

NRRC R&D Roadmap

As of March, 2025

Nuclear Risk Research Center (NRRC)

R&Ds to contribute to voluntary efforts to improve nuclear safety

- Learn more about low-frequency, high-consequence natural events and develop measures to safeguard against them.
- Apply risk-informed technology in addition to the conventional deterministic approach.

R&D Items

1. Event assessment technology

- 1) Severe accident
- 2) Fault activity
- 3) Seismic motion
- 4) Fault displacement
- 5) Seismic resistance of grounds / structures
- 6) Seismic resistance of buildings / equipment
- 7) Tsunami
- 8) Volcano
- 9) Extreme weather (e.g. high wind)
- 10) Internal Fire/Flooding

Application

Feedback

Contribute to

Feedback

2. Risk assessment technology

- 1) PRA method (Internal/External)
- 2) Human reliability analysis (HRA)
- 3) Environmental release assessment

3. Risk communication

Utilities' efforts to improve safety

*Number ①~⑤ correspond to applications in Roadmap

<Continuous safety improvement>

- ③ Risk reduction/defense-in-depth
(Reinforcement measures for safety)
- ④ Risk information utilization in risk
management process

<Stable operation>

- ② Risk assessment
(PRA implementation)

<Restart of NPPs>

- ① Compliance with new regulatory
requirements
(e.g. additional countermeasures /
modifications)

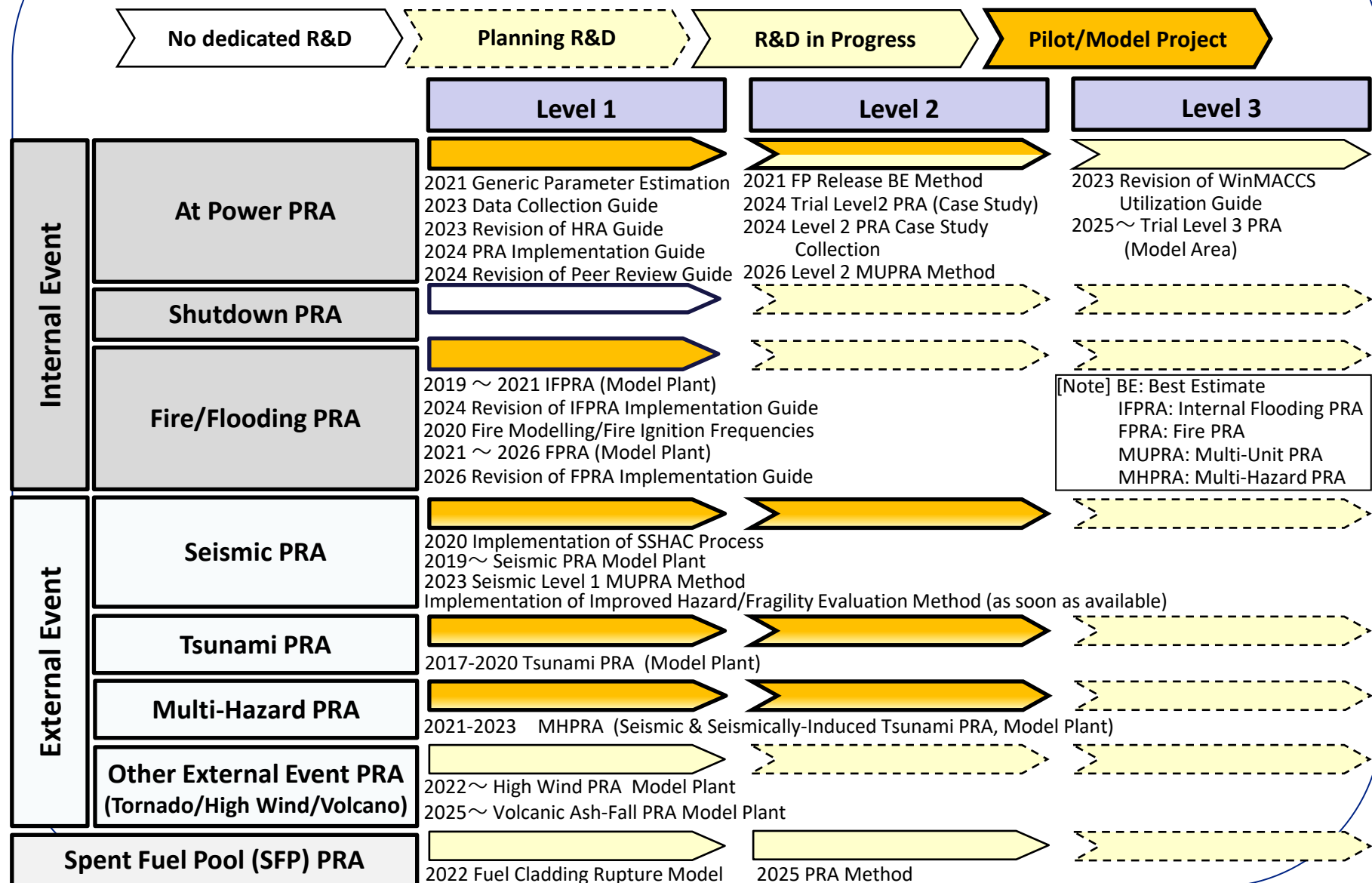
In-house

⑤ Risk communication

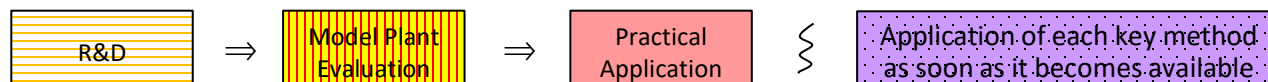
Stakeholders

<Fukushima Daiichi accident / New regulatory requirements>

Current Status of PRA Method Improvement



Projected Schedule of PRA Method Improvement



PRA Item	R&D Item	Fiscal Year	~2023	2024*	2025	2026	2027	2028~
Internal Events	Internal Event Level1 PRA Method Improvement			●				
	Human Reliability Analysis (HRA) Method Improvement			●				
	HRA Method Development for Extreme Condition			●				
	Multi-Unit PRA Method Development							
	Radioactive Material Release Risk Analysis Method Improvement (Level 2)			●				
	Environmental Impact Risk Analysis Method Development (Level 3)			●				
Internal Fire	Internal Fire Risk Analysis Method Development (Level 1)			●				
Internal Flooding	Internal Flooding Risk Analysis Method Development (Level 1)			●				
Seismic	Seismic Risk Analysis Method Improvement (Level 1-2)			●				
	SSHAC Process Establishment			●				
	Hazard/Fragility Analysis Method Improvement			●				
Tsunami	Tsunami Risk Analysis Method Improvement (Level 1-2)			●				
	Hazard/Fragility Analysis Method Improvement			●				
Tornado/High Wind	Tornado/High Wind Risk Analysis Method Improvement (Level 1-2)							
	Hazard/Fragility Analysis Method Improvement			●				
Volcano	Volcanic Ash-Fall Risk Analysis Method Improvement (Level 1-2)							
	Hazard/Fragility Analysis Method Improvement			●				
Spent Fuel Pool (SFP)	SFP Risk Assessment Method Development							
Risk Communication	Internal/External Communication Measures			●				

*●: R&D items with outcomes or elements, as of March 2025, applicable to preliminary study or plant evaluation of PRA by the utilities

1. Internal Event Level 1 PRA Method Improvement

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

Item	Gap/Solution	~2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028~
Support of pilot projects for Good PRA	Domestic PRA has not reached the state of practice. ↓ • Overseas-expert reviews of pilot plants for PRA model improvement • Develop a guide to support utility's PRA modelling to meet international standard	▽ Review report② (Internal Level 1/1.5) (to be reported every FY afterward) ▽		▽	▽	▽	▽
		Overseas-expert reviews of Ikata Unit3 and Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Unit7 PRAs					
		Incorporation of the knowledge from the review to the PRA model of non-pilot plants					
		PRA Implementation Guide ② (Internal event Level 1 PRA) ▽					
		Development of guide describing PRA standard requirements (Internal event Level 1 PRA)	Revision of the guide (Other than internal event Level 1)				
Development of PRA peer review procedure	The domestic system of achieving good quality PRA is not well-developed. ↓ • Develop PRA peer review guide for non-pilot plants • Develop peer review system with domestic engineers	▽ Draft PRA peer review guide ②	▽ Practical review guide ②				
		Development of PRA peer review guide	Revision of the guide (With feedbacks from expert review)				
		Development of a PRA peer review system / Survey of the PRA peer reviews in the U.S.					Peer review implementation
Development of PRA reliability database	PRA reliability parameters with adequate quality have not been developed. ↓ • Development of a data collection guide • Estimation of generic PRA parameters of equipment reliability, CCF (common cause failure), LOOP (loss of offsite power), UA (unavailability), etc.	Event data collection for component failure, CCF etc. (Data update from new OE & Data scope extension to severe accident equipment)					
		▽ Generic component parameters ②	▽ Data collection guide ②	Revision of data collection guide ② ▽		Update generic component parameters ② ▽	
		Estimation of component failure parameters	Update of estimation of component failure parameters				
		▽ CCF data collection guide②		▽ CCF parameter estimation ②			
		Estimation of CCF parameters					Update of CCF parameters
		LOOP IE parameter ② ▽	▽ Probability of LOOP recovery failure②				
		Estimation of LOOP frequency	Update of LOOP frequency				
		▽ MSPI UA data collection guide/parameter estimation②		▽ Generic UA data collection guide/parameter estimation②			
		Estimation of MSPI baseline (UA)	Update of MSPI UA/Estimation of generic UA for PRA				
		Development of reliability data system	Improvement/update of the system (including IE/CCF/UA data registration and improvement)				
Development of PRA reliability parameters		▽ Reliability Database System ②					▽ Operation of the reliability database system ②

*MSPI: Mitigating System Performance Index

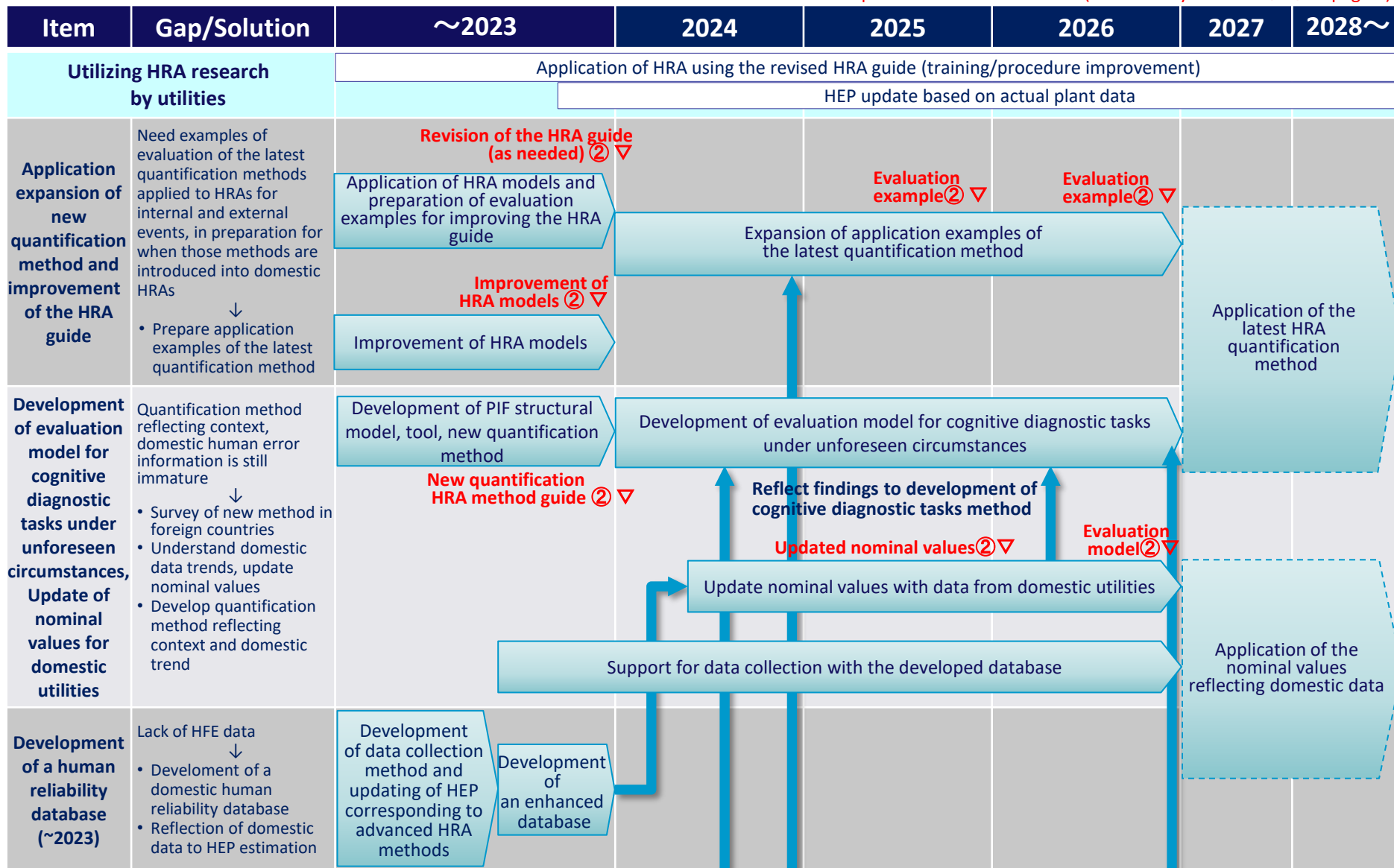
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NRRC

Utility

2. Development and Advancement of Human Reliability Analysis Methods (1/2)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

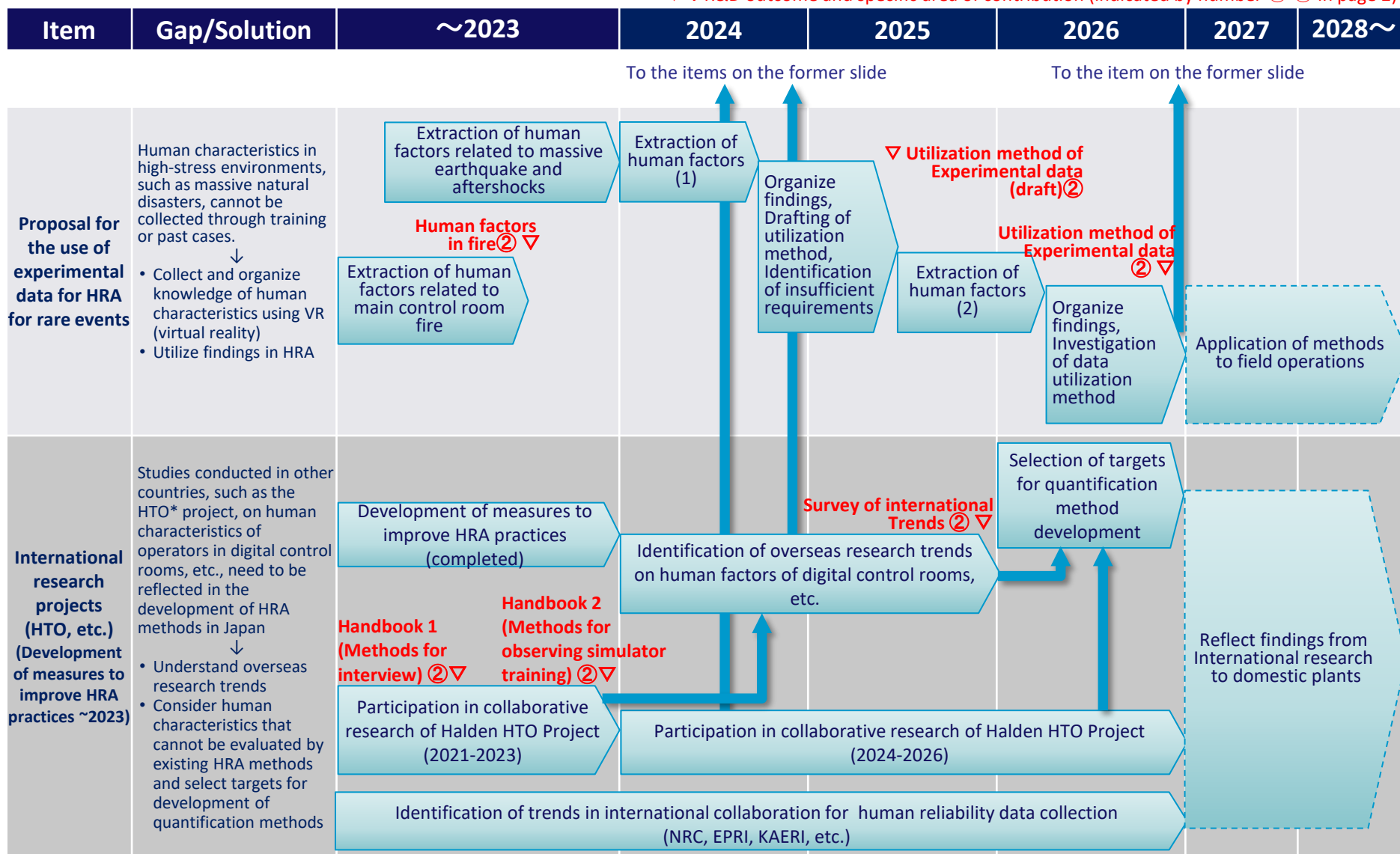


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2. Development and Advancement of Human Reliability Analysis Methods (2/2)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

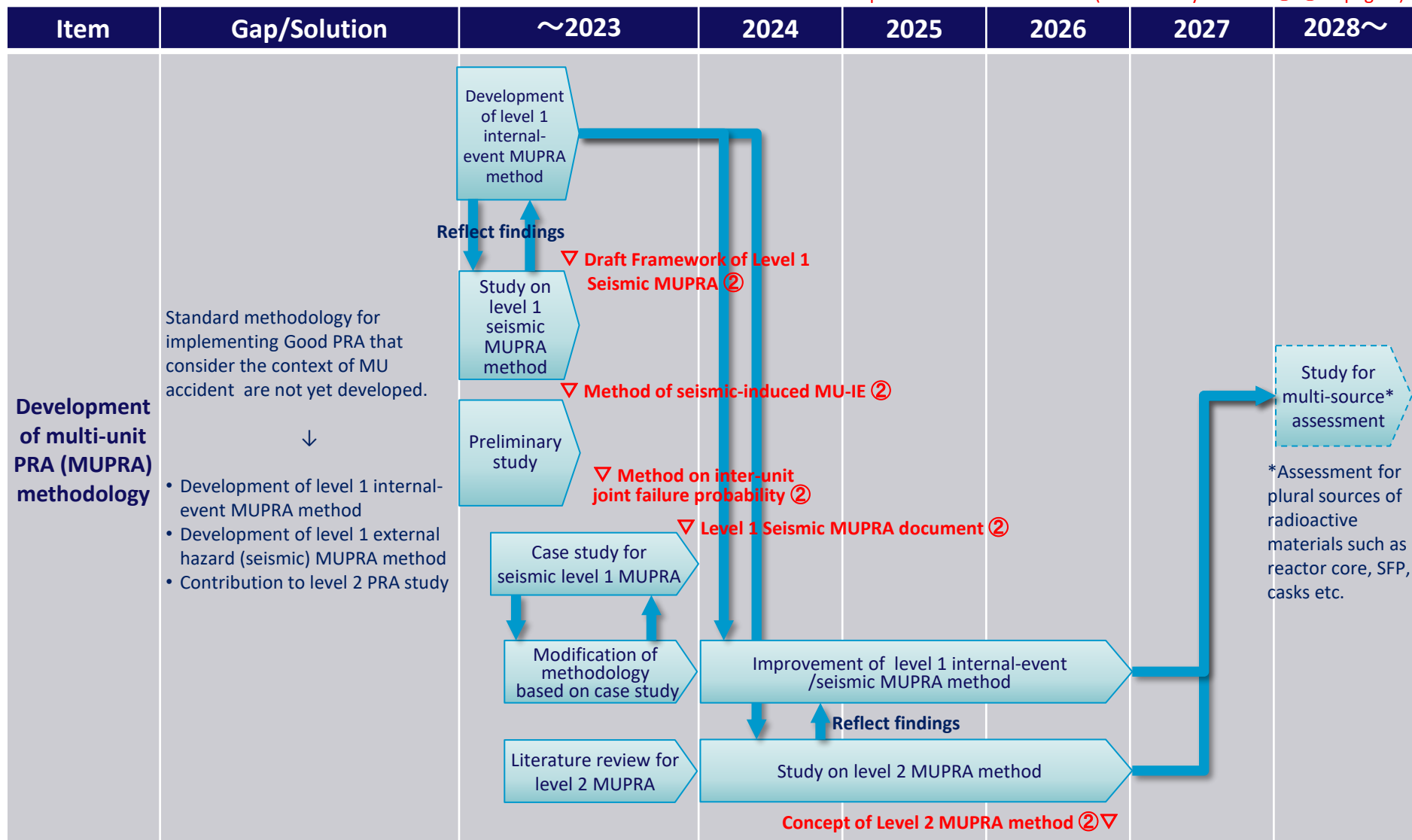


*HTO: Human-Technology-Organisation

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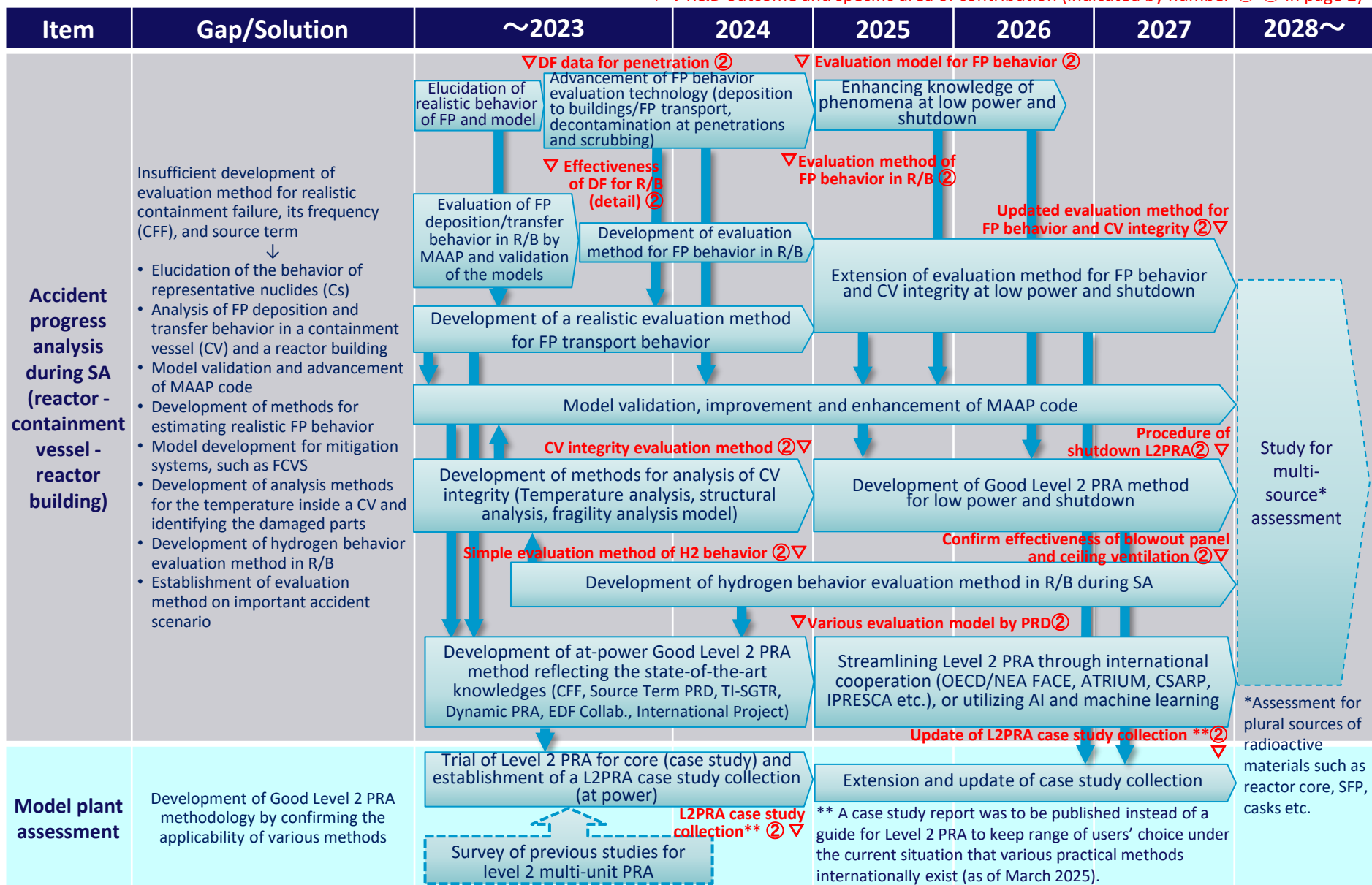
3. Multi-Unit PRA (MUPRA)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



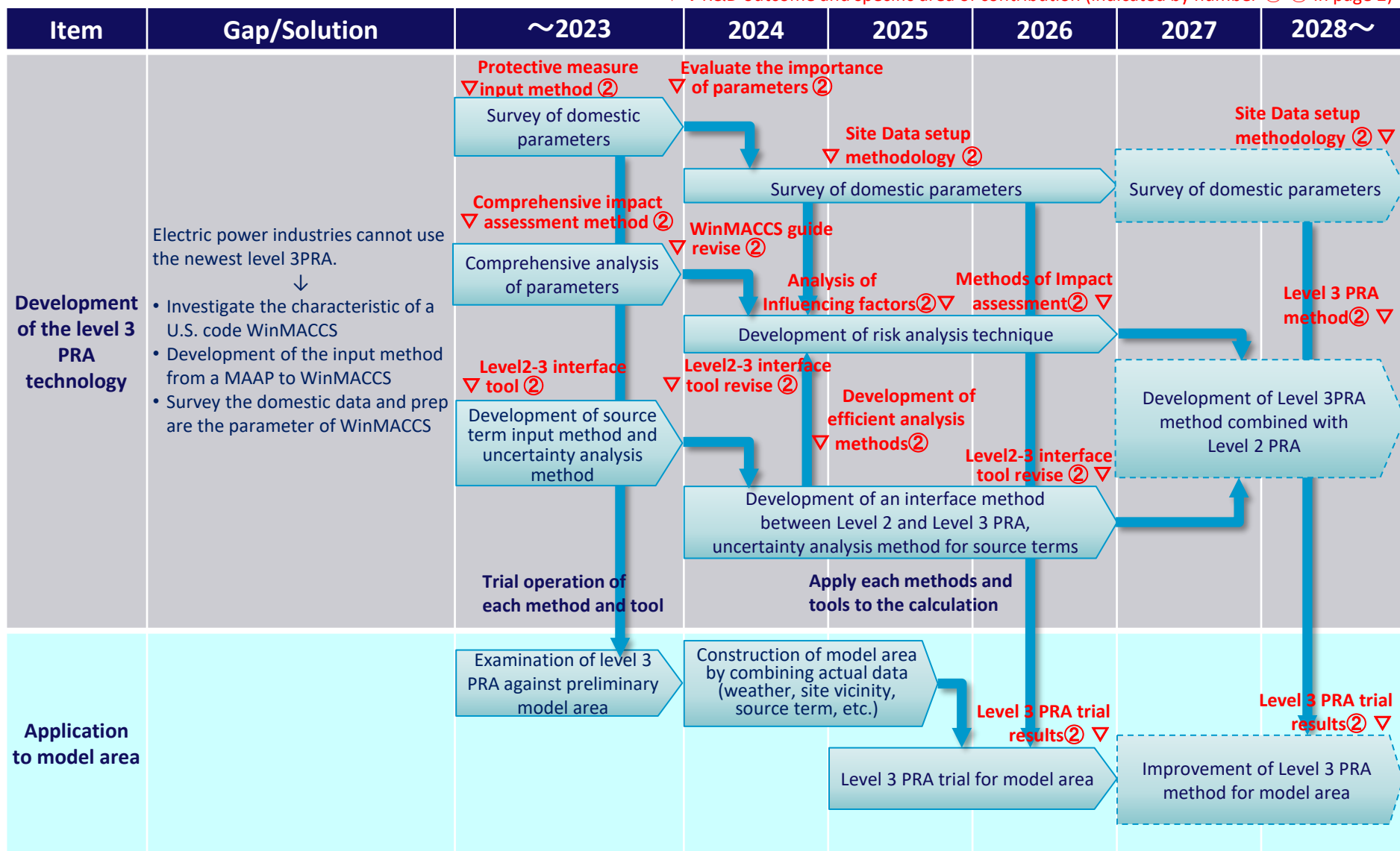
4. Radioactive Material Release Risk Analysis Method Development (Level 2)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



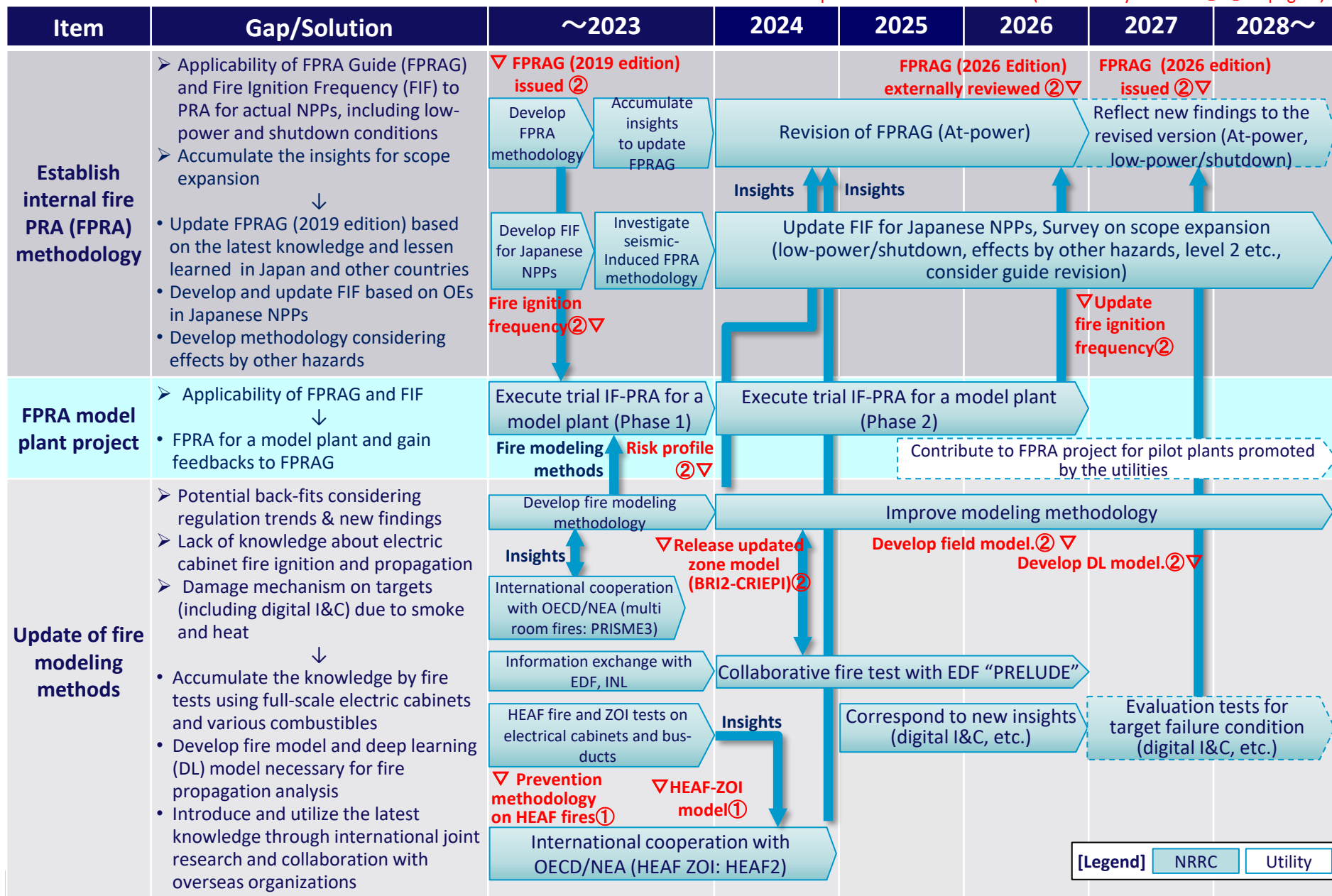
5. Environmental Risk Evaluation Method Development (Level 3)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



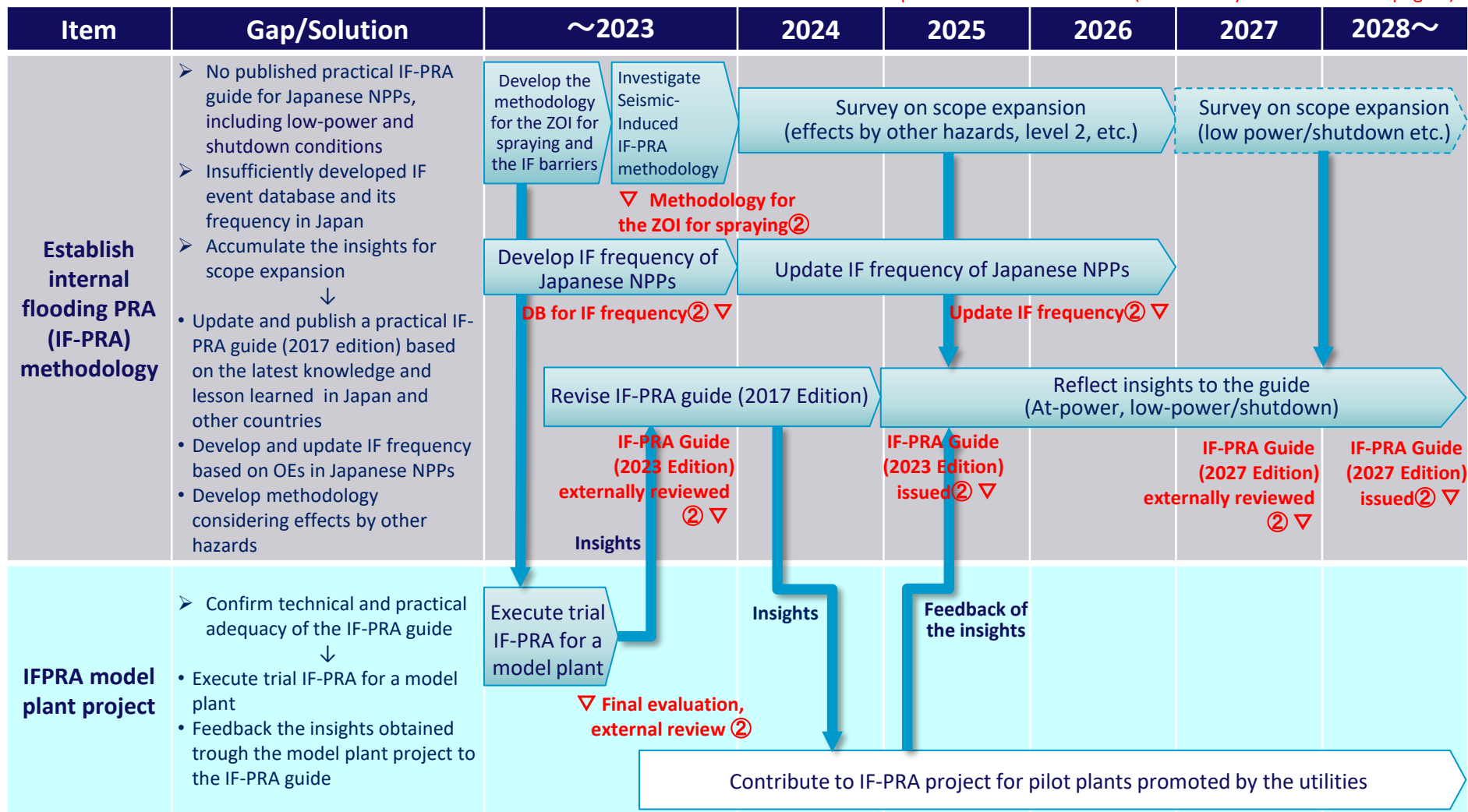
6. Development of Fire PRA Methodology and Data

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



7. Development of Internal Flooding PRA

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



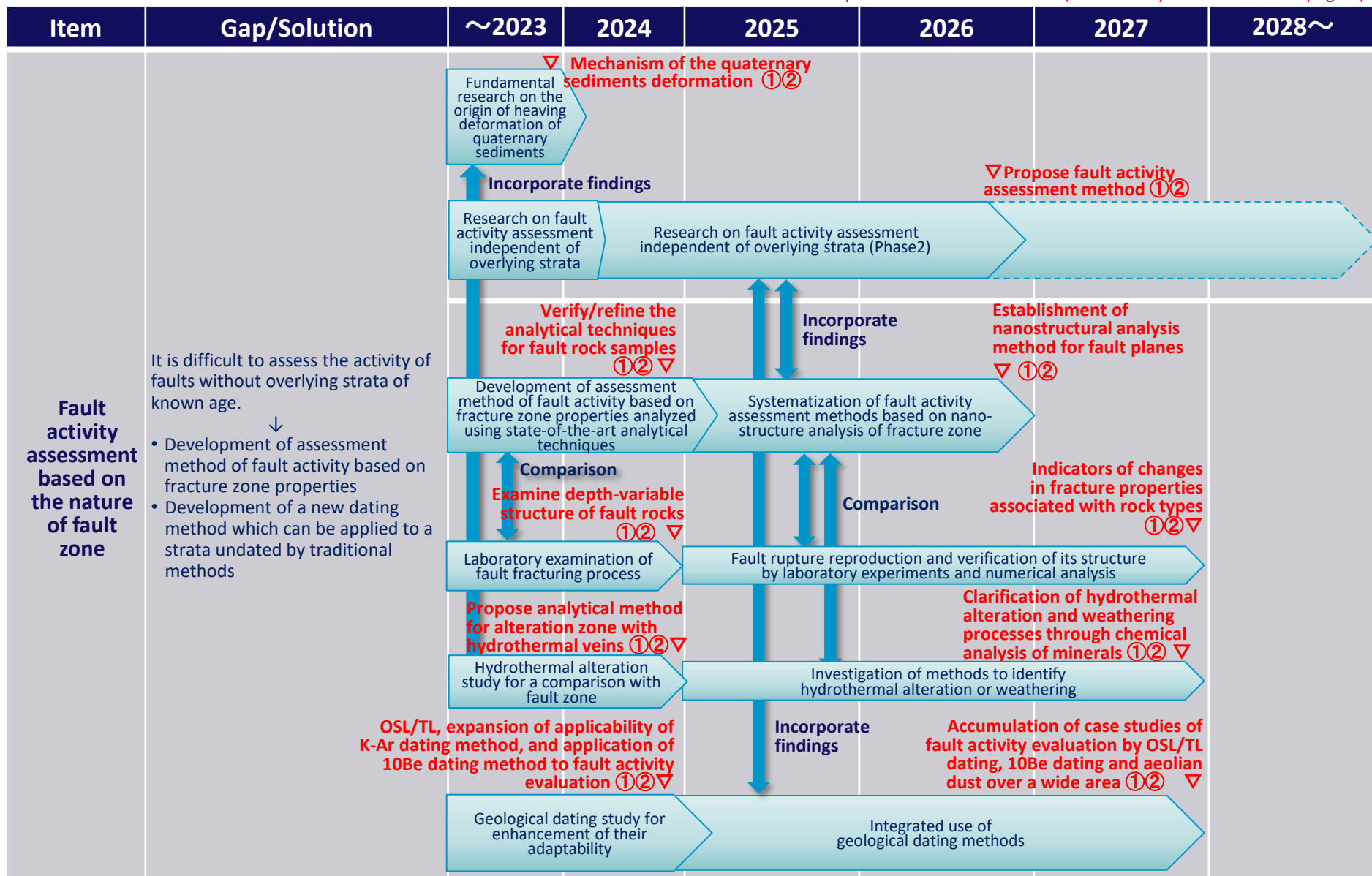
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Utility

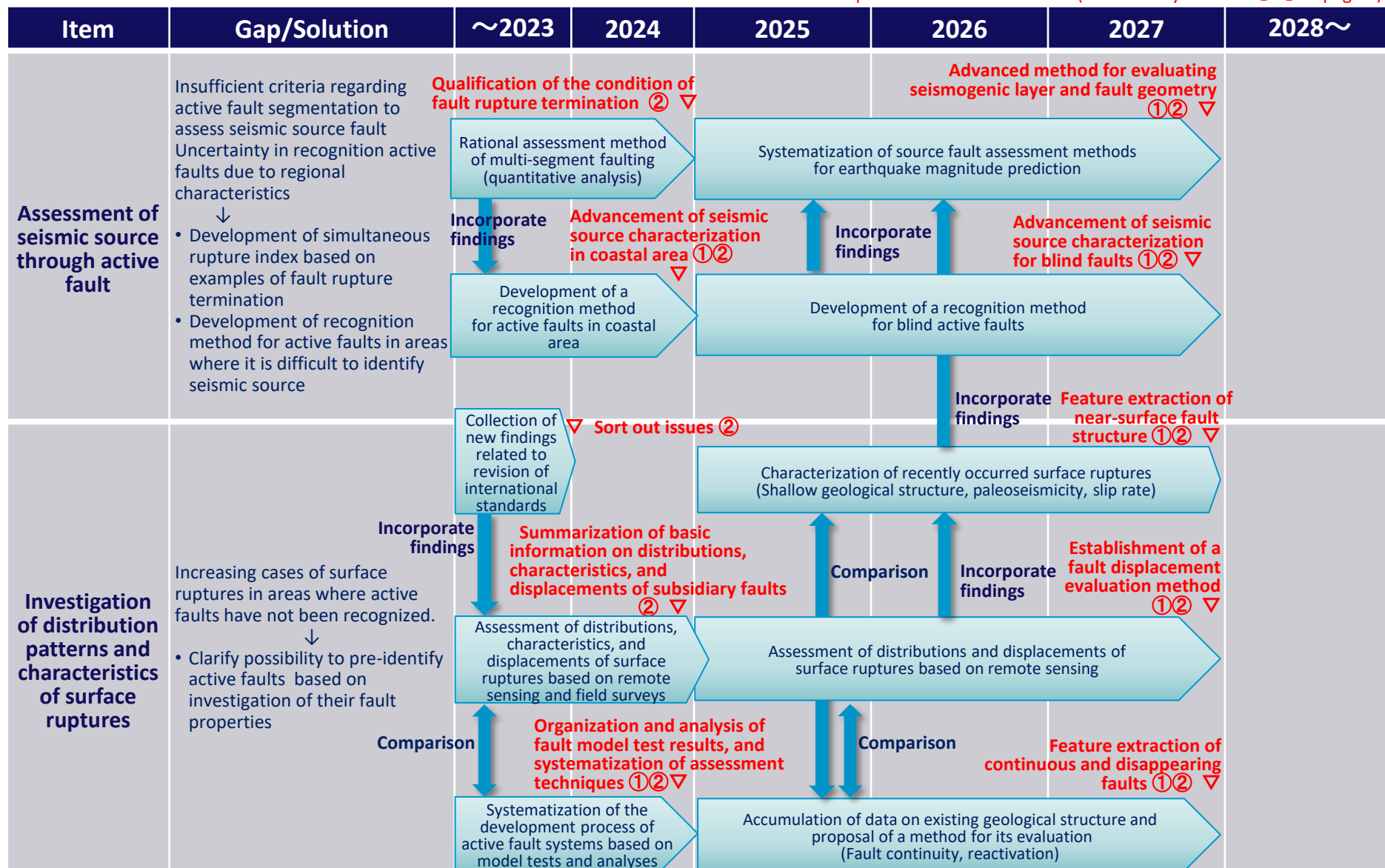
8-1. Seismic/Earthquake Resistance (Fault Activity) (1/2)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



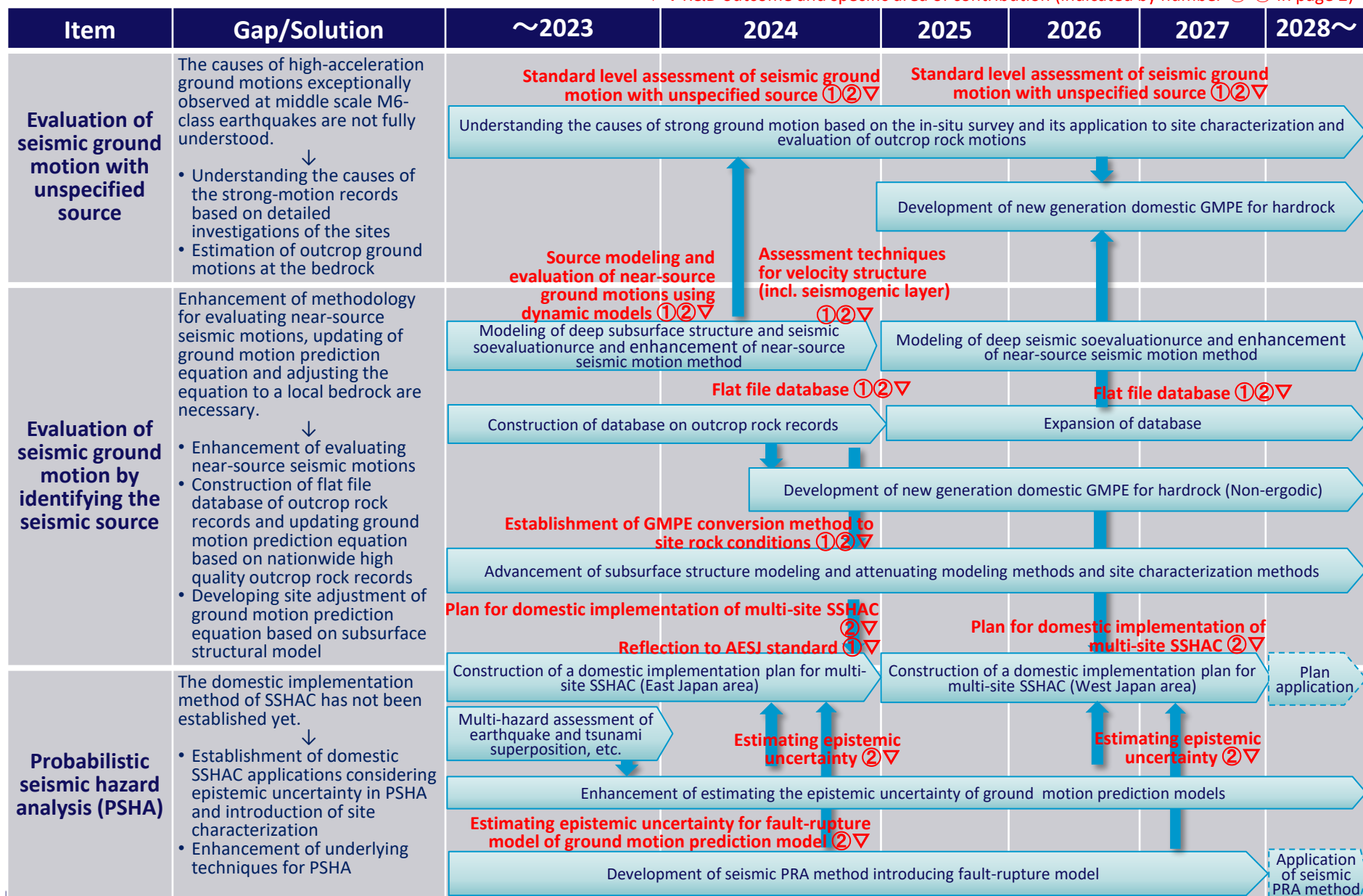
8-1. Seismic/Earthquake Resistance (Fault Activity) (2/2)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



8-2. Seismic/Earthquake Resistance (Seismic Motion)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



8-3. Seismic/Earthquake Resistance (Ground)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

Item	Gap/Solution	~2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028~
Enhancement and systematization of evaluation methods for seismic safety of ground	<p>With the increase of the reference earthquake ground motion, it is necessary to improve the seismic safety evaluation method for foundation ground and slope, and to clarify the uncertainty in seismic PRA. Possibility of introducing next-generation innovative reactors.</p> <p>↓</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancement of seismic safety evaluation methods for foundation ground and slopes (ground modelling, seismic stability of rock mass, fault displacement, slope failure, uncertainty) Improving and systematizing the evaluation of the stability of soil and ground during earthquakes Formulation of standards and guidelines for advanced seismic safety assessment methods 	<p>Proposal of modelling and evaluation method ①②▽ Development of 3D centrifuge shaking table ①②▽</p>	<p>Proposal of modelling and evaluation method ①②▽</p>				
		<p>Enhancement of seismic safety evaluation methods for foundation ground and slopes (ground modelling, bedrock, risk assessment, slope failure, 3D centrifuge shaking table)</p>	<p>Liquefaction impact assessment method considering variations in geotechnical properties ①②▽</p>		<p>Enhancement of seismic safety evaluation methods for foundation ground and slopes (ground modelling, seismic stability of rock mass, fault displacement, slope failure, uncertainty)</p>		<p>Proposal of modelling and evaluation method ①②▽</p>
		<p>Advanced evaluation of seismic stability of soil ground (including liquefaction)</p>			<p>Improving and systematizing evaluation of seismic stability of soil and ground</p>		<p>Implementation of liquefaction impact assessment method ①②▽</p>
		<p>Proposal of modelling and evaluation method ①②▽</p>	<p>Propose of modelling and evaluation method ①②▽</p>	<p>Incorporate findings</p>			
		<p>Enhancement of the numerical fault displacement hazard assessment method</p>					
		<p>Technical document of the JSCE (fault displacement and liquefaction) ①▽</p>			<p>Next revision of JEAG4601 ①▽</p>		<p>JSCE Guide ①②▽</p>
		<p>Standardization and practical application of ground stability evaluation methods (resolving JEAG issues, etc.)</p>			<p>Standardization and practical application of ground stability evaluation methods (support for revision of standards and guidelines, technical support)</p>		

9. Seismic PRA

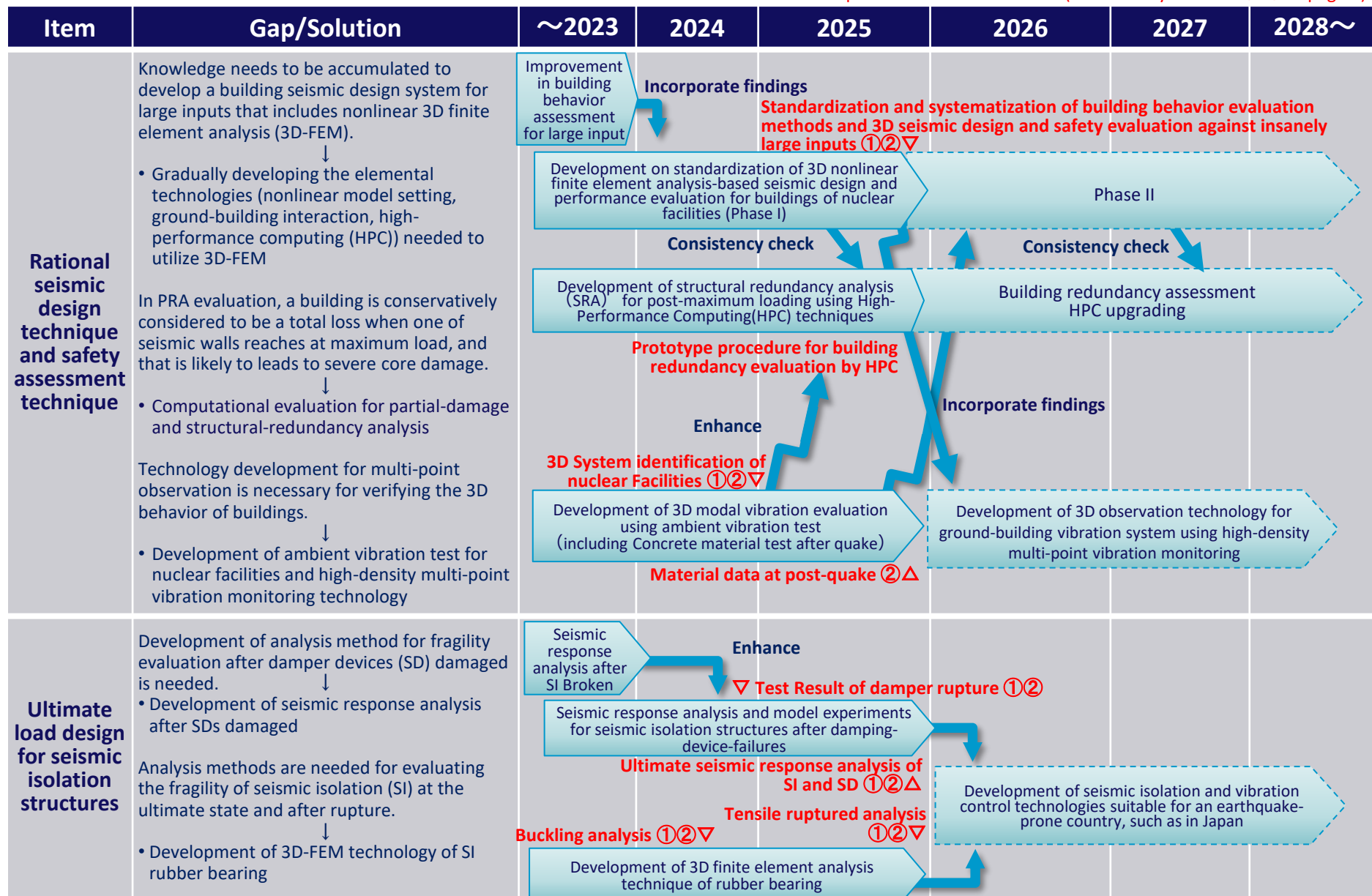
Enhancement of seismic PRA methodology using a model plant

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



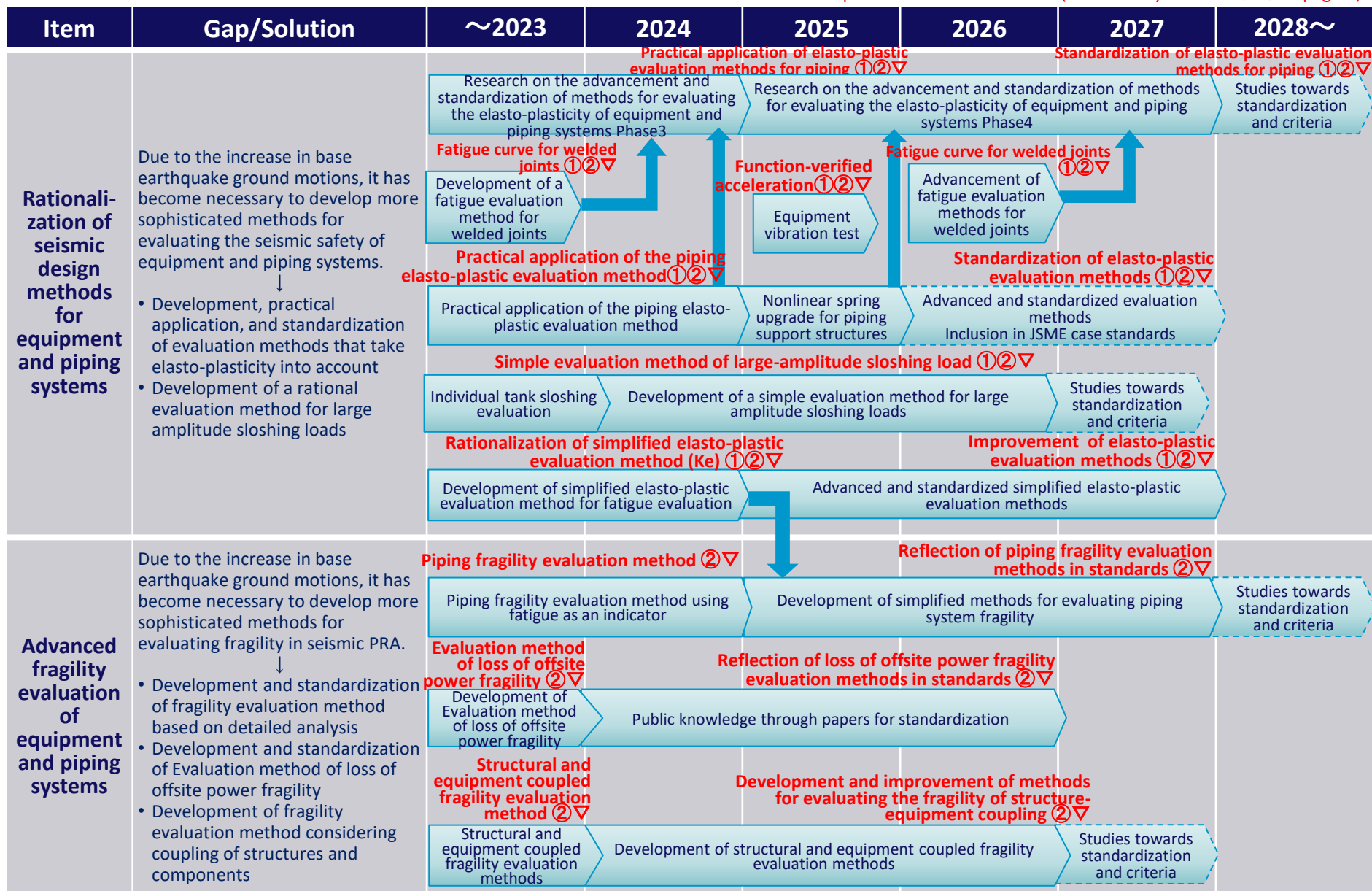
8-5. Seismic/Earthquake Resistance (Buildings)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



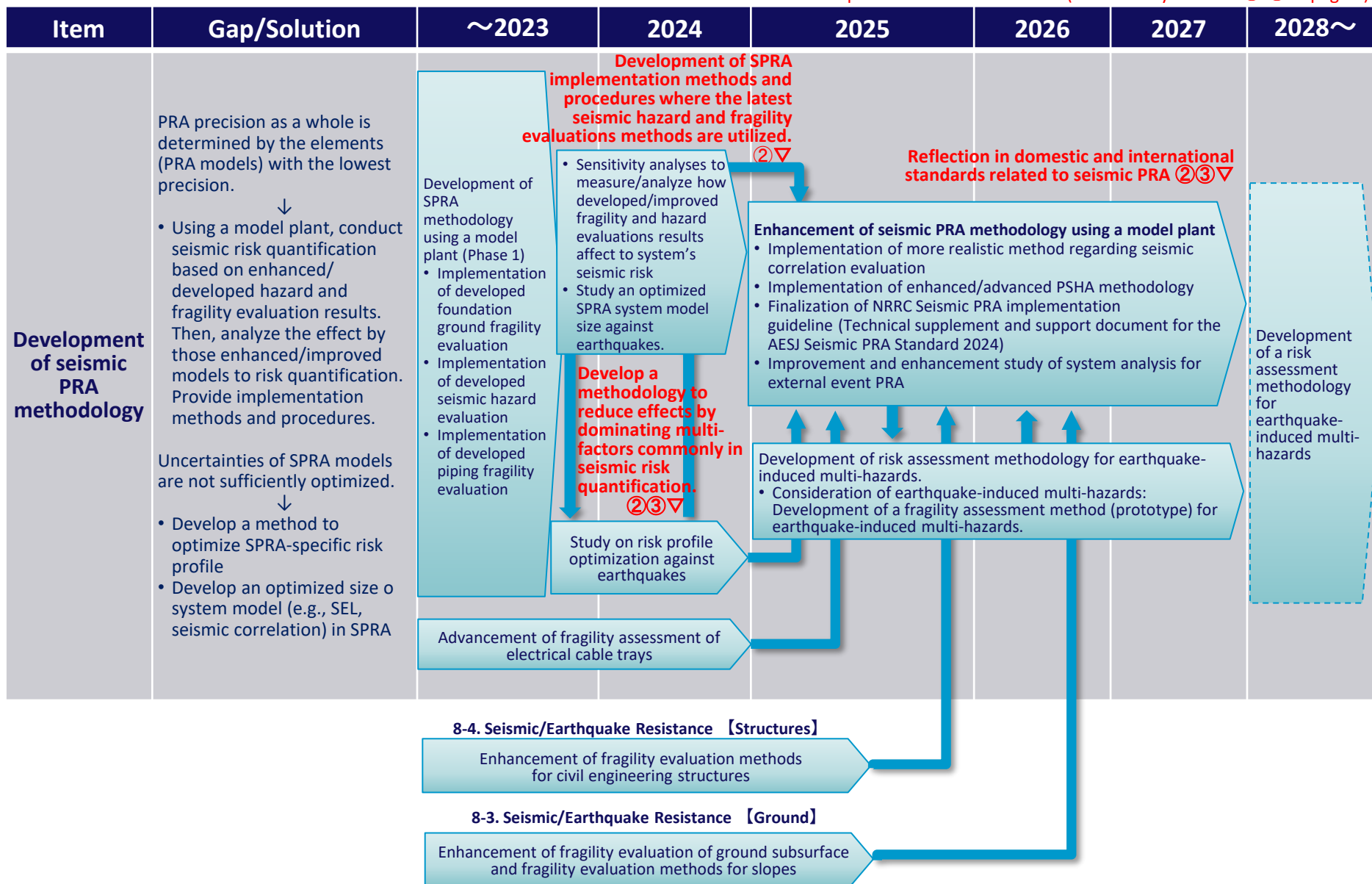
8-6. Seismic/Earthquake Resistance (Equipment)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



9. Seismic PRA

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



10. Tsunami (Hazard and Fragility)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

Item	Gap/Solution	~2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028~
Tsunami hazard assessment	Organization on uncertainty in judgements of event deposits is insufficient. ↓ • Increase knowledge on field survey on event depots, and organization of uncertainty of the results	Analysis technologies on uncertainty in judgement for event deposits ①② ▽				Advanced analysis technologies on uncertainty in judgement for event deposits ①② ▽	
		Development of methods on Judgement for event deposits including tsunamis	Upgrade of methods on judgement for event deposits including tsunamis				Systemization of methods on judgement for event deposits including tsunamis
	Knowledge on numerical simulation technologies for non-seismic tsunamis and methodologies of Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Analysis (PTHA) for them are insufficient. ↓ • Development of numerical simulation technologies for non-seismic tsunami • Development methodology for PTHA including non-seismic tsunami	Three-dimensional Eulerian approaches ①② ▽	Three dimensional Lagrangian approaches ①② ▽		Practical application of 2D/3D numerical simulation technology ①② ▽		
		Development of numerical simulation technologies for landslide tsunamis	Practical application of numerical simulation technologies for landslide tsunamis				Upgrade of numerical simulation technologies for landslide tsunamis
		Methodology of PTHA including non-seismic tsunamis ①② ▽	Proposal of PTHA methodology including non-seismic tsunamis ①② ▽				
		Development of methodology of PTHA including non-seismic tsunamis				Systemization of methodology of PTHA including non-seismic tsunamis	
Tsunami fragility assessment	Knowledge for fragility evaluation method considering various tsunami effects is insufficient. Novel technologies on tsunami impact assessment needs to be verified. ↓ • Upgrade of tsunami simulation technologies by considering novel knowledge • Upgrade of evaluation technologies for tsunami debris impact • Accumulation of novel knowledge and verification of them	Upgrade of tsunami simulation technologies (intake) ①②▽	Upgrade of tsunami simulation technologies (Hybrid 2D&3D simulation and proper usage) ①②▽				
		Upgrade of tsunami simulation technologies				Gathering the latest knowledge and advancing of tsunami simulation technologies	
		Systemization of evaluation methods of debris collision effects ①② (JSCE) ▽				Publication of technical reports on evaluation methods of debris collision effects ①② (JSCE, JEAC) ▽	
		Development and systemization of evaluation methods of debris collision effects	Systemization of evaluation methods of debris collision effects (Phase 2)				Upgrade of evaluation methods of debris collision effects
		Evaluation method of wave force by tsunami with high sediment concentration ①② ▽	Upgrade of collision simulation technologies for small boat ①② △		Upgrade of probabilistic risk assessment methodology of secondary influence ①②▽		
		Study on secondary influence assessment					

11. Tsunami PRA, and Seismic and Seismically-Induced Tsunami PRA

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

Item	Gap/Solution	~2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028~
Development of methodologies of tsunami PRA	<p>Accumulation knowledge and upgrade of methodology on tsunami PRA are necessary.</p> <p>↓</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trial of tsunami PRA using a model plant • Accumulation of knowledge through application to actual plants and reflection in standards 	<p>Accumulation of knowledge on tsunami PRA and development of related tools ②</p> <p>▽</p> <p>Accumulation and upgrade of methodology of tsunami PRA using BRW model plant</p>				<p>Standardization of methodology of tsunami PRA (AESJ) ▽</p>	<p>Improvements through application of tsunami PRA methodology to actual plants</p>
Development of PRA methodology against combination of earthquake and seismic – induced tsunami	<p>No PRA method has been developed worldwide considering combination of earthquake and seismic-induced tsunami.</p> <p>↓</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of PRA methodology against combination of earthquake and seismic-induced tsunami • Reflection in standards 	<p>Hazard and fragility evaluation method against combination of earthquake and tsunami (Basic method) ②▽</p> <p>PRA front-end process, elemental technology development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall scenario building, model analysis • Development of basic evaluation method for hazard, fragility, accident sequence, and relevant technical elements considering superposed external hazards 	<p>▽ Concept of technical elements, evaluation for earthquake and seismic-induced tsunami PRA ②</p>				<p>Development and practical application of a consistent level 1 to level 2 PRA against combination of seismic and seismically-induced tsunami</p>

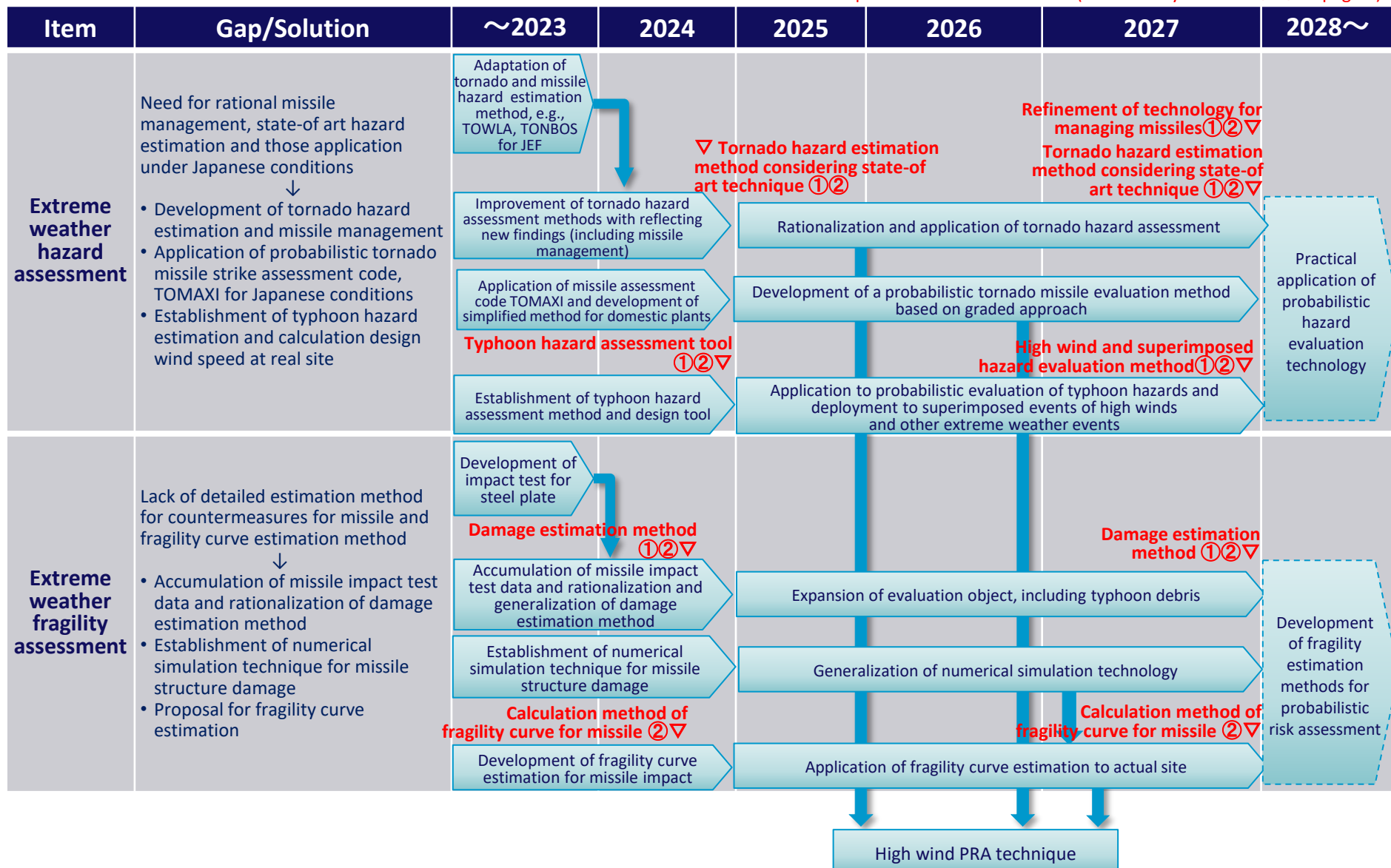
12. Volcanic Ash-Fall Risk Analysis

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

Item	Gap/Solution	~2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028~
Hazard analysis of volcanic ash-fall	Need to improve hazard curve, to develop hazard curve based on numerical analysis of ash-cloud dispersion, and to assess hazard from floating and suspended volcanic ash particles ↓ • Update volcanic ash-fall database and analytical software • Develop hazard curve based on ash-cloud transport analysis • Develop hazard assessment method from floating and suspended volcanic ash particles	GUI software for hazard curve②▽	Long-term floating mechanism②▽	Tracking method for floating pumice②▽	Propose new ash-fall database to include revised interpolation and extrapolation methods②▽		Develop eruption intensity and particle transport assessment based on magmatic properties.
		Improve ash-fall database and hazard curve. Study floating pumice phenomena		Develop assessment method for eruption magnitude and transport distance of volcanic ash particles	Density of ash particles②▽		Develop assessment method for physical properties of volcanic ash particles and floating pumice
		Propose wind distribution application method②▽	Propose vertical distribution of ash particles②▽	Develop hazard curve based on ash-cloud transport analysis	Propose analysis-based hazard curve②▽		Develop hazard curve by ash-cloud transport analysis that include co-ignimbrite ash
		Develop hazard assessment method for volcanic ash-fall based on ash-cloud transport analysis		Develop numerical analysis model for ash-cloud dispersion from large-scale eruptions (Include co-ignimbrite ash cloud)	Expand numerical model②▽		
		Propose assessment method for spherical particles.①②▽	Propose assessment method for volcanic ash particles.①②▽	Propose simple analysis method①②▽			
Vulnerability assessment to volcanic ash-fall	Need to assess particle ingestion to air intake system, and to reduce the frequency of filter exchange. ↓ • Develop assessment method for particle ingestion and develop long-life pre-filter	Experiment and numerical analysis on the amount of ash to enter the air intake system of DG		Develop simple numerical analysis method for air intake facility.			Improve efficiency of particle separation measures for air intake facilities
		Design long-life pre-filter for volcanic ash particles		Develop long-life pre-filter for volcanic ash particles	Propose particle separator①②▽		
Volcanic eruption and ash-fall PRA	Yet to be performed. ↓ • Develop preliminary PRA model and its guideline		Extract gaps on sub-models for volcano PRA	Develop volcanic ash-fall PRA model	Guideline for volcanic ash-fall PRA②▽		Develop volcanic eruption PRA model

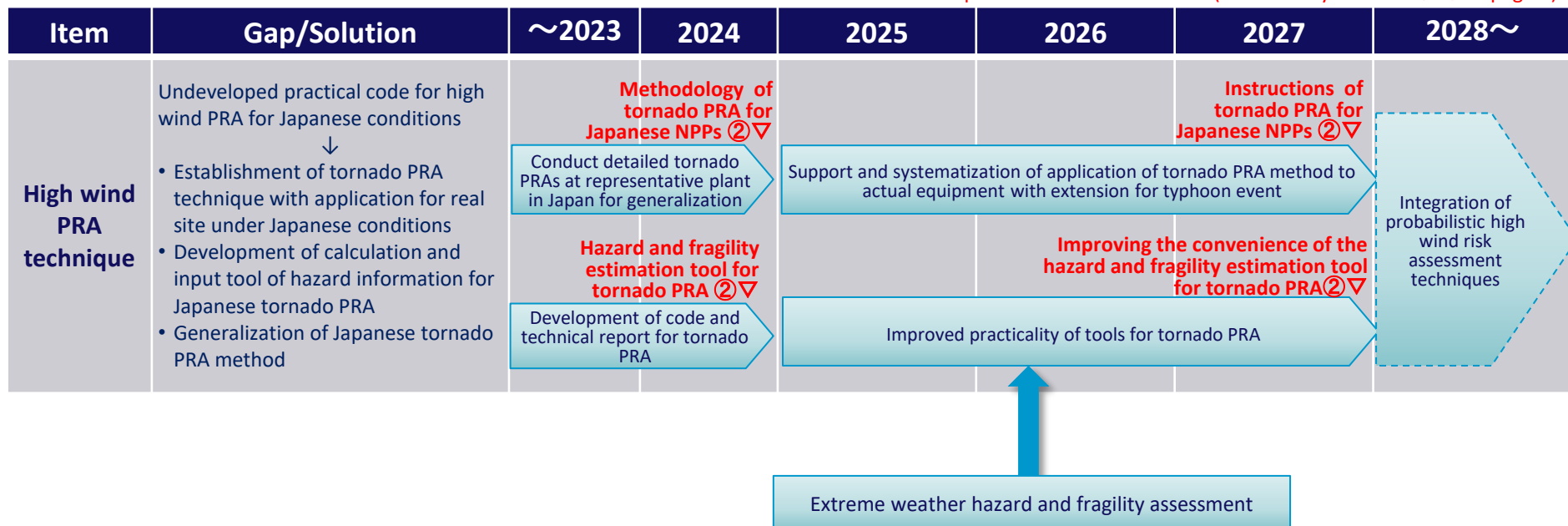
13. Extreme Weather such as Tornadoes (Hazard and Fragility)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



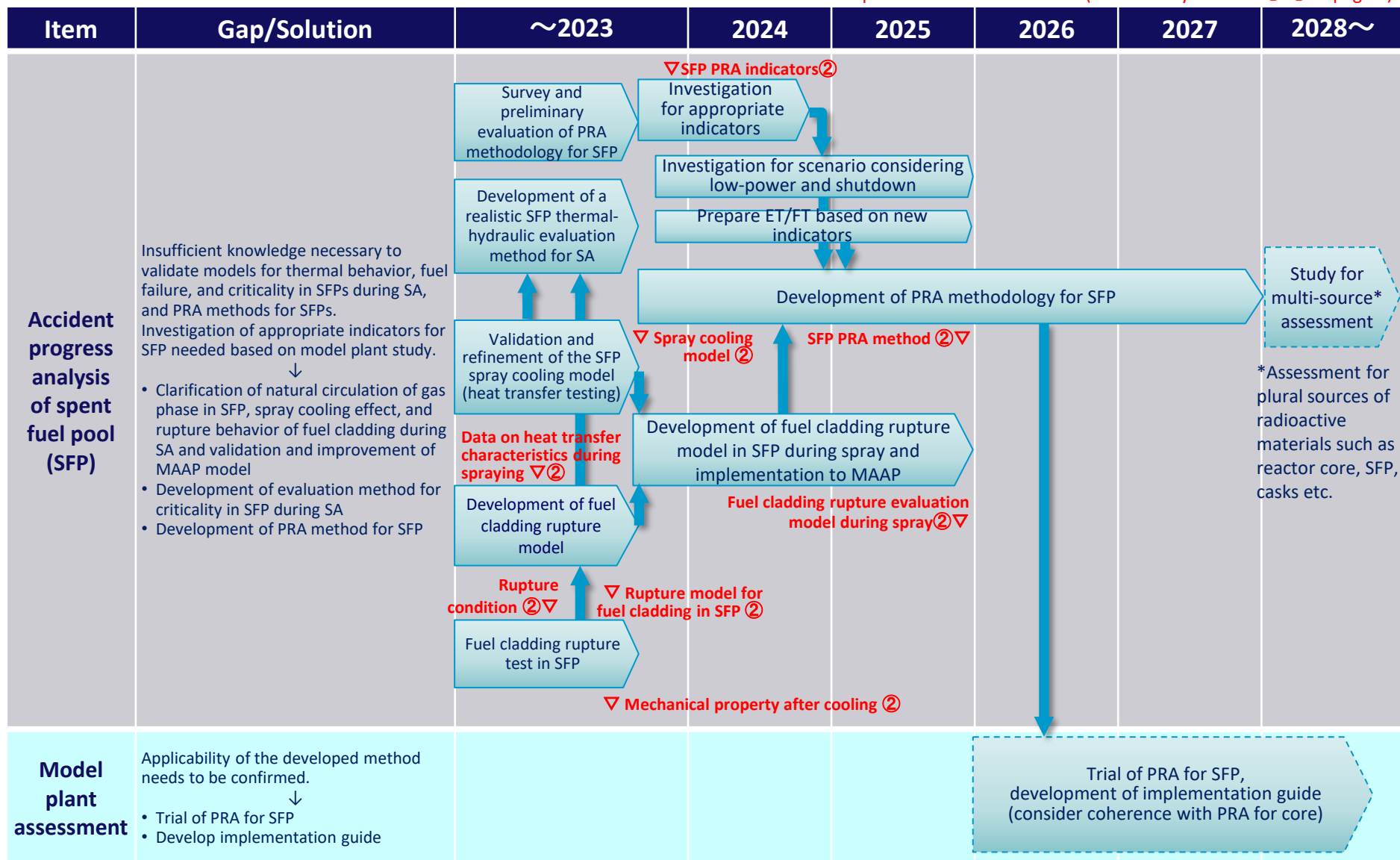
13. Extreme Weather such as Tornadoes (PRA)

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



14. Spent Fuel Pool Risk Analysis Method Development

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



15. Development of RC Method Considering Energy Security and Radiation Risk

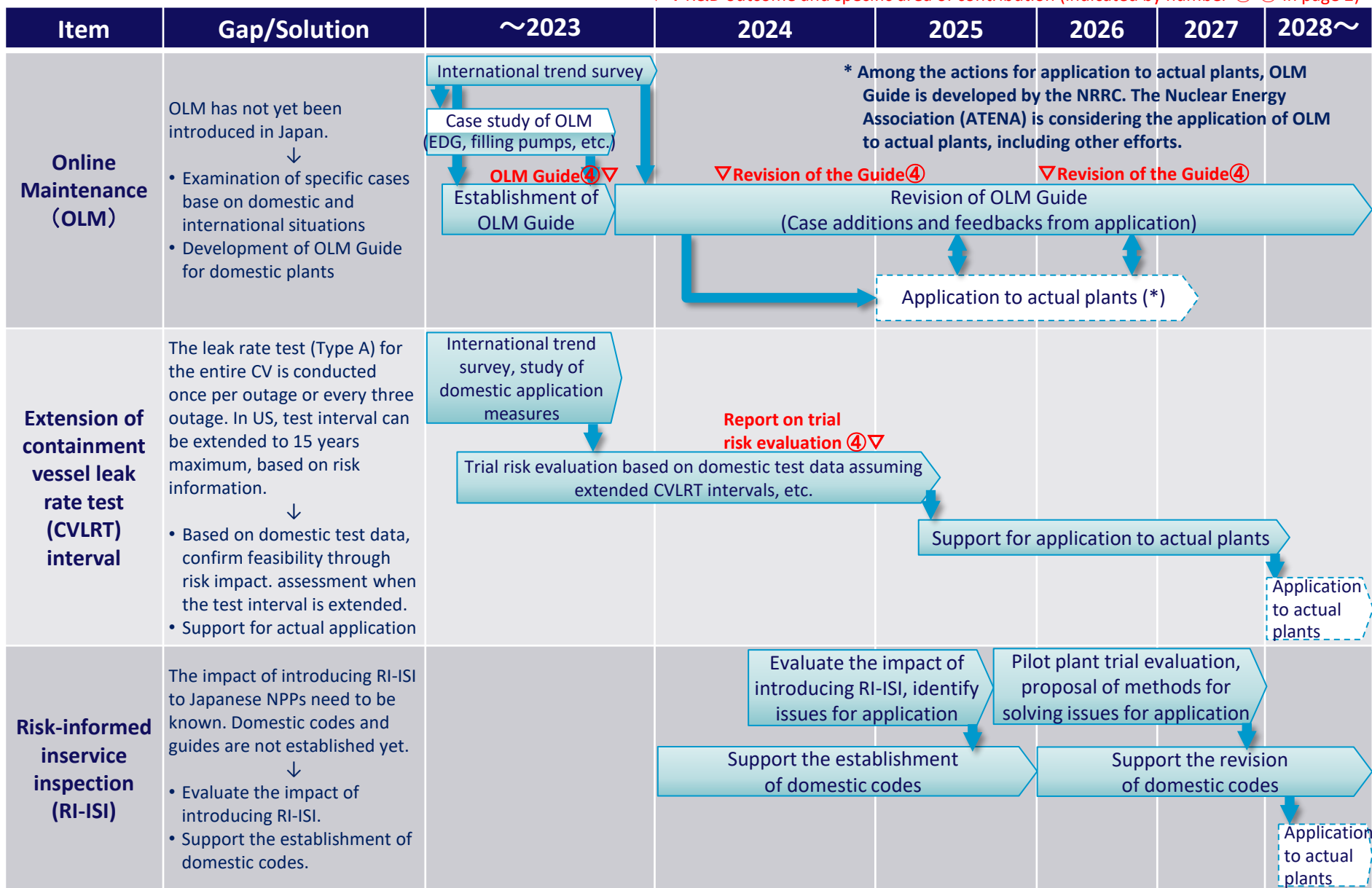
▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

Item	Gap/Solution	~2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028~
Development of SNS utilization measures in RC practice	Utilities see SNS as a promising tool for communicating about nuclear power to the younger generation and child-raising population but have yet to find a way to make use of it in RC. ↓ • Development of SNS utilization strategies in RC practice	Strategies for construction of local SNS community with a sense of trust ⑤▽ Investigation of the construction and operation process through the trial of an experimental SNS community	Results of analysis of responses to energy security and other content in local communities ⑤▽ Analysis of responses to SNS content including nuclear power	Interaction strategies and effective content delivery strategies for each SNS ⑤▽ Study of measures to provide contents for SNS types	Utilization of SNS by utilities ⑤▽ Development of SNS utilization strategies in regional dialogue		
Development of measures to provide information on radiation risks	Need to build trust in the protective measures and safety improvements to bridge the gap in knowledge between senders and receivers of information on radiation risk, which is a growing concern for local residents before and after the restart ↓ • Development of measures to provide information on radiation risks	Risk communication guide for trust and regional dialogue on nuclear power ⑤▽ Development of dialogue technique for risk information	Survey results of public perception of radiation risk ⑤▽ Survey of public perceptions of radiation risk	Survey results of evacuation behavior, Analysis results of sender and receiver discrepancies ⑤▽ Survey of behavior regarding radiation risk, analysis of sender and receiver discrepancies	Strategies for providing information on radiation risks ⑤▽ Development of information provision measures using Level 3 PRA	Development of RC methods that incorporate the concept of risk for building public confidence in nuclear energy (Items to be implemented based on the results of the research needs survey)	
Creation of knowledge that contributes to solving practical issues in regional dialogue	Need knowledge of risk messages related to risk management of nuclear power plants, etc., that are timely and responsive to changing social conditions associated with nuclear energy policy and restart of nuclear power plants ↓ • Timely provision of knowledge on risk messages that respond to practical issues related to RC	Survey technique for validation of RC strategy of utilities ⑤▽ Development of survey technique for validation of utilities' RC strategy by collaboration at a pilot site	Findings obtained through research and experiments in response to RC practical issues of utilities' ⑤▽ Qualitative/quantitative research and dialogue experiments on risk messages based on the identification of the needs and RC practical issues of utilities' (depending on each utility's needs every FY)				

RC: Risk Communication SNS: Social Networking Service

16. Expansion of the Scope of RIDM Process Application

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)



17. Development of Integrated Risk Assessment Technology

▽ : R&D outcome and specific area of contribution (indicated by number ①-⑤ in page 2)

