Involvement with Local Communities

The Kubota Group respects the cultures and customs of each country and region in which it conducts business, and endeavors to establish relationships of trust with local communities. Moreover, Kubota proactively engages in social contribution activities in order to fulfill its responsibilities as a corporate citizen.

The Kubota e-Project

Social Contribution Activities in the Areas of Food, Water, and the Environment

Kubota launched the Kubota e-Project in FY2008 in an effort to contribute to society in the areas of food, water, and the environment. Kubota promises to continue to support the prosperous life of humans while protecting the environment of this beautiful earth. Based on this commitment, Kubota seeks the understanding and cooperation of its stakeholders as it contributes to the creation of a sustainable society.

Kubota e-Project (only in Japanese)
www.kubota.co.jp/epro/

Supporting Citizen Activities

Mainichi Earth Future Prize

In the field of food, water, and the environment, Kubota admires individuals and groups working on solutions to social issues at the grass-roots level in Japan and overseas, and sponsors activities that honor them publicly. Kubota has continued to sponsor the Mainichi Earth Future Prize, which began as the Mainichi International Exchange Prize in 1989. Since its renaming in 2011, a total of 716 individuals and groups have applied for the prize.
Solving Social Issues

**Supporting the Regeneration of Abandoned Farmland**

Kubota supports efforts to regenerate abandoned farmland across Japan with the use of agricultural machinery.

There are approximately 400,000 hectares* of abandoned farmland in Japan.

* From the 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry, Vol. 2, Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities Survey Report (Summary)

**Preserving Terraced Rice Fields**

With the aim of better understanding agriculture so that we can engage in manufacturing from the perspective of our customers, Kubota participates in a program to manage the Ishibatake terraced rice paddies in the town of Motegi in Tochigi Prefecture. The paddies are listed in the 100 Terraced Rice Fields of Japan, as designated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

**Employment of People with Disabilities and Utilizing Idle Farmland for Hydroponic Cultivation: Kubota Sun-Vege Farm Co., Ltd.**

This company was established in February 2010 as a special subsidiary of the Kubota Group.

Today, in addition to supplying safe and reliable food of good quality, agriculture also plays the important, in fact critical, role for society of protecting the natural environment of rural communities. In this context, the company is utilizing unused farmland in the Minamikawachi District of Osaka Prefecture to produce and sell hydroponic vegetables. Through this business, the company has created employment for people with disabilities, and is striving to create a workplace environment in which employees with disabilities can work with enthusiasm.

The company currently employs 16 people with disabilities.

**Forest Conservation**

**Kubota Forest**

Beginning with Kubota’s sponsorship of the forest conservation activities of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, we have named a 2.89ha lot of watershed forest managed by the Tokyo Waterworks Bureau as “Kubota Forest.”

Since 2017 new employees have been engaged in the clearing of land, grass cutting, and tree planting.
Educating the Next Generation

Kubota Active Lab
Kubota Active Lab provides participating high school students the opportunity to independently learn about topics concerning food, water, and the environment. Kubota has sponsored this program since 1985, with close to 2,000 students taking part thus far.

The topic of Kubota Active Lab in 2019 was “Why do humans seek to explore space?” Astronaut Mamoru Mohri and Naohiko Kohtake of Keio University delivered lectures that examined the role space exploration can play in the context of the SDGs.

First up, Professor Kohtake talked about how space technology can contribute to the SDGs with a lecture entitled “Space Tech for SDGs.” Dr. Mohri then discussed the importance of wisdom in terms of how humans can survive comfortably in our limited global environment with a speech entitled “10 billion People Challenging Space.”

The participating high school students listened with great interest about the enormous potential of space exploration.

Kubota TERRA-KOYA Summer Camp
Kubota sponsors the “TERRA-KOYA” summer camp, which enables children to experience the abundance of nature as well as learn about the importance of the global environment. Since this program began in 2007, a total of 268 children have participated.

Programs to Support Science Career Choices
Kubota provides opportunities to junior high school and high school students that support career pathways in the sciences (mainly through Kansai Kagakujuku) by offering experiences to operate agricultural machinery and attend lectures and panel discussions run by Kubota engineers.

Visiting Lectures
This program provides opportunities for young people from elementary school through to junior high school and high school to learn about farm machinery, water purification systems, and other issues related to food, water, and the environment.

Kubota Genki Agriculture Experience Workshop
This program aims to deepen understanding of agriculture and help promote the education of artistic sentiment through the experience of growing rice, including rice transplanting, harvesting, and the tasting of harvested rice.
Basketball Clinic for Elementary and Junior High School Students

Since 2017 Kubota has collaborated with the professional basketball team Osaka Evessa* to invite students from elementary and junior high schools in Naniwa Ward, where its Head Office is located, to basketball games. The aim of this project is to help children develop a healthy mind and body by directly communicating the excitement and pleasure of sports.

* Osaka Evessa is the only Osaka-based team competing in the B.League, the men’s professional basketball league in Japan.

[Past contributions]
2017 360 tickets
2018 400 tickets
2019 133 tickets and basketball clinic

In 2019 the coach of Osaka Evessa was kind enough to run a basketball clinic for elementary and junior high school students in Naniwa Ward in the Kubota Head Office gymnasium. Participants in the clinic also received tickets to see Osaka Evessa’s game later that same day.

Irrespective of any basketball experience, all of the children had a lot of fun learning how to dribble and shoot. They later watched an Osaka Evessa game at a gymnasium in Naniwa Ward.

Regional Exchanges

Kubota e-Day
Kubota employees volunteer to take part in regional community beautification and cleanup activities. Since 2008, when company-wide involvement started, approximately 8,000 people have participated in this program each year.

Japan Cup Cycle Road Race
In the Japan Cup Cycle Road Race, held each year in Utsunomiya, the employees of three Kubota Group companies in Tochigi Prefecture (Kubota Utsunomiya Plant, Kubota ChemiX Co. Tochigi Plant, and Kubota Air Conditioner Tochigi Plant) assist with sentry duties during the race and clean-up activities afterward.
Managing the Rugby League Team Kubota Spears, Contributing to the Spread of Rugby and Promotion of SDGs through Rugby

Kubota is part of the Japan Rugby Top League, the top rugby league in Japan, and manages the Kubota Spears, a rugby team based in Funabashi, Chiba. Having concluded a home town agreement with Funabashi City in 2017, the team aims to foster the adoration of the community through teaching and promoting rugby and proactively participating in local events. The team also promotes the SDGs through rugby.

Disseminating and coaching rugby in regional areas by participating in Rice Paddy Rugby tournament

Crime Prevention Patrol Running undertaken by the players

Kubota Spears Official Website (only in Japanese)
www.kubota-spears.com/
Participating in “Rice Paddy Rugby” in Various Areas
Since they created “Rice Paddy Rugby,” the Kubota Spears have been participating in competitions nationwide to promote rugby and stimulate community activities.

“Rice Paddy Rugby” started in Fukuchiyama, Kyoto in 2015, and is now played throughout Japan. Rice Paddy Rugby events are held before the paddies are planted, from April to June.

[Participation in 2019]
Sunday, April 21 Rice Paddy Rugby in Ukiha (Ukiha, Fukuoka)
Saturday, May 11 Rice Paddy Rugby in Mima (Mima, Tokushima)
Sunday, May 19 Rice Paddy Rugby in Fukuchiyama
(Fukuchiyama, Kyoto)
Saturday, June 1 Teganuma Rice Paddy Rugby (Kashiwa, Chiba)
Sunday, June 9 Rice Paddy Rugby in Soja (Soja, Okayama)

Players in the 2019 Rugby World Cup

PIETER “LAPPIES” LABUSCHAGNE
Position: Flanker
Height/Weight: 189 cm/106 kg
Country of origin: South Africa
Appeared in all five matches representing Japan, served as Game Captain in the matches against Ireland and Samoa

DUANE VERMEULEN
(Left Kubota Spears in May 2020)
Position: Number 8
Height/Weight: 193 cm/118 kg
Country of origin: South Africa
Helped the South African team win the cup as a representative of South Africa
Selected as Player of the Match in the final match
Overseas Activities to Contribute to Society

Donating Toys to Children
Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc. (United States) collects toys and money each year to donate underprivileged children. As of 2019, this program had provided $200,000 to approximately 20,000 children.

Participation in Community Volunteer Activities
Kubota Tractor Corporation (US) collaborates with community volunteer groups with various activities such as tree planting and lakeside clean up.

Support for Well Construction
In order to reduce the number of people without access to safe water as much as possible, the Kubota Group is working to provide local support through NGOs that have been active in Asian countries for many years. Through these efforts, six wells had been completed by 2018.

Supporting the Young Farming Generation
SIAM KUBOTA Corporation Co., Ltd. (Thailand) is helping younger-generation farmers to become more knowledgeable about farming, fostering their motivation to take up farming by instilling a positive attitude, teaching them various skills, and more.

Cooperation in Rural Community Development Programs
Kubota Agricultural Machinery India Pvt. Ltd. has a cooperative arrangement with a local Rotary Club to regenerate wells for household water use, and to install facilities for water treatment to produce potable water.

Park Restoration
Kubota Agricultural Machinery (Suzhou) Co., Ltd. (China) repaired broken facilities and renewed mats and other items at a park in a residential area near the business site.
Donating Books for Children
Kubota Agricultural Machinery (Suzhou) Co., Ltd. (China) donates books for children to provide the children in its neighborhoods with opportunities to read books.

[Number of books donated]
2016 300 books
2017 144 books

Environmental Education for Elementary School Students
PT. Kubota Indonesia (Indonesia) conducts environmental education through environmental activities such as donating LED lamps for local elementary schools.

[Number of lamps donated]
2016 500 lamps
2017 420 lamps

Donating School Bags to Children
SIAM KUBOTA Corporation Co., Ltd. (Thailand) donated school bags with Kubota logos on them to children living in Thailand and neighboring countries.

[Number of Bags Donated]
Thailand: 47,000 bags
Cambodia: 20,000 bags
Laos: 9,000 bags

Drawing Contests for Elementary School Students
Kubota Farm Machinery Europe S.A.S. (France) has hosted two drawing contests for nearby elementary school students.

The recent contest had the theme of “agriculture.” The submitted works were displayed within the plant, and employees voted for the best drawings. Winners were presented with award certificates and prizes at the school end-of-year ceremony.

Donation of a Tractor to an Agricultural Technical College
Kubota Farm Machinery Europe S.A.S. (France) donated an M7 tractor to a local agricultural technical college in 2017, with the goal of providing an opportunity for young technicians to study the latest technologies featured on tractors. The company has built an ongoing relationship with the technical college, including accepting students for internships.
Support for Rejuvenation and Reconstruction of Areas Affected by Natural Disasters

The Great East Japan Earthquake

Supporting the Youth, Bearers of the Future, through Farming
—Cooperating with Rice Farming at Agricultural High Schools in Miyagi and Fukushima

As part of efforts towards reconstruction after the Great East Japan Earthquake, Kubota supports the youth who will play a role in Tohoku’s agricultural industry in the future. At Miyagi Agricultural High School and Fukushima Iwaki Agricultural High School, Kubota helps with practical rice farming using the approach of directly sowing iron-coated seeds.* Kubota hopes to contribute to the reconstruction of the disaster-affected areas and the development of strong human resources by imparting the latest cultivation technologies.

* Directly sowing iron-coated seeds: As opposed to the conventional method of growing rice from seedlings, this cultivation technology involves directly planting rice seeds coated with iron powder in the field.

Supporting the Youth, Bearers of the Future, through Farming
—Implementing Agricultural Machinery Maintenance Training and Special Lectures with Trial Rides

Since 2018, we have conducted agricultural machinery maintenance training and special lectures with trial rides for advanced technical schools in disaster-stricken areas. Each year, around 40 students participate.

By having students actually see and touch the latest agricultural machinery, they are provided with opportunities to learn about agriculture and agricultural machinery.
Supporting the Youth, Bearers of the Future, through Farming
—JENESYS 2018 Japan-ASEAN Students Conference

Kubota received a request from the secretariat of the JENESYS 2018 Japan-ASEAN Students Conference, one of the “Japan’s Friendship Ties Programs” promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, to facilitate exchanges between young people and farmers helping the recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake. We responded by holding an observation event at the Miyagi Prefecture Agriculture High School and Mitazono Farm, which is run by graduates of the school.

Providing Soup and Bread to People in Disaster Areas

Students from Miyagi Prefecture Agricultural High, to which the Kubota Group has been providing technical support and the like since the earthquake, provided original-recipe soup at a memorial service held at the Yuriage Elementary and Junior High School in Natori, Miyagi Prefecture. The soup used whitebait caught near Natori, which is the northernmost limit for catching the fish.

On the day of the event, Kubota dispatched employees as volunteers to help run the event. At the same time, as part of the initiative to establish ties between disaster-affected areas, Kubota distributed brown rice bread made by Nakakyushu Kubota using rice produced in Kumamoto Prefecture.

For more information (only in Japanese)
www.kubota.co.jp/kubotainfo/index140.html
Support for Disaster-stricken Areas throughout Japan

In the area along the Chikuma River in Nagano Prefecture, a total of 128 people, mainly new employees, undertook volunteer activities. The area along the river is home to farmers, many of them customers of Kubota, who were affected when 70 m of embankments were destroyed by Typhoon No. 19. The volunteers tried to help them recover as much as possible by removing mud from apple orchards and homes that were affected by the disaster, as well as cleaning up houses.

Thinking that the residents of the affected area might be cheered through rugby, the Kubota Spears held a “Rice Paddy Rugby” event in areas struggling in the aftermath of the 2018 floods in western Japan.

As prizes at events (such as summer festivals) sponsored by business sites in the Kubota Group, delicacies from stricken areas were served.

For more information (only in Japanese)

www.kubota.co.jp/kubotainfo/index141.html
Kubota Group’s Products Playing a Part in Reconstruction Support

Various Kubota Group products are being used in the restoration, recovery and community development of disaster-stricken areas. Examples include the restoration of water supply and sewage lines, the construction of pipelines and the treatment of effluent for temporary housing, and the restoration of agricultural water.

Ductile iron pipe (used in the restoration and maintenance of lifelines, such as water supplies, sewage lines, and gas lines)

Plastic pipes (used in the restoration and maintenance of lifelines, such as water supplies, sewage lines, and gas lines)

Pumps (used for emergency drainage as a countermeasure for flooding caused by heavy rainfall and high tides)

Valves (used in the restoration and maintenance of lifelines, such as water supplies, sewage lines, and gas lines, by controlling liquids and gases)

Water treatment plant (used to purify wastewater, including residential and industrial sewage)

Wastewater treatment tanks (used to process wastewater from temporary housing in regions with insufficient sewage lines)

Spiral welded steel pipes (used as foundation piles in a variety of structures, such as bridge foundations, ports, rivers, and building foundations)

Construction machinery (used for removing debris and various civil engineering work)

Truck scales (used to weigh truck cargo, such as debris)

Manhole pumps (for pneumatic transportation of sewage)

Response to disasters (only in Japanese)

www.kubota.co.jp/message/
Response to Asbestos Issues

Kubota takes very seriously the fact that some residents living in proximity of the former Kanzaki Plant and employees working at the plant have developed asbestos-related diseases. From the perspective of fulfilling our social responsibility as a company that previously handled asbestos, we will continue to address this issue with the utmost sincerity.

Regarding the residents living nearby, without particular regard for individual cause-and-effect relationships, Kubota established the Regulations for Payment of Relief Funds to Sufferers of Asbestos-related Diseases and their Families Living in Proximity of the Former Kanzaki Plant. This is in addition to the Act on Asbestos Health Damage Relief, which was enacted by the Japanese government and provides relief funds in order to alleviate, even marginally, the hardship and mental burden of the people receiving treatment and their families.

For details please see: www.kubota.co.jp/kanren/ (Only in Japanese)