



Northwestern University students planting seedlings

1 China: Qin Ling Mountains Forest and Ecosystem Recovery Project

The support of one Eco Cardholders (¥500/person) enables us to plant 11 pine seedlings.

The Qin Ling Mountains are a veritable treasure trove of rare wildlife where critically endangered species such as the golden snub-nosed monkey and the giant panda can be found. We are restoring biodiversity to its forests through the afforestation of forest roads that impede the movement of animals and research into the ecology of local flora and fauna. In fiscal 2010, 9,500 pine seedlings were planted along 12km of forest road. We are continuing to study the ecology of the golden snub-nosed monkey.

2 China: Inner Mongolia Afforestation Project

The support of one Eco Card holder (¥500/person) provides environmental education for one elementary school student.

In the autonomous region of Inner Mongolia where desertification is spreading, we are devoting our efforts to the planting of sea buckthorn, an economically valuable crop, and environmental education for local elementary and junior high school students. In fiscal 2010, we had to relocate our seedling center suddenly due to local circumstances, but we have established another center and are continuing our environmental education and afforestation activities.



Original teaching materials are used for environmental education



Looking for evidence of living creatures in snowfields, Hokkaido

3 Japan: Environmental Education Support Project at Schools

The support of 894 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) provides one school with environmental education for one year.

We provide environmental education programs by linking NPOs nationwide that know how to conduct nature programs with schools looking for such expertise and opportunities. In fiscal 2010, we supported environmental programs at nine schools in Japan. By providing a year-long program that encompasses both indoor and outdoor activities throughout the seasons rather than simply a one-off event, we aim to foster a deep understanding in students of the environment that surrounds them.

4 Thailand: Community Forest Map Development in the Northern Mountainous Region of Thailand

The support of 780 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) enables us to map a community forest and create a Village Encyclopedia for one village.

In the northern mountainous region of Thailand, we have been creating the maps required for applications to have government-owned forests restored to "community forests" so that local residents can resume use of the forest to lead sustainable lives. We have also been compiling various information about local villages to create the Village Encyclopedia in conjunction with the map. In fiscal 2010, heavy rain during the rainy season meant that we only managed four of the seven villages targeted, but we were able to expand the scope of our activities and strengthen collaboration with other organizations.



A completed Village Encyclopedia

11 Papua New Guinea: Tropical Rainforest Conservation Project

The support of 7 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) provides one farmer with five days of agricultural training.

In Papua New Guinea, we have been providing guidance in farming technology and promoting its widespread use to enable local residents to earn a stable cash income and maintain self-sufficiency in feeding themselves. In fiscal 2010, in addition to teaching sedentary organic farming at our training center as well as on visits to villages, we provided guidance in the use of rice-milling machines, the making of organic fertilizers (potash) and pig farming. Our efforts are highly valued by the government and we have been accepting trainees with scholarships.



Harvesting rice and retrieval of rice straw

11 Solomon Islands: Tropical Rainforest Conservation Project

The support of 360 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) provides training for one agricultural trainee for one year.

In the Solomon Islands, we have been providing technical guidance and promoting the widespread practice of sedentary organic farming as a means of controlling excessive slash-and-burn agricultural practices and at the same time ensuring local residents earn adequate cash income to enable them to be self-sufficient in feeding themselves. In fiscal 2010, we provided 21 people with one year of training. We also had a Japanese specialist analyze the soil and provided guidance in rice farming techniques. In fiscal 2011, we intend to further improve our training program and continue these activities.



Harvesting rice (by sickle)



Planting seedlings in paper pots

10 Japan: Seed Planting School

The support of one Eco Card holder (¥500/person) enables us to provide six seedlings.

Working under the slogan "Sowing seeds in minds and the earth", we gather tree seeds and seedlings (juvenile trees that have just germinated from seeds), nurture their growth and provide the resulting larger seedlings to people who engage in tree planting. Planting tree species native to any given locality leads to natural revegetation. In fiscal 2010, we provided 8,027 seedlings, including ezomatsu (*Picea jezoensis*) and mizunara (*Quercus crispula*), and a total of 227 people participated in seed and seedling planting workshops.

9 Philippines: Sustainable Farming Support Project

The support of 71 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) provides training in Eri silkworm cultivation for one local woman.

To foster economic independence among women on the island of Palawan in the Philippines, we have been providing training in the cultivation of cassava and silkworms as well as spinning, embroidering and weaving. We have also been training trainers capable of passing on these skills to others. Fiscal 2010 was the final year of this project and we established operating systems for quality control and management as well as sales routes. This should mark the start of a drive toward independence among local women based on their own management.



Local women enjoying the feel of their own hand-spun Eri silk

5 China: Silk Road Afforestation Project 

The support of one Eco Card holder (¥500/person) enables us to plant 31 sea buckthorn seedlings.

Desertification is spreading rapidly along the Silk Road as well as on the Loess Plateau in China. To facilitate planting these areas with sea buckthorn, an economically valuable crop that is well suited to the local climate, we established a seedling center and have been providing local farmers with seedlings. In fiscal 2010, we facilitated the planting of 120,000 seedlings. We were also awarded 2009 Best Partner awards by the China Green Foundation and the China Population Welfare Foundation.

One day these vast mountains will be restored to its natural green splendor



Standing in front of a giant tree in the Shirakami mountains

6 Japan: Noguchi Ken Environmental School 

The support of 178 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) results in the creation of one "environmental messenger."

To foster the development of "environmental messengers" who can take environmental action and communicate their message to the rest of the world, alpinist Noguchi Ken launched the Environmental School and serves as its headmaster. In fiscal 2010, the Environmental School held sessions on Sado Island and in the Shirakami Mountains with the participation of a total of 31 students. On Sado Island, students observed Japanese crested ibis, engaged in agricultural work and nature observation. In the Shirakami Mountains, they learned about the importance of nature from Matagi hunters living in harmony with the mountains.

7 Japan: Satoyama Preservation School (Japan) 

The support of 37 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) enables one elementary school student to receive environmental education and experience rice cultivation in a school's rice field.

The Satoyama Preservation School is an agricultural education program devoted to preserving and regenerating satoyama (small mountain villages) and training young people who will be the custodians of the next generation. The School uses abandoned agricultural land in Izuna, Nagano Prefecture. Farmers in Izuna provide rice seedlings for children to grow in rice fields at urban schools and visit them to provide lessons with the aim of enhancing students' awareness of growing crops for food and the environment. The School also teaches students how to grow grains and organizes tours to promote interaction between people living in farming communities and people living in cities. In fiscal 2010, 164 students at three elementary schools participated in the project.



Harvesting rice at a school rice field

8 Kiribati: South Pacific Countries Support Project 

The support of one Eco Card holder (¥500/person) enables us to plant two mangrove trees.

The low-lying South Pacific island of Kiribati already suffers from rising sea levels, and ocean swells inundate coastal areas. To prevent coastal erosion, we have been planting mangrove trees in partnership with local young people and children. In fiscal 2010, we planted 9,841 mangroves in two phases: in September and again the following February. In fiscal 2011, we will continue this activity in partnership with local citizens.



Previously planted mangrove trees are flourishing

8 Tuvalu: South Pacific Countries Support Project 

With the support of 32 Eco Card holders (¥500/person) we created one environmental education tool and children learned about waste management.

In the South Pacific island of Tuvalu, we have been planting mangrove trees to alleviate coastal erosion, and educating children about waste management. In fiscal 2010, we planted 3,000 mangrove seeds. We also created an educational board game that children can play time and again while learning about waste management. At the request of locals, we also conducted a survey to study the feasibility of planting mangrove trees on other islands. We will begin afforestation activities in new locations from fiscal 2011.

Seed planting



Cosmo Oil Eco Card Fund

Project Introductions


Your donations supported 11 projects in fiscal 2010. We report on our activities with our project partners in Japan and all over the world.

More detailed information can be found on the Cosmo Oil Eco Card Fund website. (Japanese only)

<http://www.cosmo-oil.co.jp/>

Home > Environment > Cosmo Oil Eco Card Fund Activities

 Restoration and preservation of the environment in Japan and overseas

 Education of the next generation

Areas in which projects have been developed

About the Projects

The Cosmo Oil Eco Card Fund carries out Living With Our Planet projects that contribute toward the global environment with the help of holders of Cosmo The Card House Eco (launched in April 2002) and Cosmo The Card Opus Eco (launched in June 2006), who contribute 500 yen per year, as well as with donations from the Cosmo Oil Group. This is the 10th year the Fund has been engaging in such activities.

