**New National Spatial Strategy (National Plan)**

Promoting active Interaction-led National Land Development

New National Spatial Strategy (National Plan) was approved by the cabinet on August 14, 2015, setting directions for the national development in the coming 10 years starting 2015, based on a recognition that our country is at a crossroad of whether or not it can further develop as an affluent and vibrant country with continuous economic growth despite various challenging conditions surrounding the country such as the full-fledged population decline, extraordinary progress in aging and imminent mega-disasters.

### National spatial development target

- A country where people can feel safe and affluent
- A vigorous country sustaining economic growth
- A country exerting a strong presence in the international community

### Basic National Land Concept, Promoting active Interaction-led National Land Development

- **“Active interaction”** represents active movements of people, goods, money and information between regions with various characteristics
- **“Active interaction”** revitalizes regions and creates innovation (added value) through cooperation and connections of diversified characteristics
  - seeking for a national land where active interaction arises dynamically
  - <Active interaction as a Source of Japan’s Vitality>
- Various regional characteristics trigger active interaction
  - brushing up of characteristics of each region is a key

### National Structure, Local Structure: Multi-layered, resilient “compact and networked structure”

- Compactly consolidate diverse functions necessary for living into certain areas and networking each area.
  - Improving convenience and maintaining the regional population
  - Maintaining necessary functions (measures for adapting to population-declining society)
- Multi-layered, resilient “compact and networked structure” nationwide
  - Providing and maintaining living service functions, high-level city functions and international business functions
  - Realizing a disaster-resistant national spatial structure
  - Accumulating industries that will highlight region’s characteristics and improve networking to create innovation.

- Well balanced development throughout the country utilizing characteristics of each region that suites the coming age

### Correcting Excess Concentration in Tokyo and Positioning the Tokyo Metropolitan Region

- Continuation of outflow of rural population to Tokyo: deprivation of vitalization from the local areas
  - Creation of attractive rural areas through changing human flow
- Tokyo Metropolitan Region: Overpopulation continues to be its issue. Imminence of mega-disasters such as an earthquake hitting Tokyo directly.
  - Necessity to correct excess concentration in Tokyo through development of “compact and networked” national land, development of national land promoting interaction-led regional revitalization, evolution/utilization of ICT etc.,
  - Tokyo has a vital role in realizing “national land for Japan”’s Global Development” through further strengthening its international competitiveness as a world’s leading cosmopolitan city

### Further Development through Urban-Rural Linkage
Specific Directions for realizing basic National Land Concept

**Specific Direction ①**
Local Revitalization for Japan’s Global Development

Revitalizing regions with unique characteristics
- Looking into the future population, it is important for each region to exercise wisdom to structurally consider its future picture.
- Improving productivity of local consumption industries such as service sector for community residents
- Utilizing regional resources for industrial enhancement and overseas expansion for obtaining income from outside the region.
- Creating “regional innovation,” developing “towns with rich entrepreneurship” : Importance of cooperation/interaction among government, industry, academia, financial agency, and human resource development
- Promoting “human interaction”: Immigration, relocation, dual habitation, dual area living/work.

Developing vigorous metropolitan areas
- Improving its functions as a venue for creating innovation through internal and external interaction. (accumulation of functions and industries that characterize regions, development of high quality office environment, sophistication of inter-city transportation, development of intellectual interaction hubs etc.)
- Forming safe and secure metropolitan areas, resilient to disasters
- Responding to rapidly increasing aged population (coordination between urban policy, housing policy, transportation policy, and medical care policy, welfare policy)
- Developing an environment in which people can have and raise children securely

Creating innovation through development of an intellectual interaction hub "Knowledge capital (Osaka)"

Expanding global activities
- Developing business environments to attract foreign investment (core urban area with highly developed transportation/communication infrastructure, efficient and sophisticated logistics networks, stress-free residential environment for highly talented human resources including non-Japanese etc.)
- Enhancing gateway functions to respond to the Asia-Eurasia dynamism and forming national land using Sea of Japan and Pacific side
- Developing an initiative based on the Linear Chuo Shinkansen to form “a Super Mega-Region”
- Developing a tourism oriented country beyond 2020

[Medical care, nursing care and welfare facilities]
- Serviced housing for elderly people
- Home care support clinic
- Family doctor clinic for Toyoshikidai
- Comprehensive regional support center
- Childcare facility
- Drugstore
Specific Direction ② National Land Management and Infrastructure to Support Safety/Security and Economic Growth

**Developing National Land for Resilient and Flexible to Disasters**
- Appropriate combination of hard and soft measures and selection of focus based on assumptions including unexpected situations
- Promoting urban disaster risk reduction/mitigation measures taking into consideration the vulnerability of cities
- Securing redundancy to make national spatial structure resilient to disasters
- Enhancing self-help and mutual assistance, and public assistance supporting them
- Promoting initiatives to reconstruct areas destroyed by the Great East Japan Earthquake and rehabilitate Fukushima

**Managing National Land appropriately to make it Safe, Secure and Sustainable**
- Good management in place for the conservation/utilization of farmland and forests and exercising of their multiple functions.
- Conserving, restoring and utilizing beautiful landscapes and natural environments.
- From ownership of unused/less used lands and vacant houses to their effective utilization.
- Promotion of policies that bring composite effects such as effective utilization of land, disaster risk reduction/mitigation, regeneration of natural environment etc.
- Selective National Land Utilization that seizes opportunity of reduction in pressure towards developments reflecting population decline.
- Management of National Land by various actors in addition to community residents such as city dwellers, business sector, NPO etc.

**Maintaining, Developing and Utilizing National Land Infrastructure**
- Strategic approach that maximizes "stock effects"
  - Systematic social capital development under the principle of "Selection and Concentration" (Infrastructure for safe and secure, for quality of life, and for economic growth)
- Enhancement of energy infrastructure and development of information communication infrastructure
- Strategic maintenance through maintenance cycle development
- "Smart utilization" of national land infrastructure
- Securing work force for national land infrastructure and expanding infrastructure business

Specific Direction ③ Participation and Cooperation to Support National Spatial Development

**Nurturing supporters of local communities**
- Human resource development at regional education organizations
- Nurturing and utilizing human resources inside and outside a region
- Participation by youth, women and elderly people

**Building Society of Mutual Assistance**
- Building a society where residents take initiatives in supporting each other, solving issues of the community and vitalizing the area
- Developing framework for social business (business/activity generating profit) and fund-raising in order to secure continuity of activities
- Development a society of mutual assistance utilizing "human interaction" including families living outside the region
- Revitalization of the existing community and development of a new community

Preparation and Implementation of Regional Plans
- Preparing Regional Plans for 8 regions based on the National Plan
- Independent development and mutual interaction/collaboration between regions
- Showing unique strategy based on the characteristics of each region

Collaboration with National Land Utilization Plan
- Basic national land use policy
  - Realizing appropriate national land management
  - Conserving, restoring and utilizing natural environments and beautiful landscapes
  - Realizing safety and security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target size by national land category (10,000ha)</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2025</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmland</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>449</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forests</td>
<td>2,506</td>
<td>2,510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wildlands</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waters, rivers, channels</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>135</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roads</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>142</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential land</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>329</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,780</td>
<td>3,780</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Changes in Situations of National Land
– Background of developing a new National Spatial Strategy (National Plan) –

- Trends and Challenges surrounding National Land
  1. Rapid population decline, falling birthrates and accelerating uneven population distribution
  2. Extraordinary progress in aging (increase in aging rate unprecedented in the world, significant increase in aging population in the metropolitan area etc.,)
  3. Intensifying competition in changing international community (decline in presence of Japan, intensified global competition among cities etc.,)
  4. Imminent mega-disasters and aging infrastructure
  5. Food, water and energy constraints and global environment problems (world population is expected to further increase dramatically)
  6. Technological innovation progress including dramatic ICT development (Possibility of bringing great transformation to the society including solution of issues)
- Changes in people’s sense of values (Diversification of lifestyles(economic growing-oriented, quality of life-oriented), expansion of the movement for making society of mutual assistance)
- Changes in National Land (Increase in unused/less used lands and deserted farmland, unmanaged forests, vacant houses etc.)

Sharp drop in national population
- Since hitting the peak of 128 million in 2008, population is declining
- Overview of the country in 2050
  - If birthrate remains at the current level, population in 2050 will be 97 million
    - Interim estimation of the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research
  - Marking out the national land into grids with areas of 1sq km each, over 60% of the current residential area will have less than half the current population.
  - Currently, residential area takes up approximately 50% of the total national land

Imminence of mega-disasters
- Probability of occurrence of earthquake hitting Tokyo directly, Nankai Trough Mega-earthquake
  - Approximately 70% within the next 30 years
- Increase in localized, centralized, and intensified rain
- Frequent occurrence of volcanic disaster

Probability of occurrence of earthquake hitting Tokyo directly, Nankai Trough Mega-earthquake
- Approximately 70% within the next 30 years

Distribution of seismic intensity for Earthquake hitting Tokyo directly (earthquake hitting southern part of the city (interplate earthquake))
(Source) Possible damage and countermeasures regarding the earthquake hitting Tokyo directly (final report) (Cabinet Office)

Distribution of seismic intensity for Nankai Trough mega earthquake (base case)
(Source) Countermeasures against Nankai Trough mega earthquake (final report) (Cabinet Office)