# JAPANESE Real Estate Market, Today

To the Next Stage! trusted to stable growth

### Structural reform that enables sustainable growth of Japanese economy

Sustainable economic growth is made possible by the so-called "three arrows": "Bold monetary policy," "Flexible fiscal policy," and "Bold, speedy growth strategy."

Japan promotes foreign direct investment in Japan by being "the best country in the world in which to do business."

### [Figure] Japan's Economy Track: jobs-toapplicants ratio and unemployment rate



SOURCE : Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

#### 1. Monetary policy 2. Fiscal policy Along with the implementation of its The Bank of Japan introduced quantitative and qualitative easing in April agile financial policy, Japan intends to achieve a surplus in its primary 2013, aiming to "achieve the inflation balance by 2020 target rate as soon as possible, that is, within about two years." **Bold monetary policy Flexible financial policy** Monetary easing to increase the The government's initiative to amount of money in circulation ignite the dampened demand by and eliminate the deflationary formulating economic stimulus mindset packages Second arrow First arrow

#### 3. Growth strategy

Through the "Japan revitalization strategy," the Japanese government will boost the "earnings power" of the Japanese economy to keep the positive economic cycle rotating. The following are some examples of relevant measures:

#### - Corporate tax reform

The effective corporate tax rate will be reduced to the twenties (%) in several years

- Stimulation of financial and capital markets

The portfolio of the Government Pension Investment Fund (GPIF) was reviewed in October 2014, adopting a new policy asset mix

- Utilizing of National Strategic Special Zones

Six areas have been designated as National Strategic Special Zones, including the base area for global business innovation with exceptional relaxation of floor area ratios and urban planning (Greater Tokyo Area) and the base area for medical innovation (Kansai Area). Thus, the growth of the Japanese economy is powerfully promoted

#### Bold, speedy growth strategy

Aiming not only to secure Japan's medium to long-term growth in the global community but also to restore vigor in regional communities and allow individual citizens to feel affluent

### **Third arrow**

### Sustainable economic growth (increase of wealth)

Gross domestic product\*1 : growth rate 3%\*2

\*1 Total amount of value added created domestically| \*2 Average value in the coming 10 years including the impact of price fluctuations

REFERENCE: Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet "Japan Revitalization Strategy", "Abenomics is Progressing!", and Bank of Japan

## Flexible planning for national land by taking advantage of local community diversity and cooperation

### Our national land vision plans to deal with issues and trends affecting Japan

In July 2014, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MILT) formulated the "Grand Design of National Spatial Development toward 2050." Targeting the year 2050, the planning of national land has started under the keyword of Compact + Network.

\*MILT is the ministry responsible for the comprehensive and systematic utilization, exploitation and conservation of national land, consistent maintenance of infrastructure for these regards, promotion of transport policy, development of meteorological services, and maritime safety and security.

### Keyword is <Compact + Network>

- Concentration of the functions necessary for everyday life in a specific area to realize efficiency (= attainment of compactness)
- Regional cooperation beyond municipal boundaries to provide urban services (functions) of higher level (= creation of network)
- Realization of high-density interaction between people, goods and information to bring about innovations
- $\rightarrow$  Through <Compact + Network>, creation of national land with enhanced "productivity" of the country as a whole



An example of basic strategies

**Compactness that leads the way forward:** Formation of future industry clusters, which generate new industries at the intellectual hubs



**Beautiful nation with robust disaster-resistance:** Producing innovations in disaster prevention/reduction and maintenance with best use of robots, sensors, big data and other technologies available, to realize an advanced disaster-prevention society



**Building a tourism nation allowing visitors to experience Japan's appeal:** Local communities vitalized by discovering and cherishing their own treasures proudly and lovingly, based on thinking about what is tourism

### Both the number of foreign tourists to Japan and their spending during their visits hit record highs!

- A total of **19,737,000** foreign tourists to Japan in 2015, **a** year-on-year increase of **47.1%**
- A total of ¥3,477 billion worth of spending (estimate) by foreign tourists to Japan in 2015, a year-on-year increase of 71.5%
  SOURCE: Japan Tourism Agency

The following are prioritized measures to create local tourist attractions comparable not only with Tokyo but also any other places in the world, which can lead to a marked increase in the number of inbound tourists:

- Construct a welcoming environment for foreign tourists
- Encourage to attract/host MICE and give foreign entrepreneurs a chance to see business potential
- Promote ubiquitous use of multiple languages in road signs, tourist information guides/centers or the like

### Construction of global business cities open to the world

### Formation of super-megaregion

The three major cities in Japan (Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka) will be interconnected by the Linear Chuo Shinkansen, forming the world's largest super-megaregion with 67,600,000 inhabitants. This urban agglomeration, as the "setting" in which people and goods of domestic or foreign origin come and meet, will bring innovations into our life. More people, goods, money and information from all over the world will head to this region, further propelling the engine of the Japanese economy. Global competitiveness will be strengthened by enabling the smooth international flow of people and goods (facilitation of gateway function) and creating an environment in which foreign residents can live without difficulty. **Overseas** 

### Creation of the world's largest super-megaregion

Formation of a gigantic market, along with the elimination of lead time from the international gateway. The bases established in the megaregion are networked with improved functionality. The cloud-type gigantic agglomeration will bring innovations into our life.

#### The megaregion as a whole - Has four international airports (Haneda, Narita, Chubu and Kansai) - Has two international strategic container ports (Keihin and Hanshin) Overseas Strengthening **Reinforcement of international** 113 km exter of Hokuriku of cooperation gateway function Shinkanten - Northeast Japan railway trac Southwest Japan **Development rate of ring** roads in the three major cities 63% in 2013 → Approx. 75% in 2016 Improvement of Usaka Overseas a anteway to West Japan **Utilization of international** strategic container ports 67 Jan extension of Number of deep-water (≥16 m) container Strengthening Nagasaki Shinkansen terminals at the international strategic milway track of cooperation container ports 12 3 berths in 2013 $\rightarrow$ 12 berths in 2016 **Overseas** ţ, R

Improvement of international airport convenience \*Number of international flight destinations from airports in the National Capital Region (passenger flights) 88 cities in 2013→130-140 cities in 2020

360 km extension of

Hokkaido Shinkansen railway track

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| Ranking of urban population (January 2015) (Unit: 10 thousands) |      |                |   |                     |   |
|---|------|----------------|---|---------------------|---|
| Tokyo · Osaka · Nagoya 6760                                     |      |                | Compiled by MILT based on the "Thomas Brinkhoff: Major Agglom-<br>erations of the World (http://www.citypopulation.de/)." |                     |   |
| 1 Tokyo   | 3940 | ··· 13 Beijing | 2030  | ··· 29 Tianjin 1110 | ) |
| 2 Guangzhou   | 3430 | 14 Osaka       | 1780  | 30 Nagoya 1040      | ) |
| 3 Shanghai  | 3020 | 15 Los Angeles | 1740  | 31 Kinshasa 1030    | ) |

REFERENCE: MLIT "Grand Design of National Spatial Development toward 2050", and "Basic Plan on Transport Policy"

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### **Transforming Tokyo as a Global Business City**

Tokyo, as Japan's economic engine, must succeed in an increasing global competition with other cities. By effectively utilizing its National Strategic Special Zones designation, Tokyo aims to improve the global business environment and create a hub for medical/pharmaceutical innovation.

### FIGURE : Major international business hub project



Global business hub coupled with enhanced transport junction capabilities

- A Yaesu Area (Tokyo Station)
- **B** Shinagawa Station
- C Toranomon Area

Enhanced MICE capabilities that accommodate increasing number of foreign visitors

- D Otemachi 1-chome Area
- E Roppongi Area
- **F** New Tokyo Waterfront Subcenter

Diverse business transaction hub including global financing and contents services

- G Otemachi-Tokiwabashi Area
- H Hibiya Area
- I Takeshiba Area
- J Haneda Airport Empty Lot



**SOURCE:** material provided by Mitsubishi Estate

SOURCE: Tokyo Metropolitan Government / NOTE: Based on the assumption of acquiring permission by City Planning Act MAP: Nikkei Architecture January 10 2015



SOURCE: material provided by Mori Building

One example is Toranomon Hills, a public-private skyscraper project built in the Toranomon district (C) in May 2014. Employing a multi-level road system that allows use of space both above and beneath the road, building development and the construction of Loop Road No. 2, the artery that connects Shinbashi and Toranomon districts, proceeded in concert. The completion of this project is expected to contribute significantly to the dramatic transformation of Shinbashi/ Toranomon districts as a global business hub that attracts diverse corporations and talents and to the creation of a new international urban center as the first step in a series of Tokyo revitalization initiatives for Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020.

### Major projects for building global business bases



For the latest urban development projects, which are currently under way in Japan, information is also available at the following website: http://urban-projects.jp/

### World-class investment opportunities await in Japan

The market size of Japanese real estate investment is the second biggest in the world. There is still room for further expansion of the market. Even in the market cooling period following the Great Recession, the income from Japanese real estate was steady. In addition to being politically stable, Japan has no differences in system application between domestic and overseas investors in terms of real estate transactions.

(%)



### [Figure] Second-Biggest Real Estate Investment Market: Market Volume of Institutional-Grade Commercial Real Estate

### [Figure] Expansion of Real Estate Investment Market: Real Estate or Assets of Trust Beneficiary Right Acquired as Securitized Real Estate



### [Figure] Restrictions on purchase of Japanese Real Estate

- Can foreigners/foreign companies purchase real estate?
- Can foreigners/foreign companies purchase real estate without restrictions despite the type of real estate?
- Can foreigners/foreign companies own real estate?
- ✓ Is it possible to trade real estate without the public notice of transactions, etc.?





SOURCE: The Association for Real Estate Securitization "ARES Japan Property Index"

**SOURCE:** Prudential Real Estate Investors "A Bird's Eye View of Global Real Estate Markets: 2012 Update"

## Continuing effort to popularize Japanese properties with excellent environmental performance

In Japan, there are an increasing number of buildings with high environmental performance regarding energy conservation and CO2 reduction, enabled by environmental technologies such as thermal insulation, highly efficient air conditioning and LED lighting. The performance indicators by rating tools to value these properties such as CASBEE and BELS are becoming very well organized, improving the data necessary for property selection. Green leases are also promoted. These measures heighten the property value and improve the quality of both new and existing buildings.



Kashiwa-no-ha Smart City, realizing energy efficiency through cooperation with communities

**SOURCE:** material provided by Mitsui Fudosan



Otemachi and Marunouchi business districts, with successive upgrading of the latest buildings

**SOURCE:** material provided byNikkei Business Publications, Inc.

USEFUL WEBSITES 「Green Building Online Portal」 http://tochi.mlit.go.jp/greenbuilding/kankyo/english/index.html

## Improvement of transparency in Japanese real estate market

### Real estate price index based on international guidelines

The residential real estate price index on a transaction price basis has been made publicly available since 2012. Being based on international guidelines, it can be compared with other countries. The price index of commercial real estate such as offices is under trial operation. Improvement in the availability of relevant data will bring greater transparency to the Japanese real estate market.



### Japan Residential Property Price Index(National wide) Other data examples, provided by public institutions

- Posted land price and municipal land price survey
- Japan Residential Property Price Index
- Japan Commercial Property Price Index (Trial Operation)
- Information on real estate transaction prices
- Number of new housing starts and floor area

### Data by private sector is also extensive

- Urban land price index
- House price index according to repeat sales method
- Office rents and vacancy rate in major cities
- Condominium sales and contract rate
- Changes in shop lease prices in major business areas
- Capitalization rates for investors in major real estate markets...

**SOURCE:** Japan Real Estate Institute, Miki Shoji, and Real Estate Economic Institute Co., Ltd., etc.

USEFUL WEBSITES 「LAND AND PROPERTY IN JAPAN」 http://tochi.mlit.go.jp/english/ 「e-Stat (Portal Site of Official Statistics of Japan)」 http://www.e-stat.go.jp/SG1/estat/eStatTopPortalE.do

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Questions about measures for internationalization of real estate, please contact us. International Affairs Division Land Economy & Construction Industries Bureau Ministry of Land, Infrastructuire, Transport and Tourism hqt-g-kks@ml.mlit.go.jp

