PROJECT OUTLINE

1. **Project Name:** Promotion of Agriculture in Suburban Areas around Ha Noi City and Nam Dinh Province

2. **Background and Necessity of the Aid Item:**
   The farms in the Ha Noi City area and Nam Dinh Province in the north of Viet Nam are small scale, and they are expected to become difficult to maintain in a cultivation system based on wet-rice farming. In a section of the regions included in the project’s target areas, farms have been observed moving away from two rice products one vegetable product farming to striving for financial stability with one rice product and three vegetable products. Furthermore, awareness of the importance of safe and healthy food is increasing in Viet Nam. There is a necessity to work toward increasing and stabilizing the agricultural income of this project’s target areas by creating opportunities for farmers to study Ibaraki’s farming (which serves a function as a food supply base focusing mainly on leafy vegetables grown outdoors in a suburban area) techniques, improving cultivation techniques (including soil management, which is the foundation of steady production), spreading knowledge of these techniques, and securing markets for agricultural products.

3. **Purpose:** To nurture human resources (researchers, leaders, farmers) who can contribute to the development of agriculture in the target areas by studying the production and distribution techniques used in Ibaraki for agriculture in a suburban area, a type of agriculture that utilizes Ibaraki’s features.

4. **Target Area:**
   Ha Noi City (and its suburbs) and Nam Dinh Province

5. **Target Group:** People working in the agricultural industry in Ha Noi City (and its suburbs) and Nam Dinh Province

6. **Expected Outcomes:**
   1. Ibaraki’s agricultural production techniques and methods of spreading them, the structure of its agricultural organizations and the distribution methods they employ will be adapted in the target areas.
   2. The measures that should be taken in order to improve the livelihood of the farmers will become clear through efforts to make production environmentally friendly and proving that the production techniques are safe.
3. Through confirmation of distribution channels for agricultural products suggestions will be made for improvement of their markets.

7. Activities:
1. Accepting agricultural trainees from Viet Nam to Ibaraki
   1.1. Conducting training (in the first year of the project) for Viet Nam’s agricultural trainees so they can learn about work on Ibaraki’s farms and in its R&D facilities.
   1.2. Conducting training (in the second and third year of the project) for Viet Nam’s agricultural trainees in Ibaraki’s R&D facilities so they can improve their research techniques. The regions that will accept trainees will be decided upon discussion between Viet Nam and Ibaraki.
2. Dispatching specialists from Japan to Viet Nam
   2.1. Conducting seminars targeting leading members of the agricultural community in Viet Nam about agricultural production and distribution in Ibaraki and the advantage of efficient vegetable production techniques. The target groups would be agricultural engineers, farmers, and agriculture-related businesses (including institutions that send out technical interns).
   2.2. Conducting classroom and onsite training for people in the agricultural industry in Viet Nam in Ibaraki’s agricultural techniques, including soil maintenance, raising seedlings, fertilization, cultivation techniques for principle crops, and health and safety measures.
   2.3. Demonstrating high quality and stable leafy vegetable production techniques on model farms in Ha Noi City and Nam Dinh Province.
   2.4. Confirming examples of the distribution of healthy and safe agricultural products and proposing improvements for distribution.
8. **Implementing Duration**: February 2015 – March 2017

9. **Implementing Organizations**:
   Japan: The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives Ibaraki (JA Ibaraki)
   Viet Nam: Ha Noi City; Nam Dinh Province; Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD-VAAS) Pharmacy

10. **Intermediaries**
    Japan: Ibaraki Prefecture
    Viet Nam: International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development