

# - Fukushima Today -Steps for Reconstruction and Revitalization in Fukushima Prefecture



A-D "Initiatives to strengthen the brand power of locally produced agricultural, forestry, and fisheries products to dispel harmful rumours"

A "Fukuhakka": Fukuhakka made its debut in December 2024 as the top runner of Fukushima beef and a leader in the prefectural livestock industry. "They're named "Fukuhakka" or Fukushima's flower of lees, because the cows are fed sake lees, which are poetically compared to flowers". It is a new brand that Fukushima takes pride in, noted for its softness, robust umami, and juiciness. B "Yuyake Berry": An original brand of strawberry developed by Fukushima Prefecture over the course of 10 years, it made its debut in December 2022. It is characterised by its large size, wellshaped appearance, and vivid red colour with an orange hue. Its flavour is moderately acidic with a distinct sweetness and a strong aroma. Each individual strawberry is filled with brilliant hope for tomorrow.

C "Fuku Warai": Fukushima Prefecture, one of Japan's leading rice-producing regions, has developed this top-brand rice over a period of 14 years in pursuit of further recognition and new flavours. It is renowned for its outstanding sweetness, aroma, and delightfully plump texture. The prefecture began the general cultivation of this rice with the 2021 harvest. With "Fuku Warai" as its driving force, the prefecture aims to improve the overall image and sales price of locally produced rice.

D "Joban catch": Fish caught in the waters off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture, where the Oyashio and Kuroshio Currents meet, are called "Joban-mono" or "Joban catch". These fish are firm and tasty, with over 100 species, including olive flounder, bonito, greeneye, and whitebait. Since the nuclear power station accident, trial operations have continued. Currently, a transition toward fullscale operations are underway, with efforts to expand operations and develop sales channels.

# Fukushima Prefecture New Fukushima Revitalization Promotion

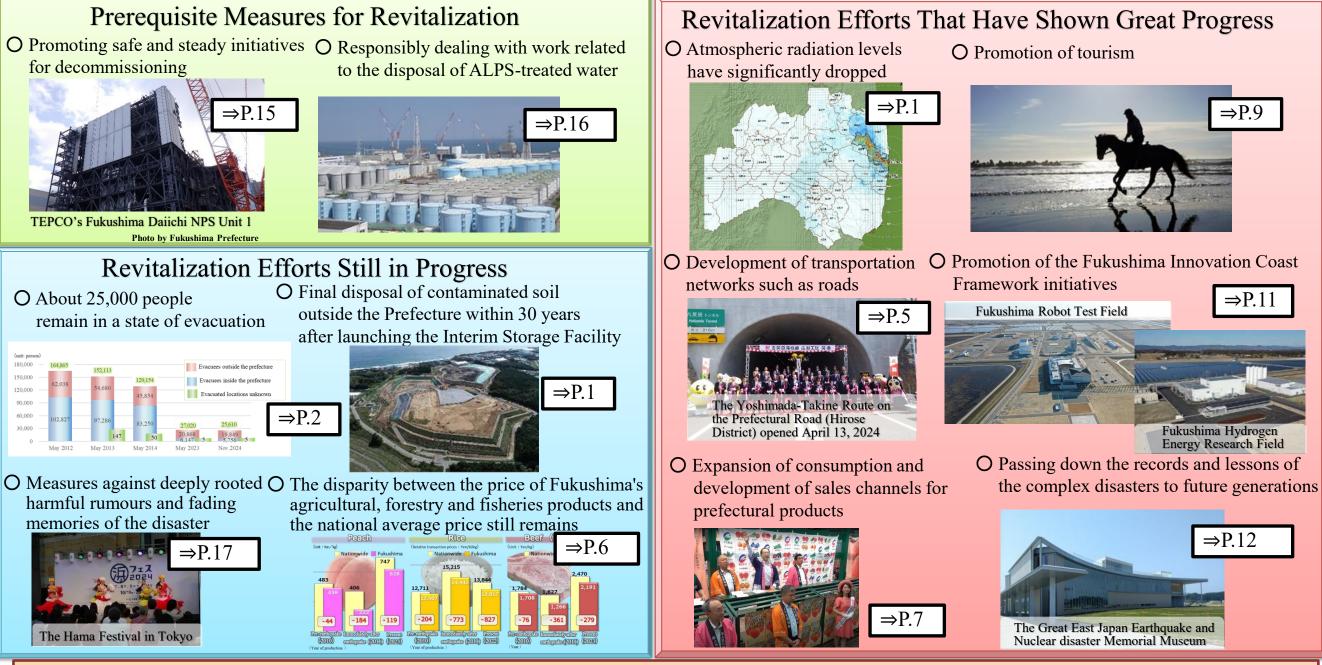
24 Mar. 2025 Headquarters

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# **Towards Achieving Revitalization**

Thanks to the hard work of Fukushima residents and kind support from Japan and abroad, reconstruction has progressed steadily in the 14 years since the earthquake and nuclear disaster. Evacuation orders have been lifted for all of the Specified Reconstruction and the Revitalization Base Areas, and approval has been granted for the Specified Living Areas for Returnees in the towns of Okuma, Futaba, Namie, and Tomioka. Living environments have been improved, and the number of participants in Hope Tourism has surpassed previous records.

On the other hand, about 25,000 residents of the prefecture are still living as evacuees (as of Feb. 2025). In addition, the Prefecture is faced with numerous challenges, such as rebuilding the livelihoods of disaster affected residents, population recovery through the return and relocation of residents, revitalization of local industries, fighting deeply rooted harmful rumours and fading memories of the disaster, measures for the contaminated/treated water and decommissioning of the reactors.



It is necessary to flexibly and carefully respond to new challenges which arise as revitalization progresses as well as the different issues faced in different areas according to their revitalization progress, and to realize them one at a time.

Promoting the reconstruction and revitalization of Fukushima to transform it from a "disaster affected area" to a "revitalization area"

# **1. Revitalization Efforts and Challenges**

# Decontamination

Current **Status** 

The transfer of removed soil and waste to the Interim Storage Facility has mostly been completed by Mar. 2022, except in the Difficult-toreturn Zones, and most of the Temporary Storage Sites have been returned to the landowners after restoration to their original condition. In the Difficult-to-return Zones, evacuation orders for all the Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Base Areas had been lifted by Nov. 2023, and decontamination in Specified Living Areas for Returnees began in Dec. 2023. Atmospheric radiation levels in the prefecture significantly dropped, and are the same as other major cities throughout the world.



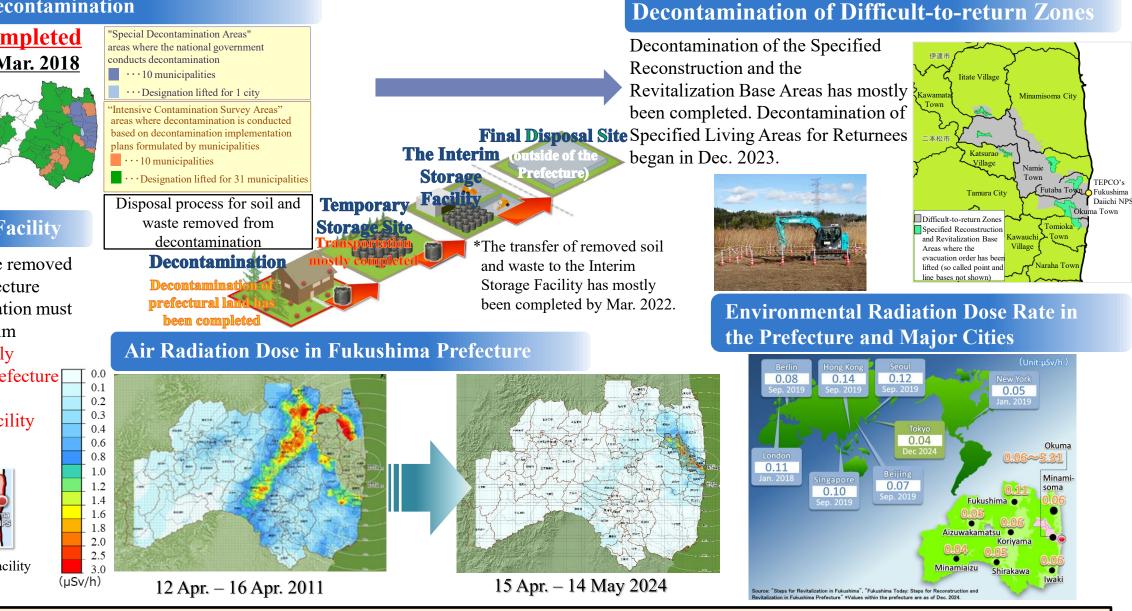
Decontamination of homes

#### **The Interim Storage Facility**

The law stipulates that the removed soil and waste in the prefecture generated by decontamination must be transferred to the Interim Storage Facility, and finally disposed of outside the prefecture within 30 years since the commencement of the Facility (by Mar. 2045).



Location of the Interim Storage Facility Okuma Town, Futaba Town



- Acceleration of initiatives by the national government towards the final disposal of removed soil and waste outside the prefecture Safe and secure operation of the Interim Storage Facility until final disposal outside the prefecture
- Challenges **Ensuring restoration of land used for Temporary Storage Sites** 
  - Sufficient decontamination of Difficult-to-return Zones (Specified Living Areas for Returnees)
  - **Disposal of designated waste** newly identified in the prefecture

## (2) State of the Evacuation-Designated Zones and Changes in Numbers of Evacuees

Improvement of living environment has led to the lifting of evacuation orders, reducing the areas under evacuation orders from Current approximately 12% to 2.2% of the entire prefectural landscape. Approximately 25,000 evacuees remain inside and outside of **Status** the prefecture.

Namie

Town

O

Tomioka

Town

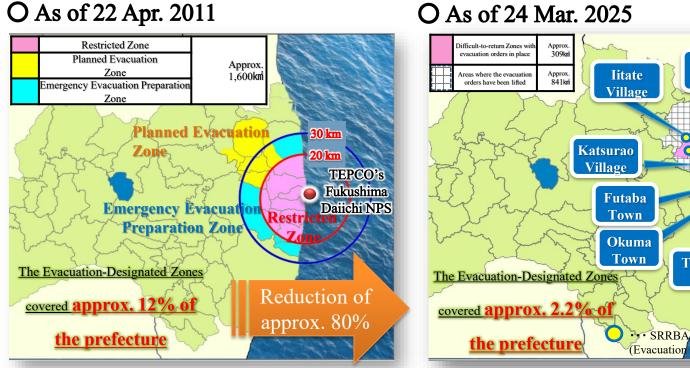
orders lifted)

**TEPCO's** Fukushima

Daiichi NPS

20 km

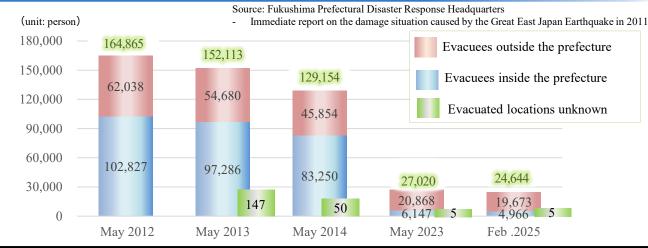
#### **Transition of the Evacuation-Designated Zones**



\*The area of the Evacuation-Designated Zones includes the former Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zone.

Challenges

## Transition of Evacuees: Earthquake, Tsunami, NPS Accident



#### **Proportion of Residents in the 12 Municipalities of** the Evacuation Areas

Municipalities	Rate of residents
Hirono Town	91.3%
Tamura City (Miyakoji District)	86.7%
Kawauchi Village	83.5%
Naraha Town	69.9%
Minamisoma City (Odaka District)	64.4%
Kawamata Town (Yamakiya District)	52.8%
Katsurao Village	37.8%
litate Village	33.6%
Tomioka Town	22.9%
Namie Town	15.5%
Okuma Town	8.9%
Futaba Town	3.4%

#### **Specified Reconstruction and Revitalization Bases Area (SRRBA)**

Areas within the Difficult-to-return Zones where residence would have been restricted into the future but was made possible when evacuation orders were lifted. Established in 6 towns and villages in the prefecture, where evacuation orders were lifted from Jun. 2022 to Nov. 2023.

#### (Specified Living Areas for Returnees (SLAR))

A zone established outside of SRRBA in the Difficult-to-Return Zones to help residents return to their homes and rebuild their lives, stipulated by the revision of the Act on Special Measures for the Reconstruction and Revitalization of Fukushima of Jun. 2023. Decontamination and house demolition work began in December 2023 for the towns of Okuma and Futaba, in June. 2024 for Namie Town, and in September 2024 for Tomioka Town.

- Improvements of infrastructure and living environment in SRRBA tailored to the actual circumstances of each region
- Thorough decontamination and other efforts aimed for early lifting of evacuation orders in SLAR
- > Maintaining a support system and consultation services for evacuees, providing psychological care for those affected by the disaster
- **Improvement of the living environment** for returnees, including shopping, medical and welfare services, education, transport, housing and wildlife damage control
- Lifting of evacuation orders to the whole area of the Difficult-to-return Zones

# Health of Fukushima Residents

To alleviate health concerns resulting from the Great East Japan Earthquake and the nuclear disaster, cutting-edge research and Current medical institutes such as the Fukushima Global Medical Science Center at Fukushima Medical University have been Status established, and initiatives aimed at healthy longevity and the Fukushima Health Management Survey have been promoted.

Development of a Hub for Cutting-edge Radiological Research and Medical Care & Fostering of Human Resources in Medical Fields

Fukushima Global Medical Science Center



Base for supporting the revitalization of Fukushima on the medical front

**[**Detailed Survey

Challenges

(Thyroid Ultrasound Examination)

#### The Projects for a Long and Healthy Life

School of Health Sciences Fukushima Medical University



Training medical professionals responsible for local medical care.

Fukushima Medical Device **Development Support Centre** 



Promotion of the domestic medical equipment industry and improving medical skills through training.

· Health indices in Fukushima have been lower than the national average since the disaster; as such, under the Health Fukushima 21 (the third term) launched in 2024, the Prefecture has positioned obesity, salt intake, and smoking as three priority issues, promoting initiatives for improvement across Fukushima under the slogan, "Let's reduce salt, quit smoking, and overcome obesity together!"

Promoting health management as a health initiative for the working-age population, who are at higher risk of developing lifestyle-related diseases.

• Release of "Fukushima Kenmin (Healthy Citizen) App" to promote better lifestyle for better health.

11 Jul. 2011, based on a self-administered questionnaire.

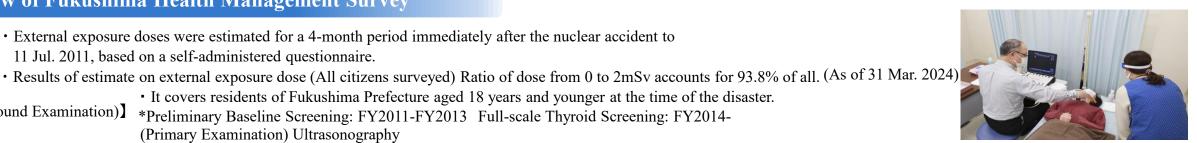
#### An Overview of Fukushima Health Management Survey



Health and Longevity Fukushima Top Seminar



Fukushima Healthy App



**Thyroid Examination** (Ultrasound imaging diagnostics)

Reducing the residents' concerns about the health effects of radiation

**(Basic Survey)** • External exposure doses were estimated for a 4-month period immediately after the nuclear accident to

(Primary Examination) Ultrasonography

**Educating the next generation** through child health promotion programs

(Confirmatory Examination) Advanced ultrasonography, blood test, etc.

Support for securing medical and caregiving professionals, as well as facility operations, etc.

• It covers residents of Fukushima Prefecture aged 18 years and younger at the time of the disaster.

\*Preliminary Baseline Screening: FY2011-FY2013 Full-scale Thyroid Screening: FY2014-

- **Increasing cancer screening rates**
- The number (or rate) of people with **metabolic syndrome**, child obesity is high, compared with the national average
- **Extending people's healthy life expectancy** by encouraging a healthy lifestyle

# (4) Re-establishing the Living Environment for People to Return and Relocate

Current Status While the return and relocation to the evacuated areas are increasing with more evacuation orders being lifted, the development of living environments for people to return and relocate has progressed, such as public housing, commercial, medical and caregiving facilities in evacuation areas.

**Examples of Facilities Having Been Built** 

◆ Revitalization Public Housing ◆ Shopping Facilities



Iwaki City: Iwasaki housing complex



Futaba Town: Disaster public housing

Challenges

#### Efforts in Evacuation Areas to Promote Relocation

**Fukushima Prefecture's Relocation Support Centre for 12 Municipalities** Established on 1 Jul. 2021 in order to facilitate relocation and permanent settlement in the 12 municipalities affected by evacuation orders resulting from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station Accident, this organisation engages in public projects better suited for wider-area collaboration and supports policies to promote relocation implemented by the aforementioned municipalities.



Namie Town: Roadside-Station "Namie"

Okuma Town: Okumart, Hot Okuma,

and Linkru Okuma complex facilities



◆ Medical and Caregiving Services

Tomioka Town: Futaba Medica Center-affiliated Hospital



Futaba Town: Futaba Town Clinic

◆ Educational Facilities



Minamisoma City: Odaka Industrial Technology and Commerce High School



Okuma Town: Manabiya Yumenomori



#### <u>"Future Work Fukushima", an information website</u> <u>for relocation</u>

Website serving as an information hub on relocation to the 12 municipalities in the prefecture, presenting job opportunities, living conditions and unique characteristics of each region.

"The Relocation Monitoring Tour"

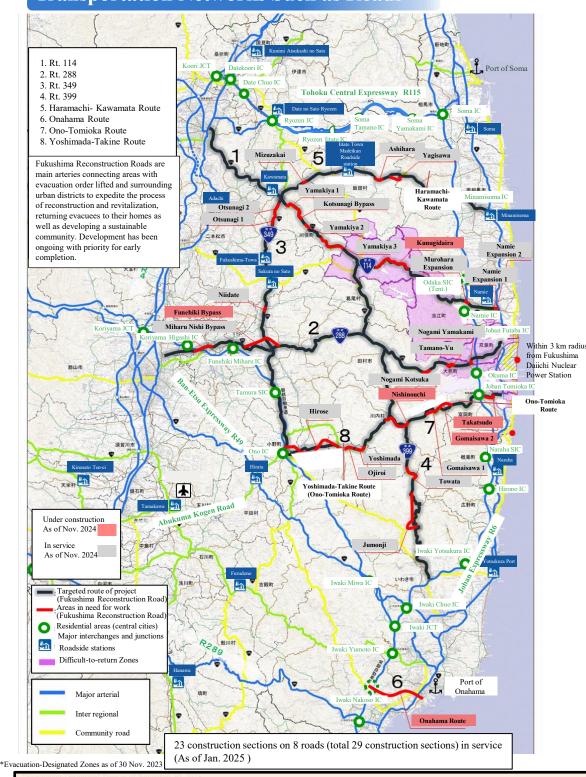
- Creating an environment where the disaster-affected and evacuees can rebuild their lives securely
- Continuing to provide consultation regarding housing and rebuilding of livelihoods, as well as looking after residents, providing support for everyday life and community building
- Providing a comprehensive medical and caregiving system based on the needs of residents
  - Further promotion of distinctive and engaging education
  - > Encouraging people from outside the Prefecture to relocate and settle down as well as increasing the number of people visiting the Prefecture

# (5) Basic Infrastructure

Current Status

Challenges

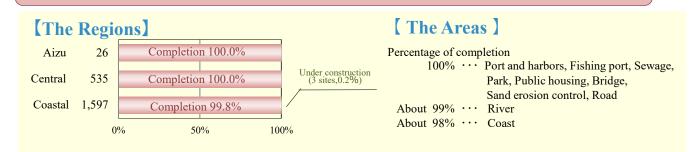
99% of the initiated reconstruction projects related to the damages caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake has been completed, while the Fukushima Reconstruction Roads and other integral projects to the revitalization are underway.



#### **Transportation Networks Such as Roads**

#### **Reconstruction Work** (\*1)

Starting construction work 100% Completion 99% [As of 31 Jan. 2025]



#### **(Evacuation-Designated Zones)** (\*2)



There are 372 disaster recovery projects that were determined through assessment. All of them (100%) have started construction, and 369 sites (99%) have been completed. Construction plans in Difficult-to-return Zones will be adjusted with the progress of the decontamination work conducted by the national government.

- \*1 Reconstruction work for public infrastructure facilities of the prefecture damaged by the Great East Japan Earthquake.
- \*2 The Evacuation-Designated Zones include Difficult-to-return Zones, former Habitation Restricted Areas, and former Preparation Areas for Lift of Evacuation Orders.



The Yoshimada-Takine Route on the Prefectural Road (Hirose construction section) opened 13 Apr. 2024



National Route 349 (Otsunagi District in Kawamata Town) In service as of 21 Mar. 2023

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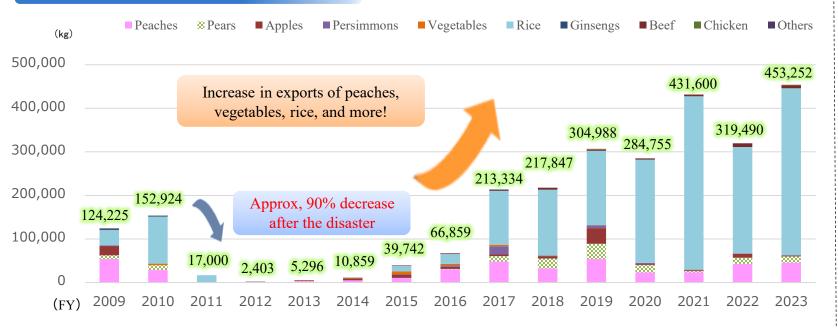
- Reconstruction of public works facilities in the Difficult-to-return Zones
- Development of the Fukushima Reconstruction and Revitalization road,

development of roads in the 12 municipalities where evacuation orders had been issued

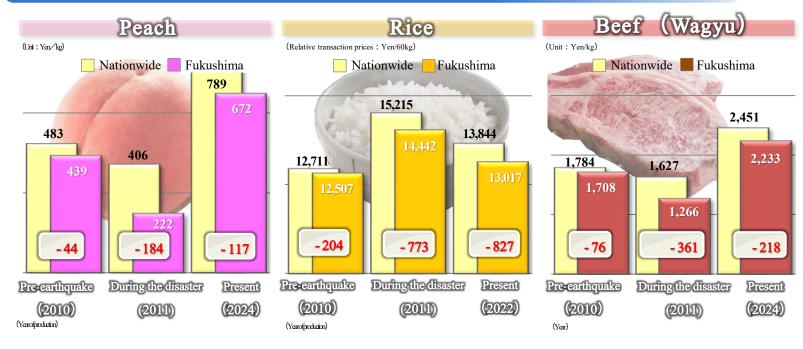
#### (6) Industry 1. Agriculture I

Current Status The number of countries and regions restricting imports of Fukushima products has fallen to 6, which was originally 55 in the aftermath of the nuclear accident. Exports exceeded pre-disaster levels, reaching the highest export volume ever in FY2023. On the other hand, while the price of locally produced agricultural products of Fukushima generally shows signs of recovery, the price difference from the national average has not yet been restored for some items.

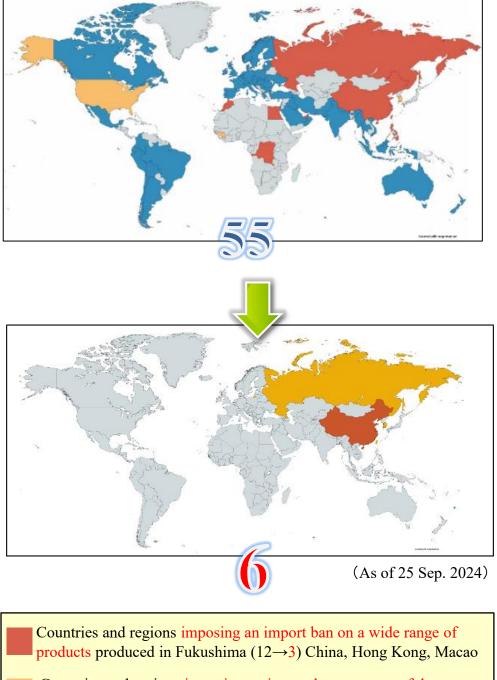
#### **Agricultural Product Exports**



#### **Transition of Prices of Major Agricultural Products and Price Differences from the National Average**



Number of Countries or Regions with Import Restrictions



Countries and regions imposing an import ban on some of the products produced in Fukushima  $(4\rightarrow 2)$  Korea, Russia

Countries and regions allowing import of foods only when inspection certificates are attached  $(39 \rightarrow 1)$  Taiwan

Source: Tokyo Metropolitan Central Wholesale Market "Market Statistics Information" Source: Prefectural estimate based on "Relative Trading Price of Rice" by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Source: Tokyo Metropolitan Central Wholesale Market "Market Statistics Information"

# (6) Industry 1. Agriculture II

# **Strengthening Distribution and Sales Capabilities**

Strategic Branding



Improving the image and pricing of the prefecture's original varieties

 Expanding Consumption and Sales Channels



Top sales for Fukushima-produced fruits and vegetables

## Ensuring Food Safety and Security

Monitoring inspections on Fukushima's agricultural, forestry and fisheries products for radioactive materials (1 Apr. 2023-31 Mar. 2024)

	<i>o</i> ,	, <u>1</u>	
FY 2023 Item	Number of Inspections	Number of Cases Exceeding the Standard Limit	Period of Not Exceeding the Standard Limit
Brown Rice (*1)	424	0 =	9 years straight 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 20
Vegetables & Fruit	1,875	0 💻	<b>11 years straight</b> 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 20
Livestock products (Raw milk, meat, chicken eggs)	1,716	0 =	12 years straight 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 20
Cultivated Mushrooms & Mountain Plants	552	0 =	<b>12 years straight</b> 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 20
Fisheries Products (Marine & cultivated products)	3,366	0 =	2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 20
Wild Mushrooms & Mountain Plants	401	0	The Standard Amount of Radioactive Cesin Allowed in Food (Becquerels/kg) (*3
Fisheries Products (River, lake, pond)	153	0	Japan EU USA CODEX
*1: While inspections of all grains of all bags had been implemented for brown rice throughout the prefecture by the 2019 rice harvest, this practice transitioned to monitoring starting from the 2020 rice harvest, except for the municipalities			<b>100</b> 1,250 1,200 1,000

\*1: While inspections of all grains of all bags had been implemented for brown rice throughout the prefecture by the 2019 rice harvest, this practice transitioned to monitoring starting from the 2020 rice harvest, except for the municipalities that were subject to evacuation orders. Therefore, the number of brown rice samples aligns with those undergoing monitoring. For the 2023 harvest, the all grains of all bags inspections are implemented only in 9 municipalities, with no samples exceeding the standard limit.

\*2:Does not include wild fruits

#### **Strengthening Productivity and Competitiveness**

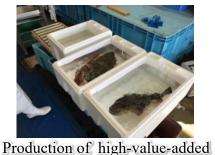




Supporting the establishment of areas broadly developing high-value-added production

Challenges

#### Fukushima Model Fisheries



production of high-value-added products and branding through premium fresh shipping

# Obtaining GAP and Other Certifications CRLE,GAP3+U23-- 2nd STAGE +2/24714-2/4



Efforts to dispel harmful rumours and build trust in producers

 Research and Development Supporting Production

\*3: International food standards



Development of robot tractors to overcome labour shortages in evacuation areas

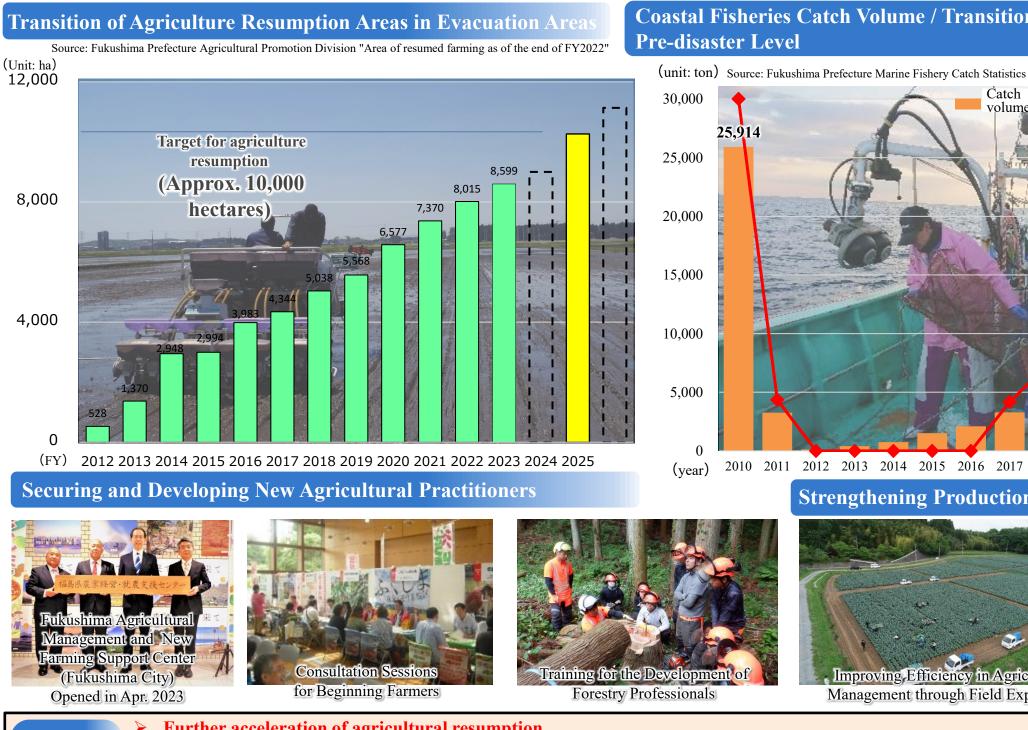
- Regaining the price of agricultural products to the national average (Promoting branding of Fukushima products)
- > Disseminating information about safety based on scientific evidence nationally and internationally
- > Promoting "Fukushima Model of Fisheries" aimed at higher profits with less effort than before the disaster
- Strengthening productivity and competitiveness by establishing high-value-added production areas, obtaining GAP and other certifications and development/demonstration of advanced technologies

# (6) Industry 1. Agriculture III

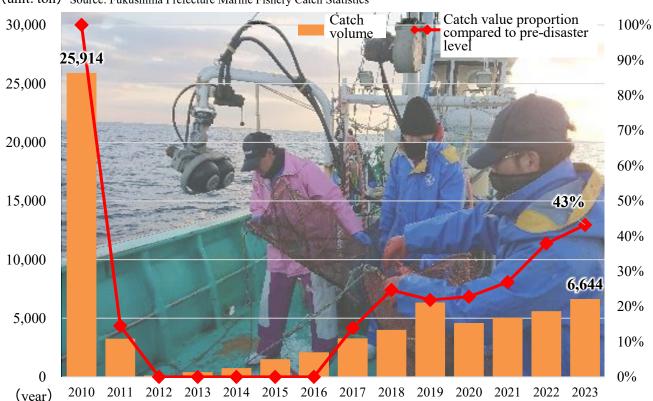
Current **Status** 

Challenges

Agriculture has gradually resumed in areas where evacuation orders have been lifted, reaching a resumption rate of 49.7% (8,599ha) as of the end of Mar. 2024. In addition, for the coastal fishing industry, which is working towards the recovery of full-scale operations, the catch volume in 2023 reached 6,644 tons, with the catch value amounting to 43% of the pre-disaster level.



**Coastal Fisheries Catch Volume / Transition of Catch Value Proportion to** 



#### **Strengthening Production Infrastructure**

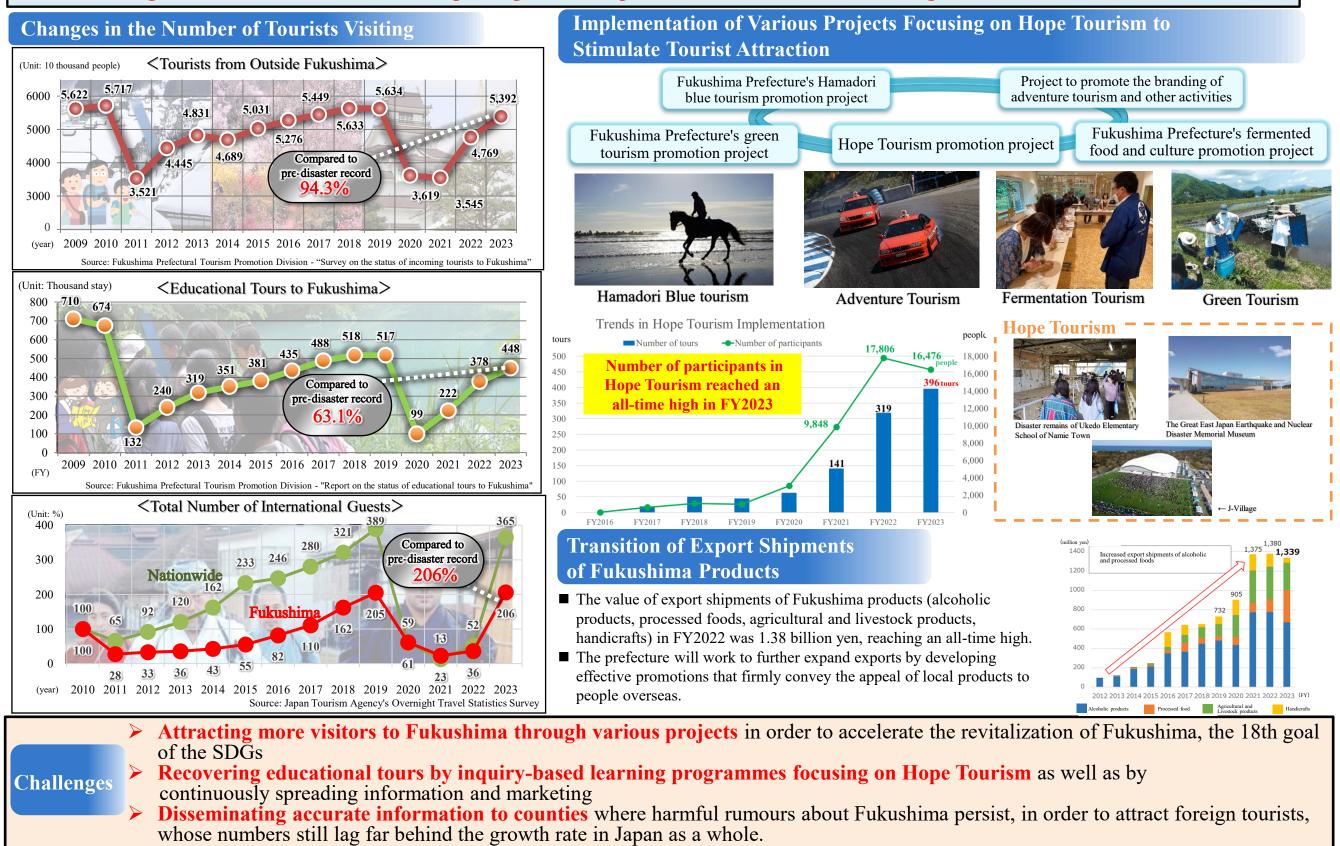


- Further acceleration of agricultural resumption
- Securing and developing new practitioners in agriculture, forestry and fisheries industries >
- Developing farmland for practice of Smart Agriculture throughout the field expansion, versatile use/conversion to dry field of rice paddy  $\geq$
- Promoting measures against radioactive materials necessary for the maintenance of forests as well as revitalizing the forest  $\geq$ areas for logs and minor forest products
- **Resumption of coastal fishery**

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## (6) Industry 2. Tourism and Products

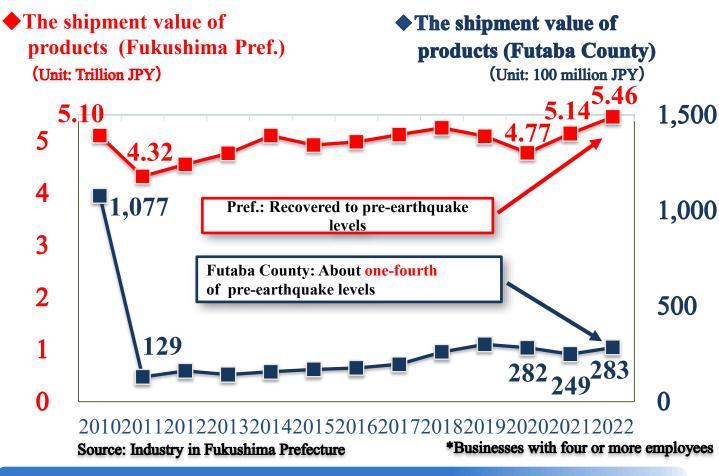
Current Status Decline in incoming tourist population due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic and repeated Fukushima-Oki (offshore) earthquakes in 2021 and 2022. After the pandemic, the number of tourists and educational tours have been on a recovery trend. Export shipments of Fukushima products reached an all-time high in FY2022. Export value of prefectural products reached an all-time high in FY2022, and the number of participants in Hope Tourism reached an all-time high in FY2023.



## (6) Industry 3. Business Investment and Employment Creation

Current<br/>StatusPromoting business investment. Manufactured product shipment has recovered to pre-earthquake level for the prefecture in general.<br/>However, in Futaba County, product shipment remains at only about one fourth of the pre-earthquake levels.

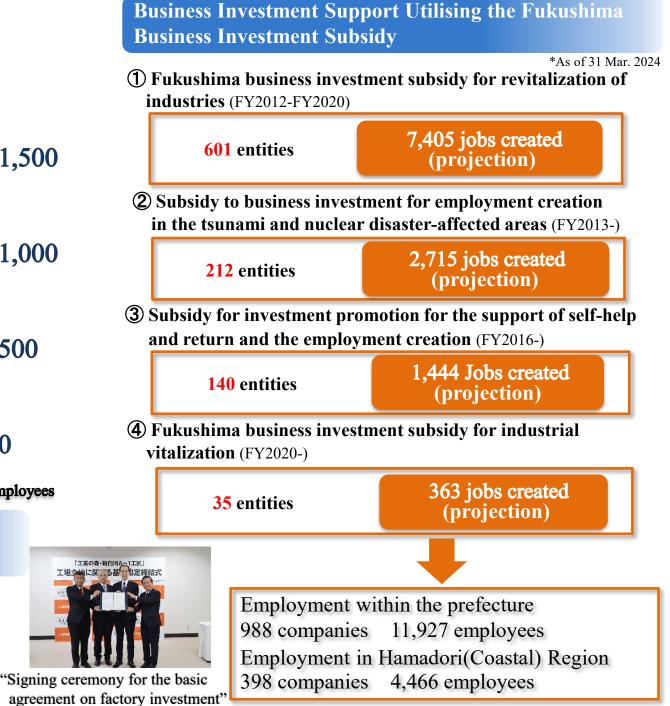
#### The Shipment Value of Products



**Business Investment Support Utilising Special Provisions** for Taxation (preferential tax system)

Challenges

In Fukushima Prefecture, when businesses designated by law establish or expand production equipment or facilities, or employ disaster-affected citizens, preferential tax treatment for corporate taxes (income tax) and local taxes (for business, real estate acquisition and fixed property) may be applied subject to meeting certain conditions.



- Introducing new vitality through business investment
- Recovery of the industrial bases in Futaba County and the Coastal Region. Accelerating the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework to develop self-sustaining and continuous industry growth (Creation of new industries with the involvement of local companies in Hamadori (Coastal) Region through support for technological development)
- Supporting disaster affected companies in Futaba County and other businesses to resume operations and promoting expansion of business from outside of the Prefecture

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# (6) Industry 4. The Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework I

Curren Status

In order to recover the industries in the Hamadori and other areas lost due to the Great East Japan Earthquake and nuclear disaster, strategic installations in the priority fields of the Innovation Coast Initiative are progressing, and efforts are being made to implement the initiative, such as industrial integration through inviting business investment and promoting business start-ups within and outside of the prefecture, education/human resource development and increasing the number of people visiting the prefecture.

#### **The Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework**

The Hamadori (Coastal) Region, among other regions, faced the loss of workplaces due to the earthquake and nuclear disaster. To achieve the region's revitalization, it is essential to create a new industrial infrastructure while advancing the resolution of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station Accident as a prerequisite for that.

A national project that aims to build a new industrial infrastructure to regain the lost industries in the region. Six priority fields have been identified, and initiatives are being pursued, such as industrial integration, education/human resource development and increasing number of visitors, in addition to the implementation of major projects including completion of installations such as Fukushima Robot Test Field, among others.

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#### **6 Priority Fields**

and robotic technologies

#### Map of the main facilities **III Energy, the Environment** for the major projects **I** Decommissioning **II Robots and Drones** and Recycling Integrating robotics industry with the **Developing technology by gathering Establishment of advanced renewable Fukushima Robot Test Field positioned** wisdom from Japan and around the world Soma LNG energy and recycling technologies as its core Terminal ukushima Prefectural Research Institute of Fisheries Resources Hama Agricultural Regeneration Research Centre of Agricultural Technology Centre The Fukushima Fukushima Hydrogen Robot Test Field Energy Research Field The Great East Japan Kawamata Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster Memorial Museum Katsur: utaba JAEA Okuma IV Agriculture, Forestry and Tamura Analysis and **VI Aerospace Industries** V Healthcare-related Industries Research Center **Fisheries Industries** Kawapo Fukushima Institute JAEA Collaborative Development of next-generation air mobility, rockets, and strengthening the **Promoting an integration of** for Research, Educa Laboratories for **Revitalization of agriculture, forestry** pharmaceutical industry through Innovation (F-REI) Advanced and fisheries industries utilising ICT competitiveness of related companies Headquarters technology development support Decommissioning Science (CLADS) JAEA Naraha Center for Integrated coal Gasification Remote Control Tech Development Combined Cycle (IGCC) J-Village Fukushima Prefectural Iwaki Fisheries and Marine Science Research Centre Promoting advanced agriculture in the areas Renewable energy area via power transmission lines which are jointly used by the Coastal and Abukuma Mountain regions

# (6) Industry 4. The Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework II

#### **Initiatives towards the Realization of the Framework**

#### **Clustering of Industries**

◆ Innovation Area Business

**Investment Seminar** 

Helping to promote business investment and supporting companies inside and outside the region to start business

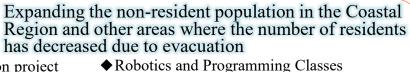
♦ A pitch event for start-ups in the Hamadori area aiming to start a business or develop technology to demonstrate the results of their research and work

(Fukushima Tech Create program)



#### Expanding the Non-Resident Population

 Conducting social interaction project inviting businesses and youths to create bonds with communities of Hamadori (Coastal) Region.

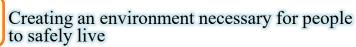


The Fukushima Robot Test Field hosts programs for elementary and junior high school students of Fukushima



#### Re-establishment of the Living Environment

- Development is progressing for public infrastructure
- Tohoku Chuo Expressway
- Joban Expressway
- JR Joban Line



- $\blacklozenge$  Scheduled bus service available
- From Futaba Station to Fukushima Station West Exit via Fukushima Robot Test Field



#### Spreading Information

Passing down the records and lessons learnt from the compound disaster to future generations

♦ In Jan. 2025, the number of visitors reached 350,000 at the Great East Japan Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster Memorial Museum, which opened in Sep. 2020.



- Inside the Great East Japan Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster
- On 7 December 2024, a symposium was held at the Naraha Town Community Center with the theme of "Building a Destination of Wisdom and Human Resources to Realize the Innovation Coast Framework." The event featured a keynote speech delivered by Norito Sato, Executive Vice President, Okayama University, a national university corporation (Innovation Coast Framework, Innovation Advisor), introductions to the initiatives of companies and organisations in the Innovation Area, presentations of research projects by Naraha Junior High School students, talk sessions, and panel displays.

#### Fostering Human Resources in Education

# Fostering the youth force who will carry the future of the Coastal Region

◆ The Revitalization Knowledge Project



 Seminars have been held for residents for them be familiar with the efforts of the Fukushima Innovation

Coast Framework



#### Odaka Industrial Technology and Commerce High School

The school is working to develop human resources with advanced knowledge and skills that can handle new industries through the human resource development system linked to these industries as well as the collaboration between commercial and industrial academic courses.

#### ◆ Futaba Future School Junior and Senior High school

Fostering future global leaders as core schools of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's "Project to Support Development of the World Wide Learning (WWL)", establishing cariculums of Community Development, Search for Future Creation and fostering top-class athletes.



#### The Preferential Tax system to Promote the Fukushima Innovation

#### **Coast Framework**

Special provision for taxation will be applied to businesses that invest in equipment, employ people affected by the disaster and carry out R&D in relation to the development of new products in the priority fields of the initiative.



Creating an economic ripple effect in the Prefecture by connecting businesses to the innovation projects and enhancing industrial clustering



# (6) Industry 5. Fukushima Institute for Research, Education and Innovation (F-REI)

On 1 Apr. 2023, the Fukushima Institute for Research, Education and Innovation (F-REI) was established in Namie Town as a Current world-class core centre for "creative reconstruction". It is necessary for its effects to be widely and quickly realised. **Status** \* F-REI stands for Fukushima Institute for Research, Education and Innovation **Overview of F-REI Innovation Coast Framework and F-REI** ■ F-REI is a legal entity established by the Government of Japan as a world-• Accelerating research and development, industrialisation and human resource class core centre for creative reconstruction with the goal of realising the development by further developing Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework and revitalization of Fukushima and other parts of the Tohoku region, as well as establishing a command post that coordinates initiatives at existing research contributing to Japan's scientific and technological capabilities and industrial facilities. competitiveness. F-REI is expected to drive the Fukushima Innovation Coast ■ The initiatives in industrial integration under the Innovation Coast Framework Framework further ahead. contribute to research, development and industrialisation at F-REI. ■ F-REI headquarters were opened at "Fureai Center Namie" in Namie Town on 1 Apr. 2023. Facilities and research equipment will be in place hereafter. **Four Functions** 4. Control Tower 2. Industrialisation 1. Research & Development 3. Fostering Human Resources Building a research infrastructure that Nurturing human resources who will lead of F-REI represents Japan and promoting R&D that Coordinating activities across relevant Linking R&D results to the the next generation, together with local agencies, serving as a driving force for will be a source of pride both at home and creation of new industries communities, schools, and companies revitalization and broader ripple effects abroad **Five Areas in R&D** 2. Agriculture, Forestry 3. Energy **Radiation Science, Medicine and** 1. Robots 5. Collection and Dissemination of Drug Development & Industrial and Fisheries Industries Data and Knowledge on Nuclear **Applications for Radiation** Disasters Development of core technologies for Forum—Applying environmental Development of remote monitoring blue carbon/ Plant imaging using Robots and drones for use in harsh dynamics evaluation in community systems (ultra-labour-saving production, Plant imaging using RI (image) radioactive isotopes (RI) (image) environments (image) development echnologies) **F-REI** Activities 5 Feb. 2025: Joint Event: Seminar to Promote 19 Feb. 2025: F-REI visiting lecture 18 Dec. 2024: F-REI Municipal Roundtable Meeting Participation in the Innovation Coast Framework and 24-25 Dec. 2024: (on Robotics, in the Coastal Region (Hamadori), etc.) F-REI Municipal Roundtable Meeting (Ken-nan (Asaka Reimei High School) **Fukushima Future Creation Program** 

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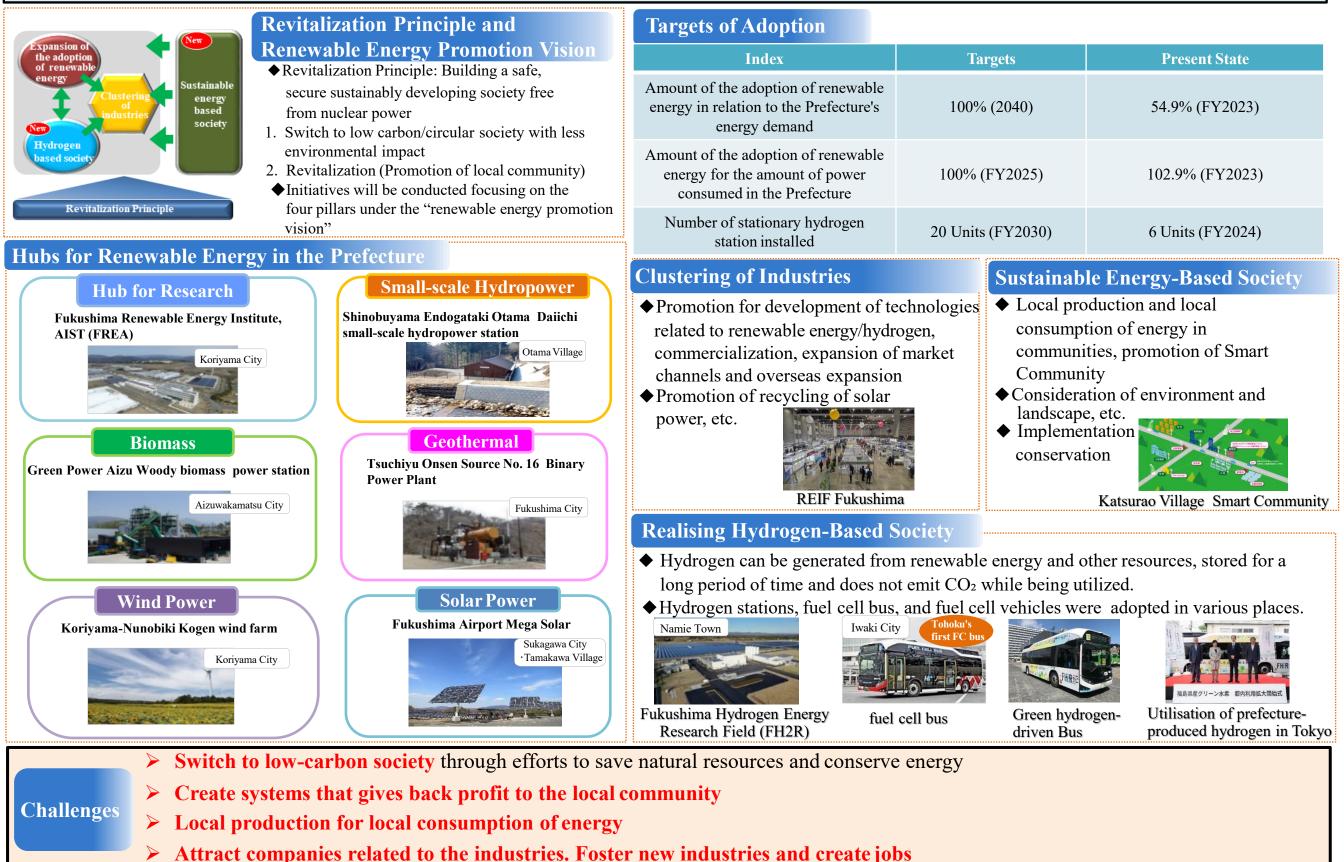
Collaboration with the national government and relevant organisations for the best practice of F-REI's R&D, industrialisation and HR development functionality

Challenges

(southern) District of the Prefecture)

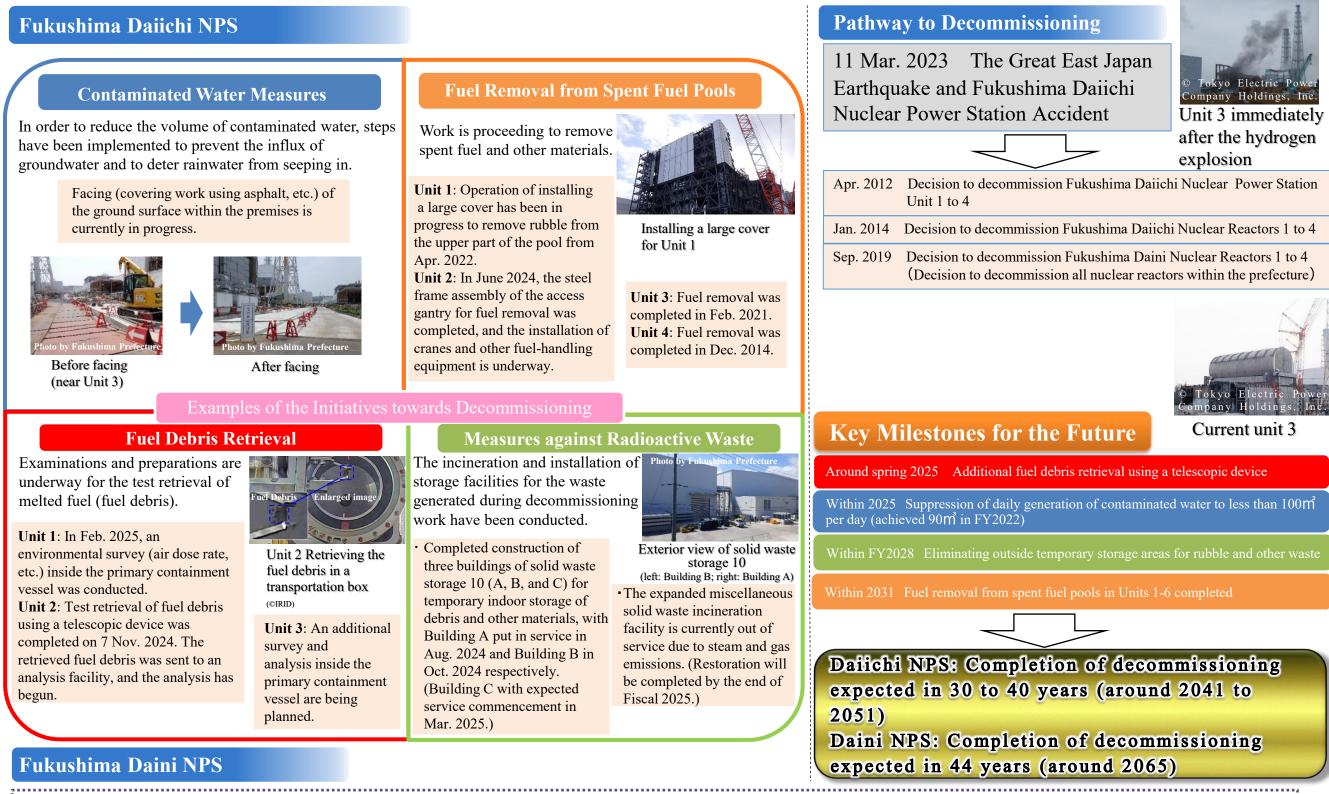
#### (6) Industry 6. Renewable Energy

Current Status Under the revitalization principle (building a safe, secure and sustainably developing society free from nuclear power) and renewable energy promotion vision, efforts are being made to expand the renewable energy adoption, promote the integration of related industries, build a sustainable energy society and realise a hydrogen-based society, with the aim of becoming a pioneering region in renewable energy.



## (7) Efforts Towards Decommissioning I

Current Status Efforts toward decommissioning of TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi and Daini Nuclear Power Stations are ongoing. The Association for Monitoring of Safety in Decommissioning and other entities are continuing to monitor the process to ensure safe and steady decommissioning work.



For the decommissioning of all four units, TEPCO has formulated a 44-year "Decommissioning Plan", implementing the decommissioning process in four stages.
At this point, activities such as the survey of contamination levels and the decontamination works are underway in the first stage, known as the "Dismantling"

.....

Preparation Period".

# (7) Efforts Towards Decommissioning II

#### **ALPS Treated Water**

- The cooling water for the melted fuel (fuel debris) due to the nuclear accident, as well as rainwater and groundwater that flowed into the reactor buildings and subsequently came into contact with debris, results in the generation of contaminated water containing radioactive materials.
- Water in which radionuclides, except tritium, are removed from the contaminated water below the national regulatory standards by using the multi
  - nuclide removal equipment (ALPS) is referred to as ALPS treated water.
- The inter-ministerial council reached a decision to start the discharge of the water into the sea on 24 Aug. 2023, and the discharge started on that day.
- So far, the releases have been proceeded as planned, and marine monitoring has confirmed that tritium concentrations remain below the detection limit or are sufficiently low.

# **Contaminated Water**



Source: Created based on the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry website https://www.meti.go.jp/earthquake/nuclear/hairo\_osensui/pdf /alps\_02.pdf

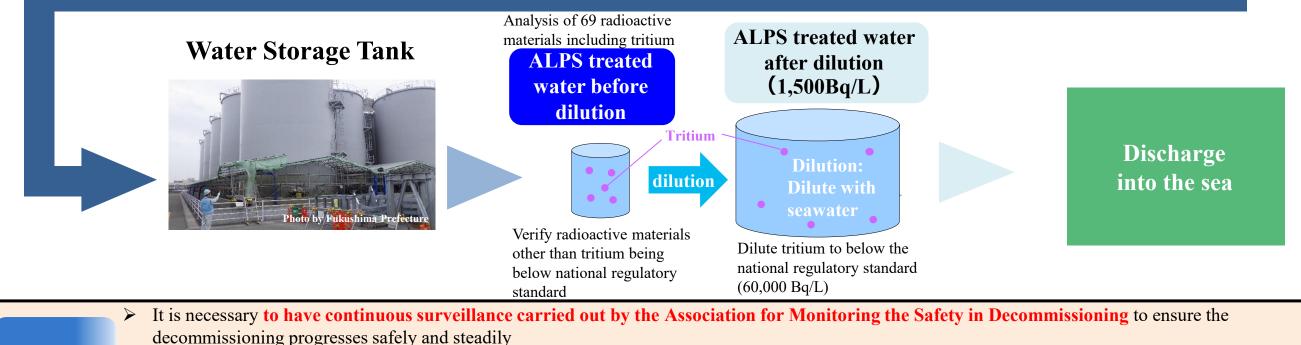
# Multi-nuclide Removal Equipment (ALPS) \*and Other Equipment

\*Equipment to purify radioactive materials except for tritium to below national standards Source: TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station "Hairo Michi" vol40

# **ALPS Treated Water**



Source: An edited version of the METI website https://www.meti.go.jp/earthquake/nuclear/hairo\_ose nsui/pdf/alps\_02.pdf



Challenges For the discharge of the treated water into the sea, the national government should take the lead role and full responsibility up to the completion of the mission ensuring safety of the work, dissemination of accurate information both in and out of the country, comprehensive measures against harmful rumours as well as prompt and solid compensation by the coordinated efforts of whole government

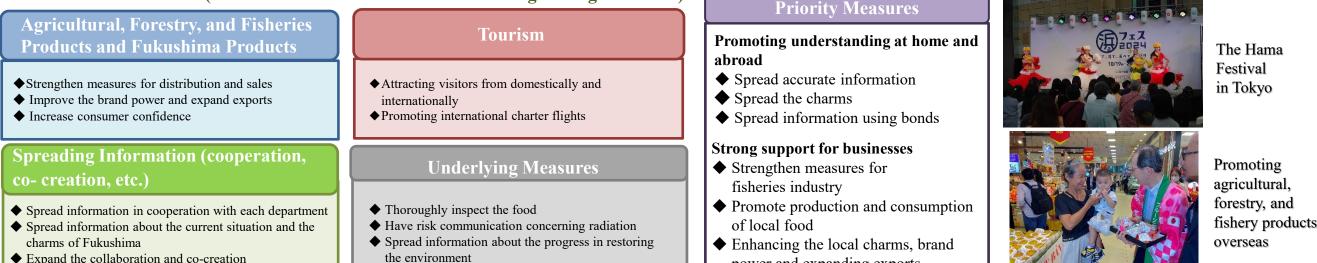
#### Strengthening the Countermeasures against Harmful Rumours (8)and the Fading Awareness of the Disaster

Current As 14 years have passed since the earthquake, persistent rumours still remain, while public awareness fades Status as interest in the prefecture declines.

#### Fukushima Prefecture's Strategies to Strengthen Measures to Fight Harmful Rumours and Fading Public Interest

#### Policies to Strengthen Countermeasures

- 1. Continuing Persistent Initiatives and **Taking on New Challenges**
- **3. Building Trusting Relations thorough Collaboration** 2. Spreading the Latest and Accurate Information to Have and Co-creation **Further Updated Information**
- ◆ Policies in Each Sector (Direction and Main Initiatives for Strengthening Measures)



power and expanding exports

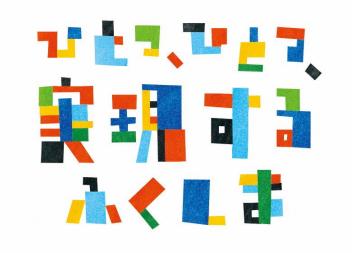
• Expand the collaboration and co-creation

#### Achievements and Current Status of Countermeasures against Harmful Rumours and Fading Awareness

Analysis of Social Recognition related to Rumours and Field Survey on Consumer Awareness Related to Harmful Rumors Fading Awareness (Sep. 2024) (Consumer Affairs Agency 6 Mar. 2025) "Percentage of people with a good image of Fukushima" ■ As of Sep. 2024, "Good image" group ("Good" and "Somewhat good" combined) is 49.0%. The preferential tax system for "Place of food production consumers are reluctant to purchase (compared to 20.4% immediately after the disaster) measures because of radioactive materials" against harmful rumours Pre-earthquake 18.9 "Reluctant to purchase products from Fukushima" A preferential tax system is in place the earthquake (Of those concerned about radioactive materials in food products) 2015.1 for businesses that combat harmful 6.2% (Feb. 2013•••19.4%) 2016.8 9.3 24.5 rumours about industries such as 2017.9 11.1 26.0 agriculture, forestry, fishery and 48.9 28.7 2018.9 11.9 tourism. "Inspection of radioactive materials in food products" 29.0 2019.9 12.1 "Do not know that inspection is conducted" 65.0% 29.7 2020.9 13.3  $(2013.2 \cdot \cdot 22.4\%)$ 2021.9 2022.9 2023.9 16.3 2024.9 15.4 Good Somewhat good Undecided Somewhat bad image Bad image Source: Information dissemination analysis project

Challenges

**Dispelling harmful rumours, preventing fading awareness** through publicity, expanding sales channels and establishing brands



Published by the Fukushima Prefectural Government Address: 2-16 Sugitsuma-cho, Fukushima City, Japan Telephone: (+81) 24- 521-7109 E-mail <u>fukkoukeikaku@pref.fukushima.lg.jp</u>

\*Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about this publication.

#### Fukushima Prefecture Website





Please visit this website for other updates and recovery-related information.