

# Japan's Energy Policy Efforts Toward Carbon Neutrality

~ "Energy White Paper 2025" ~

September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)

## 1. Changes in environment surrounding Japan's energy (1)

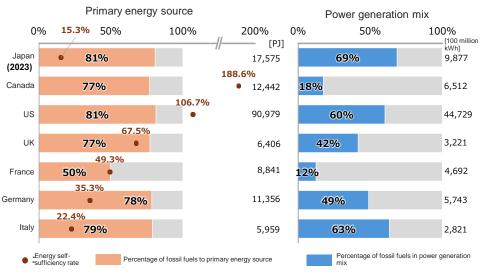
◆ The global energy environment has dramatically changed since the start of Russia's aggression against Ukraine in February 2022, with heightened tensions in the Middle East and the Trump administration's announcement of its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement. Japan also needs to take all possible measures to ensure its energy security.

### Increased requirements for economic security due to Russia's aggression against Ukraine

Russia ar	nd Ukraine	Israel and Palestine	US and EU	
[Feb 2022] Russia`s aggression against Ukraine begins.		[Oct 2023] Palestinian militant groups, including the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), launched attacks on Israel.	[Feb 2024] (EU) The European Commission proposed a 90% reduction in GHG emissions by 2040 compared to those in 1990. (Under discussion as of the end of March 2025)	
		[Jan 2025] Temporary ceasefire agreement	[Jan 2025] (US) The Trump administration announced its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement.	
[Since 2025] Ceasefire negotiations		[Mar 2025] Israel resumed military attacks.	[Since 2025] The US raised tariffs, and other countries responded to this action.	
< <examples country's="" each="" energy="" for="" measures="" of="" security="">&gt;</examples>				
US	The former Biden administration promoted clean energy policies (such as the Inflation Reduction Act), but the Trump administration has changed the policies, including the announcement of its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, and is promoting the development of domestic energy resources.			
EU	The EU is accelerating its efforts to reduce its dependence on Russia for energy while strengthening support for clean energy industries in Europe.			

- Japan's energy self-sufficiency rate is 15.3% (the lowest among the G7 countries). Approximately 70% of electricity generation is dependent on fossil fuels.
- Since Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the decreased supply of LNG and escalating prices have had a great impact on the trade balance.
- Increasing the share of carbon-free power sources is essential to maintain Japan's competitiveness as an industrial base among G7 countries.

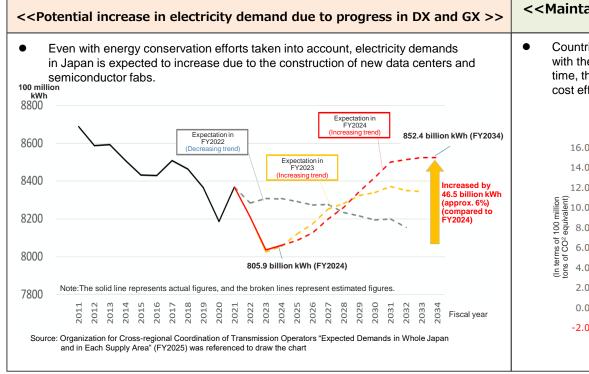
#### Energy self-sufficiency rate and fossil fuel ratio of each country



Sources: Japan's data was quoted from FY2023 Energy Supply and Demand Statistics (Final Report), other countries' data was 2022 data quoted from "World Energy Balance 2024."

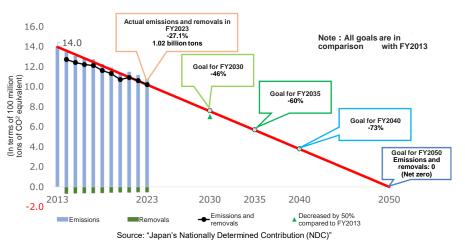
## 1. Changes in environment surrounding Japan's energy (2)

♦ In addition to energy security, it is necessary to take measures taking into account possible increases of electricity demand due to the progress of digital transformation (DX) and green transformation (GX), maintaining ambitious goals in measures against climate changes implementing realistic and diverse responses, and strengthening industrial policies through GX.



#### <<Maintaining ambitious goals against climate change and realistic and diverse measures >>

 Countries including Japan are firmly maintaining ambitious goals that are consistent with the 1.5°C target and aim to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. At the same time, there is also a transition to a more realistic stance to attain a balance between cost efficiency and a stable supply.

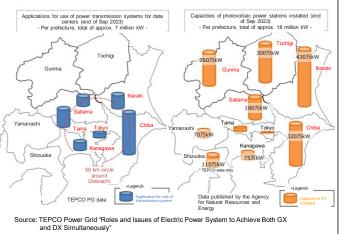


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Japan	Since defining "The Basic Policy for Realization of GX," the government has implemented measures for supporting anticipatory investments worth 20 trillion yen over 10 years and a growth-oriented carbon pricing scheme, and in February 2025, it established the "GX2040 Vision" with a long-term perspective.		
EU	The EU is strengthening support for the clean energy industry through measures such as the Net-Zero Industry Act (February 2024), which includes supportive measures for increasing the production of clean energy technologies within the EU area.		

- 2. Accelerating the development of domestic locations for data centers through collaboration between electricity and telecommunications
- ◆ To accelerate DX using Al and achieve both economic growth and decarbonization at the same time, we will promote <u>effective collaboration between</u> <u>electricity and telecommunications (watt-bit collaboration)</u> through the <u>development of efficient electricity and telecommunications</u> <u>infrastructures</u>, taking into account the uneven distribution of electricity demand and carbon-free power sources, lead times, and so forth.
- It is likely that we will enter an era in which products and services, including data centers, will create added value utilizing clean energy such as carbon-free electricity, and consumers themselves will need to accelerate their efforts to utilize and secure carbon-free electricity.

## Background (1) Uneven distribution of large-scale electricity demand of data centers Data center locations are concentrated in the suburbs of urban

 Data center locations are concentrated in the suburbs of urban areas where data is consumed, far away from carbon-free power source locations.



## Background (2) Difference in lead times between data center construction and carbon-free power source establishment

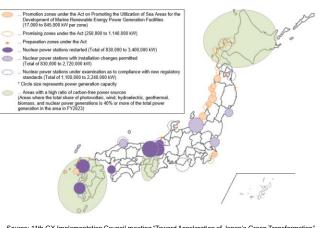
 The construction lead time of a data center is shorter than that of a carbon-free power source. A carbon-free power source sometimes requires the development of large-scale power transmission systems.

Power source	Construction time
Data center	1 to 2 years
Photovoltaics power station	1 to 4 years
Onshore wind turbine	2 to 5 years
Offshore wind turbine	3 to 7 years
Hydroelectric power station	5 to 15 years
Geothermal power generation (conventional)	3 to 8 years
Nuclear power station	5 to 15 years

Source: IEA "Energy and AI" (2025) was referenced to draw up the table

## Background (3) Uneven distribution of carbon-free power sources

The supply capacity of carbon-free power sources is also unevenly distributed across areas.



Source: 11th GX Implementation Council meeting "Toward Acceleration of Japan's Green Transformation was referenced to draw the map

#### Watt-bit collaboration

We will **promote the watt-bit collaboration to effectively link electricity and telecommunications** to efficiently develop electricity and telecommunications infrastructures so that the electricity infrastructures, data center locations, and telecommunications infrastructures are totally optimized.



After the concept was proposed in the "GX2040 Vision" (Cabinet Decision in February 2025), the <u>"Public-Private Advisory Council on Watt-Bit Collaboration"</u> was established in March 2025 as a forum for collaboration and cooperation among stakeholders in the public and private sectors. The forum studied <u>effective</u> measures for linking electricity and telecommunications for the efficient development of data centers and compiled a plan for future studies in June of this year.

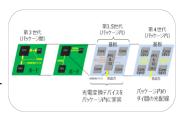
## 3. Next-generation energy innovative technologies (1)

◆ To simultaneously achieve a stable energy supply, economic growth, and decarbonization and aim for carbon neutrality by 2050, it is essential that Japanese companies undertake disruptive innovation in their next-generation energy innovative technologies and apply them to business.

#### **Electro-optical integration**

#### Action on increasing data volumes and power demand with large capacity, low latency, and low power consumption

- The use of optical signals instead of electrical signals for data processing and communication enables large capacity, low latency, and low power consumption.
- Amid intensifying international competition in the development of electro-optical integration devices, Japan is leading the world in terms of high-temperature operation and long-term reliability.
- It is expected that Japan will capture the market at an early stage through further differentiation in conjunction with the IOWN initiative and the establishment of a mass production system ahead of the rest of the world.



Development of electro-optical integration technologies

#### Perovskite solar cells

#### Next-generation solar cells characterized by being lightweight and flexible.

- They are expected to be installed on roofs and walls with low load-bearing capacity, where it was conventionally difficult to install solar cells.
- As the international competition in development intensifies, Japan leads the world in terms of durability and upsizing, which are key factors for commercialization.
- It is necessary to develop technologies for further improving the durability and power generation efficiency, and to establish a mass production system that is globally competitive.



Perovskite solar cells

#### Floating wind turbines

#### Floating wind turbines can generate electricity even in deep offshore waters

- The wind turbines are not fixed to the seabed, but are installed on floating structures on the sea. They can be installed in sea areas where the fixed-foundation installation is not feasible.
- As the international competition in development intensifies, it is expected that Japan will begin mass production utilizing its strengths in the shipbuilding technology and similar areas.
- To begin mass production at low cost, it is necessary to develop optimum design methods and build supply chains through global collaboration.



Floating wind turbine

## 3. Next-generation energy innovative technologies (2)

#### **Next-generation geothermal power generation**

#### Making maximum use of Japan's geothermal power potential through "closed-loop" and "supercritical geothermal power generation"

- "The closed-loop" method is expected to increase the number of candidate sites, and "the supercritical geothermal power generation" is expected to improve the power generation efficiency and upsize the scale.
- Some foreign companies are ahead of others in commercializing "the closed loop" method, while "the supercritical geothermal power generation" is still in the technological development stage in each country.
- For both technologies, we expect to collaborate with leading foreign companies to accelerate demonstration projects, including those in Japan, and establish commercialization know-how ahead of the rest of the world.



Closed-loop method

#### **Next-generation advanced reactors**

Next-generation advanced reactors with improved safety and energy efficiency (advanced light- water reactors, small modular reactors, fast reactors, high-temperature gascooled reactors, fusion energy)

- Regarding next-generation advanced reactors, in addition to improved safety, they have features providing a decarbonized power supply and distributed energy supply, waste volume reduction and hazard mitigation, and a carbon-free hydrogen and heat supply.
- For advanced light- water reactors, exchanges of opinions between business operators and regulatory authorities and technological development pertaining to new safety measures are underway. For small modular reactors, Japanese and American companies are conducting research and development aiming to demonstrate elemental technologies. For fast reactors and high-temperature gas-cooled reactors, demonstration reactors are being developed. For fusion energy, startups and other companies are carrying out technological development for a variety of reactor types. It is expected that these reactors will be put into practical application.



Small modular reactor

#### Hydrogen and its derivatives (hydrogen, ammonia, e-fuel, e-methane)

A next-generation fuel that will be the key to decarbonizing a wide range of fields, including steel, chemicals, mobility, industrial heat, and power generation.

- Japan is a global leader in fields such as the components for water electrolysis units that "produces" hydrogen, marine transportation technology that "transports" hydrogen, and power generation that "uses" hydrogen. Efforts are also underway to expand the utilization of efuels and e-methane.
- Such technologies will be commercialized as soon as possible and participation in both domestic and international markets where demand
  for hydrogen and its derivatives are expected to grow will happen at an early stage.

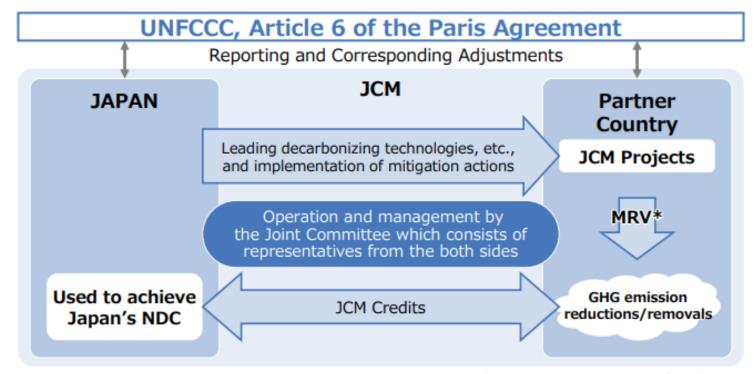


Liquefied hydrogen carrier

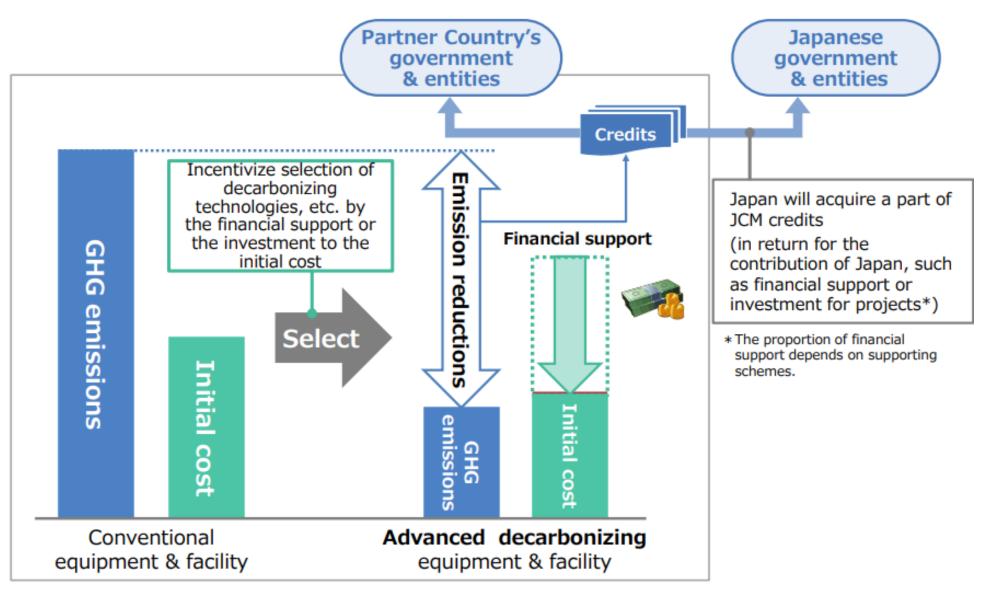
Japan will also make efforts in the development of domestic resources such as methane hydrate, renewable heat sources such
as solar and geothermal heat, marine energy such as wave and tidal power, and technologies such as demand response and
carbon dioxide removal (CDR).

## Basic Concept of the JCM

- Facilitate diffusion of leading decarbonizing technologies and infrastructure, etc., through investment by Japanese entities, thereby contributing to GHG emission reductions or removals and sustainable development in partner countries.
- Contribute to the achievement of both countries' NDCs while ensuring the avoidance of double counting through corresponding adjustments.
- Implement the JCM consistent with the guidance on cooperative approaches, referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement.



# --- Possible future cooperation between Japan and Uzbekistan -- Contribution from Japan (example)



## JCM Partners (31 countries)



<u>Mongolia</u> Jan. 8, 201 (Ulaanbaatar)



Lao PDR Aug. 7, 2013 (Vientiane)



Saudi Arabia May. 13, 2015



Tunisia Aug. 26, 2022 (Tunis)



Papua New Guinea Nov. 18, 2022 (Sharm-el-Sheikh)



Bangladesh Mar. 19, 2013 (Dhaka)



Indonesia Aug. 26, 2013 (Jakarta)



Chile May. 26, 2015 (Santiago)



<u>Azerbaijan</u> Sept. 5, 2022 (Baku)



**United Arab Emirates** Apr. 16, 2023 (Sapporo)



**Ethiopia** May. 27, 2013 (Addis



Costa Rica Dec. 9, 2013 (Tokyo)



Myanmar Sep. 16, 2015 (Nay Pyi



Moldova Sept. 6, 2022 (Chisinau)



**Kyrgyz Republic** July. 6, 2023 (Bishkek)



Kenya Jun. 12, 2013 (Nairobi)



<u>Palau</u> Jan. 13, 2014



<u>Thailand</u> Nov. 19, 2015 (Tokyo)



Sept. 13, 2022 (Tbilisi)



Kazakhstan October 30, 2023 (Astana)



Maldives Jun. 29, 2013 (Okinawa)



Cambodia Apr. 11, 2014 (Phnom



Philippines Jan. 12, 2017 (Manila)



Sri Lanka Oct. 10, 2022 (Colombo)



<u>Ukraine</u> February 19, 2024 (Tokyo)



Viet Nam Jul. 2, 2013 (Hanoi)



Mexico Jul. 25, 2014 (Mexico City)



Senegal

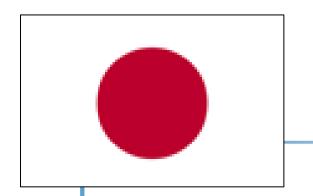




Tanzania May 28, 2025 (Tokyo)



India August 7, 2025 (Delhi)





Thank you! Katta Rahmat!