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## Memo:

- The unofficial translation by @Buraku-Stories.
- Translated with the help of DeepL (<https://www.deepl.com/en/translator>).
- I added the original Japanese title of some laws (in romaji). The original title in Japanese characters can be found in the Japanese version of the laws
- There are possible a lot of errors in the translation, especially in the Supplementary Provisions. If you find any, please let me know!

# Special Measures Law for *Dōwa* Projects

Law Number 60 (10.07.1969)

(Goal)

## Article 1

In accordance with the principles of the Constitution of Japan, which guarantees the fundamental human rights to all citizens, the purpose of this Law is to clarify the objectives of the Measures conducted by the cooperation of State and local governments in areas where historical and social reasons prevented the stabilisation and improvement of living conditions (hereinafter referred to as “designated areas”), and to contribute to the cultivation of economic strength, the stabilisation of the living conditions of the residents and the improvement of their welfare, etc. in the designated areas, by taking special measures necessary to achieve these objectives.

(*Dōwa* Measure Projects)

## Article 2

In this law “*Dōwa* Measure Projects” means projects realized that are listed under the Sixth Article

(Responsibility of the citizens)

## Article 3

All citizens must understand the main purpose of the *Dōwa* Measure Projects, mutually respect basic human rights, and endeavour to cooperate in the smooth implementation of the *Dōwa* Measure Projects

(Responsibilities of national and local governments)

Article 4

The State and local governments shall endeavour to promote the implementation of *Dōwa* Measure Projects in a prompt and scheduled manner.

(Goal of the *Dōwa* Measures Projects)

Article 5

The goal of the *Dōwa* Measure Projects shall be the elimination of various factors that unfairly hinder the improvement of the social and economic status of the residents of the designated areas by improving their living environment, promoting social welfare, promoting industry, stabilising jobs, improving education, and strengthening human rights protection activities in the designated areas.

(National Policies)

Article 6

In order to achieve the goal of Article 1, the State shall take the necessary Measures comprehensively through policies with regard to every matter listed in the following

1. Measures to improve the living environment in the designated areas, including the arrangement of areas, improvement of housing conditions, and the development of public and living environment facilities.
2. Measures such as the development of social welfare and public health facilities in order to improve and promote social welfare and public health in the designated areas.
3. Measures to promote agriculture, forestry, and fisheries in the designated areas, including the introduction of facilities for the improvement and development of the production infrastructure of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries and for the modernisation of their management.

4. Measures to promote small and medium-sized enterprises in the designated area, including rationalisation of the management, modernisation of equipment and improvement of technology.
5. Measures to promote employment and job security for the residents of the designated areas, by enhancing vocational guidance and training, and promoting job introductions.
6. Measures to improve school and social education for the residents of the designated areas, including the encouragement to higher education and the development of social education facilities.
7. Measures to strengthen human rights protection activities for residents in the designated areas, such as improving human rights protection institutions, promoting, and uplifting human rights ideas, and promoting human rights counselling activities.
8. Measures in addition to the Measures s listed in the preceding paragraphs to achieve the goal set out in the preceding article.

### (Special Subsidies)

#### Article 7

The burden or assistance for the costs of the *Dōwa* Measure Projects which are borne or subsidised by the State, shall be calculated within the limits of the budget by a ratio of two-third, unless otherwise provided for in a Cabinet Order.

(2) In the case of the preceding paragraph, where a legal provision stipulates a proportion of the State's contribution or assistance that is less than two-third, the proportion shall be changed to two-thirds by a Cabinet Order.

### (Policies of local governments)

#### Article 8

Local authorities shall endeavour to take the necessary Measures in accordance with national policies.

## (Municipal Bonds (*chihōsai*))

### Article 9

Expenses required by local governments for the implementation of *Dōwa* Measure Projects may be financed by municipal bonds, even if such expenses do not fall under any of the items of Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Local Finance Act (Act No. 109 of 1948).

(2) Municipal bonds issued to finance the expenses required by local governments for the implementation of *Dōwa* Measure Projects shall be fully financed by the State from the funds of the Trust Fund Bureau or from the reserve fund of the special account for postal pensions and postal life insurance (*kaniseimeihoken oyobi yūbinnenkin tokubetsukaikei*), as far as the financial situation permits.

(Inclusion of principal and interest payments in the standard financial requirement)

### Article 10

Expenses required for the redemption of principal and interest on municipal bonds designated by the Minister of Home Affairs to finance the expenses required by local governments for *Dōwa* Measure Projects shall be included in the amount of standard fiscal demand used in the calculation of the amount of local government grants tax to be granted to the said local governments, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Grants Tax Act (Act No. 211 of 1950).

(Cooperation with relevant government agencies, etc.)

### Article 11

The heads of the administrative bodies concerned, and the heads of the local governments concerned shall cooperate with each other to ensure the smooth implementation of the *Dōwa* Measure Projects.

## Supplementary Provisions

(Date of Enforcement)

(1) This law shall become effective from the date of promulgation.

(Date of Expiry)

(2) This Law shall cease its effect from 31 March 1979.

(Partial amendment of the Municipal Tax Law (*chihō kōfuzei hō*))

(3) Part of the Municipal Tax Law is amended as follows.

In the Supplementary Provisions, paragraph 16 shall be replaced by paragraph 18 and the following two paragraphs shall be added after paragraph 15

Paragraph 16

For the time being, the standard fiscal demand to be used in the calculation of the amount of grant tax granted to local entities shall be the amount calculated in accordance with Article 11, plus the amount obtained by multiplying the unit cost of the unit of Measures for the types of expenses listed in the following table by the value of the unit of Measures calculated in accordance with the following paragraph.

Types of expenses	Unit of Measures	Unit costs	
		Yen	Sen
Reimbursement on expenditure of <i>Dōwa</i> Measure Projects	Principal and interest repayments on municipal bonds authorised to be issued to finance the costs of <i>Dōwa</i> Measure Projects	per thousand yen 800	00

Paragraph 17

The values of the units of measurements referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be calculated as prescribed by the Ordinance of the Ministry of Home Affairs on the basis of the units of indication listed in the lower column of the following table according to the basis of calculation listed in the upper column of the same table.

Basis for the calculation of the Measurement units	Indication unit
Principal and interest repayments in the relevant year in respect of municipal bonds authorised are issued to finance the costs of the <i>Dōwa</i> Measure Projects and designated by the Minister of Home Affairs pursuant to Article 10 of the Act on Special Measures Law for <i>Dōwa</i> Projects (Act No. 60 of 1969).	In Thousands

(Signed by the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Justice, Finance, Education, Health, Agriculture, Trade and Industry, Labour, Construction and Home Affairs)

# The Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement

Law Number 16 (31.03.1982)

(Goal)

## Article 1

In accordance with the principles of the Constitution of Japan, which guarantees the fundamental human rights to all citizens, the purpose of this Law shall be to contribute to the cultivation of economic strength, the stabilisation of the lives of residents and the improvement of welfare in areas where historical and social reasons prevented the stabilisation and improvement of living conditions (hereinafter referred to as “designated areas”) by taking special Measures necessary for the smooth implementation of projects specified by Cabinet Order concerning the improvement of the living environment, industrial promotion, job security, education, enhancement of human rights protection activities, promotion of social welfare, etc. (hereinafter referred to as “Measure projects for regional improvement”) in the designated areas.

(Promotion, etc. of Measure projects for regional improvement)

## Article 2

In order to achieve the goals of the preceding Article, the State and local governments shall cooperate and endeavour to promote Measure projects for regional improvement in a prompt and comprehensive manner.

(2) In implementing Measure projects for regional improvement, the State and local governments shall strive to ensure the unity of the designated and the surrounding area and to operate the projects in a fair manner.

(3) Citizens must understand the main purpose of the Measure projects for regional improvement, mutually respect basic human rights and endeavour to cooperate in the smooth implementation of the Measure projects for regional improvement.



## (Special Subsidies)

### Article 3

The burden or assistance for the costs of the Measure projects for regional improvement which are borne or subsidised by the State, shall be calculated within the limits of the budget by a ratio of two-third, unless otherwise provided for in a Cabinet Order.

(2) In the case of the preceding paragraph, where a legal provision stipulates a proportion of the State's contribution or assistance that is less than two-third, the proportion shall be changed to two-thirds by a Cabinet Order.

## (Municipal Bonds (*chihōsai*))

### Article 4

Expenses required by local governments for the implementation of Measure projects for regional improvement may be financed by municipal bonds, even if such expenses do not fall under any of the items of Article 5(1) of the Local Finance Act (Act No. 109 of 1948).

(2) Municipal bonds issued to finance the expenses required by local governments for the implementation of Measure projects for regional improvement shall be fully financed by the State from the funds of the Trust Fund Bureau or from the reserve fund of the special account for postal pensions and postal life insurance (*kaniseimeihoken oyobi yūbinnenkin tokubetsukaikei*), as far as the financial situation permits.

(Inclusion of principal and interest payments in the standard financial requirement)

## Article 5

Expenses required for the redemption of principal and interest on municipal bonds designated by the Minister of Home Affairs to finance the expenses required by local governments for Measure projects for regional improvement shall be included in the amount of standard fiscal demand used in the calculation of the amount of local government grants tax to be granted to the said local governments, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Grants Tax Act (Act No. 211 of 1950).

## Supplementary Provisions

(Date of Enforcement)

(1) This law shall become effective from 01.04.1982.

(Date of Expiry)

(2) This Law shall cease its effect from 31 March 1987.

However, the provisions of Articles 3 to 5 shall remain effective with regard to Measure projects for regional improvement implemented with the State's contribution or assistance pertaining to expenditure budgets for the years before 1986 that have been carried over to year 1987 and subsequent ones, the provisions of Article 5 with regard to municipal bonds authorised for issue in the years before 1986 to be used for funding Measure projects for regional improvement, and the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Supplementary Provisions shall remain in force.

(Transitional Measures)

(3) The provisions of Articles 7, 9 and 10 of the Special Measures Law for *Dōwa* Projects (hereinafter referred to as the "Old Law") shall remain effective with regard to the *Dōwa* Measure Projects provided for in Article 2 of the Old Law implemented by the State contributions or subsidies which are to be expended in 1982 and subsequent years on the basis of the Act of the national budget debt (*Kokko saimu futan kō'i*) of 1981 and earlier, and State contributions or subsidies pertaining to the expenditure budget of 1981 and earlier years which are carried over to 1982 and subsequent years.

(4) The provisions of Article 10 of the Old Law shall remain in effect with regard to municipal bonds authorised to finance the costs of the *Dōwa* Measures s Projects in fiscal years prior to 1981.

(Partial amendment of the Municipal Tax Law (*chihō kōfuzei hō*))

(5) Part of the Municipal Tax Law is amended as follows.

In the table in Article 9, paragraph 1 of the Supplementary Provisions, "Reimbursements on expenditure of *Dōwa* Measure Projects" is replaced by "Reimbursements on the expenditure of Measure projects for regional improvement", "*Dōwa* Measure Projects Expenses" by "Measure projects for regional improvement or *Dōwa* Measure Projects Expenses", and "the Special Measures Law for *Dōwa* Projects" by "the Special Measures Law for Regional Improvements (Law No. 16 of 1982), Article 5 or Old Special Measures Law for *Dōwa* Projects".

(6) The provisions of Article 9 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Municipal Tax Law as amended under the preceding paragraph shall apply from the Municipal Tax in the fiscal year 1982.

(Partial amendment to the Law establishing the Prime Minister's Office (*sōrifu secchi hō*))

(7) Part of the Law establishing the Prime Minister's Office (Act No. 127 of 1949) is amended as follows.

The section of the Table of the Advisory Council for Regional Improvements (*Chiiki kaizen taisaku kyōgikai*) under Article 15.1 shall be replaced with the following new paragraph.

Advisory Council for Regional Improvements ( <i>Chiiki Kaizen Taisaku Kyōgikai</i> )	To study and deliberate on basic matters relating to Measures ss to be promoted as Measure Projects for regional improvement in the designated areas as provided in Article 1 of the Special Measures Law for Regional Improvements (Act No. 16 of 1982), which require close liaison between the relevant administrative bodies.
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Paragraph 4 of the Supplementary Provisions is replaced by the following

(4) Of the subsidiary bodies listed in the table in Article 15, paragraph 1, the Advisory Council for Regional Improvements shall remain in place until 31 March 1987.

(Signed by the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Justice, Finance, Education, Health, Agriculture, Trade and Industry, Labour, Construction and Home Affairs)

# Law on Special Measures within the National Fund for specific regional improvement Projects

Law Number 22 (31.03.1987)

(Intention)

## Article 1

This Law shall provide for special subsidies and other special financial measures of the State and local governments for the smooth and rapid implementation of specific projects for regional improvement undertaken by the State and local governments.

(Specific Projects for Regional Improvement)

## Article 2

The term “Specific Projects for Regional Improvement” as used in this Law means projects relating to improvement of the living environment, promotion of industry, job security, enhancement of education, strengthening of human rights protection activities, promotion of social welfare, etc., which are deemed particularly necessary to be continued in the designated areas prescribed in Article 1 of the former Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement Projects (hereinafter referred to as “the old Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement Projects; Act No. 16 of 1982) where such projects were implemented and are specified in a Cabinet Order.

(2) The State and local governments shall cooperate to ensure the smooth and prompt implementation of specific projects for regional improvement.

## (Special Subsidies)

### Article 3

The burden or assistance for the costs of the specific projects for regional improvement which are borne or subsidised by the State, shall be calculated within the limits of the budget by a ratio of two-third, unless otherwise provided for in a Cabinet Order.

(2) In the case of the preceding paragraph, where a legal provision stipulates a proportion of the State's contribution or assistance that is less than two-third, the proportion shall be changed to two-thirds by a Cabinet Order.

## (Municipal Bonds (*chihōsai*))

### Article 4

Expenses required by local governments for the implementation of specific projects for regional improvement may be financed by municipal bonds, even if such expenses do not fall under any of the items of Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Local Finance Act (Act No. 109 of 1948).

(2) Municipal bonds issued to finance the expenses required by local governments for the implementation of specific projects for regional improvement shall be fully financed by the State from the funds of the Trust Fund Bureau or from the reserve fund of the special account for postal pensions and postal life insurance (*kaniseimeihoken oyobi yūbinnenkin tokubetsukaikei*), as far as the financial situation permits.

(Inclusion of principal and interest payments in the standard financial requirement)

## Article 5

Expenses required for the redemption of principal and interest on municipal bonds designated by the Minister of Home Affairs to finance the expenses required by local governments for specific projects for regional improvement shall be included in the amount of standard fiscal demand used in the calculation of the amount of local government grants tax to be granted to the said local governments, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Grants Tax Act (Act No. 211 of 1950).

## Supplementary Provisions

(Date of Enforcement, etc)

### Article 1

This law shall become effective from 01.04.1992.

(2) This Law shall cease its effect from 31 March 1992.

However, the provisions of Articles 3 to 5 shall apply to specific projects for regional improvement implemented with the states' contributions or assistance pertaining to expenditure budgets for the years before 1992 and subsequent years based on the national debt burden act for the years before 1991 and the national government's contributions or subsidies related to the expenditure budget for the years before 1991 that are carried over to 1992 and subsequent the years, the provisions of Article 5 and the provisions of paragraph 2 of the following Article shall remain in force in respect of municipal bonds authorised to be issued to finance specific projects for community improvement measures in the years prior to 1991.

## (Transitional Measures)

### Article 2

The provisions of Article 3 and Article 4 of the old Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement shall remain effective with regard to Measure projects for regional Improvement provided for in Article 1 of the old Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement which commenced development in 1986 or earlier and have not been completed as of 31 March 1987 and which are specified by a Cabinet Order, and Measure projects for regional improvement which are to be expended 1987 and subsequent years on the basis of the Act of the national budget debt (*Kokko saimu futan kō'i*) of 1986 and earlier.

(2) The provisions of Article 5 of the old Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement shall remain in effect with regard to municipal bonds authorised to finance Measure projects for regional improvement as regulated in the preceding paragraph.

## (Partial amendment of the Municipal Tax Law (*chihō kōfuzei hō*))

### Article 3

Part of the Municipal Tax Law is amended as follows.

In the table in Article 6, paragraph 1 of the Supplementary Provisions, “Reimbursements on the expenditure of Measure projects for regional improvement” shall be changed to “Reimbursements on the expenditure of specific projects for regional improvement” and “Measure projects for regional improvement expenses” to “Specific projects for regional improvement expenses or Measure projects for regional improvement expenses”, in the table in paragraph 2 of the same article, “Measure projects for regional improvement expenses” shall be changed to “Specific projects for regional improvement expenses or Measure projects for regional improvement expenses”, and “the Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement” shall be replaced by “the Law on Special Measures within the National Fund for specific regional improvement Projects (Law No. 22 of 1987), Article 5, or the old Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement”.



#### Article 4

The provisions of Article 6 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Municipal Tax Law as amended under the preceding paragraph shall apply from the Municipal Tax in the fiscal year 1987.

(Partial amendment to the Law establishing the General Affairs Agency (*sōrifu secchi hō*))

#### Article 5

Part of the Law establishing the Prime Minister's Office (Law No. 79 of 1983) is amended as follows.

In Article 4.44 to 4.46, “Measure projects for regional improvement” is replaced by “Specific projects for regional improvement”, and in Article 4.47, “the Special Measures Law for Regional Improvement (Law No. 16 of 1982)” is replaced by “the Law on Special Measures within the National Fund for specific regional improvement Projects (Law No. 22 of 1987)”.

(Signed by the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Justice, Finance, Education, Health, Agriculture, Trade and Industry, Labour, Construction and Home Affairs)