

# Human Security and Japan's Health Diplomacy

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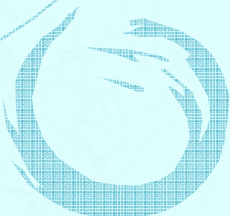
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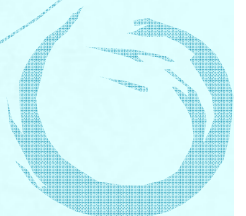


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# **1. Human Security in Japan's foreign policy**



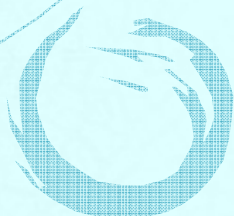
# Human security for Japan

**Old pacifism endorsed by personal experience during WW2 is nearly gone ...**

- Need to establish robust pacifism from within & outside Japan
- Human security as a policy concept for establishing new future-oriented pacifism

**Changing relationships with neighboring Asian countries—beyond “donor-recipient” relationships**

- Japan's new role in sharing its experience and encouraging emerging economies to ensure human security (social safety net, health, etc.)



# Evolution of human security and Japan's involvement

## 1. Evolution of human security as a policy concept

1994: UN Human Development Report introduces the concept of human security

1998: Prime Minister Obuchi declares human security a core principle for Japan's foreign policy framework at the first "Intellectual Dialogue on Building Asia's Tomorrow" in response to the Asian financial crisis

1999: United Nations Secretariat and Japanese government launch UN Trust Fund for Human Security

2000: Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori announces the establishment of an international commission on human security (later named the Commission on Human Security or CHS) at the UN Millennium Summit

2003: CHS defines human security as a policy concept in the report on *Human Security Now*; Advisory Board on Human Security created within UN

# Evolution of human security and Japan's involvement

## 2. From concept into action: incorporation of human security into ODA policies

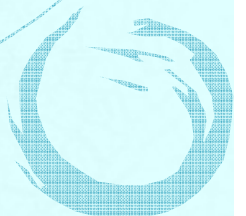
- 2003: GoJ adds human security to its grant assistance item in its ODA budget (Grant Assistance for Grassroots and Human Security Projects)  
Japan's ODA Charter is revised, adding "the perspective of human security"
- 2005: Medium-Term Policy on Official Development Assistance is announced, placing "human security" as the central focus of assistance
- 2006: New department for global issues is launched at MOFA

## 3. Promoting mainstreaming within the UN

- 2005: Japanese government encourages adoption of article on human security in the resolution by the UN General Assembly (UNGA)
- 2006: Japanese government initiates an unofficial, open-ended forum for human security "Friends of Human Security (FHS)" in NY.
- April 6, 2010: with the encouragement of FHS, the first UN Secretary General report on human security was released



## 2. Human Security and Health



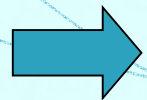
# What is human security?

**Growing interdependence among nations has challenged the traditional notion of “security”**

- Need a new notion of security that supplements traditional security—securing not only national boundaries but also security of individuals and communities beyond borders

## **Definition of human security by Commission on HS**

- Focus on three universal freedoms: freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom to live in dignity
- Target people and define the community as the unit of policy making
- To protect “the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and fulfillment”



**Health is the vital core of human lives and offers a concrete field for developing strategies for human security**

# How to promote human security?

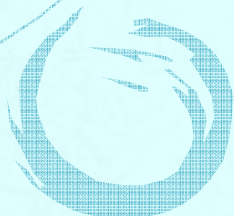
## Dual strategy

### *Empowerment*

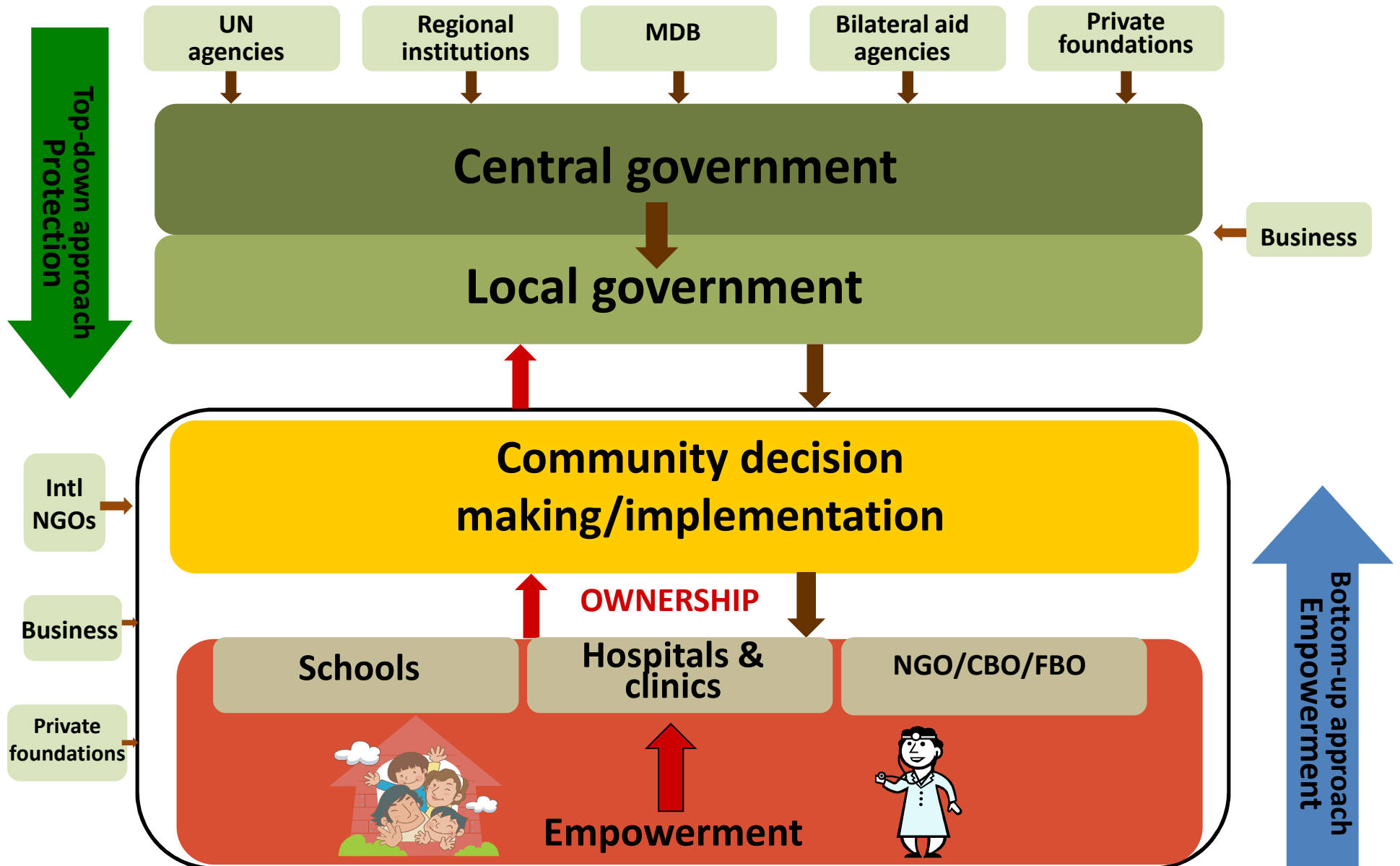
- enable people to develop the capacity to cope with or prevent difficult conditions

### *Protection*

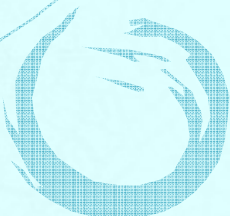
- set up by states, international agencies, NGOs, and the private sector to shield people from critical and pervasive threats and enable people to protect themselves



# Human Security Approach



## 3. Japan's Domestic Experience



# Some examples

- Universal health insurance coverage [protection]
  - social health insurance was first legislated in 1922 and achieved universal coverage in 1961
  - local governments (prefectures, townships) and non-governmental actors, such as the Japan Agricultural Cooperative (JA) and others, played a key role in enhancing coverage in the remote areas
- Community-based health care and other activities [empowerment]
  - movements for the improvement of living conditions (1940-50)
  - salt reduction campaign , increase coverage of antihypertensive drugs by private practitioners in the communities

