recycling through public-private partnerships, and promoting the Fukushima Green Reconstruction³⁹ plan utilizing natural resources in Fukushima Prefecture.

⑤ Reconstruction of businesses and agricultural, forestry and fishery industries

- Detailed support shall continue to be provided through the Fukushima Soso Public-Private Joint Reconstruction Team to individual businesses, farmers and company founders in the area based on the results of activities by the team to help rebuild businesses and livelihoods in affected areas. In addition, support shall be provided for the development of independent commercial facilities that form the basis for lifestyles and economic activities in disaster-

³⁷ Plan aiming to create a model in Fukushima for producing, storing, transporting and using hydrogen from renewable energy to realize a new energy society for the future while maximizing the introduction and expansion of renewable energy (formulated by the Council for Realizing the Fukushima Plan for a New Energy Society, September 7, 2016)

³⁸ Fukushima Regeneration: Future Oriented Project (announced by the Ministry of the Environment, August 3, 2018)

³⁹ Fukushima Green Reconstruction Plan (announced by the Ministry of the Environment and Fukushima Prefecture, April 22, 2019)

affected areas and the creation and operation of companies involved in community development that are responsible for revitalizing the local economy, from a cross-sectoral and wide-area perspective.

- In addition, support shall be provided to restore facilities and secure capital investment and human resources, in order to back up the efforts of businesses that are looking to resume business activities or start up a business in affected areas. In particular, substantial support shall be provided in SRRBs where evacuation orders are slated to be lifted in the future.

In addition, support shall be provided to activities that will solve logistical issues, such as collection and delivery, that is indispensable to business activities, and the movement of people and goods to expand local economic activities and increase visiting and related populations.

- In order to effectively and efficiently promote this type of support in anticipation of the independence of business operators, it is necessary to provide assistance in cooperation with the Fukushima Soso Public-Private Joint Reconstruction Team and local organizations, such as chambers of commerce. These support systems shall be enhanced.
- With regard to the relocation and removal of temporary shops, support shall continue to be provided only to those that have been transferred to the 12 municipalities affected by the nuclear disaster by the Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, Japan, based on progress made in reconstruction to date in affected areas.
- In the agricultural sector, the government shall continue to encourage the resumption of farming by providing assistance to farmers affected by the disaster, such as the development of farmland and agricultural facilities, introduction of agricultural machinery and livestock, and measures to counter damage from wildlife. In addition to this, the resumption of farming shall be accelerated and human-oriented support shall be strengthened for local governments in disaster-affected areas by promoting the large-partitioning and concentrated use of farmland, including entry from outside businesses, creation of wide-area, high value-added industries and development of sixth industry facilities (production, processing and distribution/sales) with the aim of achieving large-scale agricultural management with extremely high labor productivity. Furthermore, smart agriculture shall be promoted with the use of IT technologies. Support shall also continue for measures to control the absorption of radioactive materials on agricultural land and measures for radioactive materials in agricultural irrigation facilities, such as small reservoirs, taking into account the

distribution and storage status of radioactive materials and their effects. In addition, universities, research institutes and private companies shall cooperate in promoting research and development that will contribute to the revitalization of the agricultural, forestry, fisheries and food industries that have deep roots in disaster-affected areas, such as liquor production.

- In the forest and forestry sector, information shall be collected from monitoring radioactive materials and various demonstrations, and the development of forests, such as thinning to prevent soil runoff containing radioactive materials, and measures for radioactive materials that are needed to implement these activities shall continue to be implemented, in order to regenerate forests and the forestry industry in Fukushima and other areas. In addition, actions shall continue to be implemented to restore *satoyama* areas based on the results of the Satoyama Restoration Model Project. Activities shall also be promoted to regenerate production areas for specialty forest products, such as unprocessed timber and log-grown mushrooms. In addition, safety certification systems for wood products shall be developed and retention measures for bark and its effective use shall be promoted to revitalize the timber industry.
- In the fisheries sector, since trial operations are still ongoing for coastal fisheries and offshore trawl-net fisheries in Fukushima Prefecture, the development of a stable fishery product production system shall be promoted, with the provision of support for the resumption of full-scale operations to increase fishery catches and recover/develop sales channels, based on the results of monitoring and inspections of radioactive materials in marine products and the surrounding sea areas. Support shall also continue to be provided for activities to recover and develop sales channels in the fishery processing industry.

⑥ Measures to dispel harmful rumors and promotion of risk communication

- The government shall continue to work together to disseminate information in Japan and overseas to dispel harmful rumors or misinformation in the agricultural, forestry, fisheries and tourism industries, not only in Fukushima Prefecture but all areas affected by the disaster, and eliminate unfounded prejudices and discrimination, based on the Strategy for Eliminating Impacts from Negative Reputations and Enhancing Risk Communication. Follow-up activities shall be carried out based on scientific and objective discussions, and continuous reviews shall be conducted so that all measures are more consistent, rational and effective.

- Effective actions shall continue to be implemented and the necessary level of support shall continue to be provided to promote scientific knowledge about radiation and an understanding of the state of disaster-stricken areas where reconstruction is ongoing. This shall be promoted by disseminating information throughout the country using various types of media, such as the internet, and ways to encourage the use of a revised supplementary reader at schools based on the results of follow-up studies on the use of these readers.
- In addition, accurate information shall be disseminated on the status of reconstruction from the nuclear disaster using all available opportunities, such as international conferences and events overseas.
- In order to enhance the brand power of agricultural, forestry and fishery products from Fukushima and expand and develop sales channels, steady support has been provided for efforts to create a reliable and trusted production area and expand sales channels for products that make use of the special features of the area, such as the acquisition and promotion of third-party certifications like GAP⁴⁰ and fishery eco-labels.⁴¹ After the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, actions shall be promoted in each stage of production, distribution and sales in cooperation with private companies in order to improve brand power that leverages the unique advantages of Fukushima Prefecture's products through effective measures that address issues surrounding agricultural, forestry and fishery products from Fukushima. In addition to providing appropriate guidance to retailers and distributors based on the results of a survey on actual conditions of distribution of agricultural products from Fukushima,⁴² dialogue shall be promoted between retailers, distributors and farmers with support for "buyer tours", so that products from Fukushima can be properly assessed.
- Tourism has remained steady in the six prefectures in Tohoku thanks to support by local initiatives to attract inbound tourists. In the future, even more efforts will be needed to promote tourism in these six prefectures, based on the achievements in promoting tourism leveraging the

⁴⁰ Private certification system that third party reviews on GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) initiatives by producers of agricultural and livestock products and specialty forest products (limited to edible mushrooms, etc.) to certify that practices are carried out properly.

⁴¹ Scheme for attaching labels to products so that consumers can select and purchase fishery products that have been caught and produced in a way that considers the sustainability of ecosystems and resources.

⁴² FY 2018 Survey on Distribution of Agricultural Products from Fukushima (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries), March 2019

opportunities provided by the Rugby World Cup 2019 and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. As Fukushima Prefecture still faces issues with the recovery of educational trips and the total number of guests staying overnight in the area, support shall continue to be provided after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, focusing on targets in the prefecture's activities for promoting tourism revitalization.

- Every opportunity shall continue to be taken to eliminate and ease import restrictions in other countries and regions, and support shall continue to be provided for various efforts to expand sales channels.
- Financial and technical support shall continue to be provided for the smooth implementation of the Fukushima Health Management Survey to ensure proper health management for affected people in Fukushima and relieve anxiety about health. In addition, detailed support shall be provided for anxiety about radiation, mainly by the support center for social workers engaged in recovery from the nuclear disaster.
- Reliable and systematic environmental radiation monitoring shall be implemented according to the situation of radiation, and its results shall be disclosed in an easy-to-understand way. In addition, monitoring posts shall be placed at optimal locations with the understanding of local communities.

⑦ Locally independent projects

- Support shall continue to be provided to locally independent projects, such as independent disaster recovery projects that were not completed during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, measures to secure human resources (dispatching staff, recruitment of fixed-term staff, etc.) to support revitalization and reconstruction projects, countermeasures to address reputational damage resulting from the nuclear disaster and improvements in the educational environment for children.
- Measures shall be taken to compensate for the reduction in local tax revenue caused by the Local Taxation Act and the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima.

(3) Dissemination of the image of reconstruction and passing on the memories of the disaster and lessons learned to future generations

- Even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization Period, easy-to-understand information shall be provided whenever necessary on the progress of reconstruction and the situation in disaster-affected areas. Accurate information shall be provided on the status of reconstruction from the

nuclear disaster by taking advantage of various opportunities, such as international conferences.

- State-run memorial and prayer facilities shall continue to be constructed in Fukushima Prefecture. Including similar facilities in Iwate and Miyagi prefectures that are scheduled to be completed during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, these facilities will be built to remember and pray for the repose of the souls of victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake, pass on the memories and lessons learned from the disaster to future generations, and send a message to Japan and the world about the strong will of the people to reconstruct their lives. In addition, linking these facilities, memorial facilities in each of the affected areas, remains of the earthquake disaster, and facilities that have been passed down, and disseminating information shall enhance understanding of the lessons learned from this disaster and improve disaster prevention capabilities.
- Lessons for future large-scale disasters are shown in “I. Summary of Past Reconstruction Measures”, and it is important that the various lessons and memories of the Great East Japan Earthquake are passed down to the next generation without losing substance and utilized for disaster prevention and mitigation measures and reconstruction in the future. For this reason, effective methods and initiatives and the know-how of the private sector on reconstruction that have been consolidated and summarized during the past period of reconstruction shall be disseminated and used to enhance public awareness. This will be achieved through the collection, organization and preservation of records from the Great East Japan Earthquake and reconstruction efforts by the national and local governments, in cooperation with the National Diet Library Great East Japan Earthquake Archive.
- Based on the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake, disaster prevention education shall be further enhanced to build up an “attitude for independent action” to be able to protect one’s life in the face of danger such as a natural disaster, and increase “awareness of contributing to the creation of a safe and secure society” from the perspective as a supporter.
- In particular, cooperation between various entities, such as NPOs, volunteers, businesses and universities, has played a key role in reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake. The know-how acquired through past activities to create a “New Tohoku” that have been implemented in areas affected by the disaster, also called “advanced areas in challenges” with issues such as population decline and hollowing out of industries, shall be disseminated and deployed both inside and outside the disaster-affected areas as a model

case of activities for regional revitalization.

- In addition, in order to respond to the diverse and complex issues of communities and individuals after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, government policies shall be utilized, including measures for regional revitalization, making maximum use of know-how and connections with a diverse entities, such as NPOs, volunteers, businesses and universities.
- Materials on changes in governmental organizations and initiatives related to reconstruction up to the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period and the progress of reconstruction shall be collected, organized and compiled to mark the tenth year since the Reconstruction Agency was established.

2. Systems to support reconstruction

(1) Financial resources for recovery and reconstruction projects

- The project scale for the next five years shall be coordinated and required financial resources shall be allocated to ensure the implementation of necessary recovery and reconstruction projects, based on the direction of reconstruction measures after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.
- At this time, the scale of recovery and reconstruction projects for the five year period from fiscal 2021 is expected to be in the mid-range of JPY 1 trillion. Based on the expectation that the scale of projects up to fiscal 2020 will be in the lower range of JPY 31 trillion, the scale of projects over a period of 15 years up to fiscal 2025 is expected to be in the upper range of JPY 32 trillion.
However, financial resources secured to date (approximately JPY 32 trillion) are expected to be in the upper range of JPY 32 trillion based on actual results, and the scale of the project and financial resources are expected to be roughly commensurate.
- The scale of the project and financial resources shall continue to be closely examined on the basis of the execution status of the budget during the Reconstruction and Revitalization period. The project scale and financial resources needed to implement recovery and reconstruction projects in the immediate five years after the end of this period shall be indicated by the summer of 2020.
- The scale of the project and financial resources in areas affected by the nuclear disaster shall be reviewed as needed, as detailed responses will be required for new issues and diverse needs that will emerge with the progress of the reconstruction stage.

- The Special Account for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake shall remain in place. Reconstruction shall be effectively and steadily promoted by properly managing the scale of projects in each fiscal year and setting an accurate budget after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.
- The Special Local Allocation Tax for Recovery from Earthquake Disaster shall remain in place. According to basic policies in “II. 1. Basic stance of reconstruction and actions in each sector”, support shall continue to be provided for recovery and reconstruction projects (those under the direct control of the national government, subsidized projects, locally independent projects, etc.) that will continue to be implemented after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

(2) Legal systems

① Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

- Required support shall continue to be provided for special regulatory cases, reconstruction and development plans and special financial cases focusing on target areas, while taking the state of reconstruction and the prospects for required projects into account.
- With regard to tax systems for special zones for reconstruction, with the remarkable decline in population and workplaces, time is needed to improve basic infrastructure through land readjustment projects in areas that have experienced massive damage from the tsunami. As there will be areas where companies will not relocate, consideration shall be paid to extending application deadlines for tax systems for special zones for reconstruction after revisions to the Act on Special Zones for Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and prioritizing target areas, so that areas that have been severely damaged can continue to steadily work on its industrial revitalization.

Consideration shall also be paid to extending application deadlines for other reconstruction-related tax systems as appropriate, based on past examples of large-scale disasters.

- Projects subsidized by reconstruction grants are expected to be mostly completed within the Reconstruction and Revitalization period. The reconstruction grants will be discontinued at the end of the Reconstruction and Revitalization period once necessary measures have been taken to ensure that reconstruction grants projects have effectively concluded.

② Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima

- In addition to measures to improve the living environment to allow residents to return home, reviews needed to strengthen measures to encourage new vitality, such as promoting relocation and increasing the visiting population and related populations, shall be carried out to plan for reconstruction and revitalization in areas where evacuation orders have been lifted.
- The resumption of farming shall be accelerated through the concentrated use of farmland and promoting the development of sixth industry facilities (production, processing and distribution/sales), including entry from outside, in addition to local main actors.
- Industrial clusters centered on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework shall be accelerated and human resources development shall be further promoted, including establishing systems for the dispatch of national government staff that allow the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework Promotion Organization, the core institution promoting the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework, to be as active as possible.
- The Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima shall be revised in line with a review of target areas under the tax system for special zones for reconstruction. Tax measures shall be considered to address issues, such as accelerating activities for industrial clusters under the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework and eliminating harmful rumors or misinformation.
- Foreign countries and regions shall be strongly encouraged to adopt measures against harmful rumors or misinformation and eliminate or ease import restrictions overseas.
- Planning systems shall be reviewed on the basis of local conditions, such as the development of plans by Fukushima Prefecture, a wide-area local government, under the basic policy formulated by the national government.

③ Act on the Corporation for Revitalizing Earthquake-Affected Business, other

- Options for support from the Corporation for Revitalizing Earthquake-Affected Business shall be considered regarding deadlines on determining support for double loan measures up to fiscal 2020, including the need for additional extensions in light of the management needs of disaster-affected and supported companies.
- Support for factoring transactions by the Industrial Reconstruction Corporations and the provision of consultation services for businesses in

affected areas and management support for factoring companies by the Industry Promotion Center shall be examined based on the state of reconstruction of businesses in disaster-affected areas and the intentions of prefectures and local financial institutions who are investors in the Industrial Reconstruction Corporations.

(3) Local government support

- Since labor shortages continue to be prevalent in local governments in areas affected by the disaster, support shall continue to be provided even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period to secure the required level of human resources, such as by stationing part-time government employees hired by the Reconstruction Agency in affected municipalities, as well as securing support staff from local governments around the country and recruiting fixed-term staff to work in local governments in disaster-affected areas, on the basis of the progress of reconstruction.
- According to basic policies in “II. 1. Basic stance of reconstruction and actions in each sector”, support by Special Local Allocation Tax from Earthquake Disaster shall continue to be provided for recovery and reconstruction projects (those under the direct control of the national government, subsidized projects, locally independent projects, etc.) that will continue to be implemented after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period.

3. Organizations

- In order to decompartmentalize ministries and agencies by functioning as a command tower for reconstruction and to achieve reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake under political responsibility and leadership, the period of establishment for the Reconstruction Agency will be extended for ten years after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period. In light of strong requests from local governments affected by the disaster, the Reconstruction Agency will continue to be under the direct jurisdiction of the Cabinet, with the Prime Minister serving as the competent minister of the Agency, and the appointment of the Minister of Reconstruction to assist the competent minister and oversee the affairs of the Reconstruction Agency, and maintain the current comprehensive coordination function of the Agency, such as consolidating requests for budgets for reconstruction projects and one-stop measures for requests from local governments.

- In order to help improve disaster prevention capabilities to handle large-scale disasters that have occurred frequently in recent years, the Reconstruction Agency will add a function to share and utilize the collective know-how related to reconstruction with related governmental agencies and organizations. Through this, efforts can be made to achieve organic collaboration between disaster prevention and reconstruction.
- By maintaining reconstruction bureaus in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures, reconstruction efforts shall be further accelerated with the thorough implementation of a “hands-on approach”. The Iwate Reconstruction Bureau and Miyagi Reconstruction Bureau will be relocated to the coastal areas in order to shift focus to areas where reconstruction issues are concentrated. Branch offices will be set up in the cities of Morioka and Sendai. Specific locations will be determined based on the progress of reconstruction and the opinions of local governments in disaster-affected areas. As Fukushima is in the midst of full-scale reconstruction and revitalization, the Fukushima Reconstruction Bureau will continue to be located in Fukushima City and branch offices will stay in the towns of Tomioka and Namie.
- In light of further progress of reconstruction projects after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, the organizational structure shall be reviewed in fiscal 2025 (five years after), with measures taken as needed.

4. Other

- In relation to the abovementioned activities, matters that should be addressed with revisions to laws and handled promptly shall be submitted to the next ordinary session of the Diet.
- Even after the Reconstruction and Revitalization period, the Reconstruction Agency shall follow-up on the status of reconstruction, including the implementation status of this basic guidelines each fiscal year, report results to the Diet and disclose information as appropriate.
- In order to prevent delays in recovery and reconstruction projects from the Great East Japan Earthquake, every possible effort shall be made to respond to the devastating level of damage caused by Typhoon Hagibis using a supplementary budget for fiscal 2019. Related ministries and local governments in disaster-affected areas shall cooperate to steadily implement actions based

on the "Package of Measures for Rebuilding the Lives and Livelihoods of Affected People by Disaster"⁴³, with the aim of reconstructing disaster-stricken areas as quickly as possible.

⁴³ Decision on November 7, 2019 by Support Team for Rebuilding Lives of Victims of Typhoon Hagibis