

The 47th JAIF Annual Conference
Fukushima Session Keynote Presentation



〈Keynote Presentation (Video Message)〉

Slavutych Technopolis

. The Way to Environmental, Economic and Social Restoration, Along With Sustainable Development .

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- More than 5 million people were affected by the Chernobyl accident, of which 2.6 million lived in Ukraine.
- On April 27, 1986, more than 100,000 residents in the area around the nuclear power station were forced to evacuate. The area within a 30-km radius was designated an off-limits zone.
- In the same year, it was decided to resume power generation at Units 1 . 3 of the Chernobyl station. On November 30, construction of a sarcophagus to enclose Unit 4 where the accident occurred was completed.
- The previous October 14, prior to restart of operation, construction of a new city, Slavutych, for employees was launched to replace Prypyat, the former power plant city.
- This was carried out as a national project of the then Soviet Union. Representing 49 ethnic groups, residents of Slavutych live closely, something like a large family.
- The first major issue for the city was decontamination. In order for people to decide for themselves whether to live in Slavutych or, if they had evacuated from the area around the station, to return and live there, various information was provided.
- Decontamination of soil involved first removing the topsoil, etc. If the radiation level was high, the surfaces of trees and plants were decontaminated. In this way, an environment with a permissible radiation level was ensured.

- Slavutych is still in the Fourth Zone, a radiation controlled area. There are laws on the status and social welfare of victims of the Chernobyl disaster. More than 2,000 towns and villages are designated as in the Fourth Zone.
- In 1995, the Ukraine government signed a memorandum with the G7 and EU, promising to close the Chernobyl NPS. This was an unexpected event and severe blow to those who had moved to Slavutych from nuclear power plants and related facilities all over the Soviet Union in anticipation of resumption of operations of the Chernobyl NPS.
- On December 15, 2000, upon the closure of the station, more than 1,500 residents left Slavutych. This disrupted the Slavutych community. The city, however, overcame that crisis, and continued its development.
- Believing our experience will be useful to people in Japan and particularly Fukushima, let me introduce it step by step.
- What was needed first was a target to bring the residents together as one, and to integrate their efforts to achieve that target . a target that could make people believe that our city would be %worth living in.+
- The government was not in easy financial circumstances, but they didn't forget the Chernobyl victims. There could be no progress, however, unless the residents had the determination to change things for themselves.
- The Slavutych residents have had to overcome difficulties as a result of the closure of the NPS, severe economic conditions and all sorts of hardships in association with reforms.
- We started by establishing a legal infrastructure for a better future . a city ordinance called %Development of Slavutych.+ It consolidates many of the ideas we ourselves had presented to the government and that had been accepted over the years.
- The Ukrainian magazine %Focus+features %The 55 Favorite Places in Ukraine+ every year. Although Slavutych is tiny, with a population of only 25,000, it is always in the top ten based on standard of living and quality of life.



- It was a long road for us. Obviously the city made great efforts, but also, importantly, the people believed in the place. We worked together and moved ourselves ahead.
- Another goal was to create a community protective and supportive of children and the younger generation. This is reflected in our facilities and infrastructure.
- Slavutych's administration, residents, companies and organizations have joined together to equip their home to meet the modern needs of our time.
- The city has promoted a special economic zone project since 1999. Over 1,000 jobs have been generated, involving state-of-the-art technology.
- Establishing a system to support medium and small companies and the creation of new ones, the city has taken the initiative in promoting industrial activities, increasing employment not just locally but for Ukraine as well.
- Slavutych aims to move beyond an industrial structure that is dependent on the NPS. Currently, tax income from the Chernobyl NPS accounts for less than 50% of the city budget.
- It also emphasizes development/improvement of social infrastructure, including high schools and a university, in addition to kindergartens and primary/secondary schools. This helps not only the people themselves, serving them, meeting their needs; it also improves the city's competitive position.
- We are conscious, too, of the importance of democratic processes in our municipal administration, and we work steadily to improve them. This, too, strengthens relationships between the city and people of the region.
- There are no conflicts over language in Slavutych, despite our ethnic diversity. In addition to the Ukrainian language, younger people can study Russian, English, French, German and more.
- In closing, I want to say that such accidents as in Chernobyl and Fukushima cannot be handled by a single country. The entire world must work together to overcome them. We have to learn to live in one world, as part of our single global civilization. Let us work together. Let us solve our problems together.