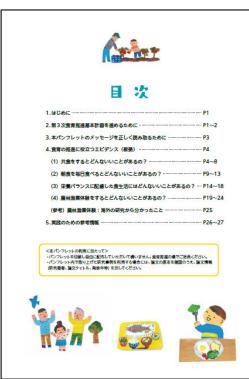
# 8. Promotion of Evidence-Based Shokuiku

- With the purpose of publicizing evidence that contributes to the promotion of shokuiku in an easy-to-understand manner, MAFF created pamphlets in collaboration with researchers and other specialists who are familiar with the field of shokuiku in FY2017 and FY2018, which organizes evidence-based explanations of why shokuiku initiatives are important and what kinds of benefits can be obtained by working on such initiatives. In FY2019, MAFF compiled and published a "consolidated edition" of the pamphlets from both fiscal years.
- O With a focus on topics such as "breakfast," "nutritionally balanced dietary habits," "kyoshoku," and "agriculture, forestry, and fishery experience," these pamphlets included messages based on evidence, and research notes which introduced relevant studies.









What Are the Benefits of Shokuiku? -What We Know Based on Evidence- Integrated version

What Are the Benefits of Shokuiku? (MAFF website)
 https://www.maff.go.jp/j/syokuiku/evidence/index.html



# 9. A Well-Balanced Diet to Think about, Practice, and Popularize by Everyone

- O In the "Third Basic Plan for the Promotion of Shokuiku" adopted in March 2016, the "promotion of shokuiku with a focus on the younger generation" was set as one of the priority items.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries created a pamphlet in FY2019 titled "A Well-Balanced Diet to Think about, Practice, and Popularize by Everyone" in a way to help young people in their 20s and 30s with various lifestyles practice "the well-balance diet."
- O In the Fourth Basic Plan for the Promotion of Shokuiku, adopted in March 2021, targets are continued to be set for reducing the number of young people who skip breakfast and increasing the number of citizens who practice nutritionally balanced dietary habits.



Educational material
"A Well-Balanced Diet to Think about,
Practice, and Popularize by Everyone"





Part of the contents of the educational material

 A Well-Balanced Diet to Think about, Practice, and Popularize by Everyone (MAFF website)

https://www.maff.go.jp/j/syokuiku/wakaisedai/balance.html

# 10. Shokuiku Pictograms and Shokuiku Mark

★ Promotion of shokuiku that supports mental and physical health throughout life



**Kyoshoku** (Enjoy eating together)



Improvement in conditions to skip breakfast



Well-balanced meals



**Prevention of** lifestyle-related diseases



**Dental** and oral health



**Food safety** 



**Prepare for** disasters

★ Promotion of shokuiku that supports sustainable food and nutrition



**Environmental** considerations



**Promotion of local** production for



Agriculture, forestry, and (harmonization) local consumption fishery experience



Inheritance of washoku culture

★ Promotion of shokuiku (food and nutrition education)





## Situations to be utilized

Fronts of retail stores, school educational scenes, educational materials when providing shokulku, printing on product packaging, etc.

Shokuiku pictograms and shokuiku mark can be freely used if the terms of use are observed. There is no charge for usage fee.

 Shokuiku Pictograms and Shokuiku Mark http://www.maff.go.jp/j/syokuiku/pictgram/index.html



# 11. Collection of Examples of Shokuiku Promotion by Companies Considering the Health of Employees, etc.

- O In March 2020, MAFF collected basic information focused on advanced initiatives to proactively promote shokuiku among companies that take into consideration the health management of employees, etc., and compiled a collection of examples.
- O It is expected that this will be used as an opportunity for companies to engage in shokuiku for their employees from now and as a reference for further development of companies that are already promoting shokuiku.
- O In the Fourth Basic Plan for the Promotion of Shokuiku, it is also expected that a healthy condition of employees, etc. will lead to vitalization of the organization, such as the improvement of the vitality and productivity of employees, and consequently to the improvement of corporate performance. Therefore, shokuiku is to be promoted in consideration of the health of employees, etc. in the workplace.



Collection of Examples of Shokuiku Promotion by Companies Considering the Health of Employees, etc.

#### [Example of a company]

- HIBINOSEKKEI, Inc In order to encourage employees to shift from working at night to working in the morning based on the perspectives of creating an environment conducive to child-rearing and securing time for employees themselves and their families, it has provided free breakfast and lunch at its in-house restaurant. It serves meals using local ingredients whenever possible.
- Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Advice can be given by AI by using "Karada Wakaru Navi" (meaning "Know Your Body Navi"), which is a health advice app that visualizes health status on four axes ("exercise," "diet," "sleep," and "mood") on smartphones or computers.



Buffet-style breakfast is served from 8:00 a.m.



"Health Challenge Campaign" using an app

Collection of Examples of Shokuiku Promotion by Companies (MAFF website)

https://www.maff.go.jp/j/syokuiku/kigyo/jirei.html

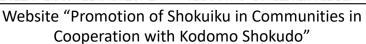


#### III. Shokuiku Initiatives by MAFF

# 12. Promotion of Shokuiku in Communities in Cooperation with Kodomo Shokudo (Children's Cafeterias)

- O Kodomo Shokudo, eateries where children can come alone and have free or inexpensive meals, are valuable places for children to have meals with other people, and also serve as places for children in local communities. MAFF publishes on its website information on shokuiku promotion initiatives conducted in collaboration with Kodomo Shokudo, in order to help local governments and people involved in shokuiku promotion in communities to understand the significance of activities of Kodomo Shokudo and effectively work with them based on the perspective of promoting shokuiku.
- O In FY2017, MAFF investigated and published information such as the current situation and challenges of Kodomo Shokudo, and the status of its cooperation with communities. It also released a case study introducing example cases of cooperation programs between communities and Kodomo Shokudo, categorized according to topic and type of initiative.







A Case Study on Shokuiku Initiatives Promoted under Collaboration with Kodomo Shokudo and Communities –Expanding the Circle of Shokuiku Through Local Collaboration–

 Promotion of shokuiku in communities in cooperation with Kodomo Shokudo (MAFF website)



https://www.maff.go.jp/j/syokuiku/kodomosyokudo.html

#### III. Shokuiku Initiatives by MAFF

# 13. Promotion of Japanese-Style Dietary Habits That are Easy to Understand and Highly Practical

- O Based on the Fourth Basic Plan for the Promotion of Shokuiku, the practice of well-balanced "Japanese-style diet" is promoted from the viewpoint of preventing lifestyle diseases and fostering a healthy next generation. It is promoted so that all generations can follow it easily by sharing its details and advantages with citizens in an easy-to-understand manner.
- O It is necessary to promote such dietary habits in a way that is easy to understand and highly practical for all generations, while keeping in mind citizens' current eating habits.



#### Recommended "Japanesestyle dietary habits" centered on rice

They are well-balanced dietary habits, consisting of rice, fish, meat, milk and dairy products, vegetables, seaweed, beans, fruits, tea, and various other side dishes.

- (1) "Japanese-style dietary habits" should be incorporated every few days or every week, if not for every meal or every day.
- (2) Japanese-style dietary habits includes various dishes that work well with the climate of Japan. They are healthy and well-balanced dietary habits, using that uses abundant ingredients produced locally and throughout Japan.
- (3) The elements of Japanese-style dietary habits, i.e., a variety of side dishes combined with rice and soup, constitute the basics of "washoku." It can easily incorporate various ingredients; for example, you can add wheat or millet to rice, and different vegetables and proteins to soup, while the main dish can be different types of dishes, such as hamburger steak, vegetables, and dairy products.
- (4) Main and side dishes to be combined with rice do not have to be cooked at home; you can also use ready-made meals, frozen foods, retort foods, and combined seasonings, and combine them with eating out.

(Cited from "Regarding Future Shokuiku Promotion Measures (Final)" issued in March 2015)

#### Examples of Japanese-style dietary habits consisting of rice and ready-made meals









"Recommended Japanese-style Diet" (MAFF website)

http://www.maff.go.jp/j/syokuiku/nihon\_gata.html



# 14. Promotion of Shokuiku Through Agriculture, Forestry, or Fishery Experience (Education Farm)

- O MAFF proactively provides agriculture, forestry, and fisheries opportunities, such as at education farms in order to enhance people's interest in and understanding of "food and nutrition" and to deepen appreciation and understanding of the blessings of nature and the various activities of people whose work is related to "food and nutrition."
- O This initiative is aimed at promoting the understanding of the importance of food and the agricultural, forestry, and fisheries industry and increasing supporters of domestic agricultural, forestry, and fishery products.

#### What is an education farm?

Education farms are farms run by farmers' associations where consumers can visit production sites and experience a series of farming activities. Their purpose is to help consumers understand the blessings of nature and the various activities of people whose work is related to "food and nutrition."

- <<Expected effects>>
- Build trust between producers and consumers
- Understand food and agriculture, forestry, and fisheries
- · Understand food safety
- Reduce food loss, etc.
- → Increase the number of supporters for domestic agricultural, forestry, and fishery products

Articles 3 and 23 of the Basic Act on Shokuiku (Act No. 63 of 2005)

#### O Examples of initiatives for agriculture, forestry, and fishery experience

#### Sudo-Farm, Inc. (Chiba Prefecture)

An outdoor play is performed once a year at an outdoor theater on a ranch. Dairy farmers write scripts on "life and food," drawing on their own experiences, and children and adults in the community act them out.

It has devised a way to raise the audience's awareness of "life and food" more strongly by providing a dairy farming experience after watching the play.

(Sixth Shokuiku Activity Awards by the Director-General of the Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau)



Dairy farming experience

#### Alternative Farm Miyako Co., Ltd. (Okinawa Prefecture)

It provides a year-round shokuiku program in the fields of Miyako Island for general tourists and groups. By participating in a shokuiku program, participants can deepen their understanding of food ingredients and nurture a sense of appreciation for them through the five senses, leading to an increase in their interest in dietary habits.

(Sixth Shokuiku Activity Awards by the Director-General of the Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau)



Sugar cane harvesting

Promotion of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishery Experience (MAFF website)

https://www.maff.go.jp/j/syokuiku/s edufarm/index3.html



# 15. Promotion of Local Production for Local Consumption

This initiative aims to encourage people to consume locally produced agricultural, forestry, and fishery products. In addition to improving the food self-sufficiency rate, it also contributes to the "sixth industrialization" of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries (e.g. running farmers' markets, and incorporating food processing business).

### **Examples of initiatives**



Retailing of local agricultural, forestry, and fishery products at farmers' markets



Development of processed foods using local agricultural, forestry, and fishery products



Use of local agricultural, forestry, and fishery products in school lunches and employee cafeterias



Exchange/experience opportunities for local consumers

## **Effects of the example initiatives**

# O Strengthening the connection between "producers" and "consumers"

- Consumers can ask the producers how the products were grown "face-to-face," and can consume fresh agricultural, forestry, and fishery products
- Producers can develop a production plan that fulfills consumer needs
- This leads to a higher food self-sufficiency rate
- Interaction between consumers and producers is promoted, providing an important shokuiku opportunity
- It promotes the use of local ingredients, which helps with the passing down of local traditional food culture

#### O Regional revitalization

- Expansion of consumption of local agricultural, forestry, and fishery products through cooperation between producers and related businesses
- Creation of income opportunities for small producers

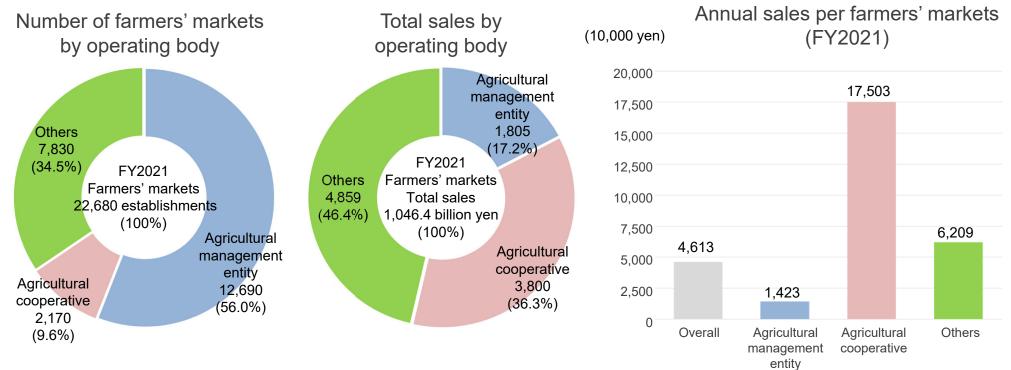
#### O Reduction of distribution costs, etc.

- Distribution costs are reduced, which allows producers to make better profits
- Transport distances are shortened, which contributes to reducing environmental impact

### III. Shokuiku Initiatives by MAFF - 15. Promotion of Local Production for Local Consumption

# (1) Current Situation of Local Production for Local Consumption Initiatives

- O There are <u>around 23,000 farmers' markets nationwide</u> where producers sell local agricultural products directly to consumers, with <u>total annual sales of about 1.0 trillion yen</u>.
- O As for total sales by operating body, <u>agricultural management entities</u>, <u>which account for 56.0% of the total farmers' markets</u>, account for <u>17.2%</u> of total sales, while <u>agricultural cooperatives</u>, <u>which account for 9.6% of the total farmers' markets</u>, account for 36.3% of total sales.
- The sales per farmers' markets are about 14 million yen for agricultural management entities, compared to 180 million yen for agricultural cooperatives.
- O Regardless of the size or operating body of direct sales outlets, the ratio of local production is about 90%.



Source: "Comprehensive Survey on Sixth Industrialization" (Statistics Department, MAFF)

<sup>\*</sup> Breakdown may not exactly reflect the actual totals, due to rounding off

#### III. Shokuiku Initiatives by MAFF - 15. Promotion of Local Production for Local Consumption

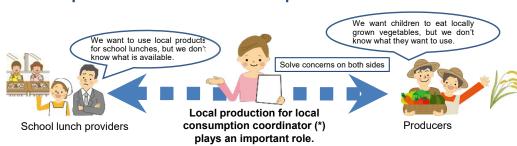
### (2) Use of Local Products in School Lunches

- O The amended School Lunch Program Act (enforced in April 2009) provides that schools should make efforts to use local agricultural products in school lunches and to promote shokuiku.
- O In addition, the Fourth Basic Plan for the Promotion of Shokuiku (formulated in March 2021) sets out the proportion of use of local products in school lunches as one of its targets.
  - (Based on the opinion of the Shokuiku Promotion Review Committee that the conventional target based on the number of food ingredients is "difficult to reflect the efforts of at the sites," the target was changed in the Fourth Basic Plan (FY2019) to 90% or more (FY2025) for the percentage of prefectures that have maintained or improved from the current value (in monetary terms))
- O There are also many challenges in using local products in school lunches, such as the difficulty of passing on the increase in food costs to lunch costs, and the need to constantly deliver a sufficient amount of products that meet certain standards.
- Therefore, it is essential to work on them by coordinating the needs and challenges of both sites of schools and producers on the community level. In this view, MAFF fosters and sends to communities "local production for local consumption coordinators," who serve as "connectors" between the two sites. Excluding unfavorable weather conditions, the proportion of use of local products increased in 66 districts (total) to which coordinators were dispatched by FY2022.
- O In addition, even under the budget of MEXT for FY2023, in order to promote the use of local products in school lunches, it will support the allocation of coordinators and the holding of councils by stakeholders for local governments, and will promote the use of local products in school lunches in cooperation with MEXT.
- Use of locally and domestically produced ingredients in school lunches (in monetary terms)

	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
Locally produced ingredients	52.7%	-	56.0%	56.5%
Domestically produced ingredients	87.0%	_	89.0%	89.2%

<Source> "Survey on Use of Locally and Domestically Produced Ingredients in School Lunches" (MEXT) (Note 1) Due to the impact of COVID-19, the FY2020 survey was not conducted.

#### ■ Local production for local consumption coordinators



\* Nutrition teachers, producer organization representatives, JA (Japanese Agricultural Co-operatives), consultants, companies, governments, etc.

 Actual result of dispatch of local production for local consumption coordinators [Local Food Connection Enhancement Program] FY2016: 6 districts FY2017: 8 districts FY2018: 7 districts FY2019: 9 districts FY2020: 9 districts FY2021: 12 districts FY2022: 15 districts

#### **■ Example: Fukuroi City, Shizuoka Prefecture**

#### (1) Challenges for Fukuroi City:

 As a policy to utilize local products, those produced in the city are preferentially purchased from small-scale farmers, or all of them are purchased, which makes it difficult for school lunch centers that cook meals in a limited time to utilize non-standard products.

#### (2) Details of the dispatch

• In response to this situation, MAFF implemented an initiative to dispatch a coordinator to an NPO that supplies food ingredients to a school lunch center in FY2017, to work on trial production of processed products using non-standard agricultural products, and to experimentally provide them for school lunches. This has facilitated understanding of each other, which removed various senses of uneasiness. The use of locally produced ingredients in school lunches has gained momentum.

#### (3) Effects of dispatching a coordinator

- (i) Transaction amount of local products increased by a factor of 9.1 times! This also contributed to raising farmers' income! 3.5 million yen (FY2012)  $\rightarrow$  31.92 million yen (FY2022)
- (ii) Ratio of use of local products (based on the weight of 10 main products) increased by 3.7 times! 13.8% (FY2012) → 51.6% (FY2022)
- (iii) Local products (other than rice) were used throughout the year! Used for 14 days (FY2005) → 194 days (FY2022)
  - \* Annual number of school lunches: 190 days in FY2005 and 194 days in FY2022 14

# 16. Inheritance of Food Culture Washoku Culture Designated as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage

- On December 4, 2013, "Washoku, traditional dietary cultures of the Japanese," was designated as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- O In order to preserve and pass on washoku culture into the future, it is important to maintain people's interest through continuous public relations and to protect and pass it down to local communities.

# What is Washoku, Japanese dietary customs built on "respect for nature"

Characteristics of "Washoku" (1):

Respect for diverse and fresh ingredients and their unique tastes

The islands of Japan stretching from north to south are blessed with abundant nature of the ocean, mountains, and rural areas. Different regions across the country have developed unique techniques and tools to bring out the taste of various local ingredients.

Characteristics of "Washoku" (3):

Expression of beauty of nature and the changes of four seasons

Another characteristic of the washoku culture is that it expresses the beauty of nature and the changes of four seasons, such as by decorating dishes with seasonal flowers and leaves and using seasonal furnishings and vessels.



#### Characteristics of "Washoku" (2):

# Nutritional balance that supports a healthy diet

A diet consisting of one soup and three side dishes allows us to ensure good nutritional balance. Dishes tapping into the umami flavor of dashi (fish stock) and fermented food also help with cutting down on animal fat intake. Washoku has helped longevity and prevented obesity in Japan.



Characteristics of "Washoku" (4):

Close relationship with New Year and other annual events

Japanese food culture has been nurtured in close association with events throughout the year. Sharing "food" that is a blessing of nature and enjoying it together have been the way for Japanese people to deepen their connection with families and communities.

## (1) Overview of Initiatives for the Protection and Inheritance of "Washoku"

# Protection and inheritance of local food culture

- Establish a system to protect and pass down various local food cultures unique to each region; and <u>investigate</u> <u>local foods, create a database of</u> <u>them, and spread them</u>
- Support activities to pass on local food culture, such as <u>cooking classes</u> to teach local cuisine and <u>creating</u> collections of local dish recipes



- Commissioned project to organize and disseminate information on the multifaceted value of food culture
- Commissioned project to disseminate information and raise awareness of washoku culture in Japan and overseas
- Grant for consumption and safety measures

Development of human resources to pass on washoku culture

Develop core human resources to spread washoku culture in each prefecture

Such human resources will pass on washoku culture to nursery schools and elementary schools, and promote washoku culture at various workshops for nutritionists, nursery teachers, etc.



 Commissioned project to develop highly skilled human resources related to food culture content Passing down to children who will lead the next generation

- Create a teaching material for elementary school students called "Washoku with Us," and conduct a model lesson using it
- Support activities to pass on food culture, such as the spread of washoku school lunches
- Dispatch coordinators and commend best practices in order to promote local production for local consumption in school lunches, etc.



- Commissioned project to develop highly skilled human resources related to food culture content
- Grant for consumption and safety measures



**Export promotion** 

Supporter restaurants/stores for Japanese ingredients

Culinary culture dissemination among overseas chefs at cooking workshops

Inbound tourism promotion











## Let's! Wa-gohan (Japanese meals) Project < MAFF Public-Private Collaboration Project>

In this public-private collaboration project, the food-related industries and the government work together to provide children and the busy child-raising generation with more opportunities to <u>eat healthy "Wa-gohan" (Japanese food) in an easy and convenient manner</u> in the forms of meals at home, ready-made meals, and meals at restaurants. 189 companies are now project members (as of the end of April, 2023).