Improvement of infrastructure and regional development

- Improvement of people’s living conditions and revitalization of each community

Okinawa prefecture promotes the improvement of infrastructure based on local characteristics such as population decrease, falling birth rate and aging population in remote islands and the typhoon-prone climate of all the islands. The prefecture also works to expand administration services using information and communications technology and improve people’s living conditions. It aims to realize a community-based society in which people help and develop each other by proactively participating in community development and contributing to various activities.

Improvement and strengthening of infrastructure based on regional features

Kouri Bridge that connects Okinawa Mainland and remote islands

Dam to secure water resources in remote islands

Seawater Desalination Center that converts sea water to fresh water

Remote education in remote islands using advanced telecommunication networks

Promotion of community development based on mutual help and development

Social workers and commissioned child welfare volunteers who are in charge of local welfare activities

Regional revitalization using local resources and characteristics

Top: Lush forest of subtropical trees like a jungle on Homote Island
Bottom: Humpback whales migrate around Kerama Islands between January and March

Parasailing overlooking the beautiful ocean of Okinawa

Agriculture and fishery experience-based tourism

Students on school trips stay in agriculture, forestry and fishery farmhouses (Nijash Village)

Catching fish using a fixed net
Creation of world-class tourist resorts
- Tourist resorts that are widely renowned and admired around the world

Tourism in Okinawa is currently on a path of strong growth. The number of foreign visitors is rapidly increasing, which is raising expectations of reaching the goal of 10 million annual tourists. Therefore, the prompt development of acceptance mechanisms is required. Okinawa, which is in the center of Asia where economy is growing significantly, is developing a tourism brand of Okinawa and the environment to accept tourists with consideration for resort demand for long stays and the diversifying market.

Promotion of tourism development

Naha Airport (Photo credit: Cinema Okinawa)

The largest duty-free store in Japan T Galleria Okinawa by DFS

Bamboo Shinyokan, which was selected as the venue for the Kyushu-Okinawa G8 Summit 2000 and can be used as a MICE event location including international conferences

Okinawa Convention Center: multi-function complex used as an exhibition hall, convention hall and theater

A soccer camp for a professional team was held in Haifa Town (Photo: Nagoya Glamou)

Furuzamami Beach in the Kerama Islands National Park offers diving and snorkeling

(Top) Resort wedding on the beach (Bottom) The warm climate allows people to enjoy playing golf throughout the year

Establishment of Okinawa brand

Coral dyeing workshop (Shuri Ryusen)

Traditional craft - pottery workshop for tourists
Seamless network of people, products and information
- Bridge between exchanges and development in Asia

In order to hand down and develop the efforts that have been made towards the development of a self-sustaining economy by private entities and to develop a “sound and flexible self-sustaining economy that bridges Japan and the world,” the prefecture will further develop the leading industries such as tourism resort and information and communications. It also focuses on the development of airport and harbor-based industries in order to create new leading industries.

Creating a hub for international logistics

International business convention in which buyers from Asia and food companies in Japan gather

(Top) International Logistics Hub Industry Cluster Zone, Naha Area
(Bottom) Logistics Center, International Logistics Hub Industry Cluster Zone, Naha Area

Creation of a “smart hub” – a leading international information and communications center

IT-related event hall

IT workshop for elementary and junior high school students

Development of infrastructure to build a self-sustaining economy

Nakagusuku, Bay is expected to become a center that supports self-sustaining development

Naha Port has been upgraded for the creation of an international logistics center

Logistics system using marine vessels (Motobu Port, northern base port)

Flamined installation of a railway that would connect Naha and Nago in 1 hour

New Ishigaki Airport, which has been improved as a center for international exchanges and logistics

Okinawa west coast road has been improved (Source: The Okinawa Times Company)
Science and technology/development of intellectual industrial clusters

- Aspire to developing an “intellectual exchange base” in the Asia-Pacific region

In order to develop an “intellectual exchange base” that is rooted in Okinawa and open to the world, setting the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, University of the Ryukyus and Okinawa National College of Technology as the core institutions and “healthcare” and “environment and energy” as the core fields, industry, government and academia cooperate with each other through various measures. The government promotes the creation of international “intellectual industrial clusters” that generates new businesses and industries using research achievements made through these measures.

Infrastructure development for research and exchange

Promotion of the development of intellectual industrial clusters

University of the Ryukyus promotes advanced joint research

Okinawa National College of Technology where students learn basic technical knowledge

Advancement of local industries

Okinawa IT Shiryo Park as an IT bridge connecting Japan and Asia

Human resources development in science and technology

A class for the development of industry-ready engineers

(Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology located in the central Okinawa Mainland
(bottom left) Investigation and restoration of cultural assets in Okinawa using research device (OIST / Giner)
(bottom right) Students from all over the world gather in a lounge to discuss science (OIST / Mary)