

# 1. Basic Concepts for the Second Capital

## Why is the second capital necessary for Japan?

### Japan's Present Situation

Consistent pattern of unipolar concentration in Tokyo

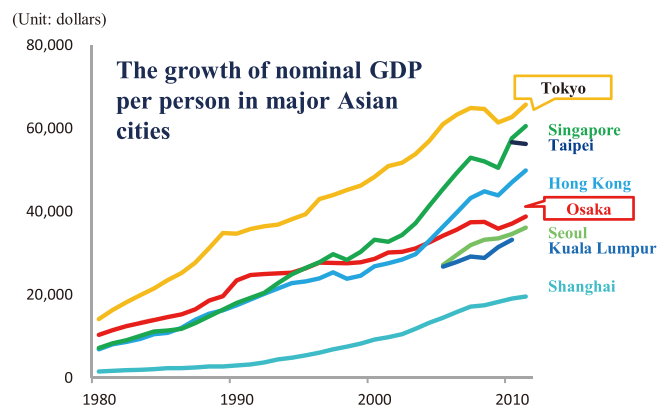
Firmly entrenched centralized system in politics and governance

Sluggish growth in the era of global competition among other metropolises

## The need to create globally competitive core metropolitan regions to lead the growth of the whole country

In the era of global competition among metropolises, it is desirable to not depend solely on Tokyo, but to create core metropolitan regions that enhance the growth of the whole country.

Considering Japan's geographical and geopolitical features, it is essential to rebuild Osaka's functions as a central area and the key western region of the country.



\*Created based on "Comparison of Global Competitiveness of Osaka with Asian Major Cities" by Osaka Research Center for Industry and the Economy (March 2014)

## The need to reduce Tokyo's burdens by building national resilience and to strengthen ability to respond to unexpected disasters

Unipolar concentration in Tokyo is a big risk factor for Japan because the country has a high risk of disasters. It is desirable to strategically establish a core metropolitan region that can support Japan by preparing backup resources in an area unlikely to be hit by a disaster at the same time as Tokyo, as well as take on high-level functions even in normal situations.



Figure "Envisioning and anticipating possible public risks or damage from a disaster"

\*Source: "Guideline for the Continuity of Services by the Central Ministries, First Edition" by the Cabinet Office (June 2007)

## The need to provide initiatives that lead the transition to a decentralized system based on the region's self-determination and responsibility

Realizing a new administrative system and regulation reform in the second capital will lead other regions in the country.

If each region aims to develop itself and display its own strengths and unique character, it will lead to maintaining the country's vitality and overall development.

[Self-determination, self-responsibility, self-management]

Centralized administrative system

Decentralized administrative system

The national government proceeds with a transfer of authority and financial resources. Each region decides the ways to use money (tax) based on the wisdom, ideas and participation of the residents. Then regions take responsibility for the results.

"Each resident plays a leading role" "We are sovereigns"

\*Created based on "Osaka's Vision for Decentralization" (March 2017)