

Susono City and Sumitomo Realty

Sign a comprehensive collaborative agreement on forest cultivation

“Forest cultivation starts here as we work together for future the next generations”

Sumitomo Realty & Development Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo; President: Kojun Nishima; hereinafter “Sumitomo Realty”) signed a comprehensive collaborative agreement on forest cultivation with Susono City (Mayor: Harukaze Murata) on May 30 (Mon). The initiative centers on the forest that Sumitomo Realty owns in the city’s Chabatake district.

Under this agreement, Susono City and Sumitomo Realty will cooperate through the cultivation of the forest owned by Sumitomo Realty, aiming at promoting sustainable and wide-area forest development in Susono City and enhancing the multifunctional roles of the forests in the surrounding areas associated with this initiative.



“Sumitomo Fudosan no Mori” (Sumitomo Realty Forest)
70-year-old cypress trees



Susono City: Mayor Harukaze Murata,
Sumitomo Realty: Deputy President Yoshiyuki Odai

[Comments from Susono City: Mayor, Harukaze Murata]

In October 2021, Susono City declared that it would realize carbon neutrality by 2050. We expect that this agreement will promote and enhance the multifunctional roles of the forests that cover approximately 63% of the city, and help accelerate our efforts to achieve carbon neutrality.

[Comments from Sumitomo Realty: Deputy President, Yoshiyuki Odai]

With the signing of this agreement, we will promote forest regeneration and the realization of a decarbonized society in partnership with Susono City and those involved in the local forestry industry. We will effectively utilize limited resources through this endeavor while fostering the awareness of the need to protect Japan’s forests and natural environment by conserving biodiversity and watershed.

■ Regarding the comprehensive collaborative agreement on forest cultivation

We will practice sustainable forest management by engaging in timber production, afforestation, thinning, and natural-forest conservation jointly with local companies using the land we own in the city (approximately 185 hectares). The forest resources harvested through final cutting and reforestation will be used for our housing business, etc.

Approximately 90% of the land is an untouched natural forest with diverse functions essential to the area, such as watershed conservation, biodiversity, prevention of landslides, and CO₂ absorption. We will contribute to the community by cultivating a sustainable forest in accordance with the forest management plan created under the collaborative agreement.



■ Sumitomo Realty's forest regeneration project

We will present a model of sustainable forestry and forest regeneration by utilizing "Sumitomo Fudosan no Mori" (Sumitomo Realty Forest), which we own within the area designated by the agreement with Susono City. In addition, taking advantage of its location close to urban cities, we will also promote activities to connect urban cities with rural areas surrounding them.

Slogan: Forest cultivation starts here as we work together for the next generations

1. Forest regeneration

In order to promote a healthy forest for the next generations, we will carry out appropriate maintenance activities such as thinning and weeding on a regular basis in accordance with the forest management plan. These activities contribute to forest regeneration through final cutting and reforestation, protection of biodiversity and promotion of watershed conservation. We will also promote tree-planting activities by our employees.

During the forest growth stage, the forest will absorb and retain carbon dioxide, and contribute to the sustainability of the global environment and local communities.

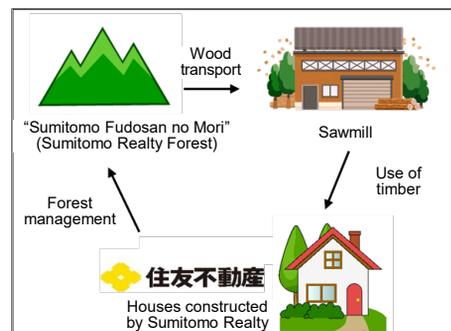
2. Biodiversity conservation

We will conduct a general monitoring survey to ensure appropriate management of the natural forest, where red-listed plants grow naturally.

3. Effective use of forest resources

■ Establishment of a supply chain

We will promote forest regeneration (through final cutting and reforestation) when the trees are mature enough for logging, and establish a supply chain for construction materials used in our housing business (such as Shinchiku-Sokkurisan remodeling business).



4. Community exchange and awareness-raising activities using the forest

■ Community exchange and local revitalization

We will sponsor outdoor market events, etc. to connect the people and community of Susono City, which positions itself as a "future garden city," with those of Tokyo's Ariake district.

■ "Wood Education" activities for children

We will host various fun events to provide children in urban areas with the opportunity to think about the global environment (wood education workshops, creation of novelty goods using domestic timber and thinned wood, etc.).



Wood Education activities

*Photos are for illustrative purposes only



Outdoor market events, etc. at commercial facilities



The initiatives related to this release contribute to the following SDGs objectives:

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

