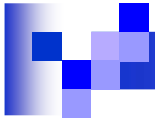


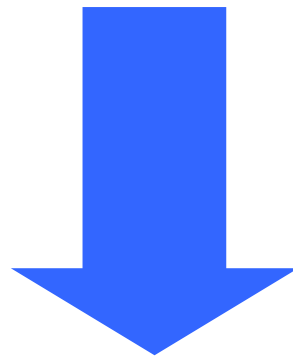
Japanese Local Government

Yasuhiko Tanabe

Director, CLAIR SYDNEY

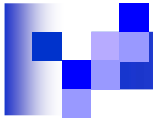


Japan Local Government Centre
(CLAIR Sydney)



Council of Local Authorities for
International Relations

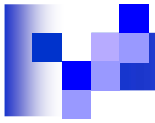




Principle 1

- Japanese local government is based on the Constitution of Japan.
- Local Autonomy Law and other Laws decide which services are delivered in each local government area.
- Local government is responsible for actual operation of services.





Tiers of Government

(JAPAN)

**Central
Government**

Local Government

**Prefectural
Government**

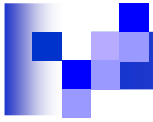
**Municipal
Government**
(City, Town & Village)

(AUSTRALIA)

Commonwealth

**State
Government**

**Local
Government**
(Council, Shire..)



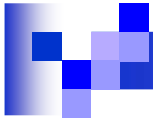
Prefectures (47)

- **Populations range from 590,000 to 13 million**
- **Incorporate wide areas covering between 15 to 179 municipalities**

Municipalities (1,742)

- **Cities (787), Tokyo's special wards (23), Towns (748) & Villages (184)**
- **Populations range from 170 to 3.7 million**
- **Different responsibilities based on population**

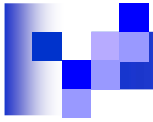




Principle 2

- Whenever possible, service delivery should first go to the **municipalities**, then to the **prefectures**, and only when their governments cannot handle a task should it go to the **Central Government**.





Municipality

- **Provides basic services and infrastructure to community**

e.g.) • resident registration

- welfare & health services
- compulsory education (yrs 1-9)
- rubbish collection and disposal, recycling, environment protection
- fire & ambulance service
- community roads, water supply, sewage, cultural & recreational facilities
- city planning

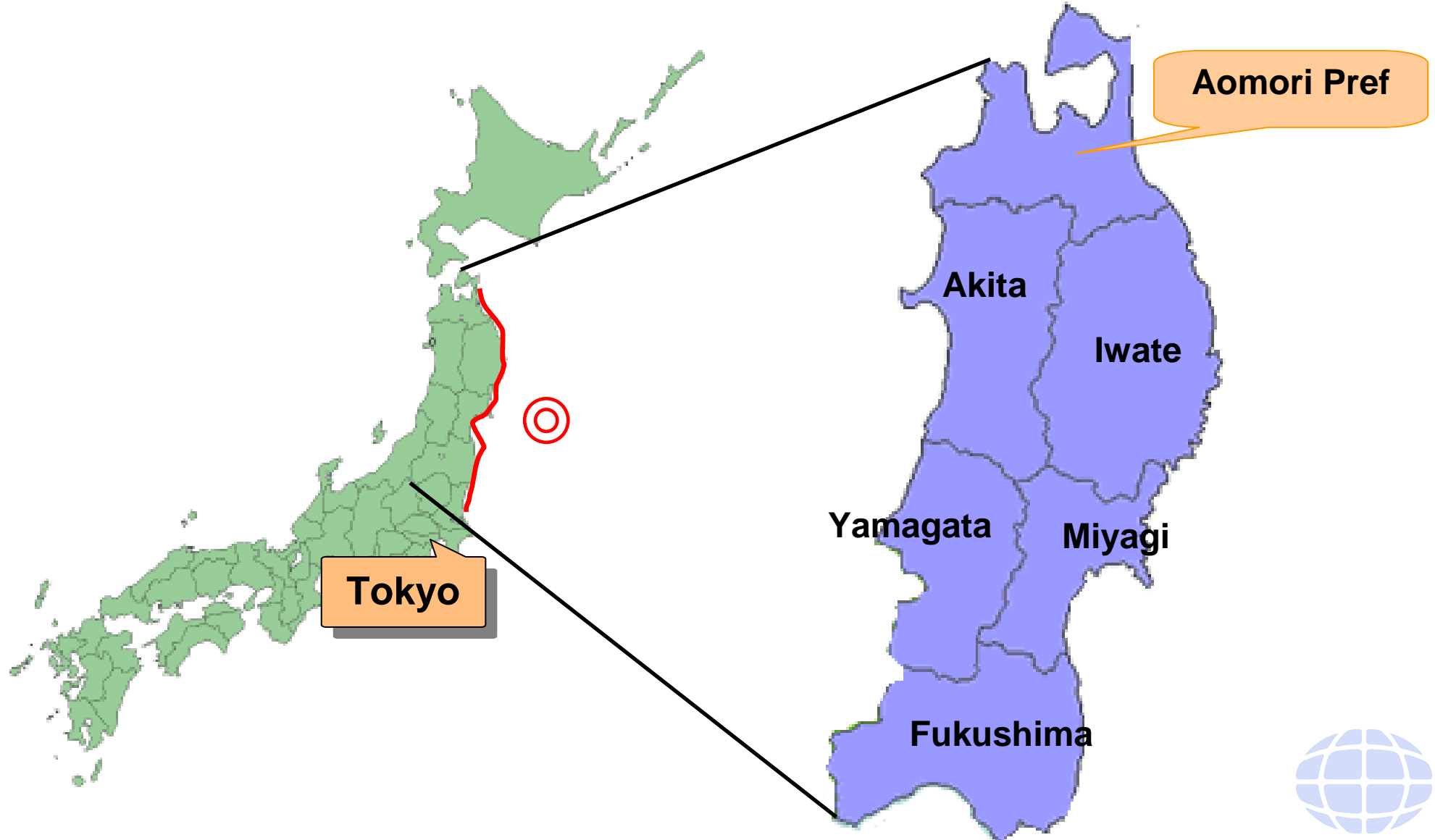
***Major cities also administer some roles and responsibilities of prefectures**





Where is Tohoku?

Tohoku Area



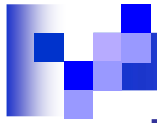


When a disaster strikes your council



The next morning





Each government's role in disaster management and reconstruction

Central Government

National level coordination

- Self defense force
- Financial assistance to local governments

Prefectural Government

Prefectural level coordination

- Working with municipalities
- Recovery of local economy and industry

Municipal Government

Primary responsibility for disaster management

- Issuing evacuation orders
- Help and support for victims
- Operation of shelters

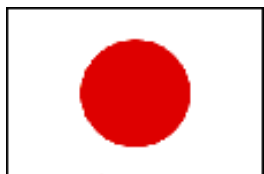


Local Public Finance – Expenditure

2008/09



446.1 billion
Dollars



150 trillion 306.2
billion Yen

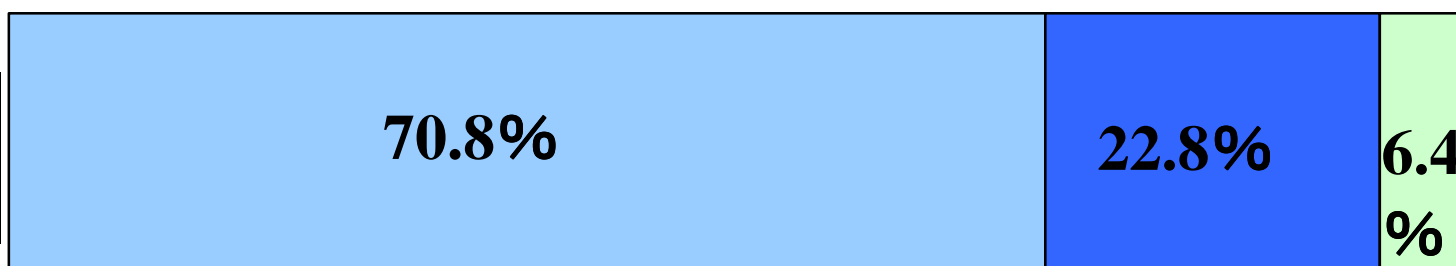
- Commonwealth/Central Govt
- State Govt/Prefectures
- Local Govt/Municipalities



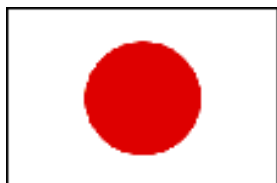


Local Public Finance – Revenue

2008/09



421.1 billion
Dollars



157 trillion 364.4
billion Yen

- Commonwealth/Central Govt
- State Govt/Prefectures
- Local Govt/Municipalities





Amalgamation of Municipalities

Changes in numbers of municipalities

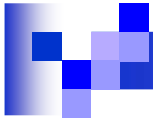
Year	No. of Municipalities
1953	9,868
1956	3,975
1999	3,232
2008	1,788 (as of 1 April)

Great amalgamation of
Showa Era

Great amalgamation of
Heisei Era

(excluding Tokyo's 23 special wards)

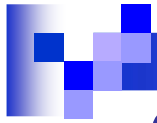




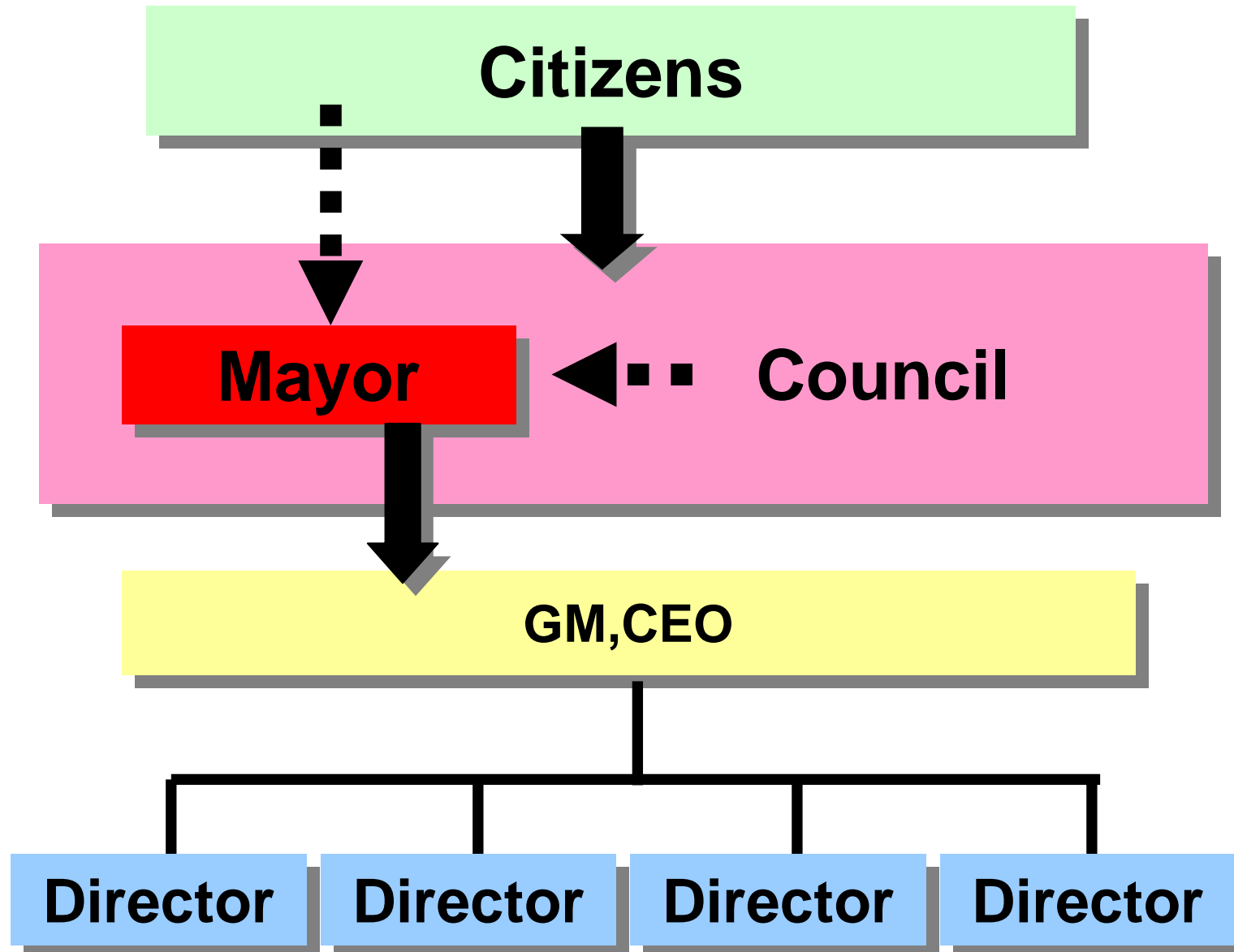
Principle 3

- Japanese local government adopts the Presidential System.
- Executive power and legislative power are mutually independent, checking on each other.



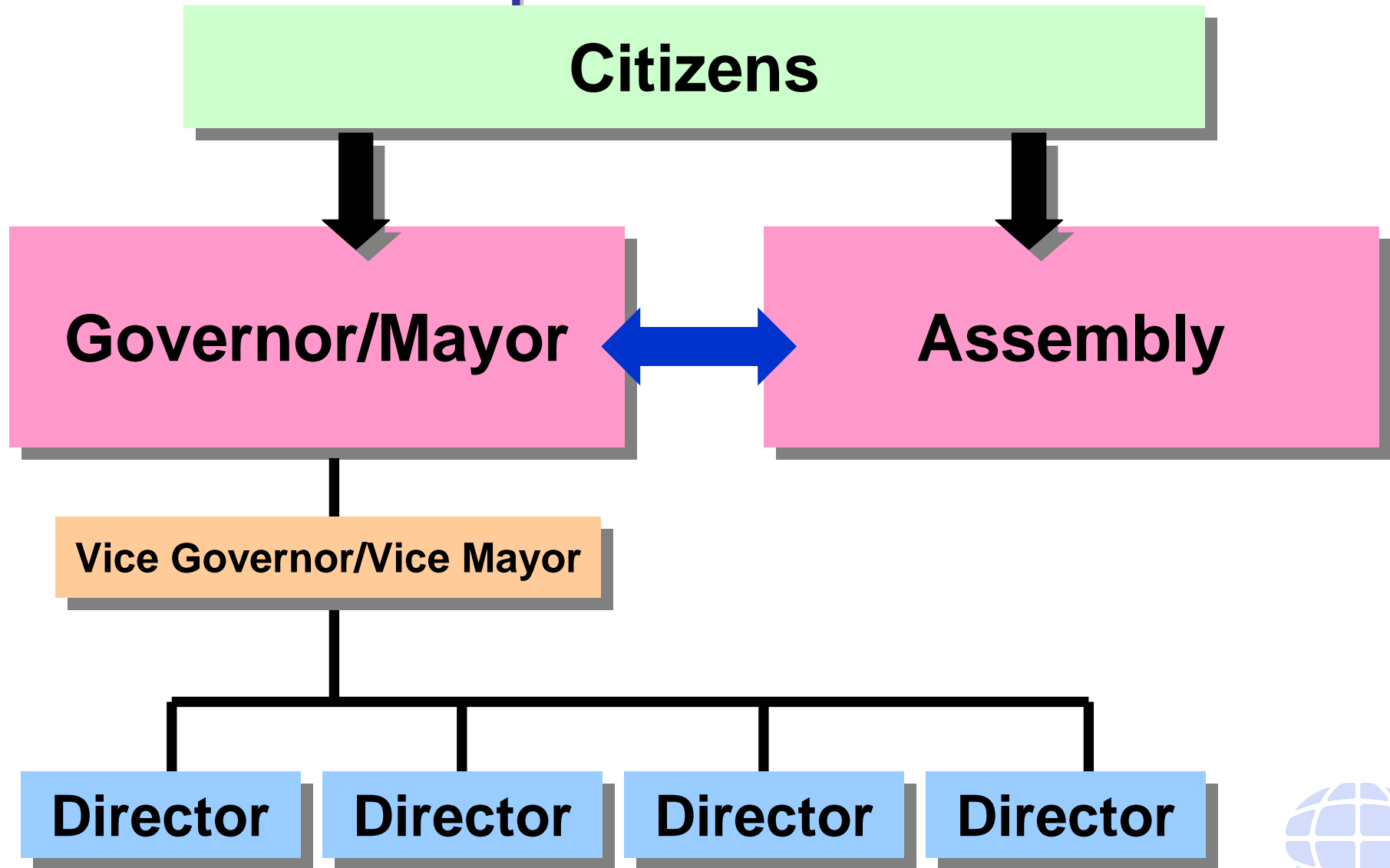


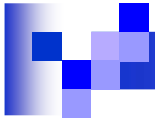
Structure - Australia





Structure - Japan



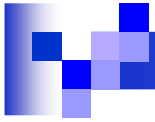


Governor/Mayor → Executive Power

- **Directly elected by the citizens (4-year term)**
- **Roles:**
 - Represent the prefecture/municipality
 - Chief executive of the local government
 - Impose taxes and charges
 - Permit expenditures
 - Appoint personnel
 - Make contracts/agreements
 - Strategise long-term plans

Governor: Chief executive of prefecture
Mayor: Chief executive of municipality

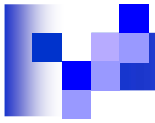




Assembly → Legislative Power

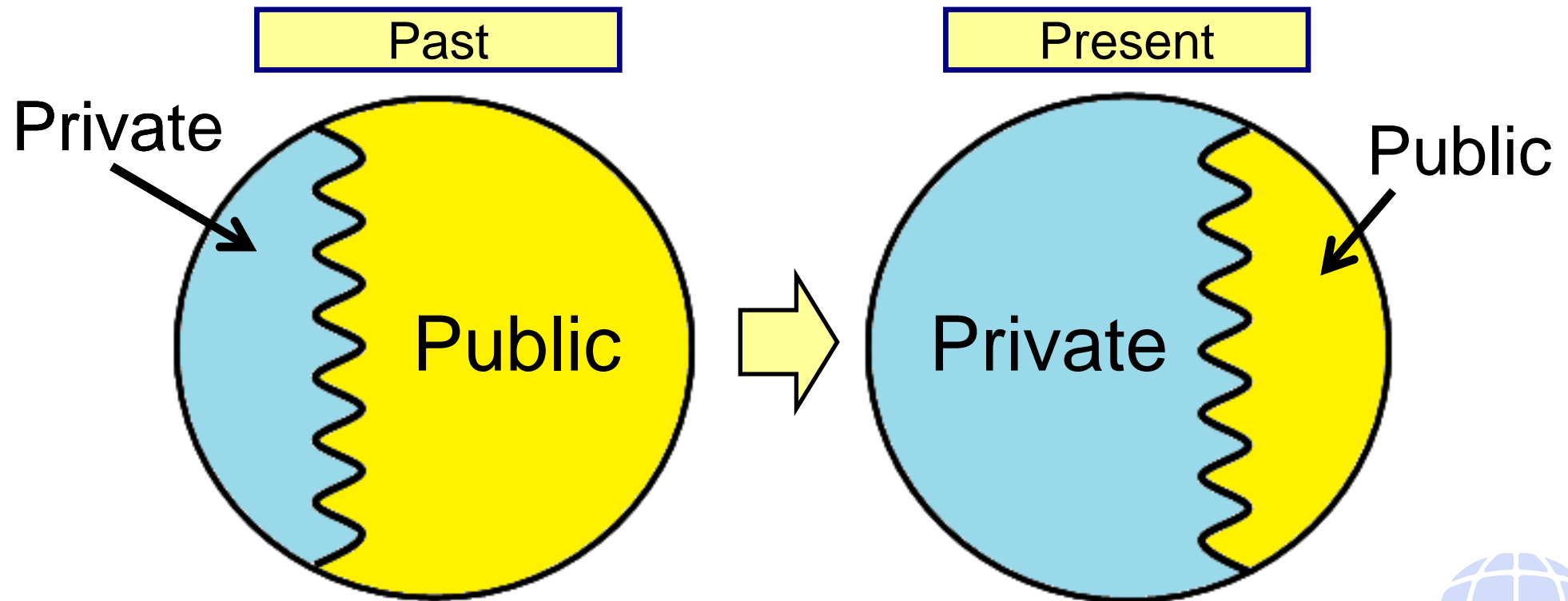
- **Directly elected by the citizens (4-year term)**
- **Number of members**
 - Prefectures 35 to 127
 - Municipalities 6 to 86
- **Roles:**
 - Enactment of by-laws (local Acts)
 - Approval of annual budget
 - Give assent to annual financial report
 - Give consent to top management appointments





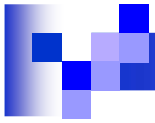
Principle 4

- Whenever possible, service delivery should first go to the private sector.



e.g. Japan Railway, Telephone Service, Postal Service

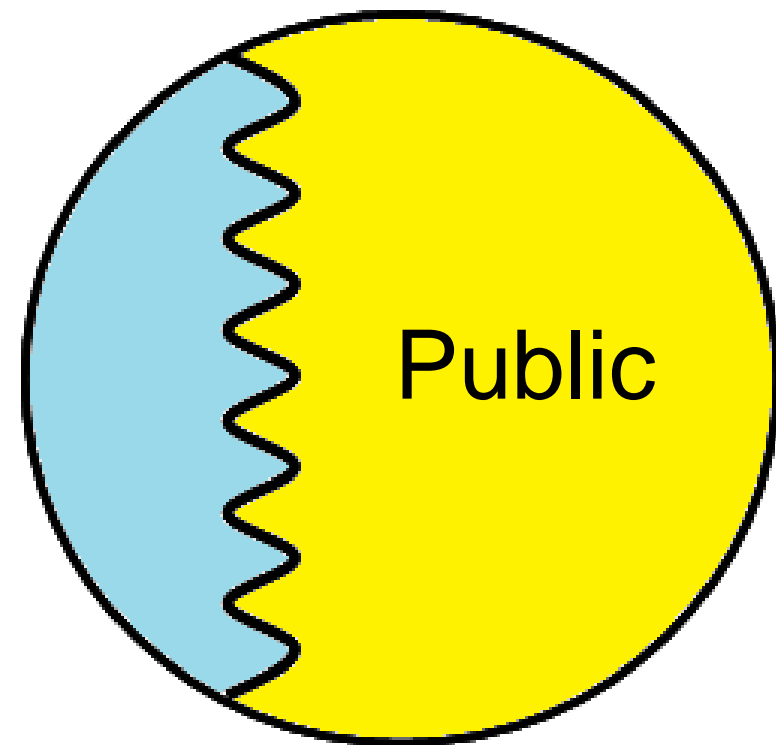
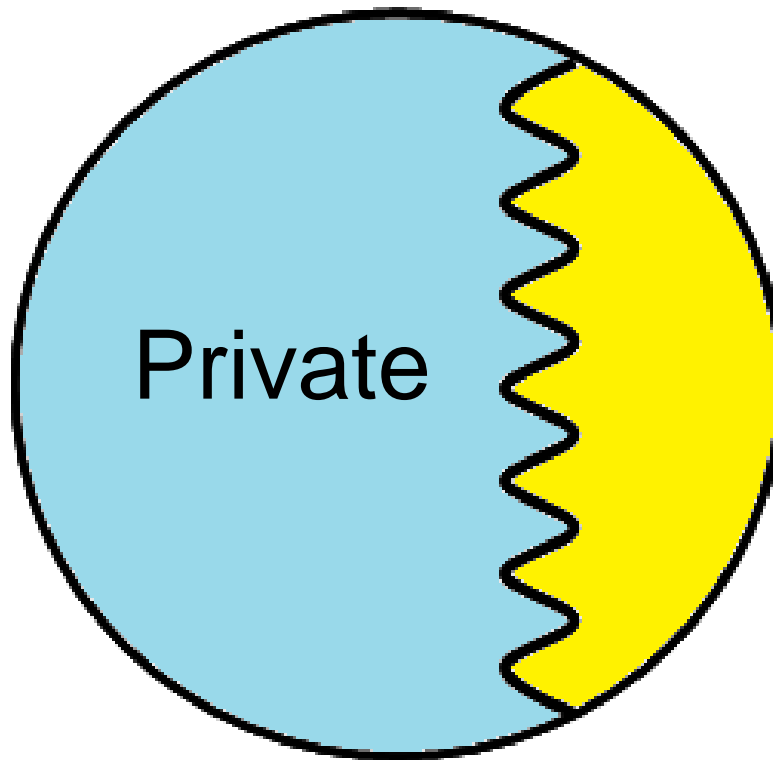




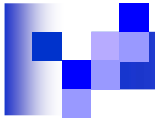
The difference in area

Metropolitan area

Rural area

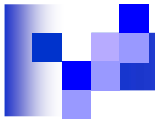


e.g. Transportation, Hospital



Outsourcing

- Library
- Museum
- Administration
- Daycare service



Principle 5

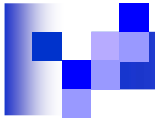
- Services should be more efficiently and effectively delivered.

→ *Regional Cooperative*

(organisation established by two or more municipalities)

e.g. Garbage disposal, Sewerage, Fire Services,
Personal training



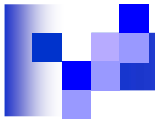


Changing Background

- Ageing Society
- Financial Difficulties
- Isolation of Rural Areas

Services should be delivered
not from a “This *and* That” model
but a “This *or* That” model





A new model: Regional Alliance

Core City ↔ **Surrounding Municipalities**

