



Sustainable Use of Natural Capital

Examples of Initiatives for “Contribution”

Focusing on responses at production sites, in fields concerning atmospheric, water and soil quality as well as waste disposal we will continue striving to achieve independent medium- to long-term targets going forward and promote unique initiatives at each worksite in line with the local characteristics.

Nature Preservation Initiatives

● Promoting 30by30

30by30 is a worldwide goal to effectively conserve at least 30% of Earth’s land and sea areas as healthy ecosystems by 2030 with the aim of stopping the loss of biodiversity and reversing the trend. Sumitomo Chemical participates as an initial member in the 30by30 Alliance for Biodiversity, which comprises volunteer companies, municipalities, and organizations. We aim to certify the green spaces we manage as nature coexistence sites that contribute to the 30by30 goal and will continue further promoting the conservation of biodiversity.



● Participating in the “Conservation Site for Human-Nature Symbiosis” Certification Trial Program (Ehime Works)

The Miyoshima Area, which is on the site of Ehime Works, was originally an island in the Seto Inland Sea. In the Showa era, the expansion of the Works through land reclamation connected it to the mainland and it is now an onsite green area. Such rare species as peregrine falcons have been confirmed to be inhabiting the Miyoshima Area, and the area is therefore considered to have value in terms of biodiversity conservation. For this reason, in fiscal 2022 we participated in a pilot project under the Conservation Site for Human-Nature Symbiosis certification system, which Japan’s Ministry of the Environment is promoting as a measure to achieve 30by30 in Japan. We earned an evaluation that is equivalent to certification. We will continue preserving the area as a green area and aim to achieve certification as a Conservation Site for Human-Nature Symbiosis.



The Miyoshima Area

Improvement of Soil Environment

● Contributed to the Spread of No-till Farming

No-till farming is an agricultural method of growing crops without tilling, and is attracting attention from the perspective of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by contributing to the reduction of CO₂ emissions from the ground, in addition to its significant environmental benefits such as soil protection and organic matter conservation. We have several herbicides suitable for use before sowing crops, and we will contribute to the spread of this farming method by ensuring the convenience of no-till cultivation through the promotion of these herbicides.

● Soil Fertility by Mycorrhizal Fungi

Mycorrhizal fungi, a type of soil-dwelling microorganism that lives in symbiosis with plant roots, stimulates plant growth by accepting carbon compounds produced by plants through photosynthesis. This property increases the amount of carbon compounds in the soil and promotes carbon fixation, thereby reducing atmospheric CO₂ and contributing to soil fertility. We are working on the development of technology utilizing mycorrhizal fungi to achieve carbon neutrality and solve food problems.

■ Benefits of Mycorrhizal Fungi (Including Some Hypotheses Undergoing Validation)

