

Environmental Management

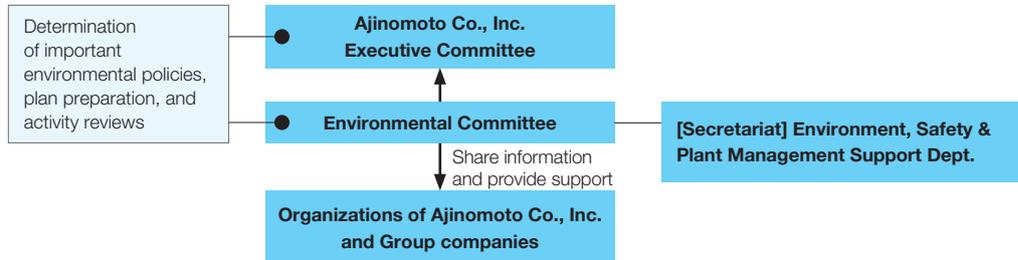
Framework

GRI301-DMA
GRI302-DMA
GRI303-DMA
GRI304-DMA
GRI305-DMA
GRI306-DMA
GRI307-DMA
GRI308-DMA

Promotion Framework

The Ajinomoto Group established the Environmental Committee under the Executive Committee to decide important environmental policies, prepare plans and conduct activity reviews.

Ajinomoto Group's environmental management system (EMS)



Status of ISO 14001 certification

As of March 2019, the Ajinomoto Group has acquired ISO 14001 certification at 49 out of 98 subject Group companies. Those not yet certified are advancing management based on the ISO 14001 approach. Note that the number of ISO 14001-certified Group companies decreased compared with the previous fiscal year-end due to corporate consolidation and other factors.

Environmental assessments

When the Ajinomoto Group launches new products and businesses, or changes the use of conventional raw materials or production processes, it assesses the environmental impact of business plans before they are conducted, and takes necessary measures to minimize future risks. At Ajinomoto Co., Inc., environmental assessments are performed by departments in charge in accordance with internal rules, and their results are reviewed from a Group-level perspective by the Environment, Safety & Plant Management Support Dept. Group companies also carry out their own assessments based on company rules and regulations.

Environmental assessment items

1. Legal compliance	
2. Seven types of typical pollution	Air pollution, water pollution, noise, odor, soil contamination, etc.
3. Global environmental issues	Saving energy, renewable energy use, fluorocarbons, distribution efficiency, etc.
4. Food loss and waste reduction	Extension of best-before dates, MMYT labeling, etc.
5. Sustainable procurement	Biodiversity conservation, certified ingredients, certified paper, bioplastics, etc.
6. Water resources	Water use and wastewater reduction
7. Waste disposal	Proper waste disposal, responsibilities of waste generator, etc.
8. Creation of a recycling-oriented society	3Rs, excess packaging, effective use of by-products, waste generation reduction, etc.
9. Management of hazardous substances	New chemical substances, PCB, asbestos, etc.
10. Effects of buildings	Right to sunlight, radio wave disturbance, etc.
11. Consumer awareness of green living	Environmental labeling

Environmental audits

The Ajinomoto Group conducts external audits for compliance with ISO 14001. In addition, audits for sites having issues are also conducted by the Environment, Safety & Plant Management Support Dept. based on the Environmental Audit Outline. There were no sites subject to environmental audits in fiscal 2018.

Performance

GRI306-3
GRI307-1

Response to Environmental Laws and Accidents

The Ajinomoto Group has quickly addressed any legal violations or accidents related to the environment. In fiscal 2018, there were four violations of the Air Pollution Control Act of Japan, Effluent Standards, and other environmental laws, and proper corrective actions and legal measures based on administrative guidance have been performed. There were also seven accidents that affected the environment outside the worksite (two complaints related to offensive odor and herbicide spray, two fluorocarbon leaks, two diesel oil leaks, and one liquid product leak). None of these had serious environmental effects. The accidents were immediately reported to authorities and investigated for their causes to take necessary measures.

Environmental Education

Specialized education

The Ajinomoto Group conducts environmental education for employees to acquire the expertise and skills for environmentally responsible business operations.

In Japan, the Group provides ongoing education to the environmental officers, managers and members in each organization, as well as environmental assessment training for members of business and research departments developing new businesses and products. The Group also conducts environmental law seminars for staff in charge to stay up-to-date with the frequent revisions in environmental regulations and ensure compliance.

■ Main programs in fiscal 2018

- Two-day training course for internal environmental auditors: Twice, 41 participants
- One-day training course for internal environmental auditors: Twice, 23 participants
- Environmental law seminar: Five times, 119 participants

General education

In Japan, the Environment, Safety & Plant Management Support Dept. collaborates with human resources, general affairs, risk management and other departments to provide ongoing education tailored to each employee grade and ensure everyone understands the Group's environmental management.

■ Main programs in fiscal 2018

- Compliance training
- Training for technology-related staff before posting overseas
- Training for future overseas production engineers