

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 agriculture **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

Export values of agricultural, forestry and fishery products and food
449.7 billion yen (2012) → 912.1 billion yen (2019)

Agricultural production income
2.8 trillion yen (2014) → 3.5 trillion yen (2018)

New young farmers
18,800 farmers/year (average during 2009 to 2013)
→ 21,400 farmers/year (average during 2014 to 2018)

Changes in the domestic and overseas environments

- (1) Shrinkage of the domestic market and expansion of overseas markets
- Population decline and diversification of consumer needs
- (2) New international settings such as the TPP-11 and the Trade Agreement between Japan and the United States of America
- (3) Frequent large-scale natural disasters and new infections
- (4) Outbreak of CSF (classical swine fever) / 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

2000 2005 2010 2015

*Revised about every five years

Targets, outlook, etc.

Food self-sufficiency ratio targets

[Calorie supply basis] 37% (2018) → **45%** (2030)
(By evaluating the situation of food security)

[Production value basis] 66% (2018) → **75%** (2030)
(By evaluating the situation of economic activities)

[Feed self-sufficiency ratio] 25% (2018) → 34% (2030)

[National food production ratio] **Newly set to evaluate the situation of food production in Japan** without its feed self-sufficiency ratio reflected therein
<Calorie supply basis> 46% (2018) → 53% (2030) <[Production value basis]> 69% (2018) → 79% (2030)

<Production effort targets>
A domestic agricultural production level that is feasible in 2030 upon resolution of relevant issues is set for each major item

Food self-sufficiency 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.

[Drafted along with the Basic Plan]

Outlook and securing of farmlands

(2019)	(2030)
4.397 million ha	Prospect: 4.14 million ha
	Trend: 3.92 million ha *If no measure is taken

Agriculture structure outlook

(2015)	(2030)
2.08 million people	Prospect: 1.40 million people
	Trend: 1.31 million people *If the past trend continues

Farm management outlook

- (1) Presenting 37 management models
- (2) Presenting example cases of small-scale but stable management contributing to farmland maintenance, etc.

Measures to be taken

1. Securing stable food supply

- Exploration of demand through the **creation of new value**
- **Strategic exploration** of the global market
(Export values of agricultural, forestry and fishery products and food: aimed at reaching 5 trillion yen (2030))
- **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

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 a vision, implementation of agriculture's multifunctional roles, prevention of damage caused by wild animals, etc.)
- **Creation of new movements and vigorous efforts** that support rural areas
(Region management organizations, concerned population, lifestyle that balances agriculture and another type of work, etc.)
- **Creation of a framework through cooperation among relevant ministries** for continuous implementation of the above measures

6. Formation of a national consensus through the development of national movements concerning food and agriculture, etc.

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.)
- **Farmland concentration/intensification and securing of farmland**
(Substantiation of the Farmers and Farmland Plan, full operation of Public Corporations for Farmland Consolidation to Core Farmers through Renting and Subleasing, etc.)
- **Stabilization of agricultural management**
(Steady promotion of revenue insurance and the Farming Income Stabilization Measures, 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
(item-specific measures, implementation of safety measures for farming, etc.)
- **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 natural cyclical function, etc.)

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

5. Measures for relevant bodies

7. Responses to new infections including COVID-19

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 promotion 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