

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Approach to Biodiversity Conservation

Endorsing the aims of the “Declaration of Biodiversity by Keidanren (the Japan Business Federation),” Mazda promotes initiatives to protect the global environment. In FY March 2012, with the aim of systematically developing its initiatives to protect biodiversity, Mazda conducted an assessment of impacts on biodiversity, and it recognized the significance of the impacts of its business activities and products on the blessings of nature and the environment.

In line with this assessment, the Company established the Mazda Biodiversity Guidelines in December 2012 and has been implementing various initiatives through its business activities aiming at contributing to the conservation of biodiversity and creating a rich, sustainable society that ensures harmony between people and nature.

Based on the results of the above assessment of impacts, Mazda takes measures to mitigate its impacts on biodiversity with a particular focus on energy, water and other resources in the areas of products, technology, production, and logistics. Also, to understand the impacts of business activities on ecosystems, the Company has continued to conduct biodiversity surveys with the cooperation of experts. By carrying out biodiversity surveys not only on company-owned lands but also in surrounding areas and on top of that by conducting literature study, Mazda strives to preserve the ecosystem of the entire region.

Process for Assessment of Impacts on Biodiversity

- Step 1: Selecting an assessment target scope
(The assessment is made for Group companies engaged in automobile-related business, primarily those with major impacts in the value chain in Japan, although the assumed targets also include overseas companies and affiliates.)
- Step 2: Assessing the levels of the dependence and impacts on ecosystem services, as well as assessing the threat to biodiversity
- Step 3: Identifying business risks and opportunities regarding biodiversity
- Step 4: Identifying priority issues and assessing the current situations of the existing responses
- Step 5: Identifying a direction for future responses

The Mazda Biodiversity Guidelines

[Basic Approach]

Based on “The Mazda Global Environmental Charter,” the Mazda Group, recognizing the blessings of nature and the significance of environmental impacts, contributes to the conservation of biodiversity through its corporate activities worldwide, with the aim of establishing and developing a rich, sustainable society that ensures harmony between people and nature.

[Priority Initiatives]

1. Creation of Environmentally Sound Technologies and Products

We will encourage the creation of technologies and products considering harmony between the environment and our corporate activities, by developing technologies that contribute to cleaner emission gases, reduction of CO₂ emissions, research and development of clean energy-based vehicles, promotion of recycling and biodiversity.

2. Corporate Activities in Consideration of Conserving Resources and Energy

We will promote reduction of substances with environmental impact and effective use of resources, and contribute to conservation of biodiversity, through efficient energy use and resource-saving/recycling activities.

3. Collaboration/Cooperation with Society and Local Communities

We will promote local community-based activities, by striving to establish collaboration/cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders including supply chains, local governments, communities, NPOs/NGOs, and education and research institutions.

4. Awareness Enhancement and Information Disclosure

We will take active and self-initiative actions and disclose and share the achievements widely to society, by striving to enhance awareness of the importance of coexistence between people and nature.

Established in December 2012

Examples of Initiatives

Creation of Environmentally Sound Technologies and Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Continuous Evolution of Skyactiv Technology (P20) •Electric Vehicles (P21) •Product Development and Design with Consideration for Recycling Needs (P30)
Corporate Activities in Consideration of Conserving Resources and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Improving the facility operation rate and shortening the cycle time in the production process (P24) •Assessing and considering the impact on biodiversity when constructing a new plant
Collaboration/Cooperation with Society and Local Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Promoting the preservation of forests, support for the protection of wildlife, etc.*1 •Conducting biodiversity initiatives on Company-owned lands
Awareness Enhancement and Information Disclosure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Activities through the Mazda Foundation*2 •Promoting awareness of social contribution activities and disclosure of information on these activities •Educating employees and raising their awareness •Introducing the activities to the inside and outside of the Company through the Mazda Sustainability Report, etc.

*1 <https://www.mazda.com/en/sustainability/social/report/>

*2 Japan <https://mzaidan.mazda.co.jp/> (Japanese only)

United States <https://www.mazdafoundation.org/>

Australia <https://mazdafoundation.org.au/>

New Zealand <https://mazdafoundation.org.nz/>

South Africa <https://www.mazda.co.za/mazda-foundation/foundation/>

Information Provision

The Biodiversity Newsletter is issued regularly to keep employees up to date on the biodiversity initiatives undertaken on Company-owned lands and biodiversity-related news. A total of 11 issues have been published thus far. The newsletter will continue to be issued so that more employees will become interested in biodiversity.

Biodiversity Newsletter (Japanese only)

生物多様性ニュースレター

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身近な外来種との関わり方

皆さんは「外来種」と聞くと、どのような生き物を想像されるでしょうか。外来種とは、「本来の生息地から、人の手によって移動してきた生き物」を意味します。

外来種は国内の生態系に強い影響を与えるとされていますが、その理由として、大きく以下の3点が考えられています。


- ① 外来種は、生息地と異なる環境にも適応できる生存・繁殖能力が高い種である
- ② 外来種は生息地にいる天敵や病原菌の影響を受けないため、個体数が減りにくい
- ③ 国内の在来種は、生息地内の限られた場所での競争関係しか経験していないため、外来種による影響や被害を受けやすい

私たちは、現在も新型コロナウイルスとの戦いの最中にありますが、新型コロナウイルスは人間がこれまで出会ったことのない未知のウイルスであるため、対策に時間がかかっていると言えます。自然界でも同じように、外来種が突然その環境に入ると、在来種は外来種に適応するための進化を経ていないため、すぐに対策が取れず、壊滅的な影響を受けてしまうのです。


身近に生息する外来種

私たちの身の回りには、海外から日本に入ってきた約 2,200 種の外来種が生息していると考えられています。外来種と聞くと、生態系に悪い影響を与える種という印象が強いですが、私たち人間にとっては有益な生き物が数多く含まれています。

例えば、オカダンゴムシ（通称：ダンゴムシ）は、元々地中海沿岸に生息する種が、明治時代に日本に持ち込まれ、日本全国に広がった外来種とされています。ダンゴムシは、枯れ葉を分解し、土壌に返す分解者として様々な土壌の生育に役立っています。また、クローバーとしてよく知られているシロツメクサも、もとは牧草用にオランダから持ち込まれた外来種です。クローバーは身近な様々な場所に生育しているため、外来種と感じている人は少ないのではないのでしょうか。



ダンゴムシ



シロツメクサ

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