

# For Accelerating the Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake

February 2014

**NEMOTO Takumi, Minister for Reconstruction**

# For Accelerating the Reconstruction

## (1) Policies of the Abe Administration

- Acceleration of the reconstruction is the top priorities of the Abe administration, together with economic revitalization and crisis management.
- Sharing the awareness that all ministers are in charge of reconstruction, government as a whole continues to accelerate the reconstruction.

## (2) My Principles as Minister for Reconstruction

### Full adoption of the hands-on approach

- Under the awareness that the answers can be found onsite, we will identify problems onsite and facilitate the national government to find the concrete solutions.

### Strengthening of the functions of the Reconstruction Agency as the control tower

- Dual-headquarters system, the **Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization Headquarters** in Fukushima and the **Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization General Headquarters** in Tokyo, to tackle the issues.
- **Taskforce** was launched under the Minister for Reconstruction, consisting of bureau chief level officers of the relevant ministries and agencies, to discuss cross-sectoral issues in an integrated and comprehensive manner.

### Initiatives that match the reconstruction stages (time scale)

- The process of rebuilding houses, reconstructing towns and communities involves various stages, including planning, ensuring sites, construction, etc. **New problems arise as the process enters new stages**.
- **Acceleration Packages of Measures** for concretely solving problems that arise at each stage (the 1st to the 4th policy packages for rebuilding houses and reconstructing towns and communities already publicized).

# Major Initiatives for Accelerating the Reconstruction after the Change of Government

Taskforce spanning across Ministries and Agencies

## 1. Rebuilding of Houses and Reconstruction of Towns and Communities

- Acceleration of the rebuilding of houses and reconstruction of towns and communities

Measures to accelerate the rebuilding of houses and reconstruction of towns and communities (Policy Packages No. 1 to 4) **TF**

- Speeding up of the ensuring of sites
  - Measures for dealing with shortage of personnel and materials
  - Steady progress of acceleration (projects for group relocation for disaster mitigation: 51% of the projects commenced)
  - Presentation and visualization of the future course of the reconstruction
- Roadmap for reconstruction of housing *Tsuchioto* (hammering sound) Information Centers

## 2. Reconstruction of Industries and Livelihoods

- Revitalization of Japanese economy
- Acceleration of the reconstruction and recovery of industries and livelihoods in disaster-affected areas

Group Subsidies *“Yui no Ba”* (matching meeting for reconstruction)

Subsidies for Constructing Industry Measures for the double loan problem

## 3. Health and Daily Lives

- Health support and living support

A policy package for health support and living support **TF**

- Support for evacuees concerning their health, strengthening of support for children, ensuring of human resources who provide medical care and nursing care, etc.

## 4. Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima

- Project to Revitalize Communities in Fukushima

Project to Support Revitalization of the Hopes for the Future of Local People

Grants for Community Revitalization

Grants for Reviving Children

Expansion and consolidation

Grants to Accelerate Revitalization of Fukushima

- Expanded the coverage to add six new fields, such as a reconstruction base development project
- Flexibly responding to local needs through projects to promote effects

- Policy packages, etc.

- Plan for Early Return and Settlement
- Policy Package for Supporting Nuclear Disaster Victims
- Basic Policy on Promotion of Measures for Supporting Victims in Their Daily Lives
- Interim Report for Accelerating Decontamination and Reconstruction **TF**
- Policy Package to Respond to Harmful Rumors and Other Effects of the Nuclear Disaster **TF**

## 5. Budget (Reconstruction Framework)

- Budget (Reconstruction Framework)

19 trillion yen → 25 trillion yen

- FY2013 Budget

- Strengthening of the functions of the Reconstruction Agency as the control tower (Integrating all projects for disaster-affected areas under the control of the Reconstruction Agency)
- Acceleration of the reconstruction and revitalization of Fukushima (initiation of the Project to Revitalize Communities in Fukushima)

- FY2014 Budget Request

- Shift of emphasis in accordance with the progress of reconstruction
- Budget for supporting evacuees and accelerating their return to their homes
- Acceleration of the execution of the budget and strict check of the budget usage

## 6. Full Adoption of the Hands-on Approach

- Examples of the hands-on approach

Easing of regulations under the Agricultural Land Act pertaining to the projects for group relocation for disaster mitigation

Extension of the period for offering urgent temporary housing

- Interactive relations between the national government and local governments
- Flexible operation of the Reconstruction Grants

## 7. Reform of the Reconstruction Agency

- Full adoption of the hands-on approach and strengthening of the functions as the control tower

- Two pillar system under the two headquarters in Tokyo and Fukushima

Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization Headquarters (Fukushima)

Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization General Headquarters (Tokyo)

## 8. Creation of “a New Tohoku”

- Five pillars of “a New Tohoku”

Safe and healthy growth of children

Vibrant super-aged society

Social infrastructure

Sustainable energy

Regional resources such as agriculture and tourism

- Toward the creation of “a New Tohoku” (promote collaboration with companies)

Leading model projects

Platform for human resources

New Tohoku Partnership Promotion Council

Support for finding business partners and ensuring sales channels

# Outline of the Great East Japan Earthquake

## (1) Size

- Occurred off the coast of Sanriku at 14:46 on March 11, 2011
- The largest ever earthquake on record in Japan (Magnitude 9.0/ Maximum seismic intensity of 7)

## (2) Damage (as of January 10, 2014)

- |                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ○ Human sufferings               | ○ Building damages             |
| •Deaths: 15,884                  | •Completely destroyed: 126,631 |
| •Missing: 2,640                  | •Half destroyed: 272,653       |
| •Injured: 6,150                  | •Partially destroyed: 743,492  |
| •Disaster-Related deaths*: 2,916 |                                |

\*Compiled by referring to the Act on Provision of Disaster Condolence Grant, etc. (as of September 30, 2013)

## (3) Comparison with the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

### Great East Japan Earthquake

- Completely destroyed buildings: approx. 120,000
- A complex disaster covering a wide area, caused by the earthquake, tsunami and the nuclear power plant accident
- Major means for rebuilding houses
  - Rebuilding on the higher ground
  - Rebuilding at the previous sites by raising the ground level
  - Relocation or rebuilding at the previous sites
- A disaster occurring at areas that are facing the problems of depopulation and aging populations

### Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

- Completely destroyed buildings: approx. 100,000
- A disaster due to an epicentral earthquake
- Major means for rebuilding houses
  - Rebuilding at the previous sites
  - Moving or rebuilding at the previous sites
- A disaster occurring at an urban area

# 1. Rebuilding of Houses and Reconstruction of Towns and Communities

## (1) Stages of Reconstruction



## (2) Progress of Reconstruction

(Stages of clearing debris and planning → Stages of commencing construction work on a full scale)

- Clearing of debris / Finished\*: 34% → **89%** (Nov. 2012 → Oct. 2013)
- Group relocation for disaster mitigation / Obtained consent : 81% → **100%** (Dec. 2012 → Nov. 2013) / Commenced: **64%** (Nov. 2013)
- Land readjustment / Project development: 27% → **94%** (Dec. 2012 → Nov. 2013) / Commenced: **65%** (Nov. 2013)
- Strengthening of disaster prevention measures for fishery villages / Secured budget: 39% → **97%** (Nov. 2012 → Nov. 2013) / Commenced: **50%** (Nov. 2013)

\*Excluding areas under the direct jurisdiction of the national government

## (3) Initiatives

- [A taskforce for accelerating the rebuilding of houses and reconstruction of towns and communities was set up](#) under the Minister for Reconstruction and it [compiled the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> Acceleration packages of Measures](#).
  - Simplification of the procedures for changing plans for projects for group relocation for disaster mitigation and enhancement of the efficiency of the procedures for compulsory purchase of land
  - Introduction of the CM system and revision of the per-unit rate of service for public work at disaster-affected areas (raised by 21%)
  - Introduction of reconstruction JVs, increase of order lots, and effective use of engineers
  - [Shortening of the time required for the procedures for the property administration system \(from over 6 months to 3 weeks\)](#)
- Local governments nationwide dispatch their officials to disaster-affected areas  
[The Reconstruction Agency dispatch retired public officers, citizens with a practical experience and persons with experience as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers](#).  
(State of shortage of personnel in the municipalities improving: 805 → 162 (Feb. 2013 → Nov. 2013))
- The prospect of rebuilding houses and progress of reconstruction are visualized by [a roadmap for reconstruction of housing](#) and [Tsuchioto \(hammering sound\) Information Centers \(photos taken at fixed points are being placed on the website\)](#).
- [The Grants for Rebuilding Houses were newly established](#) in response to the raising of consumption tax rate.



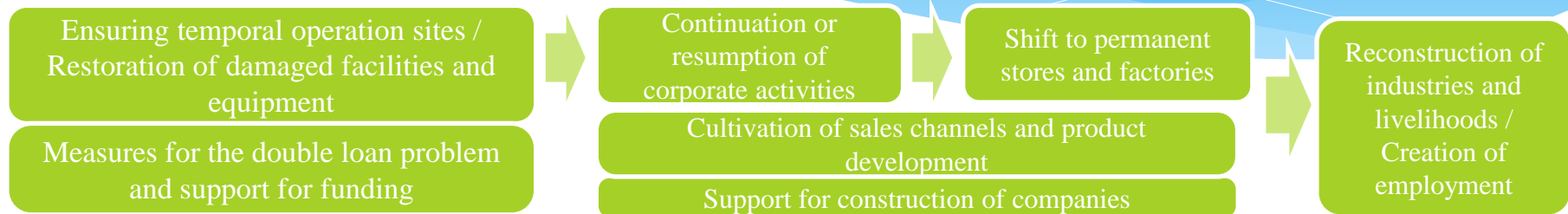
▲ **Ogaguchi area, Ozuchi town, Iwate Pref.**  
(Public housing for the disaster-affected)



▲ **Minamiebi area, Soma city, Fukushima pref.** (Group relocation project)

## 2. Reconstruction of Industries and Livelihoods and Collaboration among Companies

### (1) Stages of Reconstruction



### (2) Current State of Reconstruction

(from the state of resuming operation at temporary facilities to reconstructing permanent stores and factories)

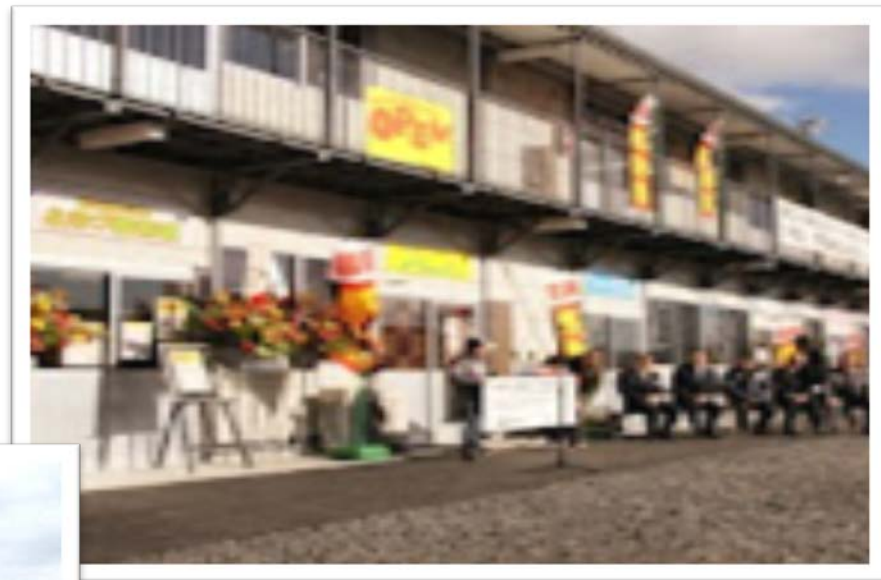
- Agricultural land damaged by the tsunami **available again for farming** / 38% → **63%** (Dec. 2012 → Dec. 2013)
- Fishery processing facilities **resumed operation** / 69% → **78%** (Dec. 2012 → Sep. 2013)
- Recovery and development of facilities by using Group Subsidies / **Supported 549 groups (approx. 10,000 business operators)** (Nov. 2013)  
(**36.6%** of the recipients **sales recovered above the level before the earthquake.** (questionnaire survey))
- Support for developing temporary stores and factories / **568 stores and factories were built (2,814 business operators moved in)** (Nov. 2013)

### (3) Initiatives

- [Group Subsidies for SMEs](#) for the development of temporary stores and factories, relocation and development of facilities
- Support for operation of disaster-affected companies and matching between such companies and large companies through “[Yui no Ba](#)”
- Establishment of the [Subsidies for Constructing Industry](#) targeting tsunami-damaged areas and Fukushima prefecture ([expansion of support for developing commercial facilities](#))
- Support for business reconstruction by the Rehabilitation Support Organization for Companies Damaged by the Great East Japan Earthquake ([measures for the double loan problem](#))  
(Consultations from disaster victims: 873 → **1,636** / Support decided : 103 cases → **342 cases** (Dec. 2012 → Dec. 2013))
- Establishment of the [New Tohoku Partnership Promotion Committee](#) :Strengthening of collaboration with companies (consisting of the Japan Business Federation, the Japan Association of Corporate Executives, the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, etc.)
- [Policy Package to Accelerate Commercial Accumulations and Revitalization of Commercial Districts](#) was compiled.
- the Grants to Accelerate Revitalization of Fukushima is made for [Development of an environment for the resumption of commerce and industry](#)



▲ Recovered farmland (Sendai city)



▲ Fukkou Kirari Shopping area  
(Ozuchi town)



◀ Sermon processing factory rehabilitated  
(Rikuzentakata city, Iwate pref)



### 3. Health and Daily Lives

#### (1) Stages of Reconstruction



#### (2) Progress of Reconstruction

- “Reconstruction Supporters” warmly watch over disaster victims and provide them with care: **78 supporters (7 organizations)**
- Bases for providing nursing care and other support: **117 bases** (Jul. 2013)

#### (3) Initiatives

- [A taskforce for health support and living support](#) was set up and [compiled a policy package](#).
  - Health support for evacuees living in temporary housing, etc.
    - [Home health guidance provided by visiting health nurses and ensuring health nurses](#)
  - Strengthening of support for children
    - [Mental and physical health consultation, development of peaceful environments, installation of play equipment, holding of child-rearing events, visiting consultation service](#)
  - Ensuring of human resources who provide medical care and nursing care
    - [Stable entry of welfare and nursing staff and development of an environment to promote their settlement upon recruitment](#)
  - Development of permanent housing and response to problems arising at the time of moving in from temporary housing
    - [Support for reconstruction of local communities](#) through observation and promoting exchanges
    - [Financial assistance for transportation](#) that serve as the basis for creating communities
  - Strengthening of support to reduce burdens of municipalities
    - [Human support for disaster-affected municipalities](#) and projects to create [a human resources platform for reconstruction](#)



▲ Support base for daycare services



▲ School Councilor



▲ Health support activities in the prefab residence



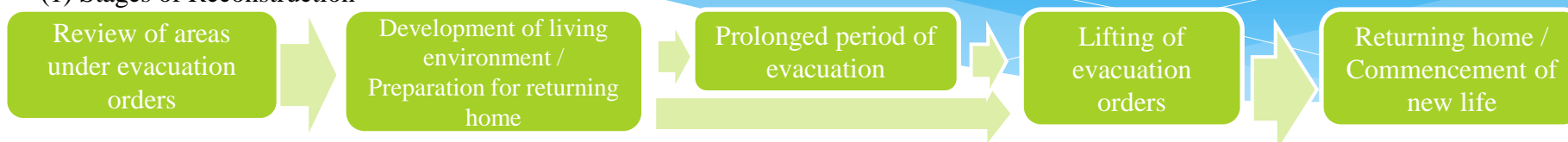
▲ Community revive support in an exchange facility



▲ Secure regional public transport

## 4. Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima

### (1) Stages of Reconstruction



(2) Progress of Reconstruction (Stages of reviewing areas under evacuation orders → Stages of developing an environment on a full scale and preparing for returning home)

- **Completion of the review of areas under evacuation orders**
- **Measures for Compensation for nuclear damage, Decontamination and Interim storage, Decommissioning and Contaminated water**

- Policy for Accelerating Fukushima's Reconstruction from the Nuclear Disaster (Cabinet decision in Dec. 2013)
- Decision of the Interim Policy, the Fourth Supplement, which compiles compensation for houses and mental suffering (Dec. 2013)
- Full inspection of the progress of decontamination (Sep. 2013) → Review of decontamination plans (Dec. 2013)
- Request for accepting the construction of an interim storage facility and presentation of a facility plan (Dec. 2013)
- Appropriate response for decommissioning and measures against contaminated water

### (3) Initiatives

- Project to Revitalize Communities in Fukushima
  - [Project to Support Revitalization of the Hopes for the Future of Local People](#)  
(concluded contracts totaling approximately 4.3 billion yen with the 12 municipalities, etc., affected by the nuclear disaster)
  - [Grants for Community Revitalization](#) (delivered grants for 1,481 houses in Disaster Public Housing)
  - [Grants for Revitalizing Children](#)  
(Adopted the construction of fitness facilities at 33 locations and renewal of play equipment at 494 locations)
- Funds for the measures mentioned above are to be consolidated and expanded into the [Grants to Accelerate Revitalization of Fukushima](#) under the FY2014 Budget.
  - Offer support integrally for a series of measures ranging from dealing with problems of long-term evacuees to developing reconstruction bases for promoting early return, etc.
  - [Expand the coverage to add six new fields, such as a reconstruction base development project to flexibly respond to local needs](#)
- Policy packages, etc. (government-wide response to problems unique to Fukushima)
  - Plan for Early Return and Settlement
  - Policy Package for Supporting Nuclear Disaster Victims / Basic Policy
  - [Interim Report for Accelerating Decontamination and Reconstruction by a taskforce](#)
  - [Policy Package to Respond to Harmful Rumors and Other Effects of the Nuclear Disaster by a taskforce](#)



▲ Smile kids park (Motomiya city, Fukushima pref.)

## 5. Budget (Reconstruction Framework)

### (1) Budget (Reconstruction Framework)

- Expanded the budget for reconstruction during the period when reconstruction work is conducted intensively **from 19 trillion yen to 25 trillion yen**

### (2) FY2013 Budget and FY2014 Budget Request

#### FY2013 Budget

- Strengthening of the functions of the Reconstruction Agency as the control tower
- Promotion of the Project to Revitalize Communities in Fukushima
- Increase of the amount of the Reconstruction Grants
- Creation of the Subsidies for Constructing Industry

#### FY2013 Supplementary Budget

- **Creation of the Grants to Accelerate Revitalization of Fukushima**
- Support of the reconstruction of industry by using the Group Subsidies
- Acceleration of the reconstruction of communities by using the Reconstruction Grants
- **Grants for disaster victim's rebuilding of houses**

#### FY2014 Budget Request

- Strengthening of initiatives by using **the Grants to Accelerate Revitalization of Fukushima**
- **Shift of emphasis in accordance with the progress of reconstruction**
- Continued support for **recovery and reconstruction of SMEs**

- **Strengthening of health support and living support for disaster victims**
- **Steady promotion of the creation of “a New Tohoku”**

### (3) Acceleration of the Execution of the Budget and Strict Check of the Budget Usage

- Development of an environment that enables prompt execution of the budget (measures for acceleration, full inspection of decontamination work, etc.)
- Strict check of the budget usage
  - Basically include only measures for recovery and reconstruction of disaster-affected areas and restoration of daily lives of disaster victims in the Special Account for Reconstruction and strictly check the usage
  - On July 2, 2013, we requested the suspension of the execution of the budget and return of the money to the national treasury with regard to projects under the fund nationwide (as of the end of FY2013, the amount returned to the national treasury will be 105.4 billion yen).

## 6. Full Adoption of the Hands-on Approach

### (1) Examples of the Hands-on Approach (Prompt Responses to Requests received Onsite)

#### Relaxed regulations under the Agricultural Land Act pertaining to group housing projects

When disaster-affected municipalities intend to buy agricultural land at locations after relocation under the projects for group relocation for disaster mitigation, regulations are eased to allow them to purchase such agricultural land without permission under the Agricultural Land Act.

#### Extended period of living in the emergency temporary housing

It was widely announced that under certain conditions, the period of living in the emergency temporary housing may be extended at municipalities' discretion.

### (2) Interactive Relations between the National Government and Local Governments

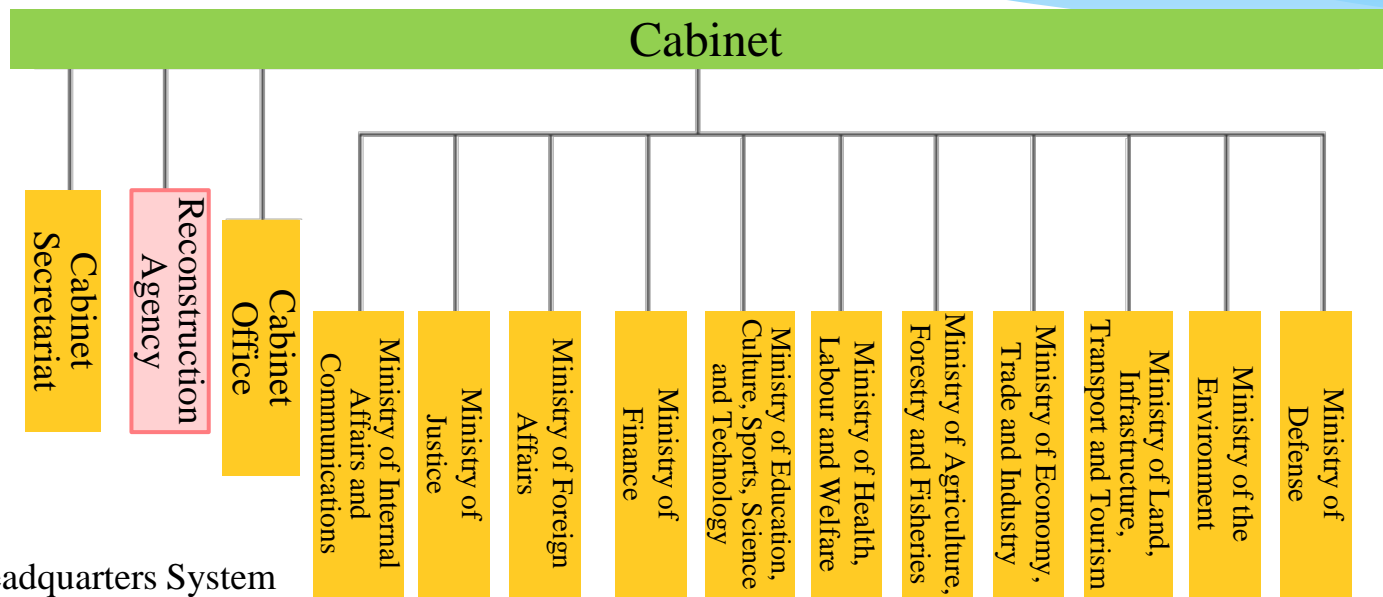
- [The national government and local governments should pursue their respective roles, fully utilizing their advantages.](#)  
(Local governments: Dialogue with local residents and independent implementation of projects /  
National government: Financial and personnel supports)
- the Reconstruction Agency officials [visit disaster-affected areas frequently to find out problems onsite proactively and take responses therefor](#)
- [A system of assigning municipalities](#) to each counselor

### (3) Flexible Operation of the Reconstruction Grants

- [Expansion of the coverage](#) of core projects and related projects for the maximum effects
  - Development of sites for constructing companies, including the land after group relocation, and construction work for the survey and preservation of the tsunami heritage.
  - Development of space for small stores and nursery facilities at Public Housing for the disaster-affected
- [Enhancement of the availability](#) of projects to promote effects
  - Elimination of the limit in usage concerning advanced lump-sum delivery of a certain portion of a total budget, etc.

## 7. Reform of the Reconstruction Agency

- (1) Full Adoption of Hands-on Approach and Strengthening of the Functions as the Control Tower



- (2) Dual-Headquarters System

Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization Headquarters (Fukushima)

Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization General Headquarters (Tokyo)

← **Quick decisions and actions onsite**

← **Work on the national government from the viewpoint of disaster-affected areas**

- (3) Awareness-raising of the Officials

- Officials who find a breakthrough out of difficulties, without adhering to precedent
- Each official should be a super coordinator who independently solves problems.
- Innovations in Kasumigaseki occur from the Reconstruction Agency.

## 8. Creation of “a New Tohoku”

### (1) Five Pillars of “a New Tohoku”

○ The [creation of “a New Tohoku”](#) as a land of creativity and potential is to be promoted in the course of reconstruction from the disaster.

(Problems the Tohoku region had faced since before the earthquake, such as the depopulation, population aging, and hollowing out of industry, are nationwide problems.)

A reliable society to promote the safe and healthy growth of children

A vibrant super-aged society with “the elderly people as standards”

A society with sustainable energy (a society with autonomous and decentralized energy)

A leading society introducing robust and highly resilient social infrastructure (system)

A society with wide appeal in utilizing regional resources

### (2) Toward the Creation of “New Tohoku” (Promote Collaboration with Companies)

- Initiation of [leading model projects](#) for the purpose of accelerating innovative ideas
- Building of a platform for [dispatching personnel from companies to disaster-affected areas](#)
- Creation of a mechanism to [support for finding business partners and ensuring sales channels](#)
- Establishment of the [New Tohoku Partnership Promotion Council](#) for sharing and exchanging information
- Publication of the [Collection of Distinctive Housing Design which Represent the ideas of “a New Tohoku”](#) with the aim of seeking solutions to regional problems

### (3) Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games

- “a New Tohoku” aims to achieve [world-class excellence both in academics and sports](#).



# Creation of 'a New Tohoku'

Friendly community for children and the elderly



・Indoor playground  
・Play leader

Town planning considering interaction of local community



安心して遊べる  
ミニコモン空間  
(こどもひろば)



・Japanese traditional veranda 'engawa'

New Tohoku Partnership Promotion Committee



・website

Support for business launch  
In the disaster-affected areas



・'Revive Japan cup' Award