

The Study Group on the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework compiled the Framework in June 2014, aiming to build a new industrial base in the Hamadori area, etc. in order to recover the industry and employment in the district that was severely affected by the earthquake and the nuclear disaster.

At the third Subcommittee Meeting for Promoting the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework held on November 25, 2019, discussions were held on the "Blueprint of Industrial Development Placing the Fukushima Innovation Coast Framework at the Core," which shows independent and sustainable industrial development in the Hamadori area, etc. envisaged from a medium- to long-term and broad perspective, as well as the direction of concrete initiatives therefor to be promoted by the national government, Fukushima Prefecture, municipalities and related organizations. Discussions were centered on further materialization of the Framework that aims to develop a new industrial base in the Hamadori area, etc. On December 9, 2019, the Reconstruction Agency, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and Fukushima Prefecture jointly compiled the Blueprint.

For achieving the Framework, efforts have been made under the initiative of the Fukushima Innovation Coast Promotion Organization to develop bases for R&D on decommissioning, research and demonstration on robot technology, and information provision (the Great East Japan Earthquake and Nuclear Disaster Memorial Museum), to materialize projects in such fields as environment and recycling, energy including hydrogen and renewable energy, the agriculture, forestry and fisheries industry, medical services, and aerospace, and to form industrial clusters, and foster human resources, etc.

Major activities include 1,147 demonstration experiments (as of the end of September 2023) conducted at the Fukushima Robot Test Field, which was opened in full in March 2020. Some companies are expanding business in the neighboring areas, such as Namie Town and Futaba Town, while using the Field as their core. In the Grand Design and Action Plan for a New Form of Capitalism and the Follow-up, which were decided at the Cabinet meeting on June 7, 2022, it is stated that the national government will intensively offer support for the improvement of the demonstration field and practical development of startups, etc. with the aim of making the Fukushima Hamadori area into an advanced area for creating startups. Based on this decision, since FY2023, the national government has been implementing preferential measures for startups (point addition to startups and reduction of subsidy rates for large companies) and the development of a broad area flight route in the Regional Reconstruction Commercialization Development Promotion Project (Innovation Subsidies).

117

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