Athlete development pathway in Japanese elite sports: Approach of Athlete Pathway Development Project by the Japan Sport Council

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Athlete Pathway Development Project
1. Background
Our Challenge in the last decade

2. Significant
Why we build the new high performance athlete pathway

3. Our New Challenge
What we think and what we do for our future
**Why did we develop and promote regional TID in the last decade?**

### Before 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our Strength</th>
<th>Our Weakness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Many Children (approx. 75%) join competitive sports at secondary school level (age 13-15).</td>
<td>• The choice of sports for pupils is limited; in many school, only major sports are offered.</td>
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<td>• Regional goverments have the fund for high performance sports, aiming to win at the National Sports Festival (the national games).</td>
<td>• Training base disappears when they go to a school of next grade because sports activities in school depend on school calendar</td>
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<td>• Some regional goverments have their own institutions to provide sports science - based support.</td>
<td>• Most of young athletes may not receive specific coaching because a teacher is a coach in school teams</td>
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Why did we develop and promote the reginal TID in the last decade?

**Under the Sport Promotion Plan (2001-2011)**

JSC has concentrated on the following points;

- Developing the system in which each talened child can find a suitedable sports for him/her.
- Making the full used of resources of the local governments (budgets, facilities, staffs for national sports festival)
- Strengthening the partnership between JSC-Local government for athlete development
JSC is the national HQ of the network of the regional TID programs

- Bifuka (2005)
  - Transfer sports

- Wakayama (2006)
  - MulH-sports

- Kyoto (2011)
  - Target sports

- Yamagata (2009)
  - Multi-sports

- Fukuoka (2004)
  - MulH-sports

- Kamikawa (2009)
  - Target sports

- Akita (2009)
  - Target sports

- Iwate (2007)
  - Multi-sports

- Nagano (2009)
  - Target sports

- Saitama (2011)
  - Multi-sports

- Tokyo (2009)
  - Transfer sports
Today in Japanese elite sports

• Declining population / the Aging society = Reducing in population of children

• The Basic Act on Sport was enacted in June 2011 = the renewal after 50 years

• Targeting the 5th place in summer games (The Sports Basic Plan, established in 2012)

• Medal winning sports are limited (eg. wrestling, judo, gymnastics, swimming)
Table. The number of Medal Potential Athletes and their success rate for London 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Multi-year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. USA</td>
<td>196 (26%)</td>
<td>148 (20%)</td>
<td>248 (36%)</td>
<td>131 (39%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. CHN</td>
<td>138 (27%)</td>
<td>133 (23%)</td>
<td>195 (31%)</td>
<td>107 (41%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. GBR</td>
<td>134 (18%)</td>
<td>118 (31%)</td>
<td>149 (29%)</td>
<td>84 (43%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPN</td>
<td>77 (17%)</td>
<td>92 (33%)</td>
<td>122 (34%)</td>
<td>58 (29%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Medal Potential Athletes = winning over the 8th place in world championships
Performance Enhancement for elite athletes

- High performance Science Support Service
- High Performance Training Center

Talent Identification
Performance Enhancement for elite athletes

- High performance Science Support Service
- High Performance Training Center

High Performance Athlete Pathway
- To increase the number of Medal Potential Athlete

Talent Identification
Athelete Pathway Development Project
What are we doing for developing the high performance athlete pathway?

1. Re-innovate the regional TID programs with regional governments
2. The new development system for the medal potential athletes, which focuses on the young athletes (partnerships with the NSOs)
3. Developing the rich program of talented athlete development (JSC)
Key Programs in our project

• National TID Program
• Talente Challenge Program
• Athlete lifestyle Program
• International Pathway Program
World Class Training Facilities

Excellent Coaching

Training and Competition with the foreign rivals

Exposing the cross cultural environment

International Pathway Program
Our guiding principal

- Leadership
- Solution
- Future
Raise the future with the power of sport

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