

The Ajinomoto Group's Contribution to Solving the World's Most Urgent Environmental Issues

—For vibrant lives and food sustainability—

The Ajinomoto Group depends on a global environment that is rich and flourishing in order for it to consistently deliver healthy, good-tasting foods. Our global environment, however, is in crisis, with a number of problems already upon us. These include the global population boom, a dwindling energy supply, climate change, and the loss of biodiversity.

The Ajinomoto Group believes that it can and must do something to help solve these problems by leveraging its technological and business strengths. Through its business activities, it is committed to making meaningful contributions to three major environmental initiatives that are needed throughout the world, thereby helping to create a better world for all of its inhabitants to live and thrive in.

Solving Three Urgent Environmental Issues

Conserving ecosystems and biodiversity

Present situation

It is reported that about 80,000 species of plants are used by us as food, but at this moment, one species on Earth becomes extinct every seven minutes. Some have predicted that about 10 to 15% of all creatures currently living on the planet will become extinct over the next 30 years, and human activities are said to be 99% responsible.

Conserving ecosystems and biodiversity as the basis for all life to flourish

The ecosystems that form the global environment are maintained by biodiversity, including the diversity of genes and species and their diverse roles and interrelationships. Biodiversity is what drives the engine of nature, providing us with food, resources, climate regulation and material decomposition. These are collectively known as ecosystem "services." As a community-based organization benefiting from agricultural, livestock and fishery resources around the world, the Ajinomoto Group believes that its first and most fundamental commitment must be to conserve biodiversity.

To fulfill this commitment and protect ecosystems and biodiversity, the Ajinomoto Group formulates its strategies and systems, including those regarding the procurement of raw materials and the requirements to be met by the entire supply chain, based on a full understanding of the impact that its business activities have on the environment. The Group is planning to implement even more advanced measures in cooperation with all of its stakeholders.

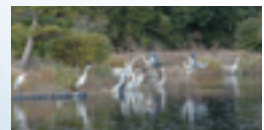
Current major initiatives

- Specifying ecosystem conservation into the Group's environmental philosophy as its most fundamental component ➔ See p. 8
- Verifying ecosystem conservation measures in the business assessments ➔ See p. 48
- Cooperating with the agriculture, fisheries and the livestock farming industries for ecosystem conservation ➔ See p. 9-26
- Surveying the ecology of important resources and organisms (implementation of joint research on bonito resources) ➔ See p. 13

Other activities

Conserving ecosystems existing within the premises of business sites
The Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Tokai Plant turned the approximately 5,200-square-meter pond on its grounds into the Ajinomoto Tokai Bird Sanctuary.

[Web](http://www.ajinomoto.co.jp/company/kankyo/bird/bird.html) <http://www.ajinomoto.co.jp/company/kankyo/bird/bird.html> (Japanese only)



Participation in the JBIB

Ajinomoto Co., Inc. joined the Japan Business Initiative for Conservation and the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (JBIB) in April 2008.

[Web](http://www.jbib.org/en/) <http://www.jbib.org/en/>





Building a low-carbon society

Present situation

As much as 888 tons of CO₂ are emitted every second¹ on this planet, and the atmospheric CO₂ content, which was about 280 parts per million before the Industrial Revolution, is said to have risen sharply to 380 ppm.² This increase has begun to exert a variety of visible impacts on countries around the world.

1. Source: *Global Change in One Second Part 2*, Diamond Inc.
 2. Source: Brochure on global warming published in 2008 by the Japanese Ministry of the Environment

Achieving low-carbon business and society based on the recognition of global warming risks

Large-scale climate change caused by global warming will have an enormous impact on the way we live. For the Ajinomoto Group, which is highly dependent on the ecosystem services provided by the planet, climate change is a serious issue on which our future depends.

The Group is committed to reducing emissions of greenhouse gases in its manufacturing processes as well as throughout its business and product life cycles. In particular, it aims to contribute to society by developing and supplying products that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, specifically by providing more highly functional amino acids and other products.

The framework for drastic structural reform for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is now being established across the world, and the Ajinomoto Group will formulate its medium- to long-term CO₂ emission reduction strategies to address this globally important environmental issue.

Current major activities

- Reducing CO₂ emissions by promoting the 3Rs for containers and packaging → See p. 16-18 and p. 35-37
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions through feed-use amino acids → See p. 25-26
- Introducing equipment that helps reduce CO₂ emissions, such as biomass boilers → See p. 21-22 and p. 39-40
→ See p. 29 and p. 38-40
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions to zero → See p. 33
- Quantitatively assessing carbon footprints and utilizing the results → See p. 43
- Streamlining product distribution systems and implementing a modal shift → See p. 16 and p. 45-46
→ See p. 49-50
- Proposing low-carbon lifestyles
- Raising environmental awareness of employees



For more detailed information on building a low-carbon society, please access the Carbon Disclosure Project's website, which operates a large database based on the answers of company's to a questionnaire survey jointly conducted by the world's major financial institutions.

Web <https://www.cdproject.net/>

Building a recycling-oriented society

Present situation

The amount of resources consumed by people all over the world in a single year is reportedly greater than the forest and water systems of the Earth can produce during the same period. Some data indicate that resources will be depleted in several decades if we continue to use them up at the current rate.

The most efficient use and recycling of finite resources

Food, water, and energy are essential to all life. To ensure that life will continue to flourish in the future, it is necessary to both find alternatives to and recycle these precious resources. In its business activities, the Ajinomoto Group is adding value to the bounty of nature to deliver it for the vibrant life of people. Focusing on recycling resources in the areas of food and amino acids, both of which are essential to life, the Group will further improve efficiencies and ensure that it uses natural resources efficiently as it continues to develop its recycling initiatives.

Current major initiatives

- Making the best use of raw materials → See p. 13-15 and p. 21-24
- Bio-cycle framework for resource recycling in amino acid production → See p. 21-22
→ See p. 23-24
- Popularizing and adding extra value to co-products → See p. 38 and p. 42
- Zero emission activities regarding waste → See p. 38 and p. 41
- Zero emission activities regarding water consumption and discharged water → See p. 16-18 and p. 36-38
- Raising consumer awareness of the 3Rs for containers and packages

