



## Environmental: Our Environmental Initiatives

# Green

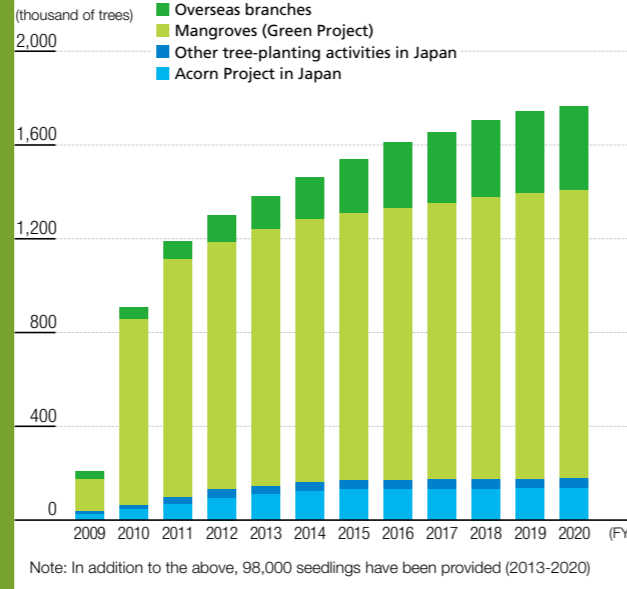
Green initiative

### Management Approach

Forests absorb CO<sub>2</sub>, which contributes to global warming, and are an important component of the social infrastructure that preserves biodiversity. Based on the concept that preserving this infrastructure is one of our corporate social responsibilities, we promote "Green (Green initiative)" through ongoing tree planting activities in and around our operation bases within Japan and overseas.

In fiscal 2009, we began tree-planting activities at our facilities in Japan and overseas. As of the end of 2020, we had planted a cumulative total of 1,760,000 trees. We will continue to plant trees while participating in forest maintenance.

Progress in Greening Initiatives (Cumulative Number of Trees Planted)



## Forestation Activities to Help Curb Global Warming

### "Sumitomo Rubber GENKI Forest," a Green Initiative in Japan

In addition to the grounds of our facilities, we engage in forestation activities in the surrounding area and at the 11 locations (23 ha) in Japan designated as "Sumitomo Rubber GENKI Forest."

When planting trees, one has to be aware of the negative effect non-native species can have on local ecosystem. As such, we plant only seedlings grown from acorn seeds that employees and their families gather in the target area. Our continued efforts are aimed at increasing the amount of greenery around us while protecting biodiversity.

Although our activities in fiscal 2020 were somewhat restricted due to the need to prevent the risk of COVID-19 infection, 938 trees were planted in "Sumitomo Rubber GENKI Forest" in said fiscal year.

Maintenance work after tree planting is also important for forestation. Accordingly, we constantly carry out such tasks as cutting back weeds, removing vines, removing unnecessary trees, pruning and thinning.



Volunteers who worked to maintain "GENKI Forest" in the Kanemidake mountain near the Miyazaki Factory

### Greening Initiatives Overseas

We are promoting greening initiatives at overseas factories and sales companies. In fiscal 2020, due to the need to prevent COVID-19 infection, these Group entities faced restrictions on their activities as did our Japanese bases. However, a total of 902 trees have been planted and 2,105 seedlings provided.

In addition, 15,000 trees were planted in Indonesia through the "Team ENASAVE Green Project," wherein mangrove seedlings are planted using some of the proceeds from sales of the fuel-efficient "ENASAVE" tire series. Furthermore, 2,400 trees were planted through the "1 Pair for 1 Love activities," in which some of the proceeds from the sales of rubber gloves are allocated to the DUNLOP Home Products Forest on the island of Borneo, Malaysia, in order to protect the orangutan, an endangered species.



DUNLOP Home Products Forest

## Connecting with Local Communities via Forestation Activities

### Collaborative Activities with Local Residents in "Sumitomo Rubber GENKI Forest"

The objectives of forestation activities include the prevention of global warming by absorption of CO<sub>2</sub>, landslide prevention, and biodiversity preservation. We also consider communicating with local communities through satoyama (working forests that are maintained and managed by humans) conservation activities, another important objective.

To align our forestation activities with the circumstances unique to each local community, we promote activities in which employees, former employees, families, friends, local residents and regional organizations participate. In 2020, we provided a total of 5,031 seedlings to green initiative organizations and the people of neighboring communities.



A Shirakawa Factory employee giving a seedling to a community resident

### Protecting Culture and Nature—Team ENASAVE Future Project

In September 2013, the Sumitomo Rubber Group launched the Team ENASAVE Future Project in cooperation with the National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan (NFUAJ). This project aims to ensure that Japan's beautiful cultural and natural heritages are passed down to future generations for the next 100 years. As part of this project, we engage in environmental protection activities in tandem with people from communities across the nation.

Having started with one location in 2013, we have expanded the number of locations where these annual activities are held from eight in 2014 to 10 in 2019. The locations are scattered throughout Japan and take place with the help of employees, their families, and local associations as well as volunteers from the public. In 2020, however, our activities were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Initiatives to Preserve Biodiversity

The Group is involved in conservation activities in relation to endangered, near threatened, and rare species (five species of animal and 16 species of plant) at all eight of its sites in Japan, consisting of six factories, the Head Office and the Tire Proving Ground.

In terms of contributing to the immediate neighborhood, activities include transplanting "Fujibakama" (*Eupatorium japonicum*) cultivated in the grounds of our factory to river beds, as well as providing this plant to neighboring cities. We also provide kindergarten children with the opportunity to observe *Sasakia charonda*, which is designated as a national butterfly. In 2020, this butterfly successfully emerged on the premises of the Okayama Tire Proving Ground. Also in 2020, we began working on the preservation of *Lilium japonicum*.



On the premises of the Okayama Tire Proving Ground, a *Sasakia charonda* (Nymphalidae family) butterfly, which is designated by Okayama Prefecture as a species requiring particular interest, emerges successfully for the first time



*Echinops setifer* (Asteraceae family), an endangered species designated by Miyazaki Prefecture cultivated on the premises of the Miyazaki Factory  
*Chionographis japonica* (Melanthiaceae family) cultivated on the premises of the Nagoya Factory is a rare species  
*Lefua echigonia* (Cobitidae family), a class I endangered species designated by Hyogo Prefecture, lives on the premises of the Ichijima Factory

### Topics

### Participating in a biodiversity symposium—helping rediscover the natural beauty of the Rokko mountain range environment

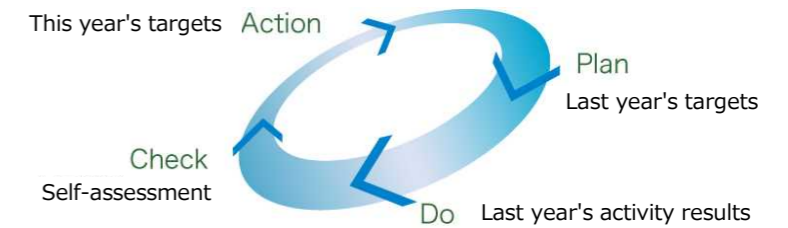
Celebrating the 80th anniversary of the commencement of its construction, in 2021 Kobe Municipal Arboretum hosted a symposium in tandem with Kobe City, with the aim of communicating the natural beauty of the environment of Mount Rokko. The symposium was held from January 29 to March 31, 2021, and due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was made accessible to the public only via the internet.



Having participated in the event in the category of biodiversity-related presentations focused on Mount Rokko, we exhibited materials showcasing green initiatives undertaken by the Sumitomo Rubber Group. This event provided us with a good opportunity to let a broad range of the general public know about our locally-rooted green initiatives that exemplify the variety of activities that can contribute to a sustainable society, energize neighboring communities, and protect the global environment.



# Targets and Results

We verify the results and formulate targets for this fiscal year based on the Group's activity guidelines "GENKI."  
Here are some excerpts of the main items.



Plan Fiscal 2020 Target	GRI Guidelines	Do Fiscal 2020 Activity Result	Check Self- Assessment *1	Action Fiscal 2021 Target	Medium-to-long-term (2025) Targets
<b>① Helping to curb global warming through tree planting</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the Million Trees for Local Forests Project</li> <li>Creation and maintenance of GENKI Forests in Japan</li> </ul>	304-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planted trees for the Million Trees for Local Forests Project (including mangrove planting) Fiscal 2020: 19,240 trees planted Cumulative total: 1,764,091 trees planted</li> <li>Conducted tree planting/maintenance activities 18 times</li> </ul>	60%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the Million Trees for Local Forests Project</li> <li>Promote the creation and maintenance of GENKI Forests in Japan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting Greening Activities</li> <li>Promoting Development of GENKI Forests in Japan</li> </ul> 
<b>② Fostering better relationships with local communities through tree planting</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue our contributions to, and foster better relationships with, local communities through tree planting, forest creation and the provision of seedlings</li> </ul>	413-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acorn tree planting · Seedling offering activities Planted acorn trees and provided seedlings Fiscal 2020: 4,070 Cumulative total : 196,056 trees</li> <li>3,966 acorn seedlings given away to communities</li> </ul>	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue our contributions to, and foster better relationships with, local communities through tree planting, forest creation and the provision of seedlings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting acorn project</li> <li>Foster good relationships with local governments, including providing seedlings</li> </ul>
<b>③ Preserving biodiversity</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue our protection of 21 endangered species, etc.</li> <li>Successful hatching of Sasakia charonda at the Okayama Tire Proving Ground</li> </ul>	304-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted activities to protect 21 endangered species at eight sites in Japan</li> <li>Initiated forest development at the Okayama Tire Proving Ground</li> <li>Observed the first successful hatching of Sasakia charonda at the Okayama Tire Proving Ground</li> </ul>	100%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to protect and raise endangered species</li> <li>Continue with forest development at the Okayama Tire Proving Ground</li> <li>Get the raising of the Sasakia charonda at the Okayama Tire Proving Ground on track</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue conservation and development of endangered species</li> <li>Start forest development with diverse trees other than acorns in consideration of biodiversity</li> </ul> 

\*1 Self-assessment uses comparison with baseline year (1 – reduction ratio) in the following formula to calculate the achievement rate:  $\left(1 - \frac{\text{target value}}{\text{actual value/target value}} \times 100\%\right)$