The cover picture depicts a Japanese crested ibis taking flight from a furoshiki that has an Earth design. The picture reflects our hope for creating a low carbon society, a sound material-cycle society, and a society in harmony with nature, and our determination to care for the global environment.



Furoshiki

Furoshiki is a stylish, reusable, traditional Japanese cloth which is used to wrap clothes, gifts, or other goods. It is a symbol of waste reduction for Japanese culture.



Toki

The Japanese crested ibis (Toki, Nipponia nippon) is a bird that was commonly sighted throughout Japan during the Edo era. However, excessive hunting of wild ibises during the Meiji era led to their drastic decline, and they finally became extinct in the wild in 1981. Currently, breeding of ibises which were given by China, is ongoing, and the reintroduction project is underway.

If you have any opinions and comments regarding this booklet, please contact the following.

Overview 1

Environmental Strategy Division Environmental Policy Bureau Ministry of the Environment

Tel: +81-3-3581-3351(ex.6254) E-mail: hakusho@env.ne.jp

Overview 2

Office of Sound Material-Cycle Society Policy Planning Division Waste Management and Recycling Department Minister's Secretariat Ministry of the Environment

Tel: +81-3-3581-3351(ex.6819) E-mail: junkan@env.ne.jp

Annual Report on the Environment and the Sound Material-Cycle Society in Japan 2008
Published by: Ministry of the Environment
Translated by: Ministry of the Environment
Published in June 2008