



Life in Harmony Initiative

Initiative on Assistance to Developing Countries for the Conservation of Biodiversity

1. Background and Objectives

Our life depends on various benefits derived from biodiversity and ecosystems.

However, the earth's ecosystem started to degrade owing to human activities such as development causing alterations in wildlife habitats and the excessive use of natural resources, resulting in biodiversity loss.

Each party to CBD will develop its national biodiversity strategy based on Post-2010 Targets which be adopted at CBD/COP10, and make effort for its achievement. Japan launches this Initiative to assist efforts by such partner countries.

2. Philosophy

- (1) Realization of Human Security
- (2) Pursuit of Environmental Conservation and Development
- (3) Contribution to Poverty Reduction

3. Basic Principles and Targets

- (1) Basic Principles: Contribution to the Achievement of Post-2010 Targets

- ① Enhancement of Governance

Japan will cooperate to enhance the governance of partner countries by raising awareness of the value of their ecosystems through economic assessment and assisting the mainstreaming of the perspective of biodiversity in their national development.

- ② Result-based Approach

Japan will encourage partner countries to set their individual targets for the achievement of Post-2010 Targets, and, when necessary, cooperate with them in developing such targets. Japan will also monitor results based on such individual targets.

- ③ Collaboration with international organizations, civil society and other various stakeholders

Japan will implement effective and efficient support through coordination and cooperation with various stakeholders such as international organizations including the CBD Secretariat as well as civil society organizations and the private sector.

(2) Amount of Assistance

Japan will provide assistance of two billion US dollars in fields contributing to biodiversity conservation in three years beginning in 2010.

4. Priority Areas

In light of the objectives of this Initiative to support the efforts by partner countries to achieve Post-2010 Targets, Japan will provide support responding flexibly to their requests and needs.

In addition, Japan will put priority on assistance in the following areas based on its expertise and technologies as well as the needs of partner countries.

(1) Conservation of Ecosystem

In order to pursue a balance between the livelihood of the locals and the conservation of natural environment and to adequately manage protected areas, Japan will support capacity building on the management of protected areas in partner countries by utilizing Japan's expertise.

In addition, Japan will contribute to the conservation of ecosystems from a region-wide perspective by supporting the capacity building for effective conservation of wildlife habitats which are isolated by rapid development of agriculture and livestock farming, as well as by assisting the development of conservation plans across borders.

(2) Sustainable use of natural resources

Japan will assist partner countries for the sustainable use of natural resources which is in line with the improvement of productivity, by making use of its expertise on society in harmony with nature including 'satoyama,' in order to halt biodiversity loss caused by the excessive use of natural resources.

(3) Access to and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources

In order to explore the value and share benefits of micro-organisms, Japan will support partner countries in building capacity to preserve and cultivate micro-organisms by themselves. Japan will also provide technical support including legal and institutional advices necessary for the implementation of the protocol on ABS.