

The Eco-Model City Project and Future Directions

October 5, 2009

Regional Revitalization Bureau, Cabinet Secretariat,
Government of Japan

Eco-Model Cities for the Low-Carbon Society

Purpose of the Policy

- In order to transform Japan into the low-carbon society, **it is necessary to change the fundamental structure of society.**
- In order to provide a specific and easily understood model of the low-carbon society on a city basis, Japanese government selects Eco-Model Cities that challenge pioneering initiatives **in pursuit of ambitious goals such as dramatically reducing greenhouse gases and provide support for their implementation.**
- **Revitalization of local economies are also expected in the process of the low-carbon society development with the latent power of local communities.**

The sequence of events

- The selection process was opened to applications from April 11 to May 21, 2008, and 82 applications (from 89 bodies) were received representing a diverse range of cities and regions.

➡ **Thirteen cities were selected as Eco-Model City.**

Major cities: Kitakyushu, Kyoto, Sakai, Yokohama

Small cities, towns, and villages: Shimokawa, Minamata, Miyakojima, Yusuhara

Regional core cities: Iida, Obihiro, Toyama, Toyota

Special Tokyo Ward: Chiyoda

- Each Eco-Model City's detailed action plans for achieving their goals were announced (April 2009).

Eco-Model City outline

Key characteristics include:

- **Redevelopment to a compact city** (walkable communities)
- **Development of transportation infrastructure** (electric cars and public transportation such as LRT)
- **Transformation in residential styles** (houses built to last 200 years, energy-saving houses, fuel cells)
- **Widespread of renewable energy** (solar power, wind power, biomass, etc.)
- **Utilization of unused energy** (sewage, garbage, plant waste heat, etc.)
- **Conservation and utilization of forested land** (carbon offsets, local production for local consumption)

Integrated implementation in cities
(Integrated approach)

- The project provides model cases of low-carbon cities **in a way that takes advantage of the characteristics of different cities and regions.**
- Local public bodies will play a central role as they involve industry, academia, and residents to **create vitalized communities** by transformation of lifestyles and business styles.

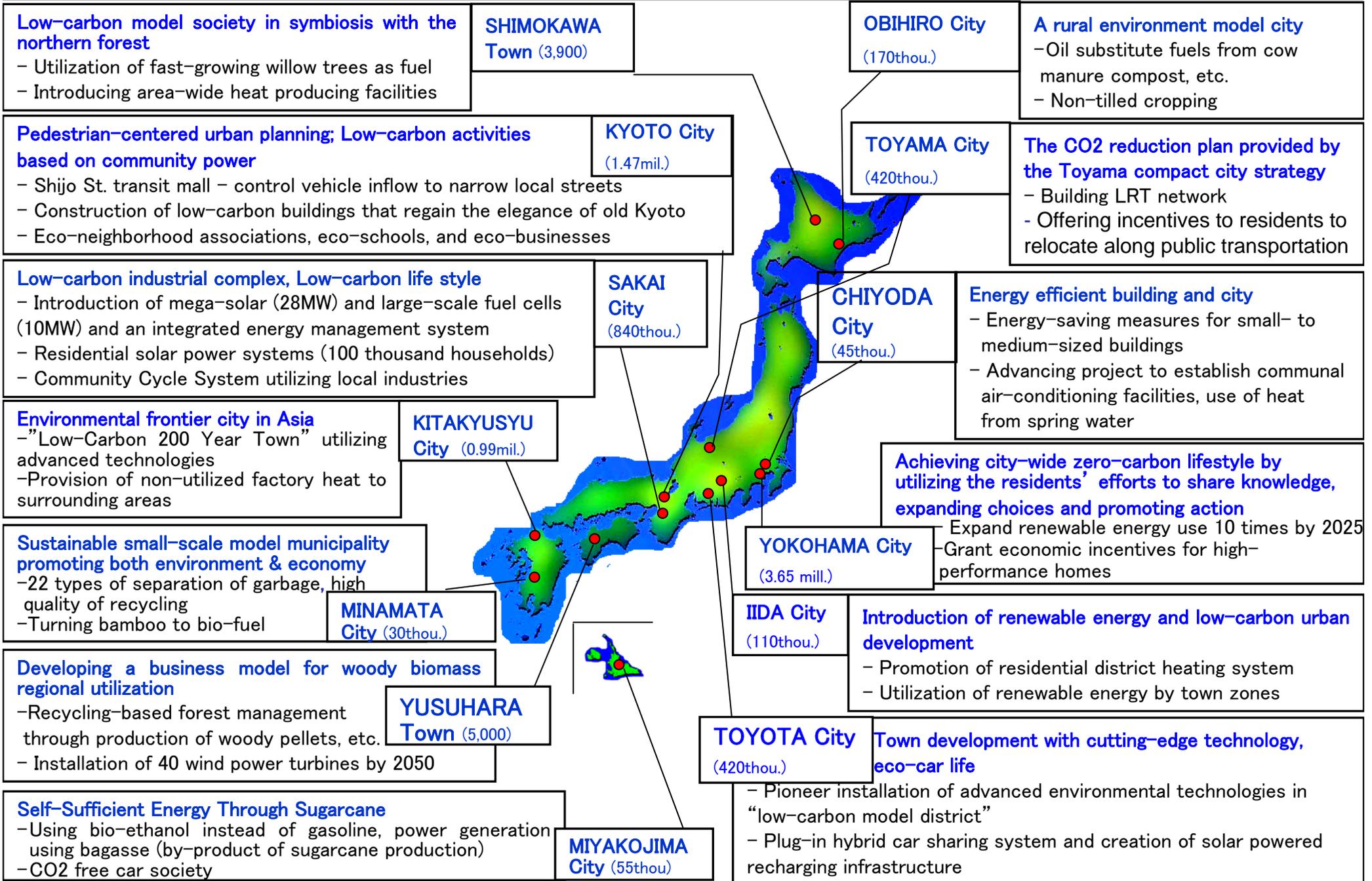


Targets of 13 Eco-Model Cities

Cities	Population	Area	Reduction (Mid-term)	Reduction (Long-term=2050)	Base year
Kitakyusyu	0.99 million	488 km ²	30% (2030)	50% to 60%	2005
Kyoto	1.47 million	828 km ²	40% (2030)	60%	1990
Sakai	840 thousand	150 km ²	15% (2030)	60%	2005
Yokohama	3.65 million	437km ²	Over 30%/head (2025)	Over 60%/head	2004
Iida	110 thousand	659km ²	Household sector 40% to 50% (2030)	70%	2005
Obihiro	170 thousand	619 km ²	30% (2030)	50%	2000
Toyama	420 thousand	1,242 km ²	30% (2030)	50%	2005
Toyota	420 thousand	918 km ²	30% (2030) Challenge:50% (2030)	50% Challenge:70%	1990
Shimokawa	3,900	644 km ²	32% (2030)	66%	1990
Minamata	29 thousand	163km ²	33% (2020)	50%	2005
Miyakojima	55 thousand	205km ²	30~40% (2030)	70% to 80%	2003
Yusuhara	5,000	237km ²	50% (2030) *energy conversion sector excluded 3.5 times GHG sink (2030)	70% *energy conversion sector excluded 4.3 times GHG sink (2030)	1990
Chiyoda	45 thousands	12km ²	25% (2020)	50%	1990

Examples of Eco-Model Cities Initiatives

() stands for the population



Promotion Council for the Low-Carbon Cities

- ★ **The Council was created by interested municipalities and other entities in order to bring Eco-Model City initiatives to other communities.**

*Established December 14, 2008. As of October 5, 2009, 168 bodies were participating in its activities.

(Members: Eco-Model Cities; interested cities, wards, towns, and villages; prefectures; ministries and agencies; and other government agencies)

- ★ The Council is having Eco-Model Cities take the lead in **disseminating the initiatives to other communities** through the following programs:

- Support to develop action plans
- Sharing information on such topics as policies and the latest scholarly research
- Planning and promoting regional initiatives and combined initiatives for developing low-carbon cities
- Disseminating information to public both inside and outside Japan

October 5, 2009 (in Yokohama)
The International Conference on Promoting Low-Carbon Cities 2009

- **Working hard together** through exchange and partnerships among participating municipalities
- **Increasing** the sophistication of cities' initiatives
- **Making best practices** and applying them in various regions

Creating regional vitality

Improving quality of life, creating new business, realizing economic benefits, facilitating regional cooperation, etc. in the process of a low-carbon society development



Working Groups of the Promotion Council for the Low-Carbon Cities

The following working groups were established to apply the initiatives being undertaken by Eco-Model Cities nationwide and to encourage hard work and cooperation among municipalities.

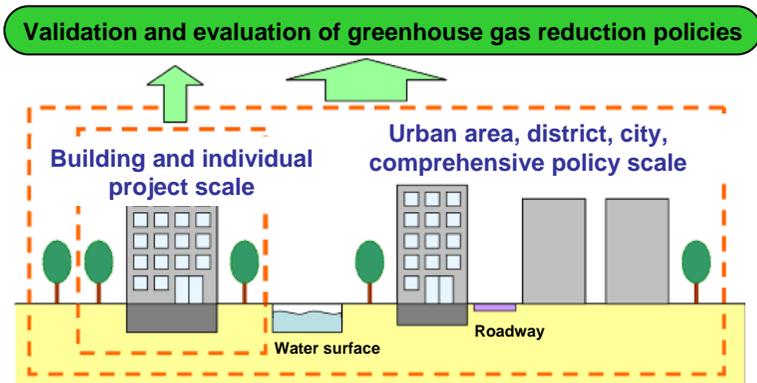
Working Group for Promoting Urban and Regional Low-Carbon Policy

Provides a framework for cities, wards, towns, and villages in researching topics of importance in such programs as the redevelopment of existing urban areas, the development of urban infrastructure and facilities; the creation of cooperative mechanisms among residents and other groups; and the establishment of methods for their evaluation.

(Coordinator: City of Kitakyushu)

Study themes

- Studying methods for evaluating urban environmental performance



- Development of low-carbon model districts and communities



Green Economy Working Group

Provides a framework for the development and dissemination of models for regional revitalization by involving various regional actors and establishing new business models in order to simultaneously reducing CO2 emission and revitalize local communities.

(Coordinator: City of Yokohama)

Study themes

- Developing policies for creating a green economy (Increasing of renewable energy use, dissemination of eco-houses, etc.)



- Building regional partnership models for a low-carbon society

