



City of Yokohama

City profile downloaded from CitiesWithNature

20 May 2025

Chapter 1

Profile overview



About

Overview

3770000

Population size

Japan

Country

Asia & Oceania

Region

Takeharu Yamanaka, Mayor of City of Yokohama

Head of government

Platform engagement statistics



19

Actions made on the Action Platform

Achievements

Profile awards

The city has updated their profile and achieved the following:



Starter profile
34% complete



Frontrunner profile
60% complete



Star profile
0% complete

The Nature Pathway

The city has engaged with the Nature Pathway to integrate nature throughout their city's plans, policies and operations.



Starter profile
0% complete



Frontrunner profile
0% complete



Star profile
0% complete

Tools & resources hub

The city has made uploads to the CitiesWithNature tools & resources hub, which provides a knowledge-sharing platform for cities to share information and inspire one another.



Starter profile
0% complete



Frontrunner profile
0% complete



Star profile
0% complete

Action Platform

The CitiesWithNature Action Platform is endorsed by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity for cities to make commitments, share their actions and set targets for people and nature to flourish.



Starter profile
100% complete



Frontrunner profile
100% complete



Star profile
50% complete

Chapter 2

The Action Platform



The Action Platform

The CitiesWithNature Action Platform is endorsed by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity for cities to make commitments, share their actions and set targets for people and nature to flourish.



Action area 1

Protect and restore nature

Commitment Made:

Protect, connect and restore ecosystems

Restore and/or rehabilitate terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems.

Description of how city is taking action

-We are promoting the conservation of cohesive forest areas and agricultural landscapes that form the core of the green network, and advancing the conservation of organisms that inhabit and grow in the forest environments and wetland environments of rice paddies and forests. -To improve and conserve the naturally rich river environment, we are promoting the activities of river coordinators and water conservation associations in water areas and waterfront squares close to citizens' lives. -We are advancing the creation of a good forest environment by utilizing the "Forest Creation Guidelines," which are technical guidelines for maintaining and managing forest environments effectively, focusing on cohesive forests such as citizens' forests and parks, where various functions of forest environments, such as biodiversity conservation, can be demonstrated. -We have promoted the creation of good forests by collaborating with various entities, such as conservation associations and forest creation activity groups, while targeting cohesive forests such as citizens' forests and forested areas within urban parks, to ensure biodiversity conservation, comfort, and the development of good landscapes, as well as disaster prevention and mitigation. -Through measures such as advanced sewage treatment and appropriate drainage treatment by operators, and river improvements that consider the natural environment, we have seen the recovery of river and marine water quality and the habitats and environments for the growth and reproduction of organisms. However, there are still rivers and marine areas that require water quality improvement, and we are continuing our efforts towards this improvement. -We are working on the restoration and conservation of a rich river environment through citizen collaboration by utilizing the "River Creation Coordinator System," which dispatches coordinators who are experts in improving habitats for fish and other organisms, to citizens who want to create rivers.

Increase protected areas

Description of how city is taking action

-We are promoting the conservation of cohesive forest areas and agricultural landscapes that form the core of the green network, and advancing the conservation of organisms that inhabit and grow in the forest environments and wetland environments of rice paddies and forests. - Maintaining or increasing the diversity of native species by protecting and improving the habitats of various organisms, creating water and green environments in places close to citizens' lives, and implementing measures such as conservation and regeneration of forested areas, agricultural land, and rivers, as well as contributing to the protection and breeding of rare species.

Decrease conversion of natural areas and maintain natural/semi-natural areas

Description of how city is taking action

-Promote discussions on greening with businesses and others to create lively spaces using greenery, contributing to the creation of opportunities for citizens to interact with local greenery and the preservation and creation of pathways for living creatures.

Integrate ecosystem protection considerations across policies, plans and programmes.

Description of how city is taking action

-We are working to create opportunities to deepen the understanding of biodiversity conservation, so that city employees can consider biodiversity in all policies and projects. In fiscal year 2022, we created opportunities for city employees to present examples of efforts to consider the habitats and environments of living things, through biodiversity training for all employees in collaboration with companies, and presentations by various departments.

Commitment Made:

Conserve and restore fauna and flora

Maintain or increase the diversity of native species

Description of how city is taking action

-For the protection and improvement of biodiversity, we have implemented measures such as the conservation and restoration of forests, farmland, and rivers, and the creation of water and green environments in places close to citizens' lives, as well as the protection and breeding of rare species. -To improve and conserve the rich natural river environment, we are promoting activities such as the coordinator system for river creation and support for activities of water conservation associations in places close to citizens' lives, such as waterside and waterfront squares. -At breeding centers and zoos in the city, we are working on species conservation in collaboration with zoos and research institutions in Japan and abroad.

Restore habitat for threatened and locally valued species

Description of how city is taking action

-We are implementing improvement and maintenance of environments where marine creatures can live in cooperation with companies and citizen groups, aiming for a rich biodiversity environment.

Commitment Made:

Control Pollution

Reduce water pollution by biocides and excess nutrients from domestic and industrial sources to protect ecosystems and people's health.

Description of how city is taking action

-To conserve the water environment, we are conducting water quality monitoring of public water areas and measures against discharged water from business establishments. In the case of sewerage systems with a large impact on public water areas, we are improving water quality by introducing advanced treatment and improving combined sewerage systems. We have also conducted a survey of microplastics in the city's water environment.

Reduce plastic consumption and the amount of plastic waste generated and discarded

Description of how city is taking action

-It is estimated that about 87,000 tons of food loss are included in the annual combustible waste from households in the city, and we are working to raise awareness and change behavior by appealing to the values of "waste" and "gratitude for food" -To protect the living environment and health of citizens, we are implementing regulatory guidance to businesses based on environmental laws and regulations such as ordinances, the Air Pollution Control Act, the Water Pollution Control Act, and the Noise Regulation Act, for harmful substances contained in exhaust gases and wastewater discharged during business activities, and for noise and vibration over a considerable range. We are also demanding management based on the Chemical Substances Control Law for businesses handling chemical substances that are harmful to human health and ecosystems.

Reduce other types of pollution, such as solid waste, air pollution, noise pollution and light pollution

Description of how city is taking action

-To protect citizens' living environment and health, we are implementing regulatory guidance to businesses based on environmental laws and regulations such as ordinances, the Air Pollution Control Act, the Water Pollution Control Act, and the Noise Regulation Act, for harmful substances contained in exhaust gases and wastewater discharged during business activities, and for noise and vibration over a considerable range. We are also demanding management based on the Chemical Substances Control Law for businesses handling chemical substances that are harmful to human health and ecosystems.

Commitment Made:

Climate change adaptation and mitigation

Reduce the urban heat island effect by working with nature

Description of how city is taking action

-We are conducting temperature observations at approximately 40 locations in the city to understand the heat situation. -Efforts to increase greenery in urban areas in collaboration with citizens and businesses, from the perspective of mitigating and adapting to the "heat" of cities due to climate change and the urban heat island phenomenon, have been effective.

Promote integration of nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches into urban infrastructure maintenance & development.

Description of how city is taking action

-We are promoting the use of green infrastructure (various functions that the natural environment possesses) in collaboration with various stakeholders, such as efforts to improve rainwater retention and infiltration functions in line with the establishment and redevelopment of parks.

Other commitments under this action area

Manage invasive alien species



Action area 2

Use nature sustainably

Commitment Made:

Promote people's access to green and blue spaces

Increase equitable and inclusive access to nature to enhance people's health and wellbeing.

Description of how city is taking action

-We are advancing the greening of schoolyards and the development of biotopes in nurseries, elementary, and junior high schools, creating spaces where children can interact with living organisms. -In designated green spaces designated as civic forests, we are developing facilities necessary for citizens to enjoy nature, such as walking paths. Currently, there are 47 designated civic forests, of which 43 are open to the public. -We are linking the creation of lush green spaces and the promotion of initiatives to cultivate them to enhance the attractiveness and liveliness of the city. This includes subsidizing a portion of the costs for initiatives to enhance greenery in public facilities and public lands, such as greening efforts by citizens and businesses.

Enable meaningful experiences of nature for the health and well-being of urban communities

Description of how city is taking action

-We are promoting various experiences utilizing forests, agricultural land, and oceans that have functional habitats for living organisms. -To improve and conserve natural river environments, we are supporting activities such as the river improvement coordinator system and the activities of river care associations in water-side areas and waterfront squares close to citizens' lives. -To deepen understanding and encourage action regarding Yokohama's forests, events and lectures related to the forest were held to provide citizens with opportunities to engage with the forest. -We are collaborating on community greening plans and activities such as planting and maintaining flowers and trees to realize the desire of the community to create a city full of greenery and flowers. -To provide opportunities for citizens to become familiar with greenery and flowers, efforts are being made in each district, including hosting open garden events and events related to greenery and flowers in collaboration with the community, as well as supporting activities to cultivate greenery and flowers. -Waterfront bases utilizing the rich natural river

environments are maintained and managed to be used as places of relaxation and activity bases for citizens. These conserved and created waterfront spaces, including waterfront bases, are utilized as venues for natural experiences, recreation such as water play and wildlife observation.

Other commitments under this action area

Equitable benefits through sustainable use of wild species

Biodiversity in urban agriculture, aquaculture and forestry



Action area 3

Develop tools and solutions

Commitment Made:

Mainstreaming biodiversity values

Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into local policies, strategies, environmental assessments, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies and accounts

Description of how city is taking action

- In Yokohama City, the "Yokohama Biodiversity Action Plan (Yokohama B Plan)" has formulated in 2011 as a regional strategy based on the Basic Act on Biodiversity. In 2018, it was incorporated into the "Yokohama City Environmental Management Plan," promoting environmental policies comprehensively. To encourage citizens to interact with local organisms, deepen their understanding of biodiversity, and take action, initiatives are being pursued under four guiding principles: "Promotion and Awareness," "Conservation, Regeneration, Creation," "Establishment of Systems," and "Urban Development and Economic Activities. -To preserve the rich green environment for future generations, the city of Yokohama is working under "the Yokohama Green-up Plan," with the help of funds from "the Yokohama Green Tax." The plan includes initiatives such as curbing the diminution of green spaces, giving citizens opportunities to feel more "in touch" with agriculture and increasing green spaces in urban areas. -We are advancing initiatives to create opportunities for deepening understanding of biodiversity conservation, enabling municipal employees to consider biodiversity in all policies and projects.

Commitment Made:

Sustainable production and consumption

Promote sustainable practices in production and consumption across all economic sectors.

Description of how city is taking action

-We are promoting initiatives aimed at urban development that contributes to biodiversity, such as protecting rice fields and fields that serve as habitats for living organisms, reducing transportation energy consumption, and promoting initiatives for local production and consumption.

Provide urban residents with information for sustainable consumption and lifestyles in harmony with nature.

Description of how city is taking action

-We are promoting outreach and awareness activities aimed at encouraging citizens and businesses to continue utilizing the blessings of nature while safeguarding biodiversity.

Commitment Made:

Use relevant knowledge, including traditional knowledge, for effective biodiversity management

Promote inclusive monitoring, evaluation and learning

Description of how city is taking action

-In addition to acquiring fundamental data contributing to biodiversity, we conduct citizen-participation wildlife surveys targeting elementary school students in the city's 340 public schools to create opportunities for citizens to become interested in living organisms. We also conduct ongoing terrestrial and aquatic (river and marine) wildlife surveys to understand the city's ecosystems based on biodiversity and assess water quality using biological indicators. -In recent years, concerns have been raised about the impact of microplastics on ecosystems, and we are conducting surveys to understand the situation in Yokohama City.

Promote the value of nature through awareness and education campaigns

Description of how city is taking action

-We are utilizing social media networks to disseminate information related to Yokohama's environment, aiming to spark citizens' interest in biodiversity conservation and local nature. -To provide opportunities for citizens to learn about the current status of wildlife and the importance of biodiversity, we are advancing exhibitions and program introductions at zoos and breeding centers.

Commitment Made:

Mobilize resources for biodiversity actions

Increase financial and technical support for biodiversity actions

Description of how city is taking action

-We subsidized a portion of the maintenance and management costs for designated forested areas through the Green Space Conservation System. Additionally, we supported forest development organizations by providing loans of necessary tools, grants for activities, and dispatching experts to assist in forest development. -To enable waterfront care associations engaged in activities such as cleaning and beautifying the waterfront to actively pursue distinctive activities utilizing waterfront environments, we provide subsidies. We also facilitate the activation of waterfront conservation activities by organizing exchange meetings as a platform for information sharing among groups.

Other commitments under this action area

Equitable and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in biodiversity-related decision-making

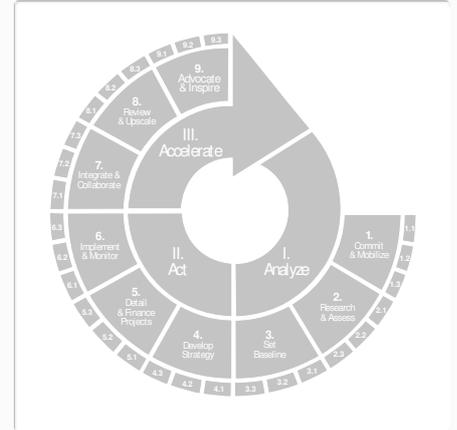
Chapter 3

Nature Pathway



Nature Pathway

The Nature Pathway assists cities with integrating nature throughout their city's plans, policies and operations.



I. Analyze

1. Commit & mobilize

No uploads or resources have been linked

2. Research & assess

No uploads or resources have been linked

3. Set Baseline

No uploads or resources have been linked

II. Act

4. Develop strategy

No uploads or resources have been linked

5. Detail & finance projects

No uploads or resources have been linked

6. Implement & monitor

No uploads or resources have been linked

III. Accelerate

7. Integrate & collaborate

No uploads or resources have been linked

8. Review & upscale

No uploads or resources have been linked

9. Advocate & inspire

Chapter 4

City Biodiversity Index



City Biodiversity Index

The City Biodiversity Index (CBI) is a self-assessment tool for cities to evaluate and monitor the progress of their biodiversity conservation efforts against their own individual baselines.

This city has measured the following total CBI score out of 112 points:

0 Points

Native biodiversity in the city

Core Component Total Score: 0 of 36 points

City of Yokohama has not started on this biodiversity index section

Ecosystem services provided by biodiversity

Core Component Total Score: 0 of 20 points

City of Yokohama has not started on this biodiversity index section

Governance and management of biodiversity

Core Component Total Score: 0 of 56 points

City of Yokohama has not started on this biodiversity index section

Chapter 5

Tools & resources



Tools & resources

All tools & resources the city has uploaded to the CitiesWithNature Tools & resources hub.

City of Yokohama has not yet posted any tools and resources



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