

Actions aimed at preserving global biodiversity and offering a full and abundant life for people

Enrolled as Member of International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. (President and Representative Director: Akira Ichikawa; Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) announced it has received the approval of the steering committee of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPSI) and on August 22, 2013 became a registered member.

The SATOYAMA Initiative reexamines the gradually disappearing secondary natural environments, considers practices for sustainable preservation and utilization, and undertakes various actions. Secondary natural environments are formed and maintained through agriculture and other human interaction with the natural environment over a long period of time. However, secondary natural environments in many areas around the world are facing a crisis due to population increase, urbanization, and industrialization in recent years. The long-term vision of this initiative is to realize societies in harmony with nature. This not only entails pristine environments, but also realizing a society that builds a positive relationship between humans and nature.

The IPSI was launched at tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10), held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan in October 2010, to carry out the activities of the SATOYAMA Initiative through international partnerships. It consists of a diverse range of institutions, including governments, NGOs, community organizations, academic research organizations, and international research institutes. As of August 2013, there were 147 members.

To date Sumitomo Forestry has managed company-owned forests in Japan as well as plantation forest operations for many years in various countries and regions, including Indonesia. A number of the projects have been implemented based on concepts shared with this initiative. By participating as a member of the IPSI, Sumitomo Forestry aims to accumulate knowledge through opinion exchange with various organizations, and to use this to preserve global biodiversity and offer a full and abundant life for humans.

■ Three Action Guidelines of the SATOYAMA Initiative

- Accumulate knowledge to ensure biodiversity services and values
- Integrate traditional knowledge with modern-day science to promote reforms
- Pursue new joint management approaches while respecting the traditional land ownership and management styles of regions

Regional scope of activities

Areas subject to this initiative are regions comprising farm villages and adjacent farmlands, forests, grasslands, and other wilderness that was developed and maintained by humans over a long period of time.

Benefits expected from this initiative

The dual benefits expected are contribution to the slowdown of a loss of biodiversity, which is occurring on a global level, by building a positive relationship between man and nature, and promoting the maintenance and improvement of biodiversity in the secondary natural environment and the sustainable use of natural resources. In addition, through these efforts, improvement to stable food production and incomes via multifaceted land use and improvement in the living environment by promoting the use of environmentally friendly biomass resources is also greatly expected.