Overview of the Law for the Promotion of Nature Restoration

The Law for the Promotion of Nature Restoration specifies the basic principles of nature restoration, the responsibilities of restoration participants, and other necessary matters for the promotion of nature restoration. The Law intends to comprehensively promote measures related to nature restoration, to realize a society in harmony with the natural environment through the assured protection of biodiversity, and to contribute to the conservation of the global environment.

Definitions of Nature Restoration

Nature restoration means the conservation, restoration or creation, and the maintenance of the conditions of the natural environments with the participation of various actors in the local community, from concerned governmental agencies, concerned municipal governments, local residents, NPOs to experts, with the objective of recovering the ecosystems and other natural environments that have been damaged or destroyed in the past.

Conservation

Activity of proactively maintaining the conditions of existing healthy natural environments

Restoration

Activity of recovering the natural environment in areas where it has been damaged or destroyed.

Creation

Activity of recovering the native ecosystem in areas where most of the natural environment has been lost, like in large cities, by constructing large green spaces.

Maintenance

Activity of monitoring the condition of the restored natural environment and providing the necessary management in order to maintain the condition for a long period.

Basic Principles of Nature Restoration

Preserve biological diversity

 Nature restoration should be undertaken properly for the purposes of maintaining and passing on a sound and bountiful natural environment to future generations, realizing a society in harmony with nature through the protection of biodiversity, and contributing to the conservation of the global environment.

Promote participation and cooperation of various local groups

Nature restoration should be conducted with the cooperation among various actors in the local community, in a voluntary and active manner. Efforts should be made to ensure transparency.

Implement science-based project

 Nature restoration should be conducted based upon scientific knowledge, taking into account characteristics of the natural environment in the area and the delicate balance of the ecosystem, as well as nature's ability to recover.

Use adaptive management

• Nature restoration should be undertaken in such a way that, even after a restoration project has begun, the state of nature restoration are monitored, the monitoring results are assessed scientifically, and the assessment results are reflected in the project.

Promote environmental learning

 In view of the importance of public understanding in conservation, arrangements should be made to utilize the nature restoration as a venue for natural environmental learning as it is implemented.

Flow of a nature restoration project in accordance with the Law for the **Promotion of Nature Restoration**

Basic Policy for Nature Restoration

Basic guidelines for comprehensively promoting measures concerning nature restoration

⇒ Formulated by the Government

The Minister of the Environment drafts a policy in consultation with the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport. The draft is then approved by the Cabinet. (The approved policy is renewed approximately every five years.)

Community-based Project Call for restoration by an organizer (e.g., local governments and NPOs) local residents, Participation NPOs, individuals with specialized Organizing a committee knowledge of the natural environment, land owners, concerned Formulating an overall plan for a restoration municipal project (by Committee) governments, concerned Coordination governmental Discussion for drafting an agencies implementation plan (by Committee) Submit to Minister and Implementation Plan Communication and Coordination Partner 1 Governor (Ministry of xxx) Advice Hearing Implementation Plan Opinion Partner 2 Dissem-Committee (Town of ooo) ination of Nature Restoration Implementation Plan **Experts** Partner 3 (NPO) Opinion Nature **Promotion**

Implementation of Nature

Restoration Projects

(by Partners)

Monitoring

Translating monitoring results

into the adjustment

Conference

Communication and coordination to promote

nature restoration (organized by related administrative agencies)

Three ministries, MOE, Ministry of

Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure & Trans-port, together are in charge of the Law

for the Promotion of Nature Restoration.