



Cover photo
Styan's Red Panda

In 2023, our Foundation partnered with the City of Chiba to support biodiversity conservation at Chiba Zoological Park.

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May 2025



In Harmony with Nature



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Message from the Chairman

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support of AEON Environmental Foundation. Since our establishment in 1990 as the first corporate foundation in Japan dedicated to global environmental issues, we have reached our 35th year. We deeply appreciate the long-standing cooperation of all those who have supported our initiatives.

Our Foundation operates four core programs. In 2024, our Environmental Grants program supported 110 nature conservation projects with a total of 84.01 million yen. As part of our Tree Planting efforts, we worked with volunteers in four locations in Japan, including Okoppe Town in Hokkaido and Tsuyama City in Okayama Prefecture, and two overseas sites. Through our Awards program, we presented the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity to youth from Kazakhstan and Peru at COP16 in Colombia. We also held AEON SATOYAMA Forum with universities under the theme “Creating Sustainable SATOYAMA Commons”, promoting dialogue and cultivating future environmental leaders.

Through these initiatives, we continue to promote a sustainable future in harmony with nature, working with communities in Japan and abroad amid ongoing social and economic changes.

We remain committed to expanding conservation efforts, developing future environmental leaders, and building sustainable communities.

Motoya Okada

Chairman
AEON Environmental Foundation

Purpose of Establishment

AEON Environmental Foundation was established in 1990 by Mr. Takuya Okada (currently Honorary Chairman and Advisor of AEON Co., Ltd.). At the time, global environmental issues such as climate change, deforestation, and marine pollution required urgent action beyond national borders, calling for the involvement of private companies and civil society. Today, public and private sectors work together to address these challenges.

Based on AEON’s core philosophy—“Pursuing peace, respecting humans, and contributing to local communities, always with customers as our starting point”—our Foundation has promoted tree planting, resource recycling, and other environmental initiatives. It was established to carry out these efforts directly and to support like-minded organizations working to protect the global environment.

Outline of the Foundation

■ Programs for the Common Good

(1) Environmental Grants (2) Tree Planting (3) Awards
(4) Environmental Education (5) Other Initiatives

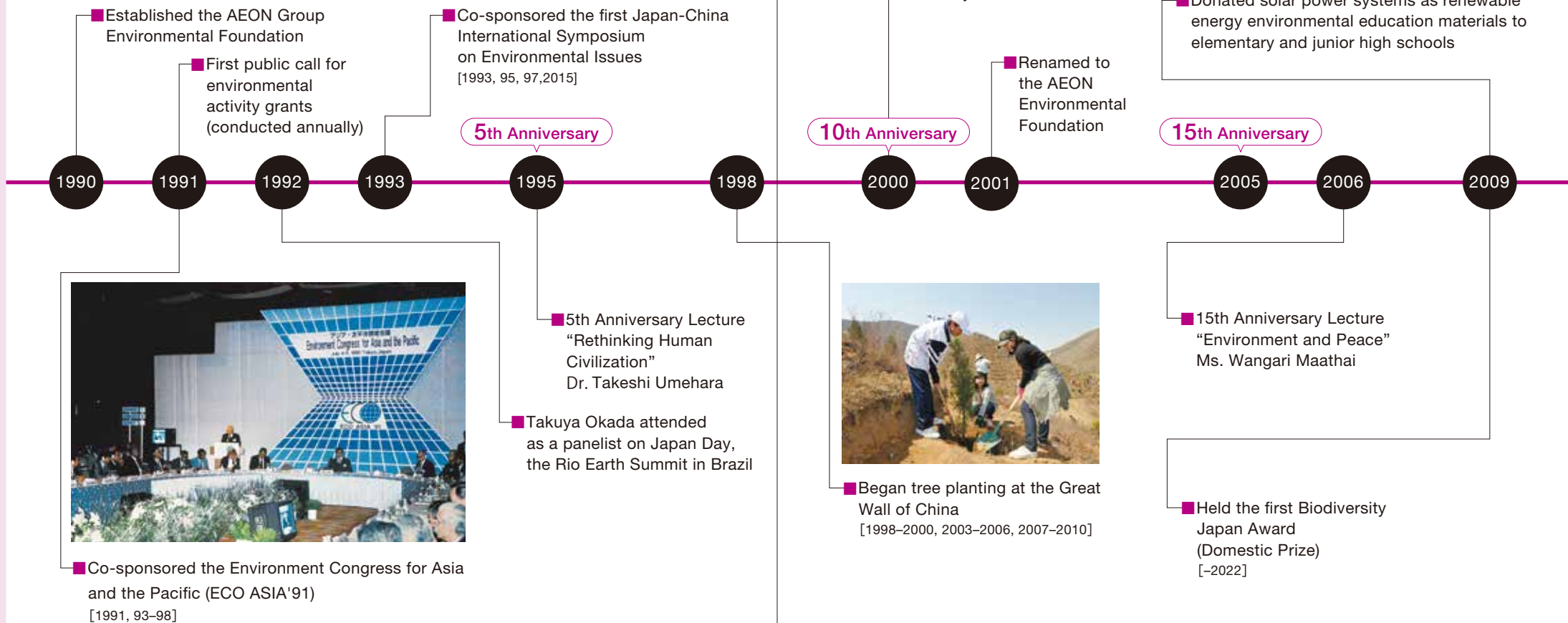
■ Basic Assets

[AEON Co., Ltd.] 21,812,500 shares

[Total Assets] 81,796,875,000 JPY (approx. 548 million USD) ※as of the end of March 2025

■ Fiscal Year

April 1 to March 31





■ Commemorative Tree Planting of One Million Trees along the Great Wall of China

Achieved over ten years through the dedicated efforts of 15,000 volunteers

■ Transitioned to a Public Interest Incorporated Foundation

■ Established the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity (International Prize)

■ 10 million trees planted by AEON

■ Announced the AEON Beijing Environmental Proposal at the Japan-China International Symposium on Environment



■ In collaboration with Future Earth and the University of Tokyo hosted the 1st AEON Future Earth Forum. [-2021]

20th Anniversary

2010

■ 20th Anniversary Lecture: "Japan as a Frontline Country of Challenges" Dr. Hiroshi Komiyama

2012



■ Held the 1st Asian Students Environment Platform (ASEP) [-2023]

2013

25th Anniversary

2015

■ 25th Anniversary Lecture "Environment and Health: Contribution from Space" Dr. Kiyoshi Higuchi, Dr. Chiaki Mukai

2016

2017

30th Anniversary

2020

■ Joined the United Nations Satoyama Initiative International Partnership

■ Established AEON Disaster-Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City Creation Joint Research Lab with Tohoku University International Research Institute of Disaster Science

■ Began landscape exercises at Kimitsu AEON Forest with Chiba University

■ Established **AEON TOWA Research Center** in cooperation with Waseda University

2021

2022

■ 30th Anniversary Lecture "Satoyama Perspectives: Harmonious Coexistence between People and Nature" Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi

■ Launched the **Satoyama-Satoumi Cocreation Project** with Kyoto University

■ Established the **AEON-Todai Satoyama Lab** with The University of Tokyo

2023

■ Held the 1st AEON SATOYAMA Forum

35th Anniversary

2024

■ AYA AEON Forest and the adjacent Hyuga Natsu Field in the Warisuke District were designated as Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Sites by Japan's Ministry of the Environment

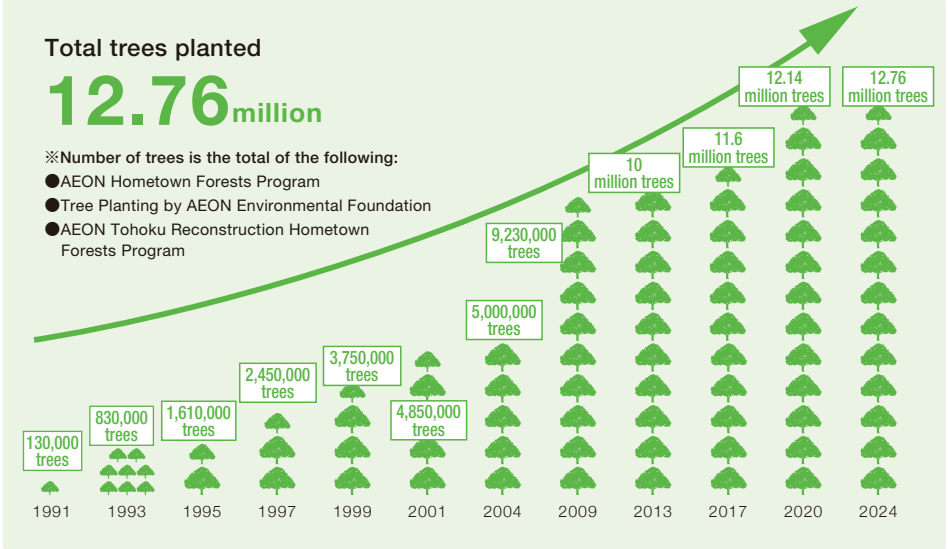
■ Held the Global Youth MIDORI Platform in cooperation with United Nations University

2025

Total trees planted

12.76 million

※Number of trees is the total of the following:
 ● AEON Hometown Forests Program
 ● Tree Planting by AEON Environmental Foundation
 ● AEON Tohoku Reconstruction Hometown Forests Program





The Total Number of Trees Planted by AEON Environmental Foundation

※As of end of March 2025 (Overseas)

China
1,083,150



Great Wall of China, 2007

Laos
148,625



Vientiane, Laos, 2011

Japan
798,203



Minamifurano Town, Hokkaido, 2022



Watari Town, Miyagi Prefecture, 2018

Thailand
140,500



Phuket, Thailand, 2005

Vietnam
74,850



Hue, Vietnam, 2010



Kimitsu City, Chiba Prefecture, 2021



Koka City, Shiga Prefecture, 2023

Kenya
3,450



Nakuru, Kenya, 2006

Indonesia
94,000

Malaysia
89,200

Myanmar
60,000

Cambodia
34,010

Australia
200



Aya Town, Miyazaki Prefecture, 2017



Okoppe Town, Hokkaido, 2024

Tree Planting



Tree Planting Achievements (until 2024)

Total trees planted

2,526,188

Total participants

137,059

Trees planted in

11 countries

Jakarta, Indonesia, 2024

We collaborate with local volunteers to restore disaster- and logging-damaged forests, rehabilitate protective forest zones, and address climate change and biodiversity loss. Our efforts also include pruning, weeding, and environmental education that promotes appreciation of local cultures.

Tree planting and nurturing in 2024

Songya Lake, Changsha County, China

Regeneration of environment lost to development

Okoppe Town, Hokkaido

Renewal of sakhalin fir windbreak forests

Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture

Creation of reconstruction memorial forests after the Great East Japan Earthquake

Jakarta, Indonesia

Regeneration of disaster prevention mangrove forests

Atsuma Town, Hokkaido

Creation of reconstruction memorial forests after the Hokkaido Eastern Iburi Earthquake

Tsuyama City, Okayama Prefecture

Regeneration of forests on former ranch land

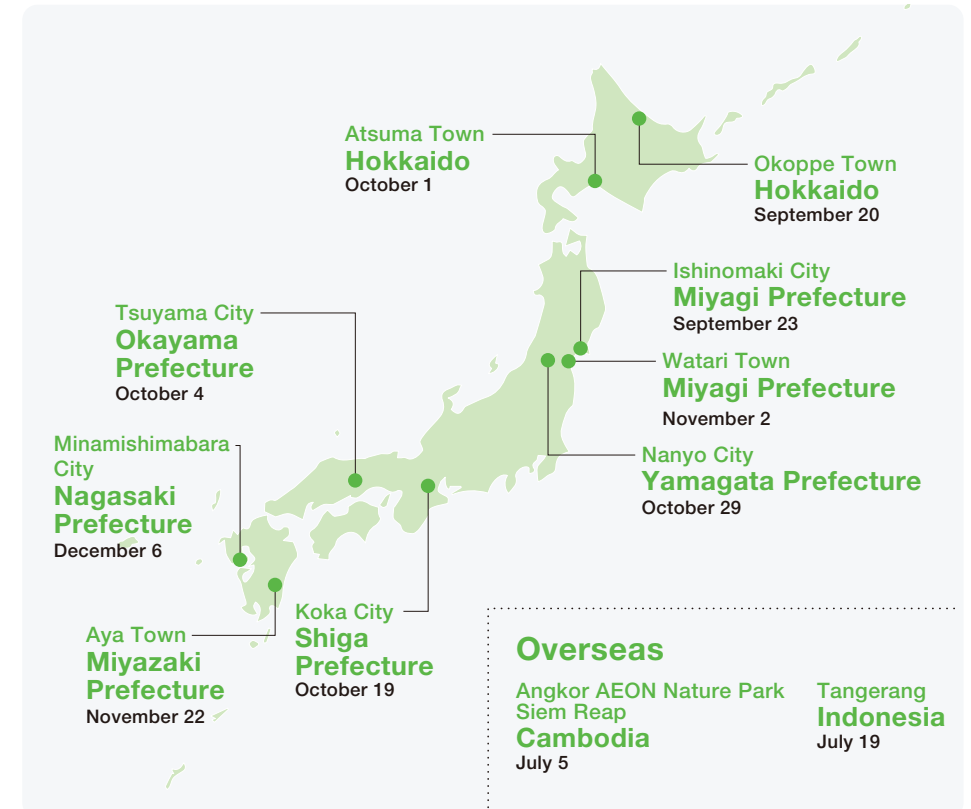
Koka City, Shiga Prefecture

Weeding to promote sapling growth

Aya Town, Miyazaki Prefecture

Pruning of grown trees

Forest restoration plan for 2025





Nakuru, Kenya, 2006



Great Wall of China, 2008



Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture, 2012



Matsusaka City, Mie Prefecture, 2018

Overseas

Trees planted: **1,727,985** Participants: **63,681**

2024

Jakarta, Indonesia



Regeneration of protective prevention mangrove forests

Since 2011, 89,000 trees have been planted by volunteers from both countries in an area where urban development had damaged disaster protective mangrove forests.

Songya Lake, Changsha County, China



Regeneration of environment lost to development

Songya Lake Wetland Park was created in a flood-prone area after wetlands and lakes were reclaimed for farms and housing. To regenerate nature, we planted 32 native tree species including podocarpus and plum.

Great Wall of China

To regenerate green forests lost to deforestation along the Great Wall, we launched a project spanning over 10 years. One million trees were planted by 15,000 volunteers from Japan and China. We also conducted tree nurturing activities in 2013.



Great Wall of China

Japan

Trees planted: **798,203** Participants: **73,378**

New planting sites

Tsuyama City, Okayama Prefecture



Regenerating forests on former development sites

The site was once developed and used as a leisure facility and ranch. To regenerate broadleaf and coniferous forests, we planted 1,700 trees, including konara oak, Japanese maple, and low-pollen Japanese cypress trees.

Okoppe Town, Hokkaido



Renewal of sakhalin fir windbreak forests

To protect dairy farming from the Sea of Okhotsk's sea breeze, windbreak forests had been planted in Okoppe. As over 60 years had passed, we planted 3,000 trees with local volunteers, to restore those forests.

National Tree Planting Festival

To support the aim of deepening public understanding of forests and greenery as a base of national prosperity, we sponsor saplings used at related events.



73rd National Tree Planting Festival Iwate 2023 satellite venue

See more details about the tree planting program here



Satoyama Creation — AYA AEON Forest, Miyazaki Prefecture —

Tree planting in Aya Town, a designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, began in 2013. With the town and local volunteers, we engaged in activities such as tree planting, nurturing, and environmental education centered on the AYA AEON Forest. In September 2024, the forest and nearby Hyuganatsu field in the Waritsuke District were designated as Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Sites by Japan's Ministry of the Environment.

What is a "Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Site"?

As part of efforts to realize a Nature Positive society, Japan's Ministry of the Environment certifies areas such as corporate forests, satoyama landscapes, and urban green spaces as Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Sites—zones where biodiversity is effectively conserved through private-sector initiatives and other non-governmental efforts.



2013



In 2013, we started tree planting to restore the municipal forest—where cedar trees had been felled for the construction of Aya Junior High School—back to its original satoyama landscape.



2024



By 2024, we have planted more than 20,000 trees, and currently we conduct pruning and weeding to help the forest grow.



Comprehensive Cooperation Agreement with Aya Town

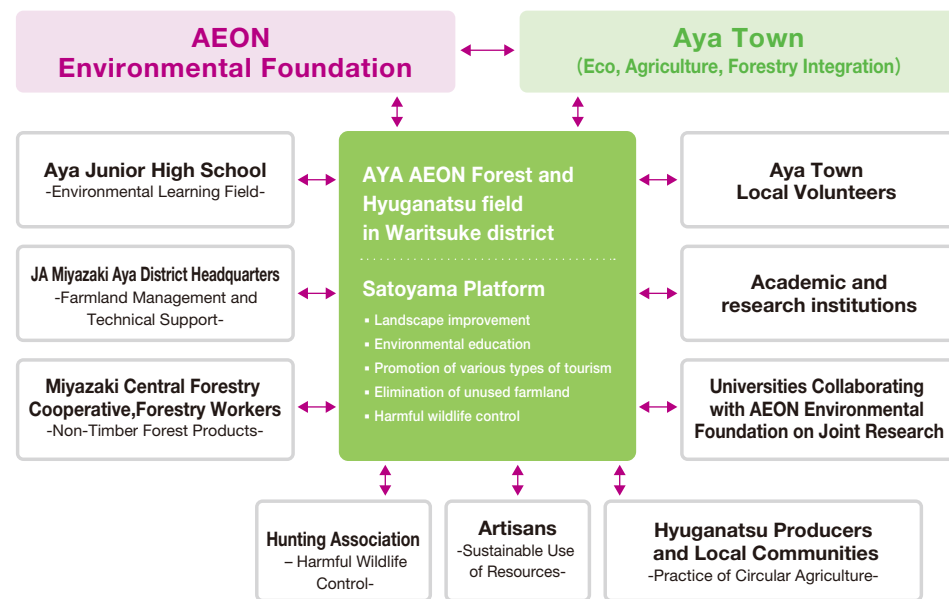
To build a sustainable community, support ecosystem services, and create new satoyama where people and nature coexist, we have signed a comprehensive cooperation agreement with Aya Town towards creation of new value of satoyama.

Areas of Collaboration

- ① Promotion of satoyama development for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use
- ② Implementation of environmental education incorporating the preservation of traditional local culture and the creation of new cultural values
- ③ Expansion of Nationally Certified Sustainably Managed Natural Sites centered on AYA AEON Forest

To Create New Values of Satoyama

The tree planting is expanding through collaboration with various local stakeholders, encompassing satoyama development, traditional cultural preservation, and new culture creation.



Carbon stock survey



Plant dyeing



Hyuganatsu

Environmental Grants



Grants provided (from 1991 to 2024)

Total number of grantees

3,546 organizations

Total amount of grants

3,193.4 million JPY (approx. 21.4 million USD)

Nara People and Nature Association (Nara Prefecture)

Each year, we open grant calls of 100 million yen to NGOs engaged in environmental activities worldwide.

Satoyama Preservation and Utilization

We support local efforts to preserve, maintain, and manage satoyama that has been neglected. We work with grantees and various local stakeholders to restore harmony between people and nature, creating satoyama that supports biodiversity and a sustainable global environment.



Aso Green Stock (Kumamoto Prefecture)

Overview

The 35th (2025) Grant Program

Theme: Satoyama Preservation and Utilization

Field of activities

- ① Tree planting and other satoyama restoration activities
- ② Preserving traditions of satoyama
- ③ Restoration of satoyama in disaster-stricken areas
- ④ Natural environment education
- ⑤ Protection of wild animals, plants, and endangered species

Total grant amount: 100 million JPY

Eligible Organizations

Non-profit organizations engaged in environmental activities for the realization of a sustainable society, in collaboration with local communities

Application period : June 1, 2025 to July 20, 2025

Grant period : April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027

Activity Areas of our Grantees

(Grant Period : April 1,2025 to March 31,2026)

Japan

Number of grantees:

96 organizations



Daisetsuzan Maruhanabachi Citizens Network (Hokkaido)



Sarukura Green Forest Association (Niigata Prefecture)



Uda Muso-no-Sato (Nara Prefecture)



The Save Wajiro Tidal Flat Association (Fukuoka Prefecture)

Kyushu/
Okinawa

8

Chugoku/
Shikoku

8



Archipelago (Kagawa Prefecture)

Chubu
11

Hokuriku
4

Kinki
22

Tohoku
8

Hokkaido
1



Resurrection of Fukushima (Fukushima Prefecture)



Togakushi Forest Botanical Garden Volunteer Association (Nagano Prefecture)



Aichi Sea Greenmap (Aichi Prefecture)

Kanto
34

Overseas

Number of grantees:

14 organizations

Brazil

Cambodia

China

Indonesia

Kenya

Madagascar

Mongolia

Philippines

Taiwan

Tajikistan

Vietnam



Salamandovu Society (Kenya)



NPO HALO HALO (Philippines)

Total grantees: **110** organizations

Activities of our Grantees



Manis Fan Club (Indonesia)

Tree planting and other Satoyama restoration activities

In southern Borneo, the Manis Fan Club works with villagers to plant native tree saplings and restore balance to a society reliant on illegal oil palm farming for income.



NPO VERSTA (Brazil)

Tree planting and other Satoyama restoration activities

VERSTA promotes jussara palm agroforestry in Brazil's Atlantic coastal forests to prevent illegal logging and offer farmers stable income opportunities.



NPO Forest Volunteer Taketori monogatari no Kai (Osaka Prefecture)

Preserving traditions of Satoyama

Taketori Monogatari no Kai works with residents to thin bamboo forests and remove undergrowth at the Hirakata Outdoor Center, helping preserve satoyama and raise awareness of forest protection.



Abukuma Ushinose Urushi Project (Fukushima Prefecture)

Restoration of Satoyama in disaster-stricken areas

The Abukuma Ushinose Urushi Project plants urushi and kuromoji in abandoned farmland in the Abukuma Mountains damaged by the 2011 Fukushima disaster to restore the landscape and create new livelihoods.



NPO Reiwa no Mori (Chiba Prefecture)

Tree planting and other Satoyama restoration activities

Reiwa no Mori aims to create vibrant satoyama as spaces for children's environmental learning, community comfort, and tourism by harnessing the skills of local residents.



NPO Tanada LOVERS (Hyogo Prefecture)

Tree planting and other Satoyama restoration activities

Tanada LOVERS shares the importance of farming, food, and biodiversity by growing rice and organizing nature programs to preserve terraced rice paddies for future generations.



NPO Umi-no-Mori Yama-no-Mori Office (Kanagawa Prefecture)

Nature-based environmental education

The Umi-no-Mori Yama-no Mori office provides outreach programs in schools and organizes beach cleanups together with residents, children, divers, and other community members.



Gokasho Kogen Goma Hime no Sougen wo Mamoru Kai (Miyazaki Prefecture)

Protection of wild animals, plants, and endangered species

The organization works to protect endangered species and preserve ecosystems for future generations at Gokasho Plateau, a designated area for wildlife in Miyazaki Prefecture.

Environmental Education and Joint Research



Environmental Education and Joint Research Achievements

Number of participants in organized forums

4,784

Number of participants in youth programs

781

Number of participant-countries in youth programs

10

2nd AEON SATOYAMA Forum

In partnership with universities and other institutions, we conduct joint research on satoyama and implement training programs to cultivate future leaders in the environmental field.

AEON SATOYAMA Forum

Since 2020, we have been collaborating with universities to regenerate, conserve, and utilize satoyama landscapes. In 2025, we hosted the 2nd AEON SATOYAMA Forum under the theme “Thinking Together to Create a New Satoyama”. Aya Town in Miyazaki Prefecture, known for its forest initiatives in harmony with nature, universities and other stakeholders shared perspectives and exchanged ideas on the challenges facing satoyama.



Overview of the 2nd Forum

- Date: February 18, 2025
- Theme: Thinking Together to Create A New Satoyama
- Venue: United Nations University, Online
- Participant Universities: Kyoto University, United Nations University, Chiba University, University of Tokyo, Tohoku University, Waseda University
- Sponsors: Japan’s Ministry of the Environment, United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability



Panel Discussion



Graphic recording of the forum

Schedule for the 3rd Forum

- Date: February 18, 2026
- Venue: United Nations University

Collaboration with Universities

Kyoto University



Fieldwork in Kyoto Prefecture, 2024

In July 2022, we signed a cooperation agreement with Kyoto University's Field Science Education and Research Center for the New Satoyama-Satoumi Co-Creation Project, promoting co-creation through education, research, and collaboration. Under the Connectivity of Hills, Humans and Oceans (CoHHO) framework, we share fieldwork findings and support joint studies, including test site activities, biological surveys, study sessions, and community engagement.

Planned activities

- Hatakejima Beach Cleanup: Discover the Nature and Sea of Shirahama
- Satoyama and Satoumi Connecting Festival
- Maizuru Fisheries Research Station Satoumi Study Session

United Nations University

In 2024, we signed a cooperation agreement with the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) to achieve global goals like the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework. By leveraging both of our expertise and networks, we will advance research on domestic and international challenges to develop solutions. In addition, we will propose effective solutions by promoting discussions based on the latest scientific knowledge while also fostering the next generation of global youth leaders.



Report session of COP16 youth participants in Tokyo, 2024

Scope of the Cooperation Agreement

- ① Joint research related to the Satoyama Initiative
- ② Human resource development targeting the youth generation
- ③ Public awareness and outreach
- ④ Other activities aligned with the objectives of the cooperation agreement

Chiba University



Field research in Chiba Prefecture, 2024

Since 2022, we have been collaborating with Chiba University's Graduate School of Horticulture to study ecosystem changes at KIMITSU AEON Forest through vegetation surveys, sapling protection, and weed control trials. In 2024, we explored new approaches to enjoying, cultivating, and regenerating satoyama-style forests.

Planned activities

We aim to develop a satoyama regeneration model by studying the KIMITSU AEON Forest and deepening our knowledge in botany and forestry.

- KIMITSU AEON Forest Landscape Practicum
- Research Results Presentation

The University of Tokyo

From 2017 to 2021, we collaborated with the University of Tokyo's Institute for Future Initiatives to host the AEON Future Earth Forum. In March 2022, we co-founded the AEON-Todai Satoyama Lab to promote a society in harmony with nature and revitalize regional economies. The Lab continues to drive innovation through locally rooted initiatives.



Satoyama Festival in Kanagawa Prefecture, 2024

Planned activities

- Practical training in Satoyama in the Naganuki district of Hadano City
- Environmental and frailty prevention activities in Chiba City

Tohoku University



2025 Sendai Symposium for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Future in Miyagi Prefecture

In June 2021, we partnered with Tohoku University's International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS) and AEON MALL Co.,Ltd. to launch the AEON Disaster-Resilient and Environmentally-Friendly City Creation Joint Research Lab. Through this initiative, we conduct joint research and activities focused on disaster preparedness for environmentally friendly cities centered around commercial facilities, and have established regional partnership hubs to foster resilient, safe, and secure communities.

Planned activities

We will continue to conduct demonstration research and help build regional partnership bases to create disaster-resilient environmental cities.

- Environmental education for children
- Sendai Symposium for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Future
- Discussion on disaster prevention and mitigation strategies for commercial facilities

Waseda University

In September 2020, we established the AEON TOWA Research Center in partnership with Waseda University to address pressing environmental challenges. Together, we collaborate on resolving local issues and cultivating global environmental talent, with a focus on satoyama, forest creation, human capacity building, and community development. Since 2022, we have offered endowed courses and conducted research at key satoyama sites to promote sustainable community-building through satoyama-based approaches.



Endowed course in Miyazaki Prefecture, 2024

Planned activities

Presentations and annual report meetings for endowed courses and environmental leadership courses.

- Sustainable Community Course
- Fieldwork

Global Youth MIDORI Platform (GYM)

In 2024, we launched the Global Youth MIDORI Platform (GYM) with the United Nations University to cultivate environmental leaders. The program helps youth engage in policymaking and develop problem-solving skills. The first international training was held online, with participants from eight Asian countries. Two were selected to attend COP16, contributing through cross-cultural exchange and youth-led dialogue.

※COP16 : 16th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity



Two students selected from the GYM international joint training participated in a discussion with GYBN※ members at a COP16 side event (see page 37 for details on GYBN)

※Global Youth Biodiversity Network



Interview by a radio station representing indigenous peoples in Colombia



International Youth Conference on Biodiversity (IYCB) in Yokohama City

2025

■ The 2nd International Joint Training (Online)

- Dates: Monday, August 4 to Wednesday, August 6,2025
- Participating Universities: Open to institutions worldwide

■ Dispatch to COP30

- Dates: Monday, November 10 to Friday, November 21,2025
- Venue: Belém, Pará, Brazil
- Details: The top two scorers of the International Joint Training Program's speech contest will be dispatched to COP30

※COP30:30th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Donation of Environmental Education Materials

Since 2009, we have donated solar power systems to 56 schools across Japan, Malaysia, Vietnam, China, and Hong Kong to promote awareness and adoption of renewable energy. These systems also serve as educational tools for environmental learning.



Kochi Municipal Josei Junior High School, Kochi Prefecture, 2022



Information panel



Kowloon Bay St. John The Baptist Catholic Primary School, Hong Kong, 2024

UNESCO Biosphere Reserves

In support of the philosophy of UNESCO Biosphere Reserves—which emphasizes not only ecosystem conservation but also the coexistence of nature and human society—we partnered with the Japanese Biosphere Reserve Network in 2017. To advance these reserves, we aim to harmonize ecosystem conservation with the sustainable use of natural resources.



■ What is a Biosphere Reserve?

A biosphere reserve is a model region with rich ecosystems that promotes sustainable economic activities by utilizing local natural resources.

■ Scope of the Cooperation Agreement

- ① Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use within Biosphere Reserves
- ② Implementation of environmental education programs in Biosphere Reserves
- ③ Creation and dissemination of new values derived from Biosphere Reserve activities
- ④ Collaboration to build sustainable communities based on Satoyama and Satoumi principles

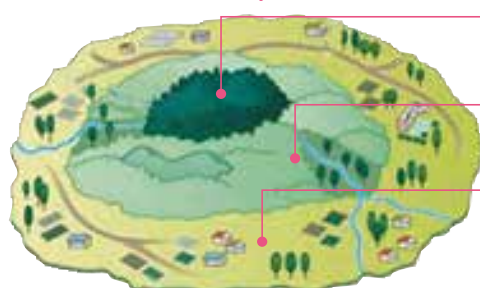


Sobo, Katamuki and Okue Biosphere Reserve Fair
(Fukuoka Prefecture)

Three functions of Biosphere Reserves

- Conservation (preservation of biodiversity)
- Economic and social development
- Academic research support

Three Zones of Biosphere Reserves



- **Core Area**
Strictly protected for long-term ecosystem conservation
- **Buffer Zone**
Surrounds the core; used for activities such as research, education, and ecotourism
- **Transition Area**
Area where people live and pursue sustainable development in harmony with nature

※Materials provided by the Japanese National Commission for UNESCO

Planned activities

● Biosphere Reserve Fair

Introducing biodiversity conservation activities and widely convey the attractions of Biosphere Reserves.

Japan Geoparks

In 2022, we signed a partnership agreement with the Japanese Geoparks Network to support the development of Geopark-designated communities. This collaboration promotes a sustainable society in harmony with nature—centered on geological heritage—through the shared use of human and material resources.



■ What is a Geopark?

A Geopark is a region where people explore landforms and geological history with a future-oriented perspective. It integrates geological conservation, education, research, and sustainable development, grounded in earth science.

■ Cooperation Agreement Items

- ① Conservation of the natural environment, including geological heritage
- ② Environmental and disaster preparedness education through utilizing Geoparks
- ③ Public outreach and awareness of the value and knowledge associated with Geoparks
- ④ Realization of a sustainable society where nature and people coexist, through regional collaboration

■ Activities in 2024



Choshi Geopark (Chiba Prefecture)



Geopark Fair (Iwate Prefecture)

Planned activities

● Waku Waku Geopark Festival 2025 [May 17-18]

Nine Geoparks of the Tohoku region will come together in Morioka City, Iwate Prefecture to introduce their activities.

● National Conference of Japanese Geoparks Network

[September 27- 28]

Geoparks from 47 regions will gather at Tokachidake Geopark in Hokkaido.

Eco-Tours 2024

We held eco-tours to help participants learn the value of World Heritage Sites, the beauty of nature and culture, and the importance of preservation. Fieldwork activities deepened understanding of environmental issues and fostered our community engagement capabilities.



Geopark Community-Based Tour

At Byobugaura, we explored the Earth's magnificent history and environment through its striking landscape shaped by wave erosion.



Chiba Prefecture

Learning about Biodiversity at the Biosphere Reserve

We learned about the importance of environmental conservation while enjoying the precious ecosystem and beautiful scenery of Shiga-highland Biosphere Reserve.



Nagano Prefecture

Learning about Tree Planting and Satoyama at AEON Forests

We explored the nature and ecosystem of the KIMITSU AEON Forest while planting trees and clearing undergrowth.



Chiba Prefecture

Participation in Satoyama Preservation Activities

We gained deeper insight into sustainable satoyama by experiencing the process from logging to using forest resources.



Chiba Prefecture

Tokunoshima World Heritage Tour

We gained deeper insight into nature and human coexistence by conducting operations to ensure a safe environment for Amami Rabbits.



Kagoshima Prefecture

Environmental Education 2024

"TANKYU" Shibuya Future Study

We held four environmental classes for 118 first-year students at Yoyogi Junior High in collaboration with the Shibuya Board of Education. Topics included climate change, biodiversity, satoyama, and the SDGs, mixed in with talks about the initiatives of our Foundation. We promoted behavioral change through activities like tree planting and personal action pledges.



Tree planting in the schoolyard (planting Japanese camellia and Japanese oak trees)



Results presentation

Chiba Entrepreneurship

We held the Chiba E-tube Project for elementary and junior high school students in Chiba City, fostering creativity and entrepreneurship through video production on local commercial facilities' environmental efforts.



AEON Mall Makuhari Shintoshin, Chiba Prefecture

Future Earth

We held a participatory dialogue with Nagasaki University titled "Peace and the Environment: For Earth's Future," discussing the future with a focus on global climate change and peace.



Nagasaki National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims, Nagasaki Prefecture

Awards



Award Achievements (2009–2024)

Total award recipients

21 individuals **38** organizations

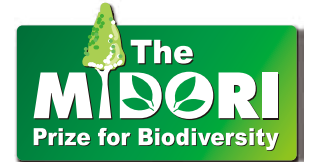
Total countries

20

COP16 venue in Cali, Colombia

The MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity

Launched in 2010 in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity commemorated our 20th anniversary and coincided with COP10 in Japan. This international award honors individuals for outstanding contributions to biodiversity conservation, its sustainable use, and the creation of a sustainable society. To date, 21 individuals from 20 countries have been awarded. From 2009 to 2022, we also presented Japan Awards to 38 organizations.



The 8th MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity Award Ceremony 2024

With the COP16 being held in Cali, Colombia in October 2024, we held the 8th MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity Award ceremony at the COP16 venue. We also held a press conference and set up an exhibition booth.

- Award Ceremony Date: October 29, 2024 (Duration of COP16: October 21 to November 1)
- Number of awardees: two individuals
- Cosponsor: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD)



Press Conference



Exhibition Booth

Scan here for award ceremony & video introduction of awardee activities



Vera Voronova (Kazakhstan)

Executive Director, Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan

As a leader of an organization dedicated to nature conservation and ecological restoration, she partners with governments and conservation groups throughout Central Asia to restore endangered species, designate protected areas, and reinforce regional conservation frameworks.



Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos (Peru)

Founder and CEO of environmental enterprise Sumak Kawsay

Leading efforts to halt pollinator decline and restore populations, she reinvests revenues from honey production and eco-tourism in ecosystem restoration and inclusive development, especially for Indigenous women and youth.



Past awardees

2010



Jean Lemire (Canada)
Biologist, Explorer, Filmmaker

Biologist Jean Lemire set out to raise awareness about the biodiversity crisis and inspire global change through film, setting out on a 430-day expedition to Antarctica in 2005.



Gretchen C. Daily (United States of America)
Professor, Stanford University

Dr. Daily introduced the concept of ecosystem services, which values nature as an asset. She studied how satoyama biodiversity affects agriculture and quantified the benefits from nature's services.



Emil Salim (Indonesia)
Chairman of the Advisory Council to the President of Indonesia, Former Minister of State for Population and the Environment

Dr. Salim pioneered the integration of environmental perspectives into development planning, earning international acclaim. He now promotes combining traditional wisdom with science and technology and advocates for changing industrial structures.



Angela Merkel (Germany)
Chancellor of Germany
Special Prize for the International Year of Biodiversity

As Chancellor, Dr. Merkel leveraged her environmental background to lead global efforts on climate change and biodiversity, drawing on her experience as former Federal Minister of the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety.

2012



Juan Carlos Castilla (Chile)
Professor, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Dr. Castilla demonstrated that the co-management of small marine protected areas by governments and communities fosters a green economy in South American marine ecology.



Rodrigo Gámez-Lobo (Costa Rica)
President, Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad (INBio)

Dr. Gámez-Lobo demonstrated a creative and tangible vision of biodiversity by creating an inventory of biodiversity. He presented a successful model for biodiversity conservation and use.



Vo Quy (Vietnam)
Honorary President, Center for Natural Resources Management and Environmental Studies (CRES), Vietnam National University, Hanoi

Dr. Quy's work on re-greening war-damaged land proved that regenerating destroyed nature is possible, providing a conservation model for developing countries.

2014



Kamal Bawa (India)
President, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) / Distinguished Professor, University of Massachusetts, Boston

In his research on tropical forests, Dr. Bawa has led made significant contributions in the field of conservation biology by devising new methods for forest regeneration and demonstrating that forest fragmentation depletes biodiversity.



Alfred Oteng-Yeboah (Ghana)
Chair, Ghana National Biodiversity Commission

Dr. Oteng-Yeboah, a key African biodiversity leader, has significantly impacted global biodiversity through his roles at international institutions, such as Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)



Bibiana Vilá (Argentina)
Director, Vicuñas, Camelids and Environment (VICAM) Principal Researcher, National Research Council (CONICET) Argentina

Dr. Vilá led the implementation of conservation measures for wild vicuñas in the Andean region, integrating the traditional knowledge of indigenous communities in the region with modern science, such as ecology.

2016



Alfonso Aguirre-Muñoz (Mexico)
Executive Director, Grupo de Ecología y Conservación de Islas, A.C.

Dr. Aguirre-Muñoz has worked in the Mexican islands to promote conservation efforts, including removing invasive species, in an area that is home to an abundance of endemic species and a rich and diverse ecosystem.



Yury Darman (Russia)
Director, Amur Branch, WWF Russia

Dr. Darman has led five campaigns against dam construction in Russia's Amur region to protect freshwater ecosystems. He has also contributed to the recovery of rare species like the Amur tiger.



Vandana Shiva (India)
Founder and Director, Navdanya

Dr. Shiva launched grassroots initiatives promoting traditional organic farming that supports farmers' rights and biodiversity, guided by the principles of "Earth Democracy."

2018



Kathy MacKinnon (United Kingdom)
Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Dr. MacKinnon, after researching tropical ecology in Indonesia, led biodiversity projects at the World Bank to improve conservation and resource management.



Assad Serhal (Lebanon)
Director General, Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon (SPNL)

Mr. Serhal founded SPNL during Lebanon's civil war to protect natural heritage and revive the traditional "HIMA" (protected area) conservation system.



Abdul Hamid Zakri (Malaysia)
Former Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia

Dr. Zakri advanced global biodiversity and ecosystem service assessments, promoting sustainable conservation and environmental protection.

2020



Paul Hebert (Canada)
Professor, Department of Integrative Biology, University of Guelph

Dr. Hebert made biodiversity more accessible by developing over 10 million DNA barcodes, which assign any organism to its proper species based on its DNA information.



Melina Sakiyama (Brazil)
Co-founder, Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN)

Ms. Sakiyama formed a global coalition to empower youth and youth organizations, fostering cross-border collaboration to address various issues for a harmonious future with nature.



Wirsyi Emmanuel Biny (Cameroon)
Founder, Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch (CAMGEW)

Mr. Wirsyi, with the slogan "Think globally, act locally," conserved and regenerated forests by involving local communities in seed collection, tree nurseries, and patrols.

※The affiliations and titles of the award winners are current at the time the awards were presented.

Details of the awardee organizations (domestic prize) can be found here.



Activities (2020 award recipient)

Melina Sakiyama (Brazil)

Co-founder, Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN)

Inspired by her participation in COP10 and the 2010 International Youth Conference on Biodiversity (IYCB), Melina Sakiyama co-founded the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN) with Christian Schwarzer to empower youth and promote a future in harmony with nature. GYBN now includes 280 member organizations and works with about 660,000 young people in 140 countries to promote biodiversity conservation. In August 2024, in cooperation with the SCBD, Japan's Ministry of the Environment, and the City of Yokohama, GYBN invited 126 youth from 83 countries to Japan and hosted IYCB to discuss how to achieve COP15 goals. Conference outcomes were presented at COP16. During the same period, the Foundation held an AEON Day excursion program.



※Sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment, in cooperation with the Foundation and the AEON 1% Club Foundation



AEON Mall Tamadaira no Mori (Tokyo)

Upcoming plans

■ About the 9th MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity

Call for nominations will begin in March 2026. For details, please visit our website.

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(as of March 2025)