

## Section 3 In Order to Stop Biodiversity Loss

In order to stop biodiversity loss on a global scale, it is necessary that individual countries steadily implement the outcomes of COP10. The “United Nations Decade on Biodiversity,” which was proposed by Japan at COP10 and under which international society will concentrate on

measures for the problems of biodiversity, began in 2011. In this section we will discuss the current state of measures related to biodiversity and the direction of measures from now on that are aimed at achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

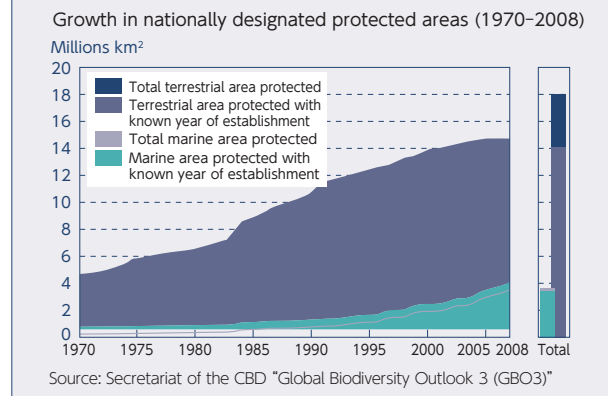
### 1. Direction of Measures throughout the World

Although GBO3 concluded that the 2010 Targets were not achieved, setting the 2010 targets brought about the results of expansion of protected areas, promotion of conservation of specific species, increase of measures against pollution and alien species that negatively impact ecosystems, development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, increase of financing for conservation, research on biodiversity, monitoring, and promotion of scientific evaluation. However, issues remain: insufficient scale of tasks, insufficiency of consideration of biodiversity in broad-scale policies, strategies, and business, insufficiency of handling the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss, and lack of financing related to biodiversity compared to funding for development purposes. For example, protected areas are increasing every year, but there is a problem that there is variation in management effects. There are areas that still are designated as protected areas in spite of not being appropriately managed and are protected areas only on maps (“paper parks”) (Figure 3-3-1: Nationally Designated Protected Areas; Figure 3-3-2: Coverage of Terrestrial Protected Areas by Eco-region in Land Areas).

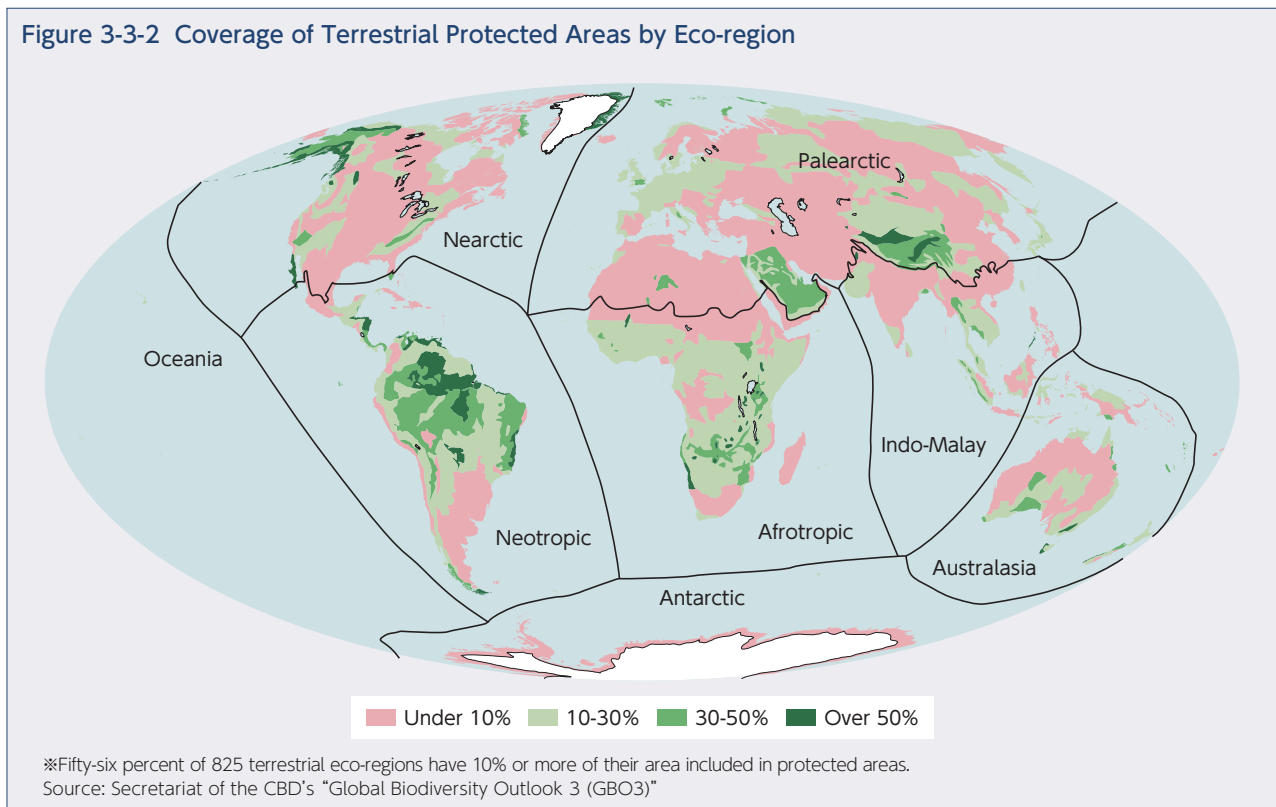
As of October 2010, including the EU there were 193

countries that were party to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and each of the parties is obligated to stipulate national biodiversity strategies according to their individual circumstances. According to an assessment report by United Nations University, as of October 2010 there were 171 countries that had formulated national biodiversity strategies, and 13 countries were in the

**Figure 3-3-1 Extent of Nationally Designated Protected Areas**



**Figure 3-3-2 Coverage of Terrestrial Protected Areas by Eco-region**



process of formulating one. That assessment report found that due to formulation of national biodiversity strategies, in many countries progress was being made for measures to designate protected zones and protect threatened species and in measures aimed at making biodiversity mainstream, but that reduction of the main factors of biodiversity loss had not been achieved. It also found that there were many national biodiversity strategies that had never been revised since formulation, and strategies for which a long time had passed since they were last formulated or revised, and that there were some that did not function as mechanisms to implement

the decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity. National biodiversity strategies play roles as roadmaps for achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and, under the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, revision of such strategies by 2015 is set as one of the individual targets. From now on each of the parties to the convention will proceed with measures including revision of national strategies for biodiversity in order to achieve the Aichi Targets. As for the Nagoya Protocol as well, it is necessary for each country to conclude it as soon as possible, put it into effect, and appropriately implement it.

## 2. The Current State and Direction of Measures in Japan

Japan concluded the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993 and the government is developing various policies such as measures for a national biodiversity strategy. Meanwhile, main constituents such as local and regional governments, businesses, private organizations, and citizens are also working on measures aimed at conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use (Figure 3-3-3: Outline of the National Biodiversity Strategy of Japan 2010). On the other hand, the JBO that was released in May 2010 found that, “Loss of biodiversity as a result of human activities in Japan affected all ecosystems, and the loss is continuing on the whole.” From now on, in order to achieve targets such as “conservation of 17% of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10% of coastal and marine areas by 2020 (Target 11)” and “contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation through restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems (Target 15),” it is necessary to further promote efforts aimed at conservation and restoration of ecosystems, such as expansion of quality and quantity of protected areas and rejuvenation of nature. For that reason, we have to move forward with designation and reconsideration of protected areas based on scientific data, so that important ecosystems and habitats of living beings from the national level to the regional level keep their functions as the core of the ecosystem network of national land. In addition, we have to work to enhance protection and management of regions designated as protected areas in accordance with the type of ecosystem. Further, in March 2011 the “Strategy for Conservation of Marine Biodiversity,” which outlines the perspectives and the direction for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity, was launched, and a target was set to increase the area of Marine Park Areas in national parks to double the area of 2009 by 2012.

A characteristic crisis in Japan is the “Second Crisis” caused by reduced management in *satochi-satoyama*, and in September 2010 an “Action Plan for Conservation and Sustainable use of *Satochi-Satoyama*” was launched. Under that plan, citizens as a whole support *satochi-satoyama* as shared resources (new commons), and efforts are being made to continue this into the future through participation and cooperation of not only people involved in agriculture and forestry and regional communities, but also people from all kinds of positions, such as citizens, NPOs, corporations, experts, and the government. In addition to responding to the decrease in

human activities, in order to proceed with conservation of endangered species and deal with alien species, it is necessary to make efforts adjusted to characteristics of regions. For that reason, in December 2010 the “Act on the Promotion of Activities for Biodiversity Conservation through the Cooperation among Regional Diversified Actors” was enforced (Figure 3-3-4: Overview of the Act on the Promotion of Activities for Biodiversity Conservation through the Cooperation among Regional Diversified Actors), and it is anticipated that from now on conservation activities will be promoted through collaboration of various regional main constituents. As further efforts to contribute to measures against the declining use of *satochi-satoyama*, there are examples of “Payment for Ecosystem Service (PES)” and other similar systems, under which the people who are provided ecosystem services such as the watershed protection of forests and purification of water quality pay management costs to the manager in order to maintain such services.

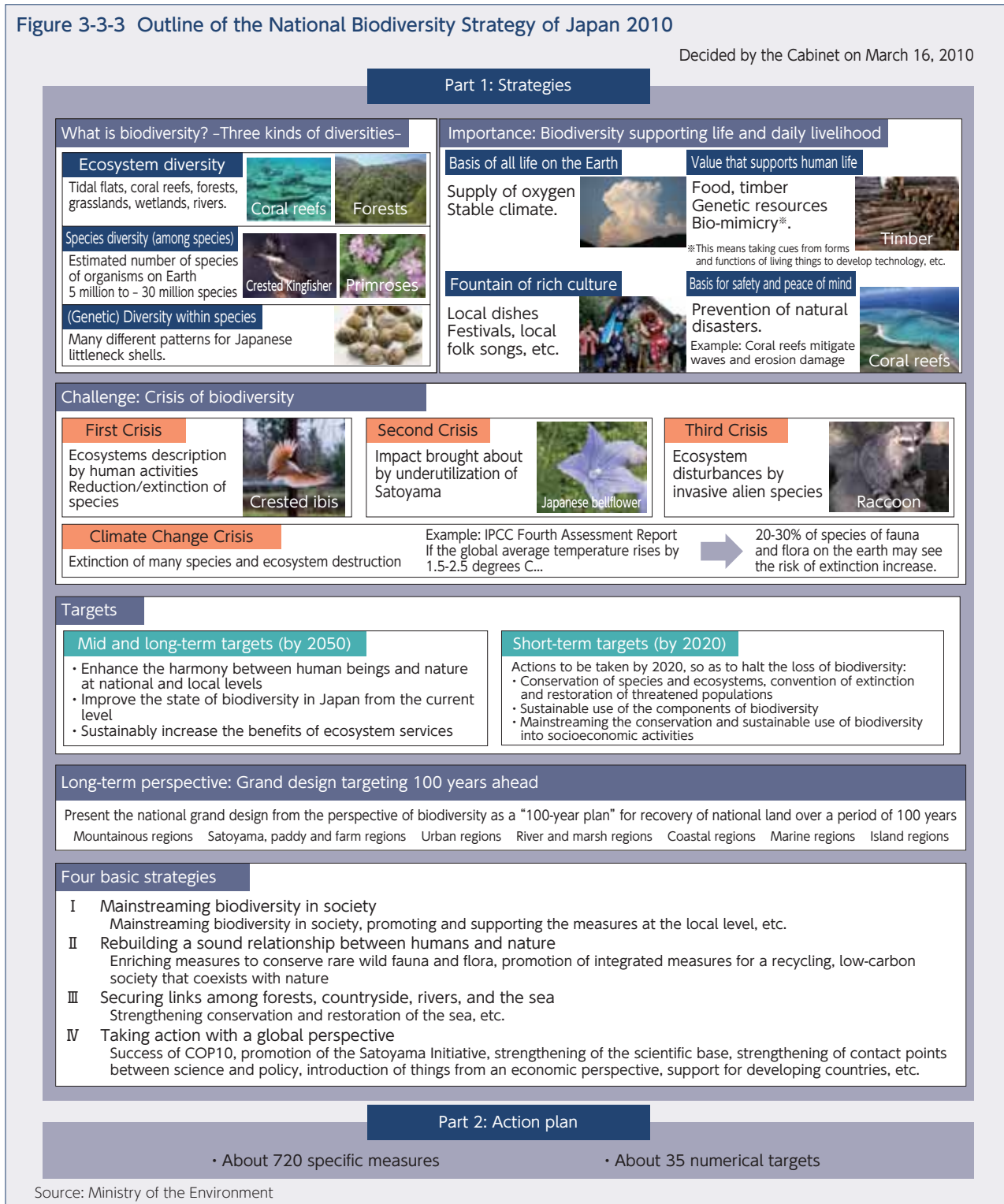
At COP10 the final report of “The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)” was published, and in light of the results of this TEEB, the World Bank developed tools necessary for including the economic values of ecosystems such as forests and wetlands, and coral reefs, and announced establishment of a new global partnership to be offered to developing countries. “Integrating biodiversity values into national and local development plans, etc., and incorporating it into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems (Individual Target 2)” was also included in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and from now on assessing the value of ecosystem services that cannot be directly converted into money, and then including that value in the socio-economic mechanism will be important in dealing with biodiversity crises such as the Second Crisis.

For the “Third Crisis” caused by alien species and chemical materials brought in by humans and the “Climate Change Crisis” as well, we must further promote measures such as strengthening systems to monitor alien species and methodically and adaptively eradicate them, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and take measures to adapt to global warming.

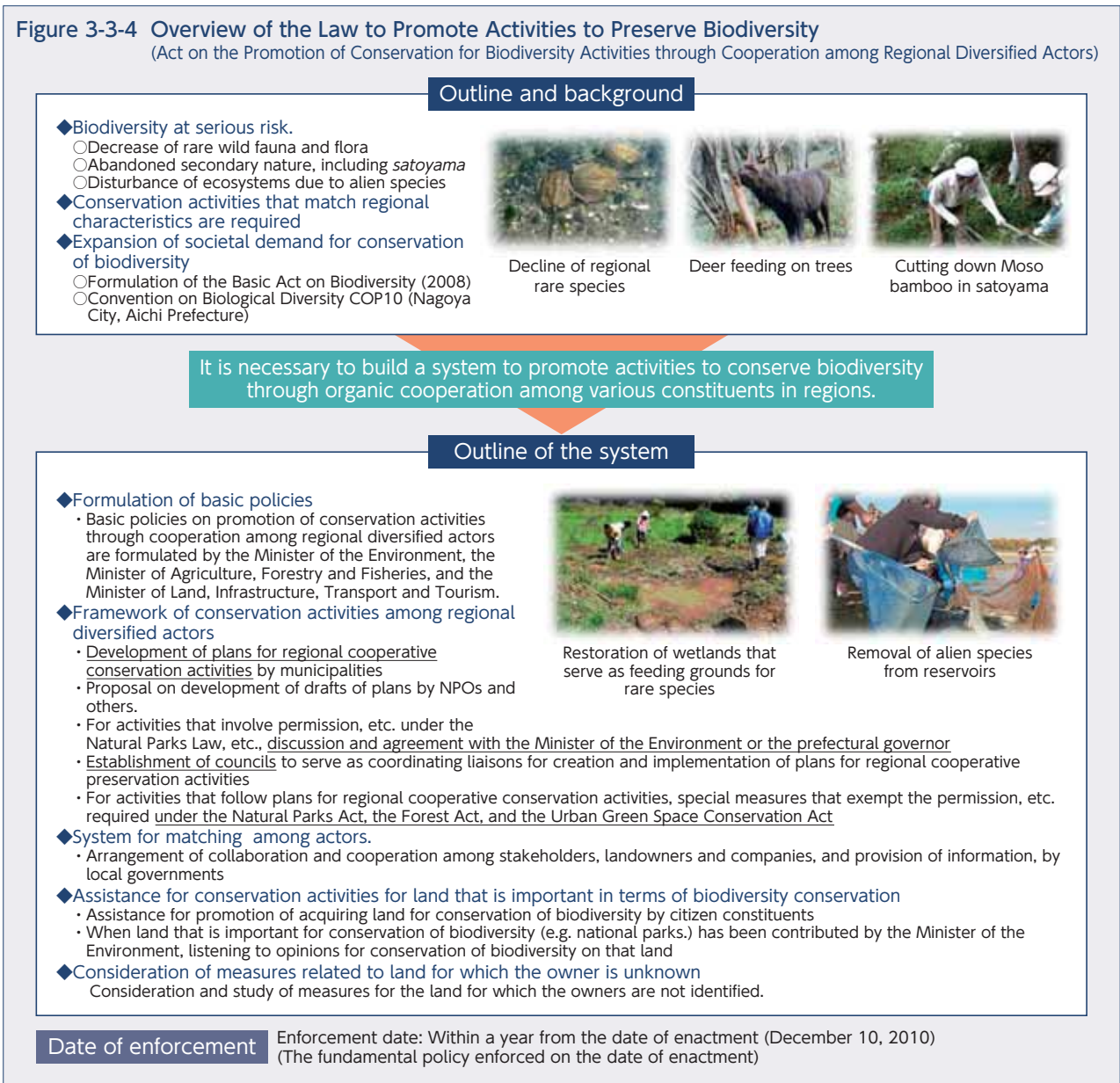
Meanwhile, it is also necessary to take measures at the same time against indirect causes such as changes in society and the economy. Although it is believed that the level of awareness about biodiversity increased dramatically as a result of COP10, from now on it will

be important to lead from the level of “knowledge” to “action” that takes biodiversity into consideration. It is necessary to continue to develop events and so forth for publicity activities and public awareness in order to promote understanding about the current state and importance of biodiversity, as well as increase awareness of how to conserve and sustainably use regional biodiversity, and work to build consensus. Local and regional governments are currently formulating regional biodiversity strategies based on the Basic Act on Biodiversity and moving ahead with efforts to implement those strategies. Because regional biodiversity strategies

are an effective tool for moving ahead with efforts that are appropriate for and suit the region, it is desirable for even more local and regional governments to follow. Further, when incorporating consideration of biodiversity in corporate business activities or individual citizens’ consumption activities and lifestyles, it is necessary to make it possible to be aware of the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services. It is anticipated that in Japan from now on the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services will be appropriately assessed and used by businesses and consumers as information for making decisions when making efforts that take biodiversity into



**Figure 3-3-4 Overview of the Law to Promote Activities to Preserve Biodiversity**  
 (Act on the Promotion of Conservation for Biodiversity Activities through Cooperation among Regional Diversified Actors)



consideration. Further, in addition to conventional regulatory methods for proceeding with conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use, it is also important to consider the possibility of policy options that utilize the market mechanism for the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

From now until COP11 is held in India in 2012, it is necessary for Japan, as the Presidency, to take the lead in efforts for various decided matters such as the “Aichi Biodiversity Targets” and the “Nagoya Protocol.”

Internationally, Japan will support revision of developing countries’ national strategies for biodiversity under the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, establish a system for implementing the Nagoya Protocol, promote the SATOYAMA Initiative, and facilitate the establishment of IPBES.

Domestically, Japan will review its national biodiversity strategies under the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. In particular, in order to achieve the 20 individual targets set under the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, it will be necessary to establish action plans aimed for the

target years and numerical targets of each individual target, and establish a mechanism for steadily promoting measures while confirming the state of implementation and achievement of individual targets. Also, in addition to individual targets for which new consideration is necessary according to “integrating biodiversity values into national and local development plans and including it in national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems (Individual Target 2),” efforts by society as a whole that include targets which require individual efforts by businesses, local public organizations and NGOs, as set forth by “stakeholders at all levels take steps to achieve or have implement plans for sustainable production and consumption (Individual Target 4), are essential.” At the United Nations General Assembly that was held in December 2010, the ten years from 2011 through 2020 were designated as the “United Nations Decade on Biodiversity,” and from now on it will be necessary for international society to cooperate to make efforts toward conservation of biodiversity, but efforts by main constituents in Japan will also become



increasingly important.

In the next section, we will show efforts toward

conversion to a biodiversity-friendly society and economy.

## Section 4 Conversion to a Society and Economy That Take Biodiversity into Account

### 1. Public Awareness about Biodiversity

In order to convert to a society in which the benefits of biodiversity can continue to be enjoyed through sustainable use in the future, it is necessary to incorporate conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use into various socio-economic activities, from a global scale to the level of familiar citizen activities. An example is the first of the 20 individual targets of the Aichi Targets: “People become aware of actions for the value and conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use.” According to a public opinion survey conducted by the Cabinet Office in 2009, the national degree of awareness of the word biodiversity (the ratio of people who have heard of the word or who know the meaning of the word) is only 36.4% (Figure 3-4-1: Degree of Awareness of the Word “Biodiversity”). Due to COP10 there has been a significant increase of interest in biodiversity, but in order to reduce the load on biodiversity caused by human activities, it is necessary for all people to be aware of the meaning of the word biodiversity and its value and to take real actions. That is the starting point for everything.

2010 was the “International Year of Biodiversity” designated by the United Nations plenary session, and a variety of events related to biodiversity were held around the world. In Japan a “Japan National Committee for the International Year of Biodiversity (Life on Earth Committee)” was established, and with the participation of various main constituents such as academic experts, cultural figures, economic circles, the mass media, and

### 2. Efforts by Businesses

Corporations and other businesses are playing an important role of broadly providing the benefits of biodiversity to society through products and services. In addition, activities by businesses affect biodiversity in various situations, receive its benefits, and are closely related to biodiversity (Figure 3-4-2: Overview of Business Activities and Biodiversity).

The individual targets of the Aichi Targets state that, “All related parties, including businesses, will implement plans for sustainable production and consumption.” Thus it is necessary for all main constituents such as private businesses to take biodiversity into consideration in their use of natural resources, the supply chain, investment and lending.

Movements related to biodiversity and business began at COP8 held in 2006 when a resolution related to the importance of participation by private businesses was adopted. That resolution pointed out the delay

of participation by private businesses in relation to biodiversity, and included the following expectations for contributions that could be made by private businesses: 1) adoption and promotion of exemplary practices by businesses, which have significant ability to affect biodiversity, can contribute substantially to convention of loss of biodiversity, 2) private businesses that have significant ability to influence the government and public opinion are the key to expanding conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use, and 3) private businesses have the ability to accumulate knowledge and technology related to biodiversity and general management, research and development, and communication, and they can be expected to be active in practical aspects of preservation of biodiversity and sustainable use.

At COP9 held in 2008, a signing ceremony for the “leadership declaration” of the “Business and Biodiversity Initiative (B&B Initiative)” was held, with participation by

