

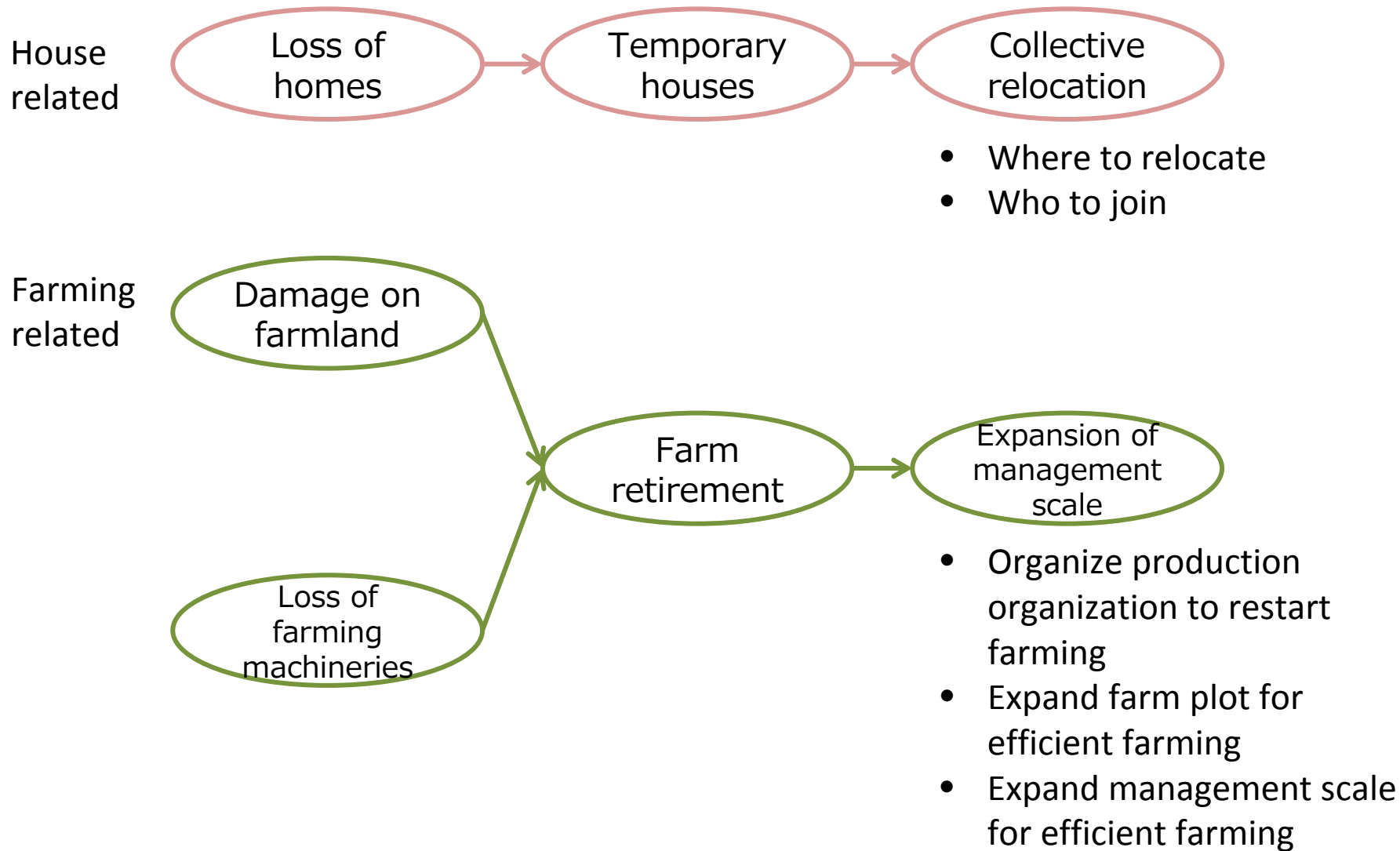
*Decision making under stress:
challenges of disaster recovery from 3-11*

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Activities related to disaster reconstruction from 3-11

	Policy proposals	Support for gov.	Survey & Research
Mar. 2011			
May 2011	Rural reconstruction committee of JSIDRE Policy proposal 1 st (Jul.) Policy proposal 2 nd (Nov.)		Analysis of geography and damage of tsunami affected area for three prefectures
Dec. 2011		Committee to explore reconstruction strategy for disaster affected rural areas, Regional office of MAFF	Analysis of concentration level of the radioactive cesium and its impacts on rural area
Mar. 2012			
Nov. 2012		2012 advice committee for farmland reconstruction, Miyagi pref.	Survey of farmland reconstruction in Miyagi (continued.)
Mar. 2013			
Jul. 2013		2013 advice committee for farmland reconstruction, Miyagi pref.	

Issues related to reconstruction of disaster affected rural areas



→ Different stakeholders need to be involved in consensus building

Common challenges in disaster recovery from 3-11

1. Changing situations surrounding disaster-affected people
2. Limited time available for decision making and consensus building
3. Involvement of different government organizations across scales
4. Lack of man power
5. Difficulty of having a long-view

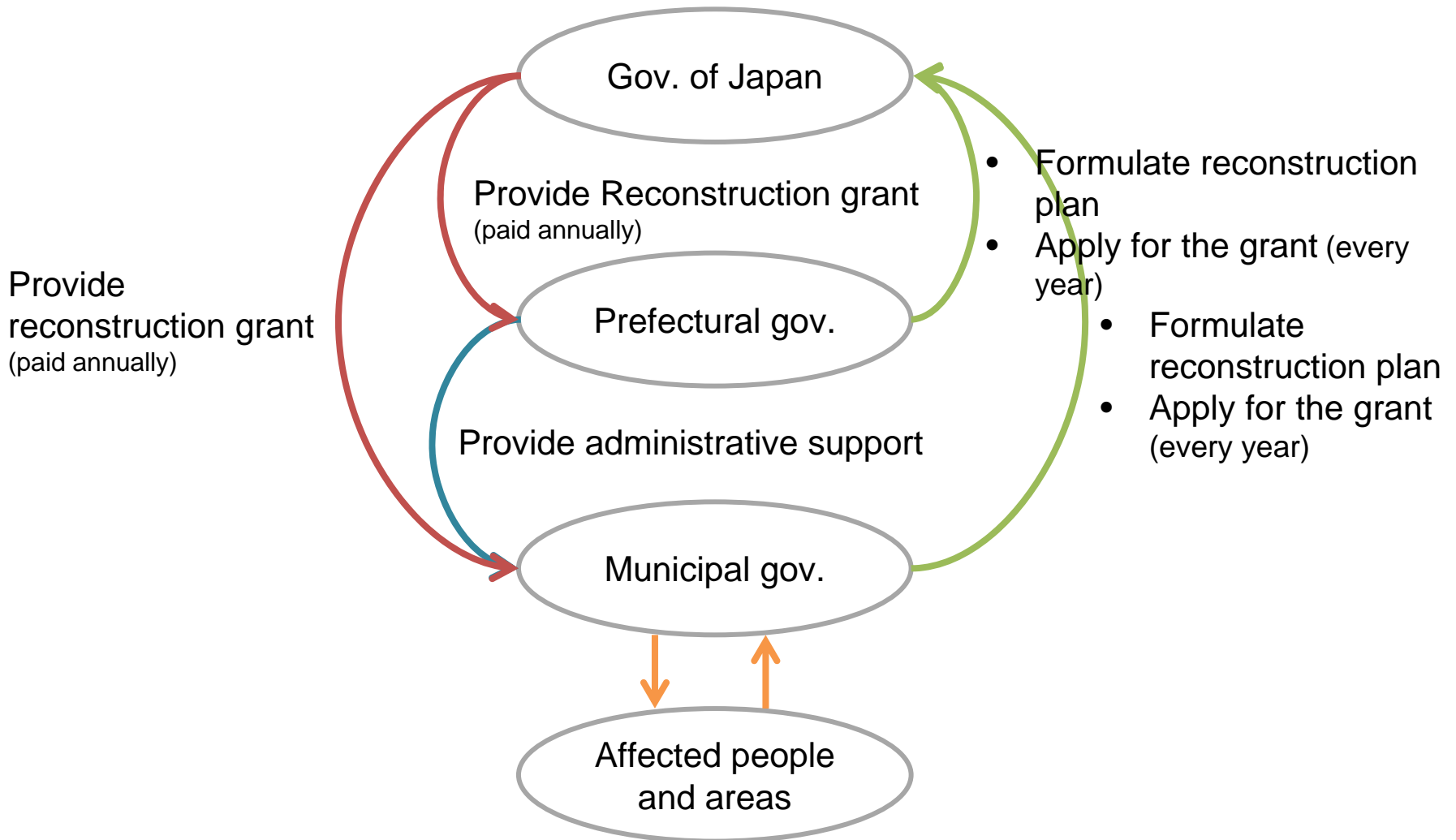
1. Changing situations surrounding disaster-affected people

- Situation surrounding disaster affected people is changing
 - Evacuate to shelter for temporary and safe evacuation life
 - Move to a temporary house
 - Find temporary income/job or more stable income/job
 - Find a more comfortable accommodation or place to reconstruct home
 - Education, health care, ...
- Various programs for livelihood recovery
 - e.g.
 - Subsidy for disaster victims relief
 - Construction of temporary houses
 - Subsidy for rebuilding homes
 - Subsidy for local company employing disaster-affected people
 - Job creation in reconstruction works
 - Job training

When is the right time for involving local people in reconstruction planning?

Reconstruction grant

- Government of Japan established the special grant to facilitate reconstruction of disaster affected areas
- Local governments must formulate a reconstruction plan to receive grant from GoJ



2. Limited time available for decision making and consensus building

- Time limit for reconstruction grant is approaching
 - Period of reconstruction plans by local governments is from 8 to 10 years
 - Time limit of reconstruction grant is 5 years from 3-11 (intensive reconstruction period)
 - Most of the reconstruction public works are to be fully subsidized
 - About 23.5 trillion JPY is prepared by GoJ

→ Reconstruction grant is a powerful incentive for local governments to speed-up reconstruction efforts:

We have to complete as many expensive reconstruction works as possible by

Mar. 2016

3. Involvement of different governmental organizations across scales

Nature of reconstruction works

- Involves several different reconstruction works within a short period of time
- Each of reconstruction works is overseen by a different organization across scales and is inter-related



4. Lack of manpower

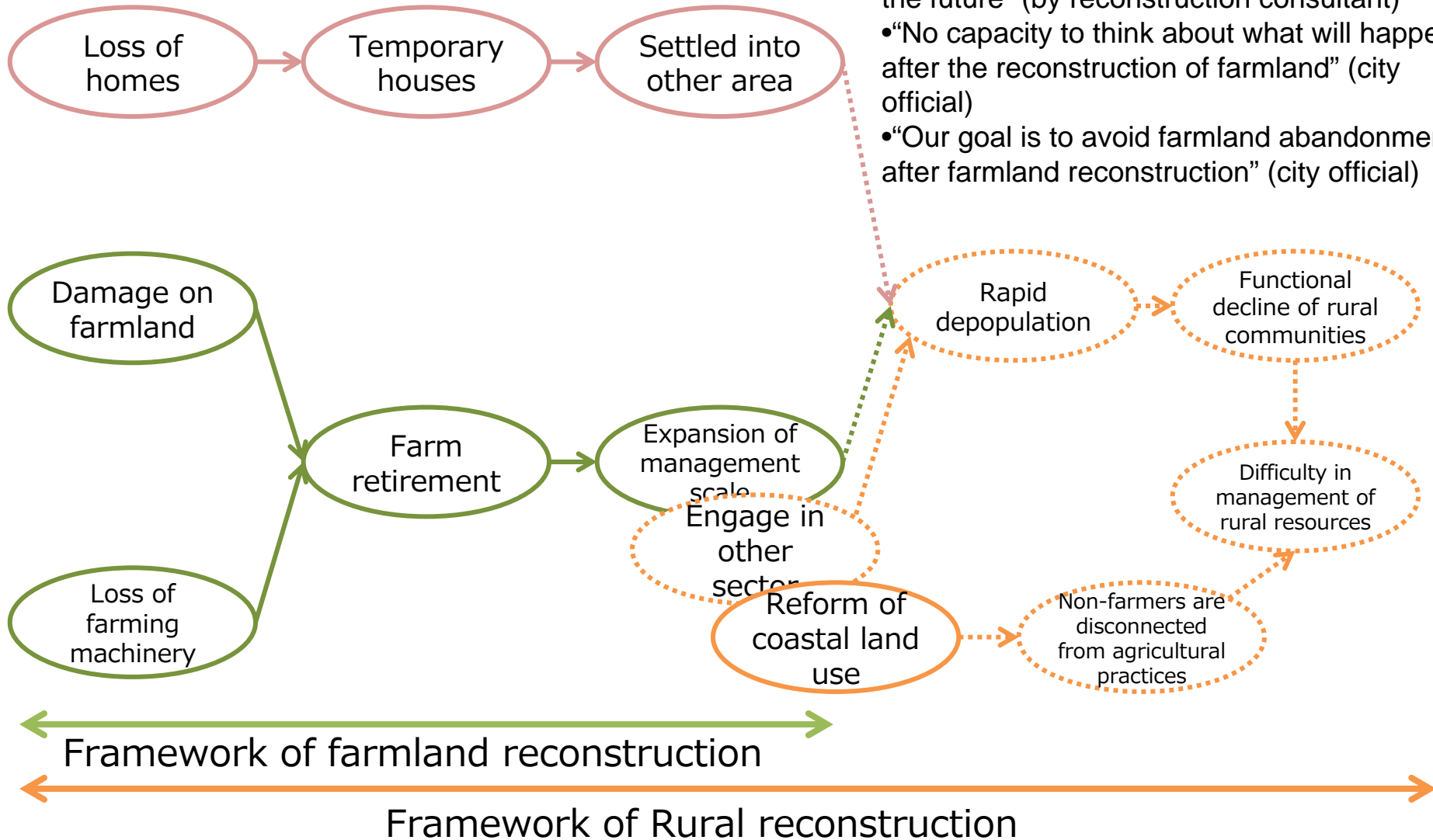
- Role of prefectural and municipal government
 - Prefectural
 - Initiate reconstruction works with reconstruction grant
 - Support administrative procedures for municipal governments
 - Municipal
 - Communicate with different government organizations
 - Communicate with local people
 - Organize meetings and workshops
- Two types of manpower lacking
 1. Absolute lack of government officials who engage in reconstruction efforts (quantitative aspect)
 2. Lack of gov. officials with adequate experience & knowledge about reconstruction works (qualitative aspect)

5. Difficulty of having a long-view

No time to think carefully about potential trade-offs between agricultural and rural reconstruction

Voices from the front line

- “Too busy to talk about what will happen in the future” (by reconstruction consultant)
- “No capacity to think about what will happen after the reconstruction of farmland” (city official)
- “Our goal is to avoid farmland abandonment after farmland reconstruction” (city official)



Conclusion

- Difficulty of finding the right time for participatory decision making under changing situations
- Challenges in disaster reconstruction are often inter-related
 - Often rooted in the timeframe of the reconstruction grant
- Dilemma of speeding up reconstruction
 - Speedy reconstruction is necessary not to disappoint affected people
 - Timeframe and increased transaction costs often have adverse impacts in participatory decision making
- “Reconstruction works” often constrain the way people think

Thank you very much for your attention.

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Three steps to disaster reconstruction

- Gradual approach is necessary for disaster reconstruction
- Difficult to talk about disaster recovery & reconstruction without significant progress in livelihood recovery

