

# 5th National Land Use Plan (Nationwide Plan) Overview

## National land

represents “limited resources for the people at present and in the future” and “common infrastructure for various activities through life and production.”

The National Land Use Plan provides for basic matters for comprehensive, systematic national land use based on the National Land Use Planning Law.

The Fifth National Land Use Plan (National Plan) was drafted and decided by the Cabinet on August 14, 2015, under the recognition that as Japan has entered a population-falling, very aged society, it is an important challenge to realize safer and more affluent national land by managing national land appropriately to prevent its devastation and by taking advantage of declining development pressure to restore and utilize natural environments and promote land use that is resilient against disasters.

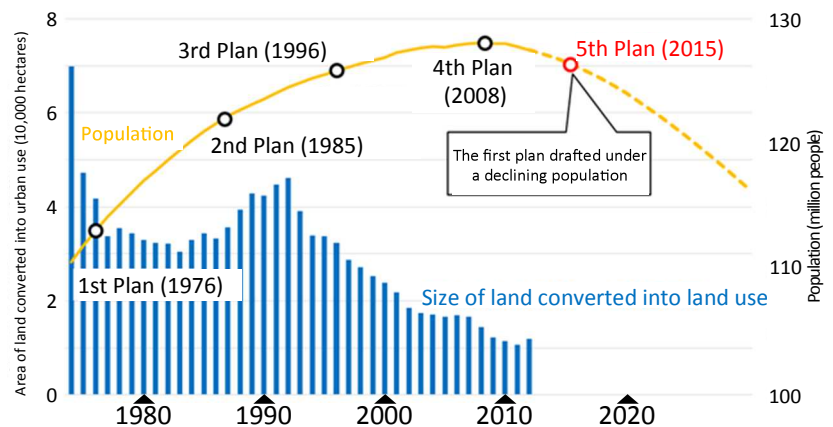
## Japan's National Land Use Conditions and Challenges

Decline in national land management levels under the falling population

- \* Increasing little-used and unused land and vacant housing
- \* Farmland deterioration due to retirement from farming



Japan is required to establish appropriate national land use and management under a full-fledged population decline



Trends of population and area of land converted into urban use

Source: (Population) National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, etc.  
(Size of land converted into urban use) White Paper on Land

Deterioration of natural environments and beautiful landscapes

- \* Deterioration of natural environments and beautiful landscapes
- \* Deterioration of natural environments and landscapes in *satochi-satoyama* managed artificially and appropriately



Nature's various functions should be used as infrastructure for sustainable, affluent life

National land vulnerable to disasters

- \* Population concentrated in regions with high disaster risks
- \* A Tokyo inland earthquake and a Nankai Trough earthquake are imminent, while flood and sediment disasters have grown more frequent and severe
- \* Volcanic disasters have grown more frequent



To cope with giant disasters, Japan must switch to national land use giving priority to safety



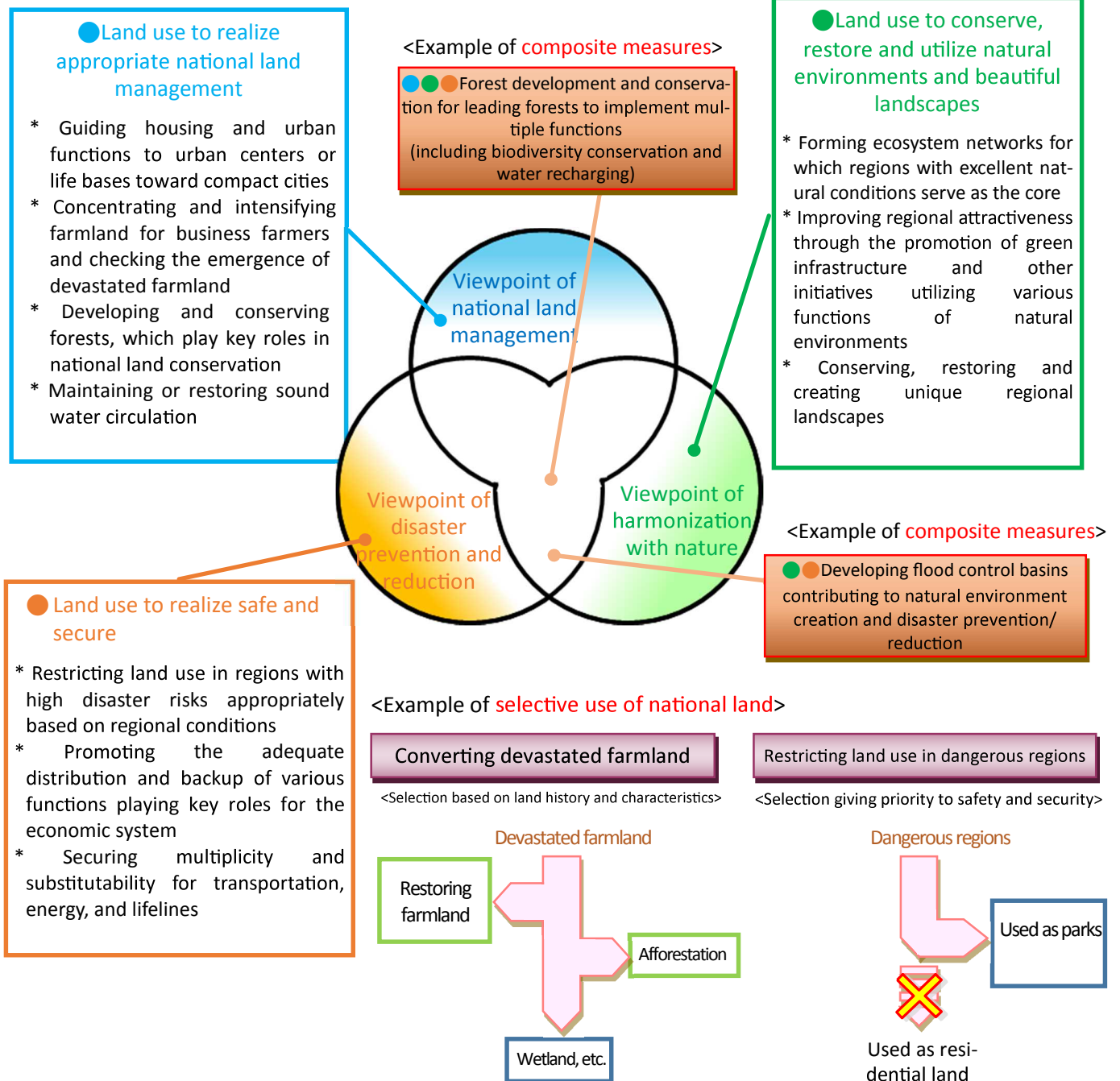
Enhancing national land safety to realize national land use for forming sustainable, affluent national land

# Basic guidelines under 5th National Land Use Plan (Nationwide Plan)

◆ This Plan pursues **national land use to make national land safer and create sustainable, affluent national land** under three basic guidelines -- “**land use to realize appropriate national land management**,” “**land use to conserve, restore and utilize natural environments and beautiful landscapes**” and “**land use to realize safety and security**.”

◆ To realize the basic guidelines efficiently even amid progress in population decline, aging, and fiscal constraints, the following should be promoted:

- 1) “**Composite measures**” that bring about disaster prevention and reduction, harmonization with nature, national land management and other effects compositely, and
- 2) “**Selective use of national land**” in which Japan takes advantage of a decline in development pressure to select the optimum national land use based on land history and characteristics



◆ The promotion of voluntary regional initiatives will be important for proceeding with these initiatives, which should be participated in by urban residents, private sector enterprises, and other various parties. It will become even more important for each Japanese national to become interested in national land and **participate in the national management of national land**.

# ~ Promoting composite measures and selective use of national land ~

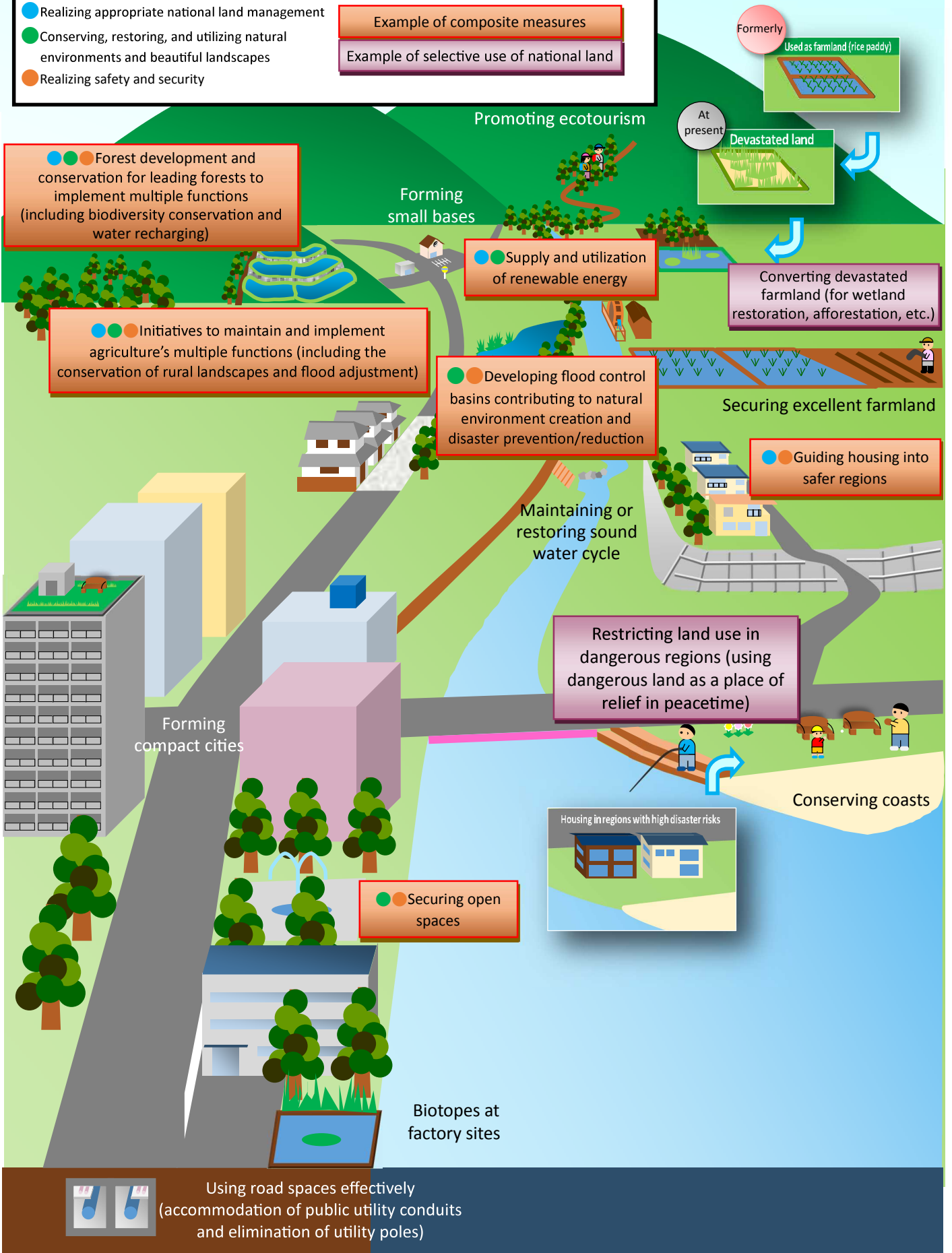
## Key

### <Basic guidelines for national land use>

- Realizing appropriate national land management
- Conserving, restoring, and utilizing natural environments and beautiful landscapes
- Realizing safety and security

### <Efficient realization of basic guidelines>

- Example of composite measures
- Example of selective use of national land



## Basic Direction for Each National Land Use Category -- Further Qualitative Improvement

The plan gives the direction and target size for 2025 for each national land use category, including farmland, forests and residential land.

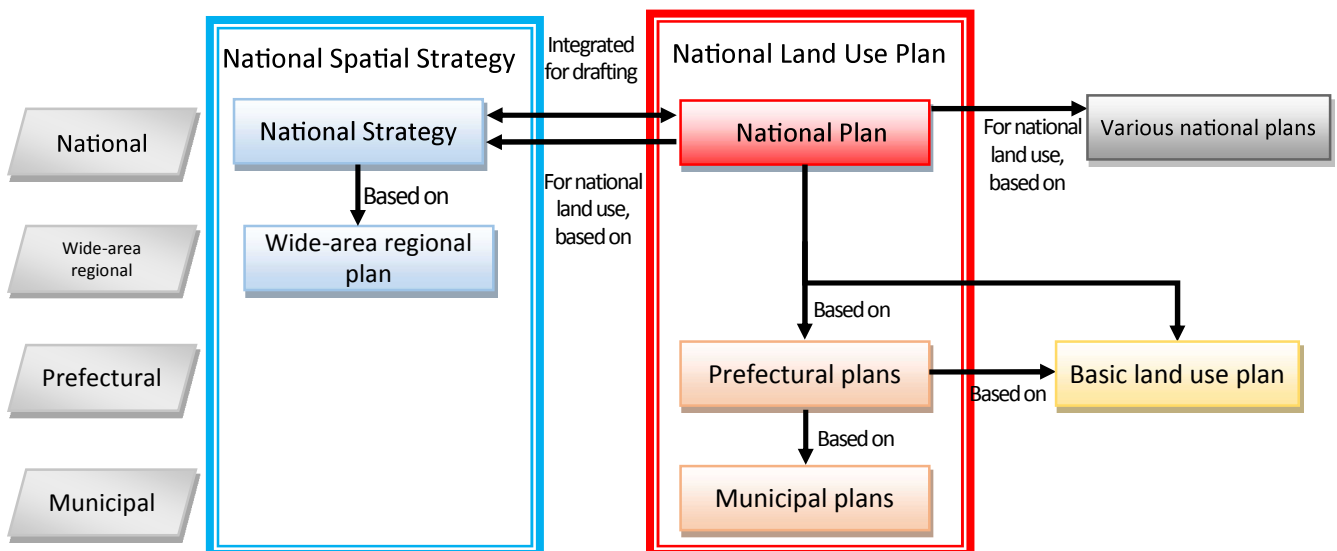
Land use category		Area in 2012		Area in 2025		Direction of use
Farmland		455 (12.0)		440 (11.6)		Securing excellent farmland, maintaining and implementing multiple functions, concentrating and intensifying farmland, conserving and using urban farmland systematically
Forests		2,506 (66.3)		2,510 (66.4)		Developing and conserving forests playing key roles in conserving national land and recharging water, using forest resources cyclically through expanded consumption of domestically produced timber
Wilderness		34 (0.9)		34 (0.9)		Conserving and restoring wilderness forming precious natural environments including wetland and grassland, using other wilderness land and grazing meadowland adequately
Water areas, rivers and channels		134 (3.5)		135 (3.6)		Improving safety, securing sites for more stable water supply, giving consideration to natural environment conservation and restoration through maintenance or restoration of sound water circulation
Roads		137 (3.6)		142 (3.8)		Promoting inter-regional interaction, securing multiplicity and substitutability of transportation in the event of a disaster, using existing roads effectively
Building land	Building land Others		116 (3.1)		116 (3.1)	Forming orderly urban centers that suit the population-declining society and realizing an affluent housing life, giving priority to effective use of existing housing stock and restricting conversion from natural land use
	Industrial land	190 (5.0)	15 (0.4)	190 (5.0)	15 (0.4)	
	Other building land		59 (1.6)		59 (1.6)	
Others		324 (8.6)		329 (8.7)		Official/public facility land: giving consideration to environment conservation based on importance for national livelihood and diversification of needs; Little-used and unused land: Using land proactively with consideration given to various effects; Coastal areas: Promoting comprehensive utilization and coast conservation
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,780</b>		<b>3,780</b>		
<small>(Reference) Densely populated areas (Urban areas)</small>		127		121		

Note: The area unit is 10,000 hectares, with percentage shares in parentheses. Areas in 2012 are from surveys by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and the area for densely populated areas (urban areas) in 2012 is from the 2010 Population Census.

## National Land Use Plan Position and System

The National Land Use Plan (National Plan) is the base for other national land use plans. It is integrated with the National Spatial Strategy (National Strategy).

Local governments can draft and implement national land use plans (prefectural and municipal plans) according to regional conditions, based on the National Land Use Plan (National Plan).



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