### Basic Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas (March 2020)

---To pass Japan's food and vigorous agriculture and rural areas on to the next generation---

#### Basic direction

Both "industrial policy" and "regional policy" will be employed just like two wheels of a cart, to ensure stable food supply, which will continue to be essential for the lives of people in Japan into the future, and to improve the nation's capacity for food self-sufficiency and establish its food security.

#### Basic viewpoints for promoting measures

- Measures that are in line with the needs of consumers and users
- Establishment of food security and formation of a national consensus on the importance of agriculture and rural areas
- Implementation of measures to develop/secure human resources and enhance the production base with the aim of ensuring the sustainability of agriculture
- Acceleration of smart agriculture and promotion of Digital Transformation in agricultural activities, integration of regional policies and maintenance and implementation of multifunctionality
- Enhancement of responses to risks that pose a threat to the sustainability of agriculture, such as climate change leading to disasters, infectious diseases of domestic animals, etc.
- Promotion of measures to expand agricultural income and income in rural areas
- Measures to back up sustainable efforts based on the SDGs

#### Circumstances surrounding food, agriculture, and rural areas

- Steady progress of the agricultural policy reform.
- Changes in the domestic and overseas environments
  - Import substitution of the domestic market and expansion of overseas markets
  - Population decline and diversification of consumer needs
  - New international settings such as the TPP-11 and the Trade Agreement between Japan and the United States of America
  - Frequent large-scale natural disasters and new infections
  - Outbreak of classical swine fever (ASF) / Dealing with ASF (African swine fever)
- Growing vulnerability of the production base
- Significant decline in the number of farmers and farmland areas

#### Past Basic Plans for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas

- Formulated under the Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas Basic Act (enacted in July 1999)
- A medium to long-term agriculture policy vision, indicating the direction of measures over the next decade

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<tr>
<td>Revised every five years</td>
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#### Measures to be taken

1. **Securing stable food supply**
   - Exploration of demand through the creation of new value
   - Strategic exploration of the global market
   - Deepening of the connection between consumers and food/agriculture
   - Ensuring food safety and consumer confidence
   - Establishment of comprehensive food security with risks associated with food supply taken into consideration
   - Adapting to new international settings such as the TPP and taking strategic approach to international negotiations in the future

2. **Sustainable agricultural development**
   - Development/Securing of business farmers
     - (Acceleration of incorporation of farms, enhancement of the management base, business succession, recruiting new farmers and assisting them in becoming firmly established, etc.)
   - Active participation of diverse human resources and entities
     - (Small- and medium-sized family businesses, agricultural support service, etc.)
   - Stabilization of agricultural management
     - (Substantiation of the Farms and Farmland Plan, full operation of Public Corporations for Farmland Consolidation to Core Farmers through Renting and Subleasing, etc.)
   - Improvement of the agricultural production infrastructure
     - (Infrastructure improvement for the transformation of agriculture into a growth industry and for building national resilience)
   - Enhancement of the production base to deal with changes in the demand structure, etc., and streamlining of the distribution/processing structure
   - Promotion of innovation in agricultural production/distribution sites
     - (Acceleration of smart agriculture, promotion of utilization of digital technology, etc.)
   - Promotion of environmental policy
     - (Responding to climate change, promotion of organic farming, maintenance and enhancement of the national cyclical function, etc.)

3. **Development of rural areas**
   - Securing of income and employment opportunities by utilizing local resources
     - (Multiple farming, addition of high added value to local resources, regional economic circulation, etc.)
   - Conditioning rural areas including hilly and mountainous areas to enable residents to continuously reside in such areas
   - Creation of new movements and vigorous efforts that support rural areas
     - (Creation of a vision, implementation of agriculture’s multifunctional roles, prevention of damage caused by wild animals, etc.)
   - Creation of a framework through cooperation among relevant ministries for continuous implementation of the above measures

4. **Restoration/Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake and actions against large-scale natural disasters**

5. **Measures for relevant bodies**

#### Targets, outlook, etc.

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Food self-sufficiency ratio targets</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Calorie supply basis</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Production value basis</strong></td>
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(By evaluating the situation of food security)

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<tr>
<th><strong>Feed self-sufficiency ratio</strong></th>
<th>25% (2018) → 34% (2030)</th>
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(Prospects for 2030 are newly presented.)

### Related measures

- Revise the "One Plan, One Area" (Plan for regional measures)
- Identification of regional policies that contribute to ensuring food security
- Measures to contribute to the SDGs

#### Food security potential indicator (Food production potential)

An indicator that takes account labor force as well as farmland areas is presented. Also, prospects for 2030 are newly presented.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Outlook and securing of farmlands</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Agriculture structure outlook</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Prospect of agriculture labor force</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Prospect of agricultural output</strong></td>
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| **(2019)** | **Prospect: 4.14 million ha** |
|**Trend: 3.92 million ha** |
|**It is slow to increase** |
| **(2015)** | **Prospect: 2.08 million people** |
| **Trend: 1.31 million people** |
| **(2030)** |

### Matters necessary for promoting measures

1. Based on the viewpoint of the general public and hands-on approaches
2. Promotion of EBPM and progress management based on the project method
3. Effective and efficient implementation of measures
4. Digital Transformation of administrative procedures
5. Cooperation among a wide range of relevant parties and ministries
6. Promotion of environment-friendly measures that can contribute to the SDGs
7. Efficient and intensive implementation of fiscal measures