

01 With Nature

The earth is for everyone

We enjoy the benefits of nature
And cannot live without them.

Excessive consumption of natural resources destroys the environment, disrupts the ecosystem, and triggers natural disasters with serious consequences for human lives.

People will no longer be able to enjoy nature's gifts

If the natural environment is destroyed

Supply

Soil erosion

Food shortages

Desertification

Natural Environment

The benefits we receive from nature

Food

Agricultural products, marine products

Energy

Timber, firewood and charcoal

Stable climate

Air purification, flood mitigation

Recreation

Environmental education, tourism

Etc.

The balance of natural environment with human activities

Human Activities

Developing countries

Direct dependency on the environment

People in developing countries are highly dependent on the environment. Environmental destruction has a detrimental impact, particularly on the poor.

Developed countries

Affluent lifestyles consume natural resources

People lead affluent lifestyles made possible by the use of resources from all around the world including those of developing countries.

Utilization

Developed countries: looking forward

Natural resources such as building materials, food, water and medicine are used to support our affluent lifestyles. Such lifestyles are realized through the excessive consumption of natural resources from developing countries. In order to protect the ecosystem and natural environment, there is a need for developed countries to review their lifestyles.

Fair-trade coffee



Medicine produced with the resources of developing countries



Seafood from overseas



Imbalance between people's lives and the natural environment

Over utilization will cause ...

Destruction of forest

Loss of biodiversity

Global warming

What we should do now

Natural Environment x International Cooperation

In order to pass on the earth's gifts to future generations we need to maintain a balance between humans and nature.

Nations of the world are working towards “Coexistence of Humans and Nature”.

02 With the World

Working together across international borders

Many countries are making asserted efforts to address global environmental issues such as climate change, desertification, and the conservation of biodiversity across borders.

1992 Rio Conference

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio Summit, 1992)

A conference aimed at achieving environmental conservation and sustainable development

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹, “The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity”, “The Statement of Forest Principles”, “The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development”, and “Agenda 21” were adopted.

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification [193 countries and EC] (as of Oct 2011)

Aims to deal with the problem of desertification and mitigate effects of droughts in affected countries and regions to help them achieve sustainable development. The countries faced with desertification develop action plans and implement the plans with the support of developed countries.

The Convention of Biological Diversity [193 countries and EC] (as of Dec 2011)

Aims at biodiversity conservation, sustainable utilization of biological resources that are the constituents of biodiversity, and fair and balanced distribution of profits arising from the use of genetic resources.

The Ramsar Convention [160 countries] (as of Dec 2011)

Designed to preserve diverse ecological functions of wetlands as waterfowl habitats and promote proper use of wetlands. One of the pioneering multilateral environmental conventions.

The Convention of Biological Diversity
The Convention to Combat Desertification
The Ramsar Convention

1997 COP3

COP3 (1997)

Held in Kyoto in 1997

The Kyoto Protocol¹, which stipulates the reduction targets of greenhouse gas emissions, was adopted.



The Declaration of Forest Principles²

The first global forestry agreement that pledges the joint efforts of member countries to address the issue of forestry.

COP13 (2007)

Held in Indonesia in 2007

“Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD)” was adopted as a measure against global warming.

COP10 (2010)

Held in Nagoya, 2010

The “Nagoya Protocol” was adopted as an international agreement on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing. (ABS)

MDGs

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Agreed in the UN Millennium Summit, September 2000. Issues such as: peace and security, development and poverty, environment, human rights and good governance were addressed as a list of targets to be achieved by the international community by 2015.

The Framework Convention on Climate Change
The Statement of Forest Principles

2007
COP13
REDD

2010
COP10
(CBD)

Aichi Target Satoyama Initiative

2012
Rio+20

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [195 countries and EC] (as of November 2011)

Aims at stabilizing the concentration of greenhouse gases (CO₂ and methane, etc.) known to raise the temperature of the earth and damage natural ecosystems.



ABS

The system of giving back part of the profits raised from pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and so on developed using genetic resources (eg, microorganisms and flora and fauna) to the country of origin.

*ABS: Access and Benefit-sharing

The Co-benefits Approach

The simultaneous promotion of sustainable development and climate change countermeasures.

PES

“Payment for Ecosystem Services.” Direct payment to the providers of ecosystem services for use and conservation costs required for sustainable management.

*PES: Payment for ecosystem services

Community Forestry

Local residents conserve forests while improving their livelihoods.

REDD-plus

The attempt to reduce greenhouse gas (CO₂) emissions by preventing deforestation and forest degradation while promoting forest conservation in developing countries.

Forest Certification (System)

A system aiming to protect forests by giving eco-labels to timber produced from sustainably managed forests. An independent, third party institution evaluates and certifies under a set of guidelines.

Tree of Keywords

¹ Kyoto Protocol: an agreement which obliges developed countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by a certain amount by a set date.
² Formal term: “Non-legally binding authoritative statement of principles for a global consensus on the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests”