

International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan

Pre-event Sustainability Report (Summary Version)

Created in September 2026

Japan Association for the International
Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama



Summary of the Pre-event Sustainability Report

The Pre-event Sustainability Report for the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan (GREEN × EXPO 2027) (hereinafter, “the EXPO”) is the first of three sustainability reports that the Japan Association for the International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama (hereinafter, the “Association”) plans to submit to the International Association of Horticultural Producers (Association Internationale des Producteurs de l’Horticulture (AIPH)).



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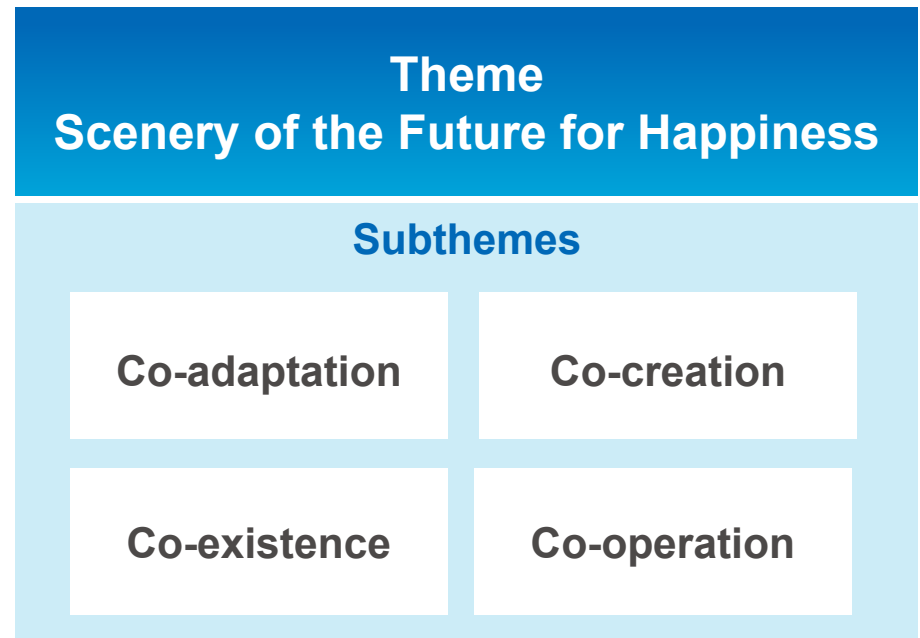
1 About the EXPO

■ Purpose

The EXPO is an A-1 class international horticultural exhibition, held with the approval of AIPH and recognition from the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE). Through engaging with flowers and greenery, it aims to propose the creation of a sustainable and happier society that coexists with nature and to send a message of friendship and peace towards the future from Yokohama.

■ Theme

The theme of the EXPO embodies a vision for society where each individual sows seeds of happiness in his/her own mind, fosters them through interactions with other people and the environment, so that both individuals and the entire community bloom like a flower bed, full of vitality, and thereby increase their affluence.



1 About the EXPO

■ Overview of the EXPO

Name	International Horticultural Expo 2027, Yokohama, Japan
Abbreviation	GREEN×EXPO 2027
Location	Yokohama, Kanagawa
Duration	19 March 2027 (Friday) –26 September 2027 (Sunday); 192 days
Theme	Scenery of the Future for Happiness
Expo Area	Approximately 100 hectares (80 hectares for the main event area)
Classification	A1 (Highest) Class (Approved by AIPH and recognised by BIE)
Number of Paying Visitors	Over 10 million
Official Website	https://expo2027yokohama.or.jp/en/



Official Mascot
Tunku Tunku

1 About the EXPO

■ Progress of Preparations

To achieve the sustainability of the EXPO, the Association will be the frontrunner in leading actions, and urge various suppliers and supply chains involved in the operation to comply with the Code of Sustainable Procurement (hereinafter, “the Procurement Code”) and operational guidelines so that all stakeholders of the EXPO will be able to work together in unity.

The EXPO will host projects run by officially participating governments and international organisations, centred upon gardens and ornamental plant exhibits/competitions. It will also encourage the active participation of diverse entities such as businesses, local governments, and citizens toward the realisation of its themes.



2 Sustainability

■ Significance of the EXPO and Sustainability

In light of global challenges that have become increasingly significant in recent years, such as climate change and biodiversity loss, the EXPO aims to re-evaluate the values Japan has fostered and apply them to the development of a sustainable society.

The year 2027, in which the EXPO will be held, comes shortly before 2030, the target year for achieving the SDGs, and is also regarded as a time when discussions on the post-SDGs era will begin in earnest. Against this backdrop, the EXPO will inherit the legacy of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan and communicate messages toward the post-SDGs era.

■ Sustainability Journey

	Policy, etc.	Date Issued
①	Sustainability Strategy	March 2024
②	Sustainability Implementation Plan	
③	Sustainability Education Plan	March 2025
④	Sustainability Communications and Engagement (C&E) Plan	
⑤	Resource Circulation Policy	

2 Sustainability

■ Sustainability Advisory Committee

In connection with the formulation of the strategies and plans and the promotion of sustainability initiatives, the Sustainability Advisory Committee was established in October 2023. The Committee, which is composed of experts in relevant fields, is convened twice a year in principle. The committee deliberates on and reviews opinions and proposals from professional perspectives concerning the wide-ranging and interrelated sustainability initiatives of the EXPO. The results of these deliberations are reflected in the Association's plans and initiatives.

■ Establishment of ESMS and acquisition of ISO 20121 certification

An Event Sustainability Management System (ESMS) is a mechanism for the integrated management of the environmental, social and economic impacts of an event, and for ensuring appropriate operation through the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle in order to achieve its sustainability targets.

The Association obtained ISO 20121:2024 certification in June 2026.



Presentation of certificate

■ Sustainability Basic Policies, Goals and Objectives

Based on ALPH regulations and related requirements, the Sustainability Strategy sets out the Basic Policies (Appendix 1), five goals and 12 objectives. It also establishes key performance indicators (KPIs) corresponding to these goals and objectives, with progress management on an annual basis (Appendix 2).

As the goals and objectives are interrelated, initiatives will be promoted in a manner that minimises trade-offs among initiatives and generates synergies.

Basic Policies	1 Human rights, 2 Labour, 3 Anti-corruption, 4 Diversity & inclusion, 5 Accessibility, and 6 Environment
5 Goals	1 Climate Action, 2 Biodiversity conservation, 3 Sustainable sourcing and resource management, 4 Equity & inclusion, and 5 Education & awareness raising
12 Objectives	1 Biodiversity, 2 Water, 3 Carbon, 4 Energy, 5 Pollution, 6 Waste & Dismantlement, 7 Contractors & Construction, 8 Design, 9 Transport, 10 International Participants, 11 Sustainable Events Operations & Management, and 12 Legacy

2 Sustainability (1) Climate Action

Key Initiatives

Promotion of 100% Renewable Energy Procurement

For electricity used at the venue, environmentally responsible measures are being implemented wherever feasible. These include procuring electricity generated entirely from renewable energy sources and promoting local production for local consumption through the use of electricity generated within the prefecture.

Heat Mitigation Measures

The EXPO will take advantage of the site's unique yato (valley) topography, natural springs, and existing woodlands to create a pleasant environment that encourages natural airflow and helps alleviate summer heat. In addition to shaded green spaces and waterside areas, water refill stations and indoor rest facilities will be located throughout the venue, enabling visitors and staff to stay comfortable and safe even during periods of high summer temperatures.

“Tree Transport” Project: “Midori Bin®” (Green Delivery)

In March 2026, when trees from the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan venue were relocated to the EXPO site, rail transportation was utilised in collaboration with co-creation partners through Green Delivery®, an environmentally conscious tree transportation.

The relocated trees will be clearly signposted as demonstration examples of decarbonisation through modal shift.

GREEN × EXPO 2027
wrapped container



2 Sustainability (2) Biodiversity Conservation

Key Initiatives

Venue Planning that Integrates the Natural Environment

In planning the venue, the Association has carefully assessed the site's environmental characteristics and aims to create a venue that makes full use of its natural capital, including the ridge line that once formed the border between the former Musashi and Sagami provinces, the north–south flow of water, prevailing wind patterns, and existing woodland.

Implementation of green infrastructure

Bioswales will be installed throughout the EXPO venue to collect rainwater and allow it to infiltrate gradually into the ground. As a form of green infrastructure, bioswales not only help mitigate urban flooding by reducing stormwater runoff, but also improve water quality through natural filtration by vegetation and soil. By harnessing the multiple functions of natural ecosystems, bioswales contribute to the protection of local ecosystems and the conservation of biodiversity.

Conservation of Natural Capital

The Aizawa River area within the venue comprises the Aizawa River, which flows through the former Kamiseya Communication Facility, together with adjacent agricultural land. It will be preserved and carried forward as a key element of natural capital within the future park. As the first EXPO for Expos in Japan, the farmland cultivated during the EXPO will be restored and retained after the event, preserving the traditional yato landscape of rice paddies and agricultural fields as a lasting legacy.



Scenic View of the Aizawa River (Image)

Key Initiatives

GX House (reuse-type architecture)

Temporary structures within the EXPO venue will be developed under the concept of “GREEN Circular Architecture”, making active use of leased components and recyclable materials. The initiative aims to eliminate waste throughout the building lifecycle, from material procurement and construction to use, dismantling and reuse, thereby promoting resource circulation and reducing environmental impacts.

To realise GREEN Circular Architecture, the Association has launched the GX House programme, a reusable-building service, and certified 10 companies as GX House Suppliers.

Circulation of Flowers and Greenery

Flowers, seedlings and other plants removed during replanting will be distributed to visitors or reused at public facilities. Plant residues generated during the EXPO will be composted to support the continued circulation of regional biomass resources beyond the event period.

“Wearable Circulation” Social Demonstration Project

In collaboration with its co-creation partner, Team P-FACTS, a proof of concept (PoC) will be implemented, involving uniforms for more than 10,000 volunteers, operational staff and other personnel, all made from Plant-First bio-based materials. The initiative is designed to demonstrate a circular resource flow encompassing the entire lifecycle of the uniforms—from use and collection to composting and resource circulation as a visible and tangible experience for visitors.

Attendant staff and volunteer uniforms



2 Sustainability (4) Equity and Inclusion

Key Initiatives

Implementation of accessibility

The Accessibility Implementation Plan was formulated in April 2026 as an internal framework for promoting accessibility across the EXPO. The Association is committed to advancing seamless accessibility through an integrated approach that combines both physical infrastructure and service measures, enabling all visitors to engage with the flowers and greenery that are central to the EXPO and to enjoy its diverse exhibitions and activities.

Status of labour-related initiatives

The Association requires parties seeking to enter into contracts, participate as exhibitors, or engage in other activities to submit the "Implementation of Actions to Ensure Sustainability" checklist. The checklist includes items related to human rights and labour, and requires compliance with internationally recognised labour standards and respect for internationally recognised human rights.

“Inclusion” and “I” Project

The Association is implementing the “Inclusion” and “I” Project, an initiative to promote women’s empowerment and gender equality. The project is founded on the concept of encouraging each individual to embrace Inclusion as a personal commitment—their own “I”. In March 2026, in conjunction with International Women’s Day and one year before the opening of the EXPO, the Association hosted an event and communicated its commitment to carrying forward the legacy of women’s empowerment and gender equality from Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan to the EXPO.



Event for International Women’s Day

2 Sustainability (5) Education & Awareness Raising

Key Initiatives

Flower and Greenery Co-creation Promotion Council

In February 2026, the Association convened the 4th meeting of the Council, bringing together member organisations of the Council and exhibitors participating in the flower and greenery exhibitions. During the meeting, ten exhibitors presented their plans for both outdoor and indoor exhibits, providing an opportunity to share ideas and promote collaboration among participants.

Use of the Official Website and Social Media

The Association communicates information through its official website and social media platforms, including Instagram, Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), YouTube, and LinkedIn. In particular, the EXPO's Instagram account shares seasonal flowers, parks in Yokohama, and promotional activities related to the EXPO events, and has attracted more than 80,000 followers.

Education Programme Concept Book

A concept book was published in November 2024 with the aim of fostering children's ability to think independently and encouraging imagination, while providing opportunities to inspire new values and behavioural change.



Refill Circular Project

This project was launched by the Association in collaboration with related organisations to address extreme heat, one of the most significant risks facing the EXPO, from the perspectives of science, environment, and circularity, while showcasing the “Yokohama Model”, a next-generation approach to urban management, to the international community. The Yokohama Model will be disseminated by the conclusion of the Expo.

3 Contribution to the Achievement of the SDGs

■ Contribution to the SDGs

The EXPO will serve as a platform for “contributing to the achievement of the SDGs and for presenting Japan’s model for society thereafter.” Following the EXPO, further efforts will be made to build upon its results. These include: conveying to the world the wisdom and actions for living in harmony with the environment in order to fulfil the function of realising and mainstreaming Japan’s model for attaining the SDGs and realising a green society; and conveying scenes of friendship, peace, and sustainable urban development to people in Japan and abroad as an emblematic precedent for the peaceful use of a former U.S. military installation after World War II.

■ Approaches to Achieving the SDGs

Sustainability Objectives	SDG Goal
1 Climate Action	  
2 Biodiversity conservation	 
3 Sustainable sourcing and resource management	       
4 Equity & inclusion	    
5 Education & awareness raising	  