

Natural Capital (realization of a low-carbon, recycling-oriented society)

Bounties of the Earth, such as natural rubber, which are an element of natural capital, constitute key management resources for sustainable growth. Based on this awareness, the Group is working to conserve the environment and to use finite energy resources effectively while contributing to the realization of a low-carbon, recycling-oriented society.

Environmental Indicators

Global Network of Production & Sales Bases	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
CO ₂ emissions (business activities) (kt-CO ₂ e)	1,011	1,036	1,073	1,095	1,018
Waste disposal (kt)	17.4	16.6	22.2	32.3	30.7
Water usage (1,000 m ³)	13,774	14,523	14,373	14,047	13,068
Wastewater (1,000 m ³)	11,438	10,824	10,909	10,969	10,934
Organic solvents used (t)	1,045	1,055	1,573	1,603	1,328
Number of trees planted* (1,000 trees)	71.8	43.5	51.4	38.7	19.2

*Not including the provision of seedlings

Creating a Low-Carbon Society

In response to the problem of climate change, the Group is working to reduce its products' CO₂ emissions over their entire life cycles, from raw material procurement to final disposal.

In addition to taking steps to reduce CO₂ emissions during the use of a tire, which accounts for approximately 85% of its life-cycle CO₂ emissions, in 2018 we began working with raw material suppliers to ascertain and reduce their CO₂ emissions. Also, in terms of reducing CO₂ emitted in the course of business activities (Scopes 1 & 2), we are working on initiatives involving switching fuel types, installing cogeneration systems, promoting general energy-saving activities, and utilizing renewable energy from solar power and other green energy sources.

Building a Recycling-Oriented Society

In response to the problem of waste, we are taking steps to control the amount of waste generated, to convert it to something of value, and to promote recycling. As part of these efforts, since 2010 we have been striving to achieve zero emissions at our major bases both in Japan and overseas by reducing landfill waste to zero and moving to 100% reuse of resources.

To conserve water resources, we are making efforts to reduce water usage and promoting recycling. In 2019, the Turkey Factory achieved a wastewater recycling rate of 100%. Our natural rubber processing factory in Thailand also recycles 100% of its wastewater. Our plans call for extending wastewater recycling to other factories, including those in China.

Greening Initiatives

We are promoting greening initiatives at our sites and the areas surrounding them, both in Japan and overseas. On the subject of promoting biodiversity, the Company is involved in such programs as the "Acorn Project," the goal of which is to conserve genetic biodiversity, and in the creation of biotopes.

Promoting Environmental Footprint Management

In order to reduce emissions of chemical substances, we are implementing measures to cut the release and transfer of chemicals subject to PRTRs, as well as conducting activities to reduce the amount of organic solvent waste produced.

Sustainable Natural Rubber Policy

On November 16, 2018, we announced our "Sustainable Natural Rubber Policy" with the aim of making natural rubber a sustainable resource. In line with this policy, we seek to resolve issues in regions where natural rubber is produced, such as environmental problems caused by the destruction of forests, and human rights problems in the working environment.

In September 2020, we participated in the second General Assembly of the GPSNR* as one of 64 member corporations and organizations. Looking ahead, we will update our Sustainable Natural Rubber Policy to reflect a policy framework approved by this General Assembly.

*Global Platform for Sustainable Natural Rubber