

# *Current Status of NUMO Activities*

*(ACNW-NSC meeting in Tokyo)*

*16 May 2005*

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**NUMO**

**Nuclear Waste Management  
Organization of Japan**

# Legal System

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## **The Specified Radioactive Waste Final Disposal Act (Promulgated in 2000)**

- **High-level radioactive waste: Vitrified waste after reprocessing SF**
- **Definition of implementing organization: NUMO was approved by the government (METI) in 2000**
- **Stepwise siting process (three stages): PIAs, DIAs, RS**
- **Establishment of funding system**
- **Safety regulation will be legislated separately**

# The Role of NUMO

## For funding system

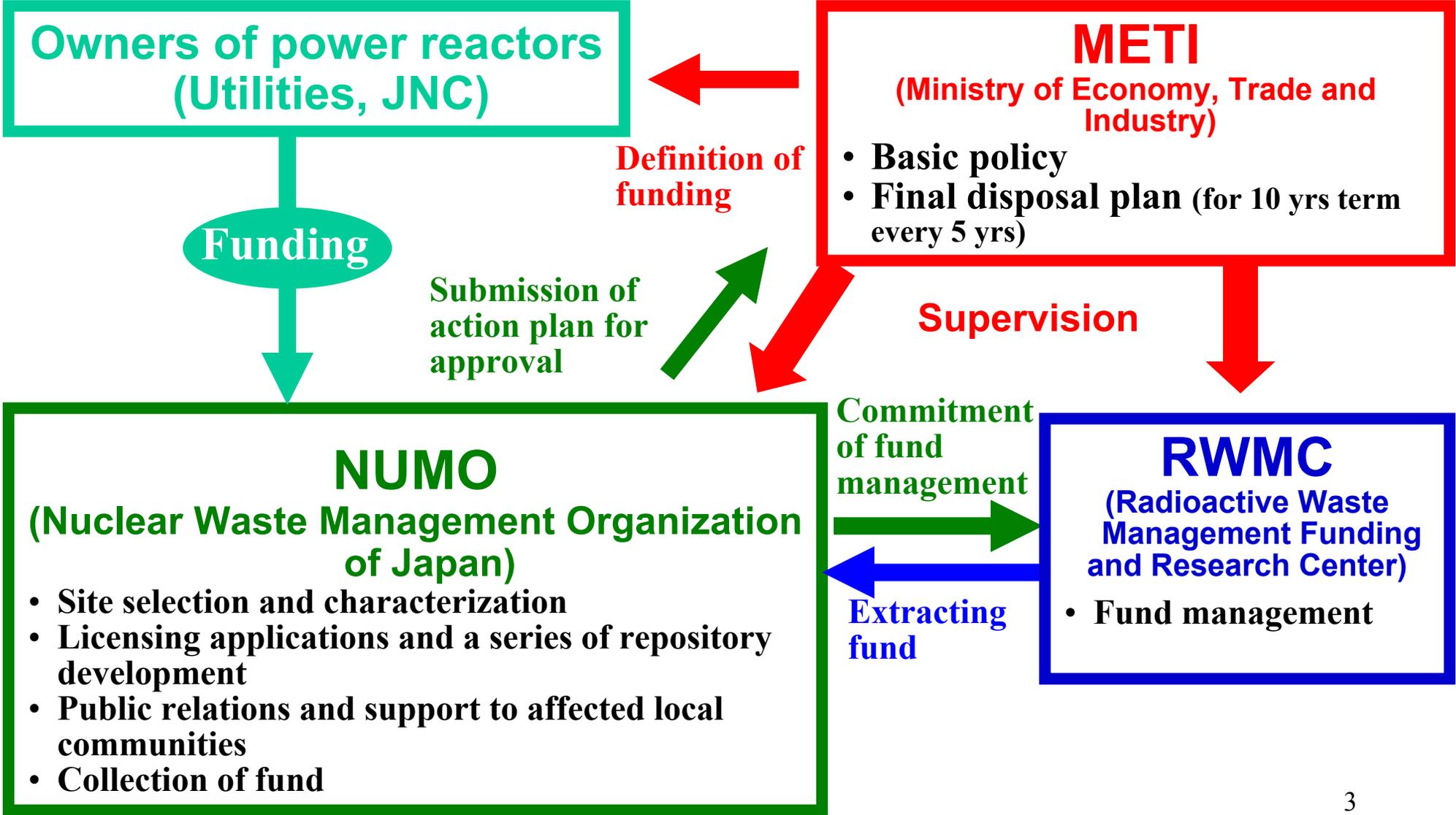
- collection of fund from waste producers (utilities and JNC)
- commitment of fund management to the designated organization  
(**RWMC**:Radioactive Waste Management Funding and Research Center)

## For implementation

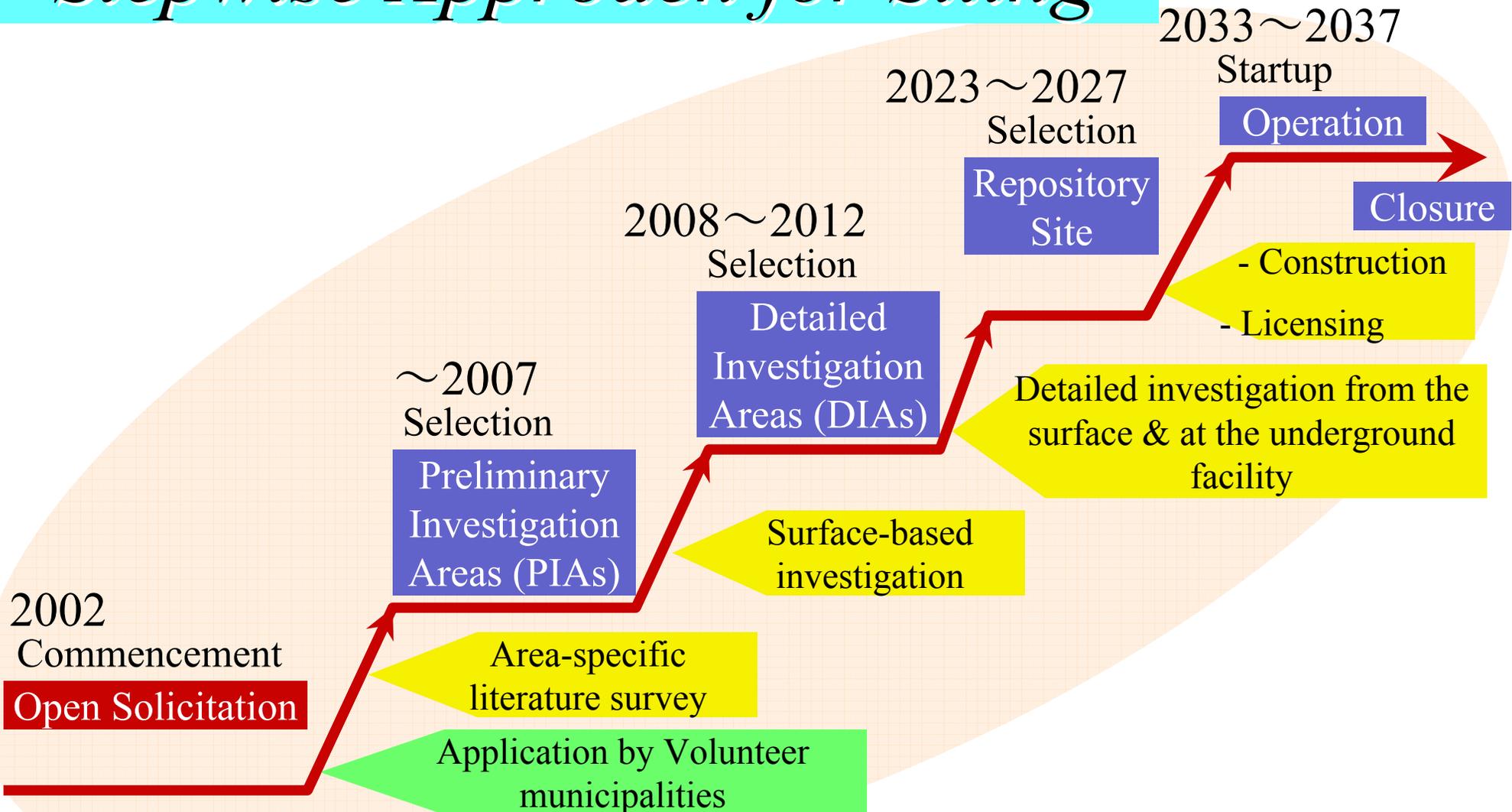
- site selection and characterisation
- R&D for siting and repository development
- licensing application for repository
- design/construction/operation/closure of repository
- promoting public understanding of HLW disposal
- supporting the infrastructures of local communities affected by repository program

# Framework of Implementation

“Specified Radioactive Waste Final Disposal Act (7 Jun., 2000)”

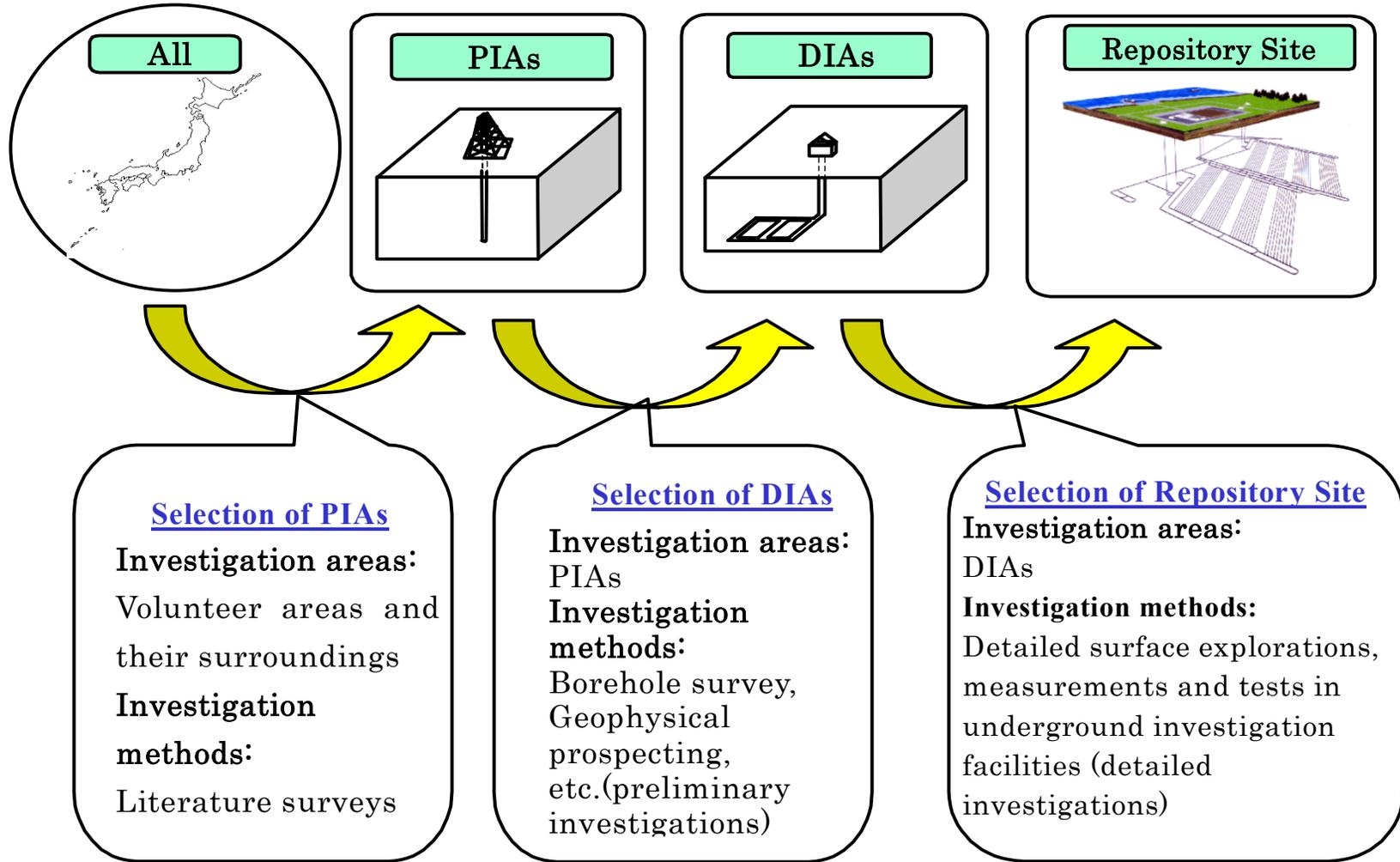


# Stepwise Approach for Siting



★ Dec. 19, 2002

# Three Stages of the Site Selection Process



# Start of Open Solicitation

**Announcement : Dec. 19, 2002**

**Sending the “Information Package” to all 3,239 municipalities in Japan.**

## “Information Package”

- **Instruction for Application**
- **Repository Concepts**
- **Siting Factors for the Selection of Preliminary Investigation Areas**
- **Outreach Scheme**



# **“Instructions for Application”**

## **General information for application**

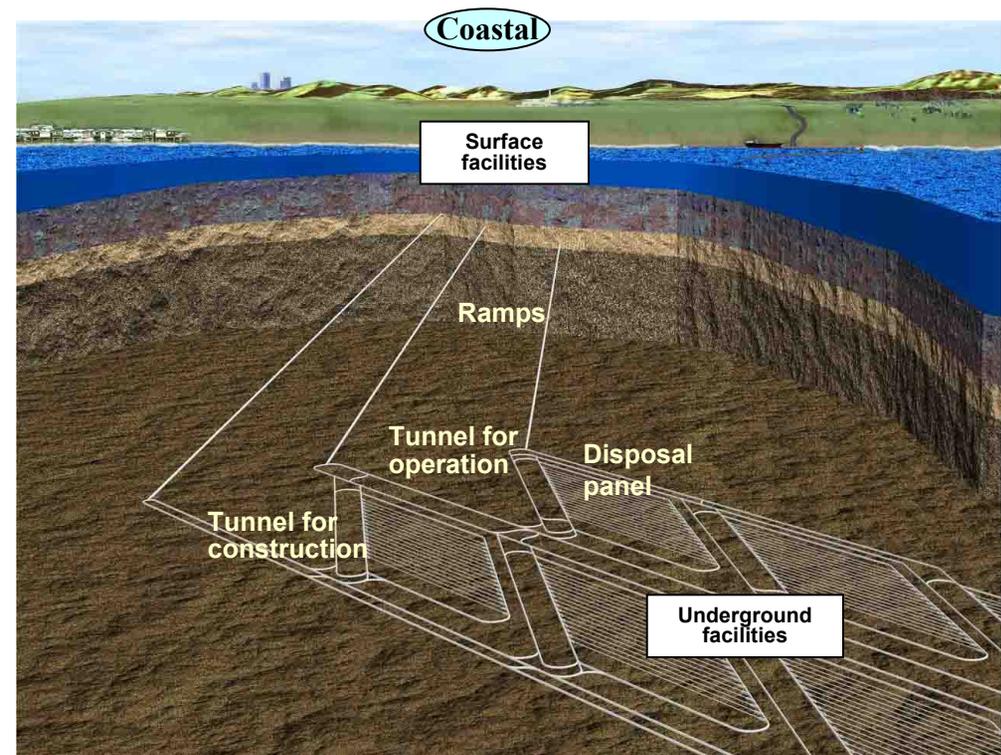
- **Application form**
- **Indication of expected areas necessary for application (~10 km<sup>2</sup>)**
- **Prior confirmation of the volunteered area’s geological conditions**
- **Response after receipt of application including selection procedure of PIAs**

# “Repository Concepts”

A set of examples of repository concepts developed for the geological environments expected in potential siting environments



Aiming at providing information on what the planned repository is and how it will be developed for siting environments at candidate sites



# “Siting Factors for the Selection of PIAs”

Considering the requirements specified by the Act and the Nuclear Safety Commission’s reports

- **Evaluation Factors for Qualification:**

PIAs exclude areas where some items are identified:

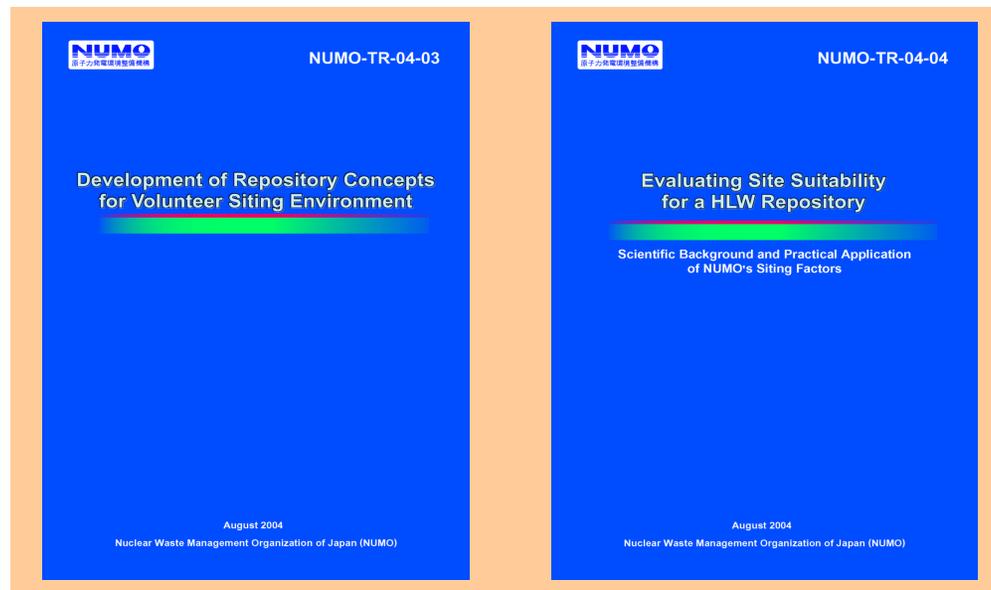
- clearly-identified active faults,
- within a circle of 15km radius from the center of Quaternary volcanoes,
- uplift more than 300m during the last 100,000 years,
- Quaternary unconsolidated deposits,
- economically valuable mineral resources.

- **Favorable Factors:**

- Better Properties and Conditions of Geological Formations
- Better Hydraulic Properties
- Without difficulty of Investigation and assessment
- Natural Disasters during construction and operation
- Procurement of Land
- Transportation

## Publication of Supporting Documents in 2004

- To provide the scientific and technical basis to support messages of “Information Package”
- To provide convincing arguments to experts
- To describe all the details related to siting factors
- To clarify the future direction for developing repository concepts tailored to the potential disposal sites



## “Outreach Scheme”

**Interaction between NUMO and volunteer communities along with grant schemes, information exchange, economic ripple effect and so on.**

**To build a relationship involving integration of NUMO activities with community needs, communicating with all interested parties and earning the community’s trust**

**Government will provide “Regional Acceptance Grant” to volunteer municipalities.**

- ~ 210 million yen/y (for period of PIA selection)
- ~ 2 billion yen/y (for period of DIA selection)

# Publicity activities (FY2004)

## TV

- **Daily news program (30sec ad/day) sponsorship**
- **Spot commercial**

## Magazine

- **Advertisement & Editorial advertising**
  - **Popular, special-interest, and governmental**

## Newspapers

- **Editorial advertising**
  - **5 major national papers**
- **Advertisement**
  - **5 major national, 3 regional and 39 local papers**
  - ⇒ **More than 80% of the nation covered**

# Panel discussions

■ ~FY2003 : 31 forums in different prefectures.

■ FY2003: 24 panels in different prefectures

■ Panel members:

- Leader writer (Co-hosted news paper)
- Local business leaders
- Experts on town planning
- NUMO staff

■ FY2004: 8 panels in different prefectures

■ Panel members:

- Leader writer (Co-hosted news paper)
- Local business leaders
- Advisory specialist for consumers' affairs
- Journalist
- NUMO staff



Newspaper article of panel discussion

## Behavior from local municipalities (SAGA Town)

- Dec. 2003  
A group of Saga residents including 3 council members addressed a petition to the town council, requesting the town to host a HLW repository.
- 19 Dec. 2003  
The council referred the petition to its standing committee on Industry and Construction.
- 28 Jan. 2004  
The council formally invited NUMO staff to hear their program.
- 8 May 2004  
The town council formally invited Prof. Okamura, Kochi University to ask the influence (/damage) due to the occurrence of the coming Nankai earthquake.



**Explanatory meeting  
at the town council**

