Harmonized Society with Nature

We strive to minimize Hitachi’s impact on natural capital, which bestows the benefits of nature on humankind by assessing ecosystem impact and advancing measures to minimize the burden at each stage of Hitachi’s value chain. Moreover, we are preserving the ecosystem through our products and services, such as our air and water purification systems and environmental monitoring systems. We also endeavor to minimize the environmental burden of our factories and offices.

Ecosystem Assessments and Their Implementation

In fiscal 2016 Hitachi created an Ecosystem Preservation Activities Menu citing the specific activities to be undertaken to promote the preservation of the ecosystem. We are encouraging each business site to advance their own initiatives. This menu was created by adding the pioneering activities of other corporations and organizations to the list of items that had already been subject to assessment since 2010. It consists of 116 items covering all aspects of our business operations, including the value chain. Each business site selects those activities it plans to launch from the menu, and the total number of initiatives becomes Hitachi’s target for ecosystem preservation. In fiscal 2016, 144 new initiatives were launched, far in excess of our initial goal of 30.

In the long term, we seek to minimize the impact on natural capital and realize a harmonized society with nature by minimizing the burden (negative impact) on the ecosystem caused by business activities and maximizing the positive impact, such as by undertaking social contribution activities to protect nature and providing products and services that preserve the ecosystem.

Regarding impact and other ecosystem preservation assessments, we are deliberating the matter not only within the Group but also through our participation in activities outside the company, such as the biodiversity working group of four Japanese electrical and electronic industry associations* and the Japan Business Initiative for Biodiversity (JBIB).

* The Japan Electrical Manufacturers’ Association (JEMA), Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA), Communications and Information Network Association of Japan (CIAJ), and Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMIA).

Hitachi Group Forestation Activities

Working together with employees and their families, the Hitachi Group participates in the Japanese Forestry Agency’s Corporate Forest Program to preserve forests in several locations.

The Group has been conducting tree-planting activities since 2007 in the Yuyu Forest in Ibaraki Prefecture. Each year employees and their families gather to plant trees, clear underbrush, prune, and perform other forest maintenance activities. They also take part in activities including environmental education and handicraft classes using pruned materials.

The Hitachi High-Tech Yasato Forest embarked on a 60-year plan in 2005 to cultivate trees. Employees and their families participate in the work of pruning and thinning to grow a healthy forest.

Efforts Toward Building a Harmonized Society with Nature

Appropriate Management of Chemical Substances

Working closely with suppliers and customers, we gather and make available information on chemical substances across the supply chain via the Integrated Management System for Chemical Substances Contained in Products, which has been in operation since fiscal 2005. As of March 31, 2017, chemical substance information for more than 1.31 million parts and products was registered under this integrated management system. In fiscal 2016, we upgraded our system to respond to the shared information transmission scheme (chemSHERPA) on chemical substances contained in products.