

# Summary of the Basic Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas



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

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**MAFF**

Ministry of Agriculture,  
Forestry and Fisheries



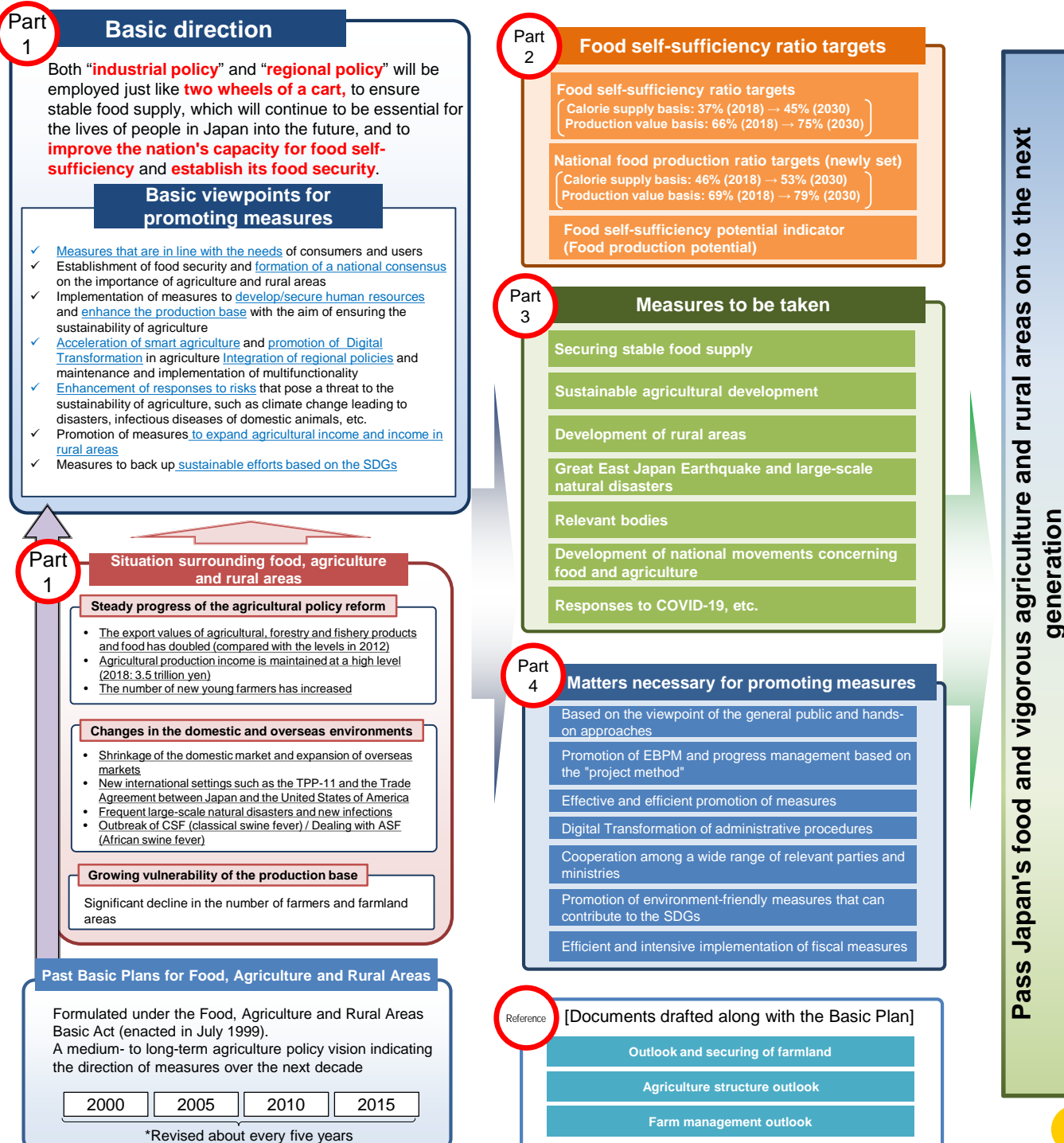
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# What is the Basic Plan?

- Formulated under the Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas Basic Act, the Basic Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas is a medium- to long-term agriculture policy vision indicating the direction of measures to be taken over the next decade.
- The Basic Plan is a program for implementation of specific measures to realize the four fundamental principles of the Basic Act, which consist of the securing of stable food supply, the implementation of agriculture's multifunctional roles, sustainable agricultural development and the development of rural areas, and is set to be revised approximately every five years in order to be able to respond to changes in various circumstances surrounding food, agriculture and rural areas.

## Structure of the new Basic Plan



# Key points of the new Basic Plan

—A Basic Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas is developed based on the Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas

## Key Points of the new Basic Plan

- Continuous promotion of the agricultural policy reform to make agriculture a growth sector
  - 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)
- Raising the level of farm management through enhancement of the production base of diverse farmers such as small- and medium-sized farms and family-operated farms
- Setting a target to achieve an export value of 5 trillion yen for agricultural, forestry and fishery products and food by 2030
  - Export value of agricultural, forestry and fishery products and food  
611.7 billion yen (2014) → 912.1 billion yen (2019)
- "Integration of regional policies" by cooperating with relevant ministries and mobilizing measures for development of rural areas
- Formation of a national consensus through the development of new national movements concerning food and agriculture

## Basic policy and food self-sufficiency ratio targets

### [Basic direction of measures]

- Both "industrial policy" and "regional policy" will be employed just like two sides of the same coin 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.

### [Food self-sufficiency ratio targets]

#### <Food self-sufficiency ratio targets>

Calorie supply basis: 37% (2018) → 45% (2030), production value basis: 66% (2018) → 75% (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)

#### <Food self-sufficiency potential indicator>

- This is an indicator to evaluate the potential food production capacity of Japan. An indicator that newly takes account of labor force and labor-saving agricultural technology as well as farmland areas is presented. Also, prospects for 2030 are newly presented.

# Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas

Act about every five years with a vision for approximately the next 10 years, decided by the Cabinet, and reported to the Diet—

## Measures to be taken

### 1. Securing stable food supply

- **Exploration of demand through the creation of new value**
  - Creation of new markets in line with changes in the food market, enhancement of the competitiveness of the food industry, and reduction of food loss and waste
- **Strategic exploration of the global market**
  - Setting a target to achieve an export value of 5 trillion yen (2030) for agricultural, forestry and fishery products and food
- **Deepening of the connection between consumers and food/agriculture**
  - Food education, local consumption of local produce, expansion of consumption of domestic agricultural products, and preservation/inheritance of the WASHOKU culture (Japanese traditional dietary culture)
- **Ensuring food safety and consumer confidence**
  - Risk assessment/management based on scientific knowledge, and ensuring consumer confidence through proper food labeling, etc.
- **Establishment of comprehensive food security with risks associated with food supply taken into consideration**
  - Risk analysis in preparation for unforeseeable events and consideration of responses, understanding and analysis of international food supply and demand, and enhancement of measures for animal and plant epidemic and phytosanitary prevention
- **Adapting to new international settings such as the TPP and taking strategic approach to international negotiations in the future**
  - Enhancement of the production bases on the basis of the "comprehensive TPP-related policy framework," and negotiations for export expansion with due consideration of sensitivity

### 2. Sustainable agricultural development

- **Development/securing of business farmers for realizing a strong and sustainable agricultural structure**
  - Acceleration of incorporation of farms, enhancement of the management base, business succession, and recruiting new farmers and assisting them in becoming firmly established
- **Active participation of diverse human resources and entities that support agricultural sites**
  - Diverse farmers such as small- and medium-sized/family businesses, and agricultural support service
- **Consolidation of farmland to business farmers, etc. 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, and **prevention of farmland dilapidation and clearing dilapidated farmland**
- **Promotion of initiatives for stabilization of agricultural management**
  - Steady promotion of revenue insurance, the Farming Income Stabilization Measures, etc.
- **Improvement of the agricultural production infrastructure so as to contribute to transforming agriculture into a growth industry and to building national resilience**
  - Expansion of farmland partitions, creation of multipurpose paddy fields and transformation of paddy fields into upland fields, sophistication of upland fields and lands under permanent crops, strategic preservation and management of farm irrigation facilities, and **disaster prevention/mitigation measures toward building the resilience** of agriculture and rural areas
- **Enhancement of the production base to deal with changes in the demand structure, etc., and streamlining of the distribution/processing structure**
  - Item-specific measures such as expanding the production of beef cattle, dairy and horticultural products, promotion of GAP, implementation of safety measures for farming, etc., and streamlining of the material, distribution and processing structures
- **Promotion of innovation in agricultural production/distribution sites**
  - Promotion of utilization of digital technology in agricultural sites such as for the acceleration of smart agriculture, and promotion of digitalization in the implementation of agricultural measures
- **Promotion of environmental policy including responses to climate change**
  - Development and diffusion of renewable energy and technologies that can address the issue of climate change, promotion of organic farming, and maintenance and enhancement of the natural cyclical function

### 3. Development of rural areas

- **Securing of income and employment opportunities by utilizing local resources**
  - Diverse styles of farm management such as multiple farming, addition of high added value to local resources, and regional economic circulation
- **Conditioning rural areas including hilly and mountainous areas to enable residents to continuously reside in such areas**
  - Creation of a vision for maintenance and enhancement of local community functions, implementation of agriculture's multifunctional roles through the Japanese-style direct payment system, and prevention of damage caused by wild animals
- **Creation of new movements and vigorous efforts that support rural areas**
  - Creation and expansion of region management organizations and concerned population, presentation of diverse lifestyles such as balancing agriculture and another type of work, and communication of the attractiveness of rice terrace areas
- **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

- **Restoration/Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake**
  - Restoration/Reconstruction from the earthquake/tsunami disaster and the nuclear accident
- **Preparation for large-scale natural disasters**
  - Thorough implementation of **advance disaster prevention**, and development of farm management initiatives in preparation for disasters
- **Restoration from large-scale natural disasters**
  - Prompt understanding of damage and early restoration support for disaster-affected areas

### 5. Relevant bodies

- Agricultural cooperatives continue to implement self-reform efforts while also continuously playing the role of supporting the local industries and daily-life infrastructures of rural areas
- Effective and efficient fulfillment of functions and roles by hierarchical organizations of agricultural committees, agricultural mutual relief organizations, and land improvement districts

### 6. Formation of a national consensus on food and agriculture through implementation of national movements, etc.

- **Development of new national movements** focusing on the deepening of the connection between food and agriculture through **cooperation between public and private sectors** including consumers, food-related business operators, and producers' groups such as agricultural cooperatives

### 7. Responses to new infections including COVID-19

- **Stimulation of domestic demand** for domestic agricultural products, **securing of agriculture labor force**, agile implementation of measures for **business operators related to home-meal replacements, eating-out or processing**, such as switching to domestically produced ingredients and management improvement, and provision of information on food supply



# Target Form of the 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—

