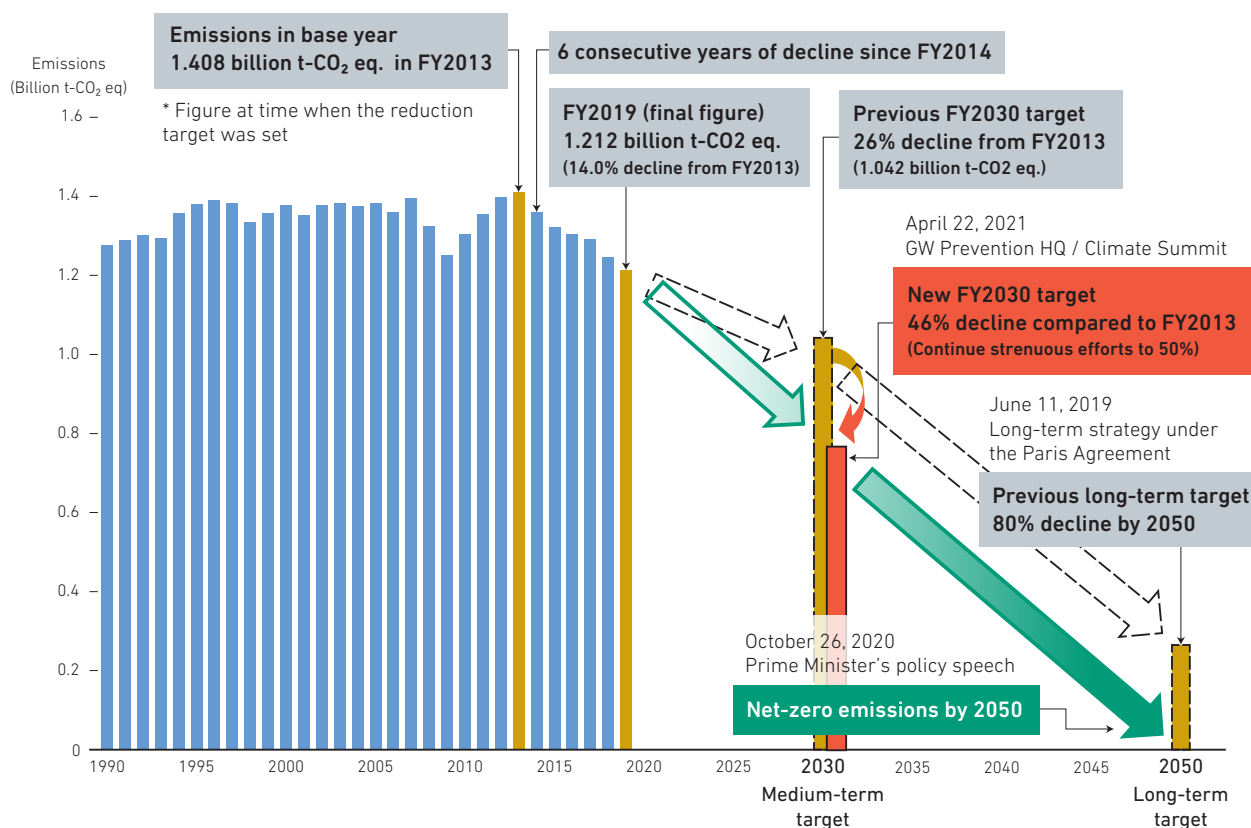


Japan's Medium- and Long-term Targets for GHG Reduction



Source: National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report of Japan (April 2021)

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TOWARD BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

An ecosystem supported by rich biodiversity brings essential benefits (ecosystem services) to human survival. A healthy ecosystem contributes to the welfare of people by providing safe water and food, as well as by supporting a safe and secure daily life and fostering unique local cultures. However, the loss of biodiversity and deterioration of ecosystem services are advancing worldwide. In addition, emerging infectious diseases, such as the novel coronavirus infection, are considered to be deeply related to the loss of biodiversity caused by changes in land use, as well as to climate change and other changes in the Earth's environment. A holistic approach is needed to address these issues, rather than treat them as separate problems.

The "Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework" proposes new global targets over the Aichi targets. It is expected to be adopted in May 2022 as the

15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-COP15) has been postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Within the deliberations on the post-2020 framework, discussions are underway to enhance specific biodiversity targets related to socioeconomic activities in order to stimulate transformative changes, while achieving a better balance among the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (conservation, sustainable use of biological diversity, and benefit-sharing of the utilization of genetic resources). With due attention to these international discussions, the Ministry of the Environment has been formulating a new National Biodiversity Strategy.