

# Biodiversity Conservation

## Basic Concept

Our daily lives and business activities are supported by the natural resources, and if the biodiversity that is its basis is lost, the lives of people and company sustainability will be impacted in a major way.

Conservation of regional ecosystems is regarded as a critical issue affecting the Group's continuing development, and we are promoting activities with consideration for biodiversity, including the establishment and maintenance of biotopes, forest conservation, and other activities.

## Initiatives in Our Business Activities

### Creating biotopes

In 2000, we created a 7,500-m<sup>2</sup> biotope at Chita-Midorihamma Works, in 2010, we created a 600-m<sup>2</sup> biotope at the Gas Energy Exhibition Hall, and in 2018, we created an 800-m<sup>2</sup> biotope at Minato AQUUS. In these biotopes, we are preserving ecosystems including fostering local rare and endemic species and surveying plant and wildlife species with the help of specialized contractors.



Biotope at Chita-Midorihamma Works

### Efforts to remove invasive species

At our Technical Research Institute, we are making efforts to eradicate the Argentine ant, a species native to South America that has been designated as an invasive alien species under the Act on the Prevention of Adverse Ecological Impacts Caused by Designated Invasive Alien Species.

Together with the city of Tokai, Aichi Prefecture, we conduct monthly efforts to eradicate this invasive species.



Biotope courtyard at the Gas Energy Exhibition Hall

### Participating in the Inochiwotsunagu ("Connecting Life") Project

The Inochiwotsunagu ("Connecting Life") Project is driven by a student executive committee that brings together 12 companies, government agencies, experts, and NPOs in the Chita Peninsula coastal area to create and preserve ecosystems in corporate green spaces and foster students as future leaders in building a sustainable society.

We actively participate in this project, working with neighboring companies to create green spaces and biotopes, eradicate invasive species, and conduct monitoring surveys of wildlife with local students at city gas production plants such as Chita-Midorihamma Works.

### Overseas nature conservation activities

We have been a part of the Keidanren Nature Conservation Council since FY2014. Through this joint council, we provide assistance to environmental NGOs for their nature conservation activities in Indonesia and other parts of the world.

### Endorsing the Keidanren Declaration for Biodiversity and Guideline

In July 2020, we endorsed the Keidanren Declaration for Biodiversity and Guideline. Our efforts are in line with this declaration and guideline, and we will continue to work to contribute to biodiversity conservation.

## Biodiversity Conservation

### SDG Contribution Activities in the Local Community

As part of our efforts to contribute to sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the local community, we collaborate with various local governments, NPOs, corporations, and educational institutions to implement activities.

Activity	Cooperating partner	Description
Toho Gas Forests	Aichi Forest Office; Mitake, Gifu Prefecture; Odai, Mie Prefecture; local forest associations and others	We established Toho Gas Forest Odai, Toho Gas Forest Mitake, and Toho Gas Forest Seto in Gifu, Aichi, and Mie Prefectures where Group employees and their families volunteered to plant, thin, and remove trees and perform landscape maintenance. We promote activities with the support of the local community such as by outsourcing some work to local forest associations.
Satoyama conservation	Nagoya Higashiyama Forest Conservation Group	At Higashiyama Forest in Nagoya, which has been selected as an important satochi-satoyama with respect to biodiversity cooperation by the Ministry of the Environment, we participate in activities of an NPO that leads satoyama conservation, with Group employees and their families volunteering to thin trees and perform other conservation activities.
Biodiversity education courses at Nagoya Open University of the Environment	Center for Environmental Creative Studies, Nagoya Open University of the Environment	As part of a registered course at Nagoya Open University of the Environment, we held a biodiversity course for families and middle and high school students at the biotope courtyard at the Gas Energy Exhibition Hall.
Environment Day Nagoya	City of Nagoya	We have sponsored and participated in Environment Day Nagoya organized by the city of Nagoya since 2000. We raise awareness on the 3Rs, CO <sub>2</sub> reduction, and biodiversity by promoting our ESG management and SDG initiatives.
Green Curtain Project	City of Nagoya	In FY2023, we donated 1,288 goya (bitter melon) seedlings to the city of Nagoya, which were distributed to its citizens at environmental events such as Environment Day Nagoya in various wards throughout the city.
Hana-ippai "Many Flowers" Project at Higashiyama Botanical Gardens	Higashiyama Botanical Gardens, Nagoya	Since FY2008, we have participated in creating corporate flower beds in Higashiyama Botanical Gardens, with employees and their families voluntarily planting flower seedlings three times a year.
Osampo de Ikimono Mikke "Discover Living Creatures While Walking"	Forest Nature School, Aichi Prefecture	Since FY2011, we have sponsored and cooperated with the planning and operation of an environmental event held by Aichi Prefecture and an NPO at Expo Memorial Park with the aim of bringing people closer to nature.
Cleanup activities (local cleanup projects)	Various local governments and others	As part of our local contribution activities, we participate in cleanup projects around Group business locations, particularly in June, which is Environment Month.



Thinning of trees at Toho Gas Forest Mitake



Toho Gas booth at Environment Day Nagoya



Hana-ippai "Many Flowers" Project at Higashiyama Botanical Gardens



Osampo de Ikimono Mikke "Discover Living Creatures While Walking"