

Japan's blueprint for a super-smart society, Society 5.0, is a more far-reaching concept than Industry 4.0, for it envisions a complete transformation of the Japanese way of life.

Society 5.0 was adopted in 2017 to overcome chronic social challenges such as an ageing population, social polarization, depopulation and constraints related to energy and the environment. Both the government and business leaders have high hopes for the strategy.

The idea is that Society 5.0 will follow Society 1.0 (hunter-gatherer), Society 2.0 (agricultural), Society 3.0 (industrialized) and Society 4.0 (information). Society 5.0 will be characterized by a sustainable, inclusive socio-economic system powered by digital technologies such as AI and robotics. Any product or