

SuMi TRUST
SUMITOMO MITSUI TRUST HOLDINGS

Natural Capital

ESG REPORT

2019/2020



SuMi TRUST Group's Eco-Trustution

The Group has coined the word "Eco-Trustution" to represent its environmental financial business based on the concept of providing solutions to ecological issues through the use of our trust function. We will continue to develop and provide solution-based financial instruments and services.

Solutions that use the unique functions of a trust bank



Editorial policy

The 2019/2020 ESG Report consists of our full ESG report, booklets on the themes of climate change, natural capital, and environmentally friendly property, a digest report for seniors (available only in Japanese), and a stewardship report. Visit our website to learn more about our other sustainability initiatives.

<https://www.smth.jp/en/csr/index.html>

* This booklet contains information about the various initiatives and activities of the SuMi TRUST Group companies, centering on SuMi TRUST Bank.

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Target SDGs for Natural Capital Initiatives



* SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)
Global-scale priority issues that should be addressed collectively worldwide toward 2030 adopted at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015. The Sustainable Development Goals are comprised of 17 goals and 169 targets.

The global environment is the foundation for sustaining the life of various living creatures. It comprises of natural capital, such as water, air, soil, as well as marine and terrestrial fauna and flora that are grown in such resources under the blessings of the sun. Humans also depend on natural capital and have utilized it to build social systems and develop the economy. In this process, however, humans have also caused significant consequences.

Natural capital is not inexhaustible. Supplies may be exhausted sooner or later unless we accurately track and manage our dependence and impacts on natural capital. This is closely interlinked with humans' day-to-day activities. For this reason, all SDGs are connected with natural capital. Primarily from the perspective of corporate activities, the Group focuses on natural capital in Japan, where we lay our business foundation, as well as natural capital outside Japan, where we rely on highly for the procurement of raw materials and parts. We have selected goals that contribute to proper dependence on and management of such natural capital.

Challenges for Achieving the Goals

- Deepening understanding of the importance of natural capital
- Establishing approaches for tracking companies' dependence and impact on natural capital
- Visualization of natural capital risks that lead to damaging corporate value
- Expanding financial transactions that contribute to solving companies' challenges related to natural capital

Initiatives for Solving the Challenges

- Appeal the concept and importance of natural capital through various opportunities, such as proposals and seminars for clients.
- Contribute to establishing methodologies for appropriately managing dependence and impacts on natural capital, such as natural capital protocols.
- Identify natural capital risks that have serious impacts on the continuation of overseas procurement, businesses, and projects, and incorporate them into investment and loan processes from the ESG perspective.
- Taking into account that land is the foundation of natural capital in terrestrial ecosystems, strive to restore ecosystems that are suitable for various areas, ranging from mountainous regions to cities, and contribute to the formation of ecological networks.
- Promote related businesses, such as increasing sales of Environmental Rating Loans with Evaluation of Natural Capital Preservation and developing the forestry trust.

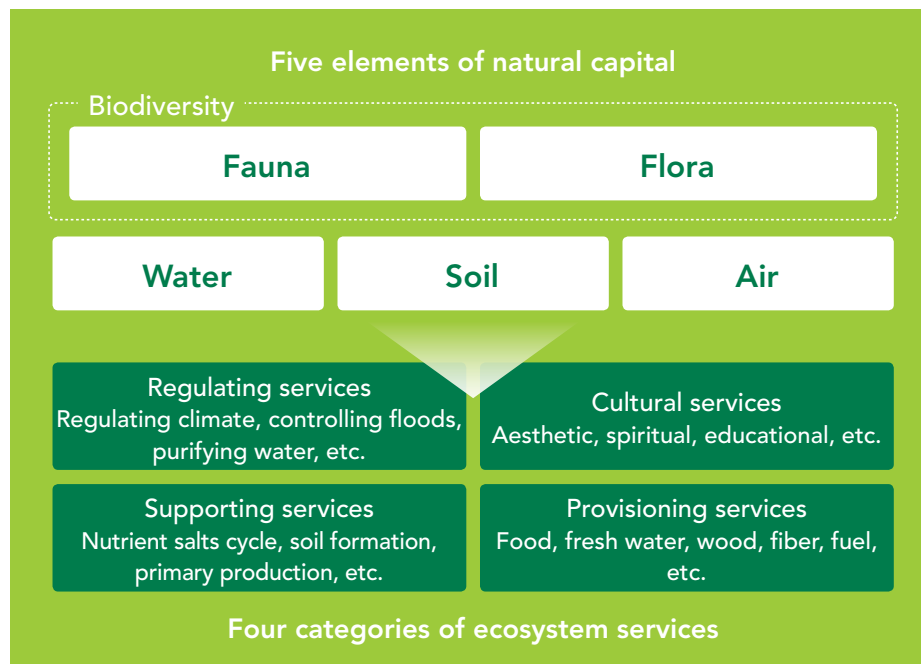
KPIs for Solving the Challenges

2018/2019	Target	Result	2019/2020	Target
Promotion of activities through proposals and seminars for clients	At least 20 times a year	24 times	Promotion of activities through proposals and seminars for clients	At least 20 times a year
Credit policy concerning natural capital	Introduction in fiscal 2018	Not achieved (slated for introduction in fiscal 2019)	Examination of green infrastructure finance	Submission of proposals to clients
Development of forestry trust	Launch in fiscal 2019	On target	Promotion of forestry trust	Expansion of forestry trust business assessments

Natural Capital Initiatives and Policies of the SuMi TRUST Group

What is Natural Capital?

Natural capital is made up of diverse living creatures and the water, soil, and air that sustain them. These are the foundation sustaining life on earth and conserving them needs to be prioritized ahead of everything else. The way we live depends on natural capital and the ecosystem services they provide. We thus feel continued wise use of natural resources which constitute natural capital over the long run goes beyond mere environmental conservation. It must extend to putting communities on a solid social foundation to enable sustainable economic development.



Natural Capital Finance Alliance (formerly the Natural Capital Declaration)

SuMi TRUST Holdings became a signatory to the Natural Capital Declaration (NCD) proposed by the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development “Rio+20” held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012. SuMi TRUST Holdings is the only financial institution in Japan to have signed the declaration when it originally promulgated. The initiatives of NCD signatories have been expanded through NCD’s reorganization into Natural Capital Finance Alliance (NCFA).



Commitment of Financial Institutions under the Natural Capital Finance Alliance (Excerpt)



We will support the development of methodologies that can integrate natural capital considerations into the decision-making processes for all financial products and services including loans, investment, and insurance policies.

- (a) We will apply a holistic approach to the evaluation of bonds and stocks by integrating natural capital considerations in environmental, social, and governance (ESG) risk analysis in short-, medium-, and long-term growth forecasts of investee companies.
- (b) We will systematically incorporate the consideration of evaluating natural capital into the credit policies of specific sectors, including commodities, that have a major impact on natural capital, either directly or indirectly through the supply chain.

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings Action Guidelines for Preserving Biodiversity

1. Implementing Measures and Providing Support for Biodiversity Preservation

We will strive to actively protect rare and native species. In our role as a corporate citizen, we will work to support activities for the preservation of biodiversity.

2. Providing Products and Services

We will endeavor to develop and provide products and services that contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, by conducting appropriate economic and social evaluations of the ecosystem and encouraging the sustainable use of living resources through our financial functions.

3. Collaboration with Stakeholders

We will engage in dialogue and cooperation with our stakeholders while working to preserve biodiversity.

4. Education and Training

We will ensure thorough implementation of these action guidelines at all Group companies and will work to provide education and training aimed at the preservation of biodiversity.

5. Information Disclosure

We will actively disclose information about our efforts to preserve biodiversity.

Natural Capital Initiatives and Policies of the SuMi TRUST Group

Business and Biodiversity Initiative: Our Initiatives as a Leadership Declaration Signatory

SuMi TRUST Holdings signed a leadership declaration under the Business and Biodiversity Initiative “Biodiversity in Good Company” at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9) to the Convention on Biological Diversity held in May 2008 in Germany. Since then, we have continued to carry out activities in line with the principles of the declaration, which was led by the German government.



Declaration	Initiatives in 2018-2019
1. Analyzing corporate activities with regard to their impacts on biological diversity	Not only did we continue to provide environmental rating loans with natural capital evaluation, we also kicked off positive impact finance solutions to assist the initiatives of companies by comprehensively analyzing and assessing the impact of their activities on the economy, society, and the environment, including natural capital.
2. Including the protection of biological diversity within their environmental management system	In our Sustainability promotion system, we draw up a plan for each fiscal year on efforts related to natural capital and review their performance semiannually.
3. Appointing a person in the company responsible for steering all activities in the biodiversity sector and reporting to the Management Board	The Chief Sustainability Officer steers all activities and reports to the Executive Committee.
4. Defining realistic, measurable objectives that are monitored and adjusted every two to three years	Following on from last fiscal year, we established SDG-linked objectives for our natural capital initiatives and stepped up our activities.
5. Publishing activities and achievements in the biodiversity sector in the company's annual, environmental, and/or corporate social responsibility report	We publish a yearly Natural Capital feature report. We disclose our biodiversity initiatives in our ESG report and at various events.
6. Informing suppliers about the company's biodiversity objectives and integrating suppliers accordingly and step by step	We continue to pay attention to procurement of copier paper and office supplies linked to illegal logging in tropical rain forests, which has large detrimental impacts on biodiversity. In our fiduciary services business, we engage as a shareholder with investee companies on activities that contribute to natural capital destruction and voice our concerns.
7. Exploring the potential for cooperation with scientific institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and/or governmental institutions with the aim of deepening dialogue and continuously improving the corporate management system vis-a-vis the biodiversity domain.	We became a signatory to the Principles for Positive Impact Finance of the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) and actively participated in initiatives aimed at establishing and enhancing methods for evaluating natural capital impacts.

Various Activities Concerning Natural Capital

Natural Capital Study Group

Launched in April 2013 by the SuMi TRUST Group and chaired by Masahiro Sato, an associate professor at the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies of Tohoku University, the Natural Capital Study Group regularly brings together members of companies, national and local governments, universities, research institutes, and NGOs for the purpose of facilitating multilateral discussions regarding their topics of research.

Symposium Address

In January 2019 we took part in the panel discussion of a national forum on waterside ecological networks hosted by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and presented some examples of the initiatives of financial institutions that aim to find value in natural capital. Then in July we gave a lecture at a seminar about greenery and the SDGs jointly organized by construction firms Sumitomo Forestry and Kumagai Gumi. In particular, we talked about how buildings constructed with biodiversity issues in mind, for example those with rooftop gardens, can enhance property value by boosting office worker productivity.

Booth at EcoPro

Held every year in December at Tokyo Big Sight, EcoPro is Japan's biggest exhibition on the environment. Since 2007, SuMi TRUST Bank has exhibited at EcoPro in collaboration with the Ecosystem Conservation Society-Japan and the Association of National Trusts in Japan with a booth that primarily focuses on natural capital and biodiversity issues.

EcoPro visitors and a SuMi TRUST Bank employee



Natural Capital Products and Services

The Group's objectives in developing products related to natural capital

- Contribute to companies' improvement on consideration to natural capital in their supply chains through investments and loans, especially those Japanese companies that depend on procuring many resources from overseas.
- Given that land is the foundation of natural capital in terrestrial ecosystems, strive to restore ecosystems that are suitable for various areas, ranging from mountainous regions to cities, and contribute to the formation of ecological networks.



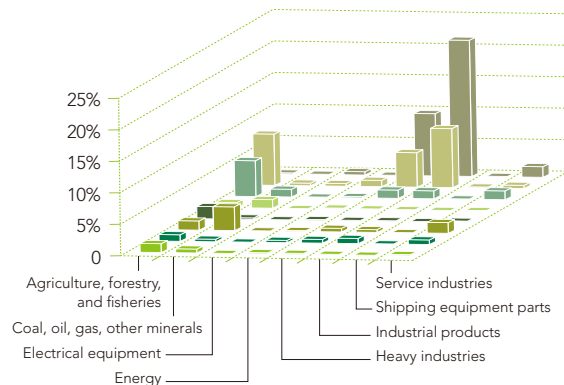
Evaluating Supply Chain Impacts on Natural Capital

Natural Capital Evaluation

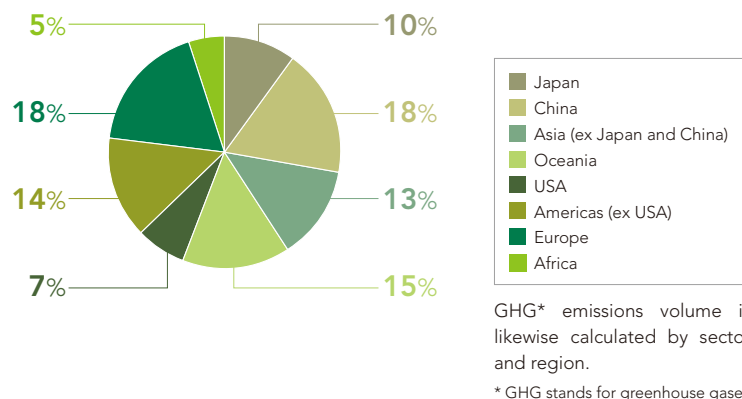
Natural capital evaluation is a service that calculates natural capital dependence arising from corporate activities and estimates the degree of impact for each procured item and for each country and region, tracing back through supply chain.

Example of output from a Natural Capital Evaluation Tool

Breakdown of water usage volume in each region by sector



Ratio of land usage area by region



Benefits of Natural Capital Evaluation

(1) Gaining quantitative risk data related to the supply chain that can be used for management judgments

Can obtain previously hidden risk data related to environmental impacts and the use of resources that are essential to global supply chain management

(2) Obtaining quantitative data on environmental impacts that can be used for information disclosure

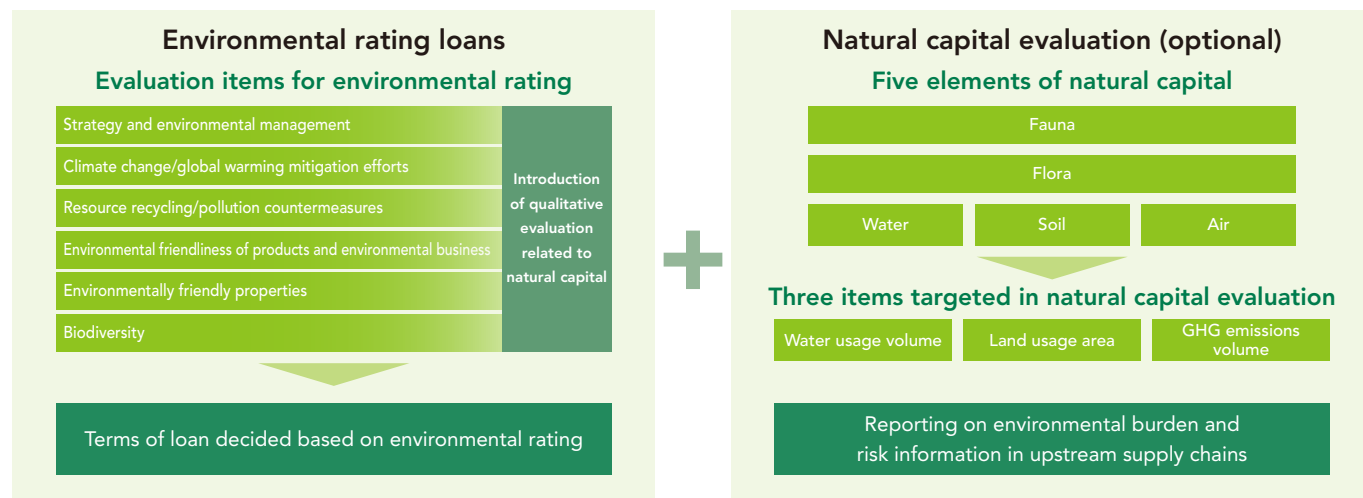
Can use the data for scope 3 responses to surveys such as the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) survey and for disclosures in integrated corporate reports

Initiatives for Loans

Environmental Rating Loans with Evaluation of Natural Capital Preservation

The sustainable use of natural capital as resources is vital for a company to continue its business. There is a growing awareness that natural capital-related procurement risk management across the global supply chain is an indispensable part of management strategy.

In April 2013, SuMi TRUST Bank launched its Environmental Rating Loans with Evaluation of Natural Capital Preservation, which embed the concept of evaluating impacts on natural capital and a company's initiatives into the environmental-rating evaluation process that assesses its environmental measures. This is the world's first attempt to incorporate natural capital evaluation into loan criteria, and the Bank's efforts have been cited in Japanese government environmental white papers and European Commission reports as an example of leading-edge practice.



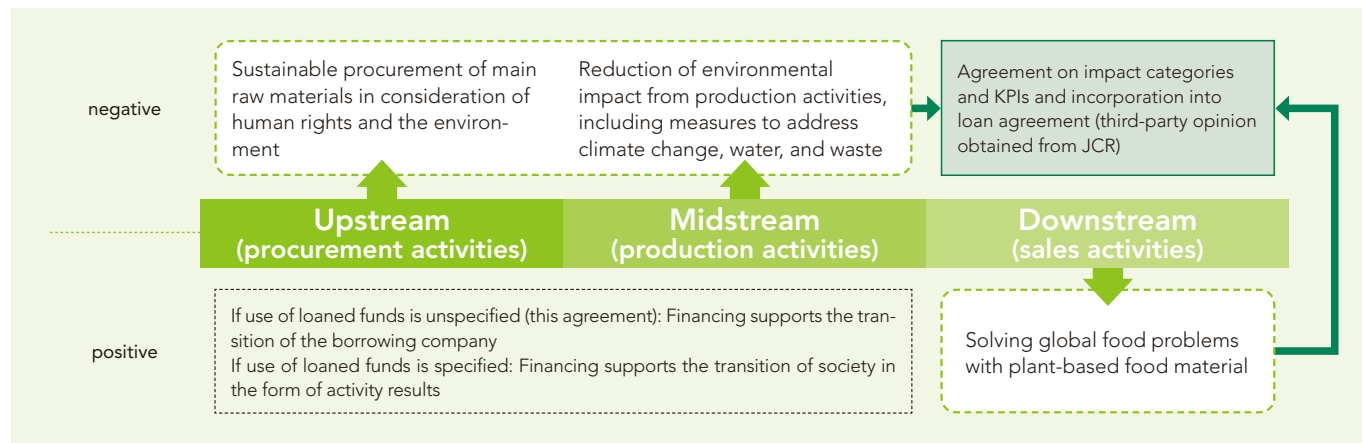
Note: "Optional" refers to ESCHER calculations provided by PwC Sustainability LLC that are not available without loan products.

Positive Impact Finance

The SuMi TRUST Group is committed to positive impact financing that takes into account not just relationships with clients, but the connections (impacts) between clients and society (surroundings), supports the optimization of those connections, and contributes to the transition to a sustainable society.

In March 2019, SuMi TRUST Bank concluded the world's first positive impact finance agreement with Fuji Oil Holdings whereby the use of loaned funds is unspecified. Under this loan agreement, the borrowing company is committed to achieving set goals for maximizing the positive impacts and minimizing the negative impacts in the upstream, mid-stream, and downstream stages of its supply chain.

The impacts on biodiversity that need to be managed are the activities for improving the supply chain with the goal of realizing an NDPE (no deforestation, no peat, no exploitation) approach to the sustainable procurement of main raw materials, as well as the initiatives such as the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO).



Natural Capital Risk Management for Loans

Natural Capital Risk Management for Loans

SuMi TRUST Bank is a signatory to the Equator Principles, a set of international guidelines for private financial institutions that requires project proponents to give due consideration to the impact on the natural environment and the regional community when approving project finance and other loans.

In addition, we have established policies for specific sectors that promote business activities with significant environmental and social impacts and restrict loans and investments to companies and projects with negative impact. We also intend to establish a policy for sectors that are considered to be involved in the manufacture of palm oil and the illegal logging of tropical rainforests during fiscal 2019.

Natural Capital Risk Management for Investment (Asset Management)

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Asset Management (SMTAM) and Nikko Asset Management have become signatories to the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), which was established in 2006. The PRI calls on institutional investors to take into account environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors in their investment decision-making processes.

Through engagements, SMTAM requests investees to establish guidelines and policies on the use of and risks related to natural capital, covering supply chains, and to control risks from a long-term perspective.

Case Engagement Concerning Palm Oil Production

Dialogue overview

Through its participation in a joint engagement by way of a PRI working group, SMTAM calls on palm oil production companies to incorporate the criteria of the RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil) into their production operations. This time around, SMTAM is engaging with Kuala Lumpur-based CIMB, an influential Malaysian bank, and urging it to strengthen its compliance rules for, and monitoring of, palm oil producers from a financial institution standpoint by incorporating a sustainability policy into its lending guidelines.

Company response

Based on its sustainability policy, the bank has committed to implementing stricter compliance rules for palm oil producers and strengthening its monitoring of their operations. As a bank, it is also developing an environmental policy in an effort to prevent negative environmental impacts from occurring as a result of palm oil production.

SMTAM's policy

Collaboration with investors, banks, and other stakeholders in the region is key to resolving environmental issues and SMTAM's policy going forward will be to engage with other financial institutions (not just CIMB) that do business in Southeast Asia.

Initiatives in the Real Estate Business

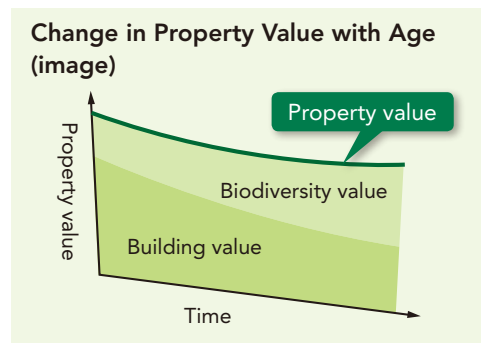
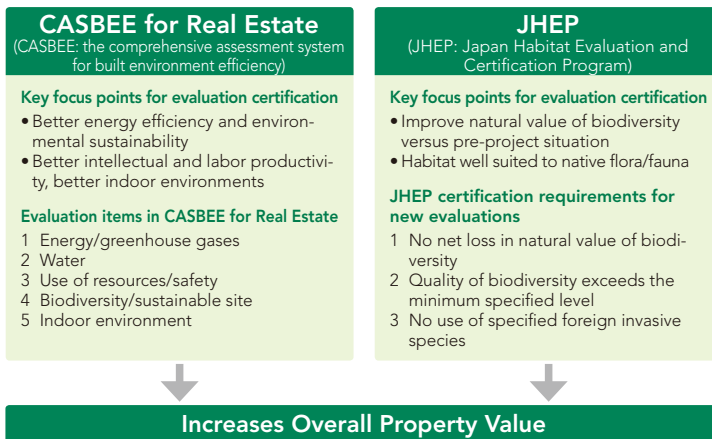
Construction Consulting on How to Foster Biodiversity and Ecosystems

Through the use of CASBEE for Real Estate*¹ and JHEP*² together, the environmental performance of properties can be improved across many dimensions, helping to increase overall property value.

At SuMi TRUST Bank, biodiversity considerations are included in our menu of construction consulting services.

*¹ CASBEE for Real Estate: The comprehensive assessment system for built environment efficiency (CASBEE) certification is an environmental performance evaluation system for buildings being developed and promoted in Japan under the guidance of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT). SuMi TRUST Bank is involved in the establishment of criteria.

*² JHEP: Japan Habitat Evaluation and Certification Program is a system is a system developed by the Ecosystem Conservation Society-Japan to quantitatively evaluate and certify efforts to contribute to the conservation and restoration of biodiversity.



A building's environmental performance is evaluated on many dimensions such as energy savings, global warming mitigation measures, biodiversity, durability, and resource efficiency.

The value of buildings decline with age but the biodiversity value increases every year as the ecosystem surrounding it forms. These offsetting lifecycle patterns can maintain the combined value of the building and site together as a whole. Ecological networks can be created through the connection of local communities, neighboring buildings and green nature reserves.

Forestry Trust

Approximately two-thirds of Japan's land is covered in forest. Although these forest resources, which consist mainly of artificial forests developed after the Second World War, are now ready for full-scale use, in reality, many have been left untended.

SuMi TRUST Bank is developing a forestry trust scheme that will consolidate and enhance the efficiency of forestry operations by accepting entrustment of forests—where operations are non-existent because the owners are in old age or live far away, for example—and entrusting forestry operations to a forestry entity. We are working to revitalize Japan's forestry industry by improving productivity of operations and invigorating the domestic timber market.

Forestry trust and SDGs activities

Our forestry trust initiative is linked to many of the SDGs, but in particular, Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

- **Land conservation and watershed protection functions of forests**
Contributing to Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation; and Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities
- **Prevention of global warming**
Contributing to Goal 13: Climate action
- **Raise wages for forestry workers by turning forestry into a growth industry**
Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth
- **Shorten wood mileage (distribution distance) through wood distribution reforms**
Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production
- **Recycle forest resources by promoting use of timber**
Contributing to the achievement of multiple goals, including Goals 8, 11, and 15



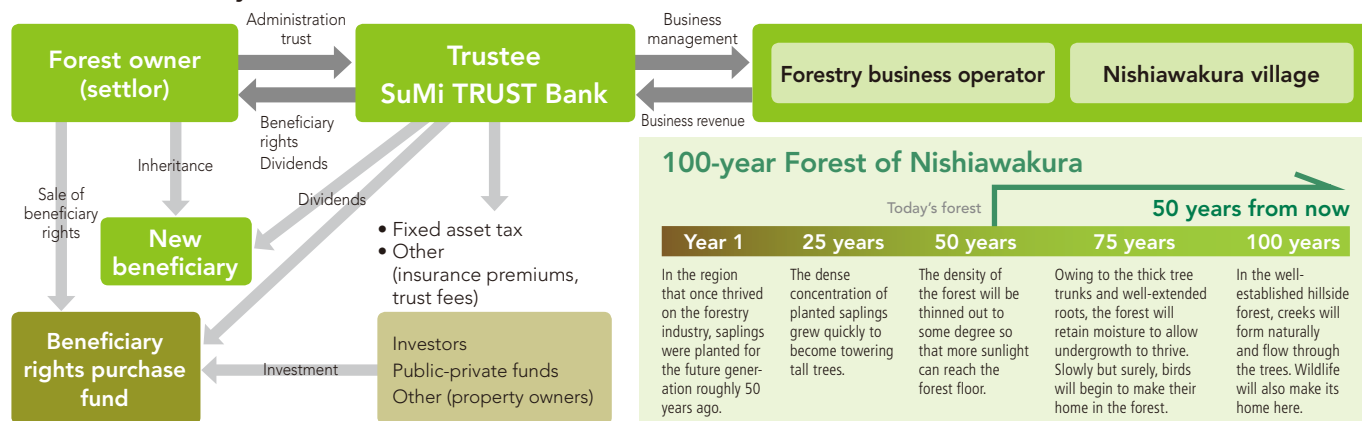
Forestry trust initiative in Okayama Prefecture's Nishiawakura village

SuMi TRUST Bank has kicked off initiatives in its forestry trust business in the village of Nishiawakura in Okayama Prefecture.

95% of the land area of Nishiawakura village is forest, of which 84% is plantation. The entire village continues to take up the challenge of growing a magnificent 100-year-old forest with trees planted roughly 50 years ago based on its 100-year Vision of Forest. Our forestry trust business is a solutions proposal unique to a trust bank in which we hope to support the village's 100-year Vision of Forest with the use of a trust scheme.

Nishiawakura village was selected as an "SDGs Future City" in 2019.

Overview of forestry trust scheme



Source: 100-year Vision of Forest, Nishiawakura village office website

SDGs Future City Initiative

Okayama Prefecture Nishiawakura village	100-year forest business powered by forestry fund and forest RE Design — Ver. 2.0
	We aim to maximize and optimize the value of forests for the entire region through consolidation in a forestry trust business and turn privately-owned forests unsuited to forest management into publicly-owned forests after assessing their economic value. In financing this business, a forestry fund will be set up, which will also have a positive impact on businesses tasked with improving the sustainability of the region by involving investors as key parties.

Source: July 1, 2019 Cabinet Office press release on SDGs Future City selection

Support for Citizen Activities through Charitable Trusts

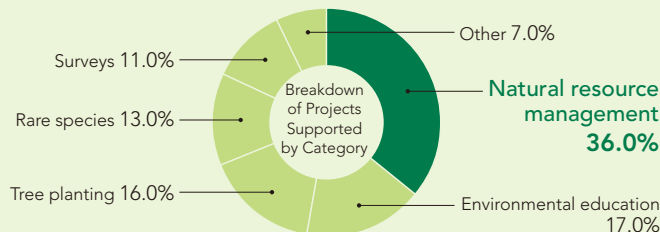
Support for Various Charitable Trusts

The charitable trust system is one where individuals or corporations donate assets that are administered and managed by a trust bank in accordance with predetermined objectives. For example, in this system, a trust awards funds for charitable activities from the interest income as well as principle of its endowment assets.

SuMi TRUST Bank first received a mandate as a trustee for a charitable trust in 1977. Since then, the number of trusts under its management has steadily risen, and projects in various charitable fields have received trust grants. Among these are contributions for domestic nature conservation and ecological network building.

Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund

The Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF), a public charitable trust set up in 2000 by the Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation, has used the trust system to supply funds to support nature conservation activities. Collecting donations from Keidanren member corporations, other private-sector companies, and individuals, KNCF provides grants for nature conservation activities in Japan and developing countries carried out by NPOs, NGOs and others. Since the Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation's establishment in fiscal year 1992 through March 2019, a total of 4.0 billion yen has been granted to about 1,418 activities. In addition to tree planting and environmental education initiatives, the Keidanren has supported a wide range of projects involving biodiversity conservation, including natural resource management and rare species protection, around the world, especially in Asia and Japan. Furthermore, a special subsidy project was implemented over the three years from fiscal 2017 to 2019 to commemorate the fund's 25 years of existence. During that time, a total of ¥150 million was granted to help entities achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the SDGs.



Suntory Fund for Bird Conservation

The Suntory Fund for Bird Conservation was established in 1990 by Suntory Holdings with the aim of enhancing bird conservation activities. Over the past 29 years, the fund has supported various bird protection activities in Japan and overseas. In recent years, the fund has granted around ¥40 million every year to NGOs and other entities in and outside of Japan for bird conservation group activities, for community bird activities, and for riparian large bird conservation.



Second-year elementary school students bird watching from the banks of the Tama River in spring

Promoting Activities Fostering Employee Participation

Activities to Support the Environment and Living Creatures

SuMi TRUST Bank branches nationwide carry out sustainability activities (“With You” activities). Embracing the idea that “we enjoy lives of abundance thanks to the blessings of natural capital,” the branches conduct various activities participated by employees, highlighting “support for the environment and living creatures,” one of the major themes defining our “With You” activities. As part of this initiative, some branches engage in activities for the protection of living creatures unique to Japan. In August 2016, the Ichinomiya Branch commenced an exhibit of Deepbody Bitterling, an endangered fish species, a first by a private company, upon obtaining an approval from the Ministry of the Environment. The branch is carefully raising 11 fish based on the advice of all parties involved in the 4th exhibit started in September 2019.



Deepbody Bitterling being raised at the Ichinomiya Branch

Sustainable Paper Use

SuMi TRUST Bank regards destruction of ecosystems and logging in tropical rainforests to supply raw materials for paper as a serious issue. Along with other corporate paper users that share its concern and the World Wide Fund for Nature Japan (WWF Japan), the Bank has established the Consortium for Sustainable Paper Use. With the aim of promoting the spread of sustainable paper use throughout society, member companies share how their initiatives are progressing and ask their suppliers to supply them paper products that are environmentally and socially sound.

As part of the CSR procurement being promoted by the entire Group, we apply environmental and social responsibility criteria for procuring paper, a product our operations use and dispose in large quantities. We engage in the following initiatives focused mainly on copier paper.

- We conduct surveys of suppliers regarding the environmental and social soundness of their paper products, such as copier paper and office supplies.
- All Group companies are prohibited from purchasing copier paper with environmental and social consideration problems, such as illegal logging in tropical rainforests.
- We procure copier paper, in principle, with a 100% recycled content ratio.
- We reference the viewpoints of Rainforest Action Network and other domestic and overseas NGOs on the environmental and social responsibility of products.

Support for National Trusts' Activities

A movement that traces its origins to 19th century England, the National Trust acquires sites with natural value and historical buildings via donations from citizens. Its conservation activities protect private-sector sanctuaries as "trust land," an effective way to steadfastly protect natural capital. The National Trust as a movement in Japan goes back to the 1960s, and the scope of its activities has broadened to now include over 50 regions across Japan. The SuMi TRUST Group recognizes that increasing National Trust land-holdings is an investment in the foundation supporting our livelihoods, and through land (real estate) acquisitions, environmental education, and our products using the trust system, we support its activities.



Supporting National Trusts' Activities through Donations for Acquiring Land



Vending machines that direct a percentage of sales to the National Trusts

Land is the foundation of natural capital in terrestrial ecosystems. Meanwhile, not only is development destroying natural habitats but in the past few years those lands whose succession rights have been relinquished or unregistered have grown sharply due to Japan's shrinking population. We think retaining and expanding managed natural preserves will be effective in checking erosion in Japan's natural capital and forestalling growth in mountain forests and farmland where land ownership is unclear.

SuMi TRUST Bank supports activities to acquire high-value sites and land with bountiful nature through contributions from citizens and corporations that are promoted by the Association of National Trusts in Japan. The Bank has donated funds to purchase those lands where endangered species live and of academically important. In 2014, the Bank donated funds toward the acquisition of forest land (equivalent to 8,000m²) in Amami Oshima to conserve habitat for the endangered Amami rabbit. In 2015, the Bank donated funds toward the acquisition of the Utsai bog (equivalent to 1,500m² of the site), located within Kuromatsunai town, to conserve the high-elevation wetland, one of the oldest in Hokkaido.

Vending machines that donate a percentage of their sales to the Association of National Trusts in Japan have been installed in the Nakano Branch, the Tokorozawa Branch, the Tokorozawa-Ekimae Branch, and the Omori Branch. Funds equating to the acquisition cost of 2,850m² of forest land in Chichibu, a source region for water supply to the greater Tokyo metropolitan area, have been donated through October 2019.

Social Contribution Donation Trusts

SuMi TRUST Bank administers social contribution donation trusts set up for the purpose of making donations to public-interest organizations carrying out social contribution activities. These trusts enable people who would like to contribute to society in some form as a citizen to do so using the trust system. The selection of Ecosystem Conservation Society-Japan, a public interest incorporated foundation, as a donation recipient supports the activities of the Association of National Trusts in Japan, an organization that aims to protect nature by purchasing land that forms the natural habitat of endangered species in Japan.

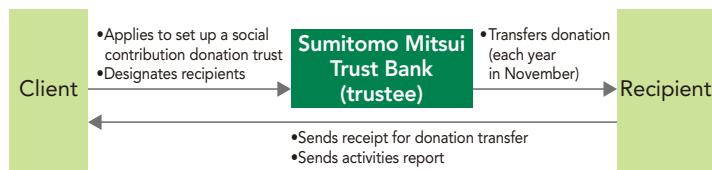
Panel Exhibits in Branch Lobbies across Japan

In fiscal 2018, 49 branches of SuMi TRUST Bank displayed panel exhibits on the theme of the National Trust, a nature conservation movement that traces its origins to England.

"Mori-no-boen" (forest cemetery) opened in Chonan Town, Chiba Prefecture in February 2016 by Ecosystem Conservation Society-Japan, a public interest incorporated foundation. In order to regenerate the nature of the land on which the forest was destroyed by sand excavation, a National Trust method is being used to turn the land into a cemetery by planting native trees as grave markers. Since no manmade items such as gravestones are placed at the site, it is attracting attention as a new type of cemetery business that turns entire burial grounds into a natural forest in the future. From fiscal 2017, starting with six branches in Chiba Prefecture where the cemetery is located, a touring panel exhibit has been held at our branch lobbies (held at 37 branches in the fiscal 2018).



How the Social Contribution Trust System Works



Educating the Next Generation: Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Project

A truly sustainable society cannot be realized only by protecting lands threatened by crises that we currently face. SuMi TRUST Bank considers that such a society can be achieved by fostering people who are future-minded and understand the value of nature. In this regard, we hope that through the ESD project, children, the next generation of leaders, will study what is necessary for a sustainable society.



● Considering tourism in Sapporo from the perspective of the SDGs (Sustainable Local High School in Sapporo, March 2019)

At this event, 22 junior high and high school students living in Sapporo and its suburbs learned about the issues facing the global tourist city of Sapporo. The students then considered the concept of environmentally friendly tourism for Sapporo and its residents and what is needed to spread awareness of such tourism.

A workshop session was then held during which the students discussed tourist initiatives and linked them to the targets of each SDGs. Their ideas were then presented to everybody in attendance. These ideas have been compiled in a booklet promoting action on the SDGs in order to realize sustainable tourism. The booklets will be placed at tourist facilities in the Sapporo City.



Sapporo ESD project

● SDGs seminar for teachers (Kamakura Mirai Lab, August 2019)

A seminar was held for 22 teachers from high schools and junior high schools in Kanagawa Prefecture to consider how to incorporate the SDGs into classroom activities in order to foster the future generation of a sustainable society. This was the first ESD project aimed specifically at teachers.

During the workshop, teams decided on a vision they hoped to achieve based on the topic of finding integrated solutions for society, the economy, and the environment. They then discussed what concrete action would be required to realize the SDGs, as well as the positive and negative impacts on society, the economy, and the environment. Each team then presented their findings.



Kanagawa ESD project

Initiatives over the Past Years

So far we have organized classes focusing on national trusts and the importance of water resources.

The SDGs are expected to be incorporated into Japan's curriculum guidelines for elementary schools and junior high schools from 2020 and 2021 respectively.

We are continuing to promote ESD projects focusing on the topics of urban planning and the SDGs themselves.

Nov. 2012 Wakayama Prefecture Tenjinzaki	Sept. 2013 Kanagawa Prefecture Koajiro Forest	Sept. 2014 Okayama Prefecture Waterhead Forest in Mimasaka	Jan. 2015 Kanagawa Prefecture Oyatsu Forest in Kamakura City	June 2015 Osaka Prefecture Nippon Rosy Bitterlings	Jan. 2016 Fukui Prefecture Nakaikemi Wetlands
July 2016 Aichi Prefecture Kisogawa River Deepbody Bitterlings	Feb. 2017 Chiba Prefecture Shibayama Wetlands	July 2017 Niigata Prefecture Sakata Lagoon	Feb. 2018 Shiga Prefecture Lake Biwa	Aug. 2018 Ibaraki Prefecture Forestry Trust	 Scan this QR code to see details on the case examples



Ultimately for us as human beings, we believe these initiatives are closely linked to Goal 11 of the SDGs: Sustainable cities and communities.



SUMITOMO MITSUI TRUST HOLDINGS

Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited Corporate Planning Department, Sustainability Promotion Office

1-4-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8233, Japan

Tel: +81 (3) 6256 6251 URL (only Japanese is available): <https://www.smtb.jp/csr/>

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