

NOF's biodiversity conservation initiatives



Policy (our fundamental view)

The NOF Group places great importance on proactively working to protect and restore biodiversity. To this end, we have formulated the following policies.

- In order to minimize the impact of our business activities on biodiversity, we conduct environmental impact assessments, identify risks, and implement countermeasures.
- We require our employees to comply with international guidelines, laws, and regulations related to biodiversity protection and to work for environmental conservation.
- We assess supply chain risks that may cause biodiversity loss and promote sustainable procurement through cooperation with our suppliers.
- We provide educational programs to raise environmental awareness and educate employees and relevant people on the importance of biodiversity protection.

- We cooperate with local communities in participating in local ecosystem protection activities and various projects for restoring biodiversity.

Through these initiatives, we will contribute to ensuring biodiversity and realize a more sustainable future.

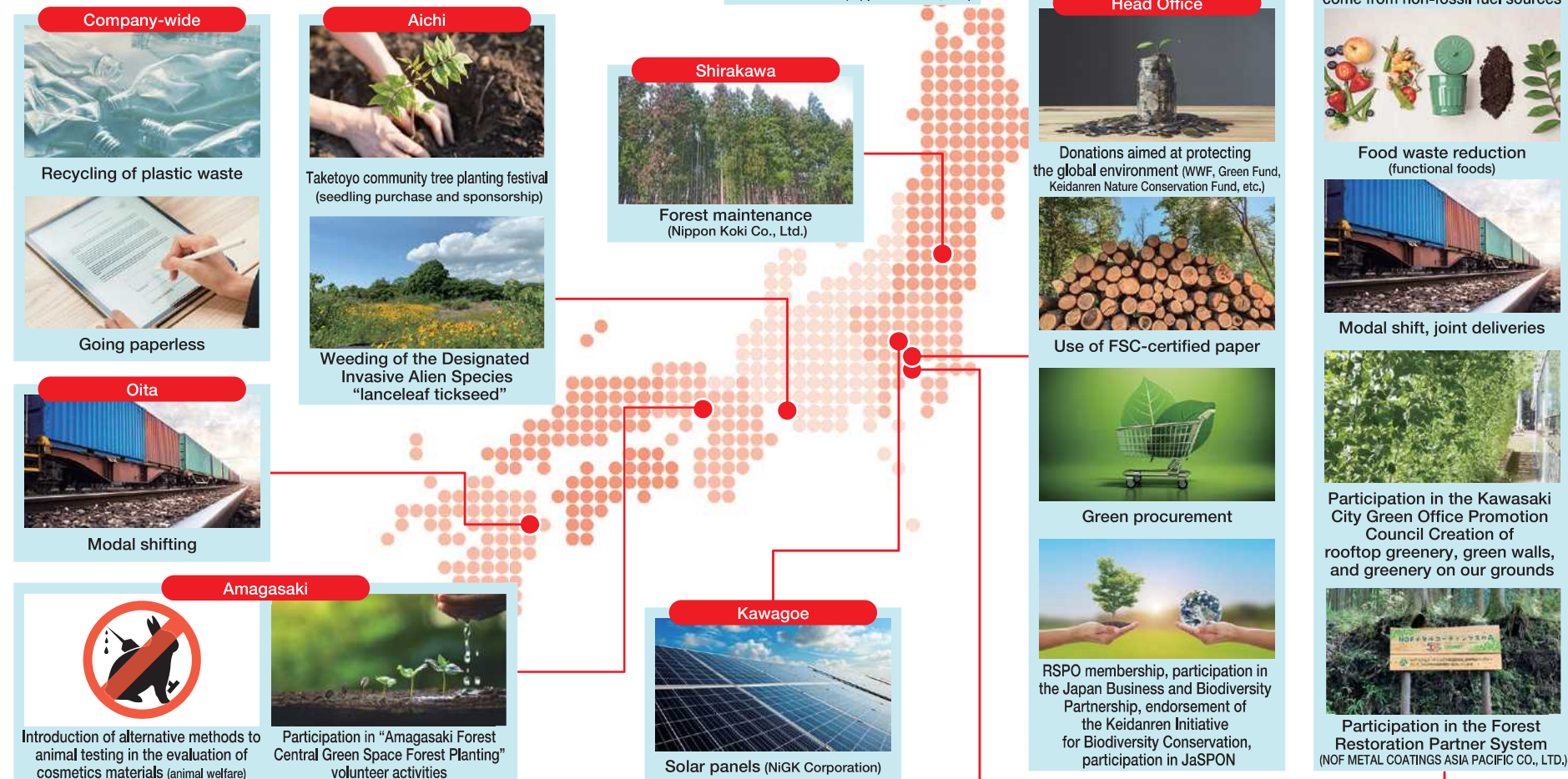
Responding to the TNFD

Since FY2023, the NOF Group has been conducting analysis in accordance with the LEAP approach* required by the Task Force on Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TNFD) to identify and assess risks and opportunities related to biodiversity. For “plant-based” and “animal-based” raw materials among those in the Functional Materials and Functional Foods businesses, which have high degrees of dependence and impact on nature, we will evaluate the main origins to identify priority regions, and work on identifying and evaluating dependence and impact, along with identifying and evaluating risks and opportunities.

*A process for systematic, science-based assessment of nature-related risks and opportunities put forward by the TNFD. LEAP is an acronym of the four phases of Locate, Evaluate, Assess, and Prepare.

Work for Biodiversity

In addition to “forest planting” through creation of green areas alongside roads as well as thinning and pruning company-owned forests, we are implementing plans that contribute to biodiversity at our sites across Japan through protection activities mainly for endangered species, extermination of invasive non-native plants, and donation activities.



Work for Biodiversity

Human rights initiatives

Nippon Koki Co., Ltd.

Forest maintenance activities

Fukushima Prefecture, where Nippon Koki Co., Ltd.'s Shirakawa Plant is located, has established the Fukushima Prefecture Carbon Dioxide Absorption by Forest Maintenance Activities Certification System to certify the effectiveness of forest maintenance activities such as planting, weeding, and thinning conducted by companies and organizations in the prefecture in terms of carbon dioxide absorption as a numerical value. This certification aims to promote participation in forest maintenance activities by companies and organizations, thereby contributing to the continued exhibition of the multifaceted functions of forests, such as the prevention of global warming, and the revitalization of communities in mountain villages. Nippon Koki Co., Ltd., which owns approximately 149 hectares of forest in Nishigomura, Nishishirakawa-gun, Fukushima Prefecture, has been certified as having absorbed 282 tons of carbon dioxide (2012 to 2013) through its forest maintenance activities.



NOF METAL COATINGS ASIA PACIFIC CO., LTD.



Participation in the Forest Restoration Partner System under the Kanagawa Forest Restoration 50-Year Project

The Kanagawa Forest Restoration 50-Year Project is an initiative to revitalize forests measuring about 95,000 hectares, or about 40% of the prefecture's land, from the prefecture's Mount Oyama and Hakone mountains to forest land in satoyama areas and urban areas. The objective is to prevent the devastation and erosion caused by lack of care and to pass on the rich blessings of the forests to the next generation. NOF METAL COATINGS supports forest maintenance on an area of about 10 hectares (equivalent to about two Tokyo Domes). The forest areas have absorbed about 247 tons of CO₂ over five years. Moreover, the decision has been made to name a portion of the forest designated by the prefecture as "NOF METAL COATINGS Forest." Going forward, as a partner company, we will conduct events for forest maintenance, nature observation, and more. The forest will be used as a place to promote health and deepen friendship with employees and their families, thereby contributing to the protection of nature and environmental preservation.

Work for Biodiversity

Amagasaki

Participation in “Amagasaki Forest Central Green Space Forest Planting” volunteer activities (from 2017)



In fiscal 2023, a total of seven employees from the Amagasaki Plant participated in the “Amagasaki Forest Central Green Space Forest Planting,” one of the initiatives of the “Amagasaki 21st Century Forest Project” promoted by Hyogo Prefecture. Together with general volunteers and the secretariat, the employees worked hard on tree planting and weeding. Through this reforestation activity, we will contribute to improving the environment of the waterfront area and ensuring the diversity of biological ecosystems.

Head Office

Use of FSC-certified paper

FSC certification is an international system that certifies “responsible forest management” for the purpose of sustainable forest utilization and conservation. NOF uses FSC-certified paper for its Integrated Report, notice of General Meeting of Shareholders, company profile, and in-house newsletters, and cooperates in activities to protect forests.



Aichi

Weeding of specified invasive non-native plants

The perennial plant “lanceleaf tickseed,” a member of the Asteraceae family native to North America, was introduced from overseas as an ornamental and greening plant. However, in 2006 it was designated as a “Designated Invasive Alien Species” under the Act on the Prevention of Adverse Ecological Impacts Caused by Designated Invasive Alien Species because of its strong reproductive capacity and potential to seriously impact the ecosystem in Japan. Cultivation, transport, sale, and release into the wild are prohibited. Local governments throughout Japan are calling for extermination of lanceleaf tickseed through their websites and other means. At NOF’s Aichi Works, lanceleaf tickseed grows in various parts of the grounds, and has increased dramatically in recent years. Therefore, the entire plant is conducting extermination activities.

Nippon Koki Co., Ltd.

Activities to protect Japanese swamp lantern clusters

The Japanese swamp lantern, which is known in Japan from the children’s song “A Memory from Summer,” is an alpine plant that grows near water. On the grounds of Nippon Koki’s Bibai Plant, which covers a vast area of about 43 hectares, or 9.2 times the size of the Tokyo Dome, there are clusters of Japanese swamp lanterns in a wetland where sunlight filters through the trees. Surrounded by Japanese white birch and other trees and water, this rich ecosystem is carefully protected with the continuous observation of employees.