

# Ishikawa Prefecture Comprehensive Environmental Plan

## — Abridged Edition —



### The Ishikawa Prefecture Comprehensive Environmental Plan (September 2022)

There have been major changes in recent years when it comes to environmental conservation in Ishikawa, including revisions to the Plan for Global Warming Countermeasures to make carbon-neutrality a reality by 2050, as well as the selection of the Noto region as a candidate site for releasing Japanese crested ibises into the wild.

In response to this, the Ishikawa prefectural government has revised the Ordinance to Nurture the Environment of Our Home Ishikawa, and has officially redoubled efforts in cooperation with various organizations to achieve carbon-neutrality and return the Japanese crested ibis to the local natural environment. In addition, the prefectural government has revised the relevant portions of the Comprehensive Environmental Plan established in March 2020, including global environmental conservation, and coexistence between humans and nature. Note that, because this is a partial revision of the plan, the plan still applies to the same six-year period as before: 2020–2025.



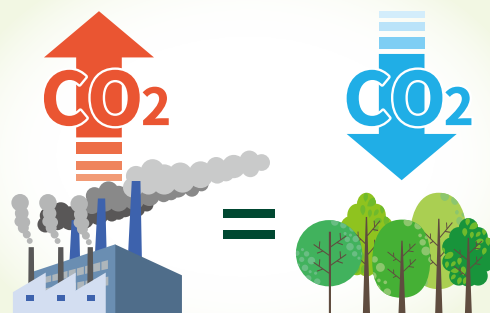
Ishikawa Prefecture

# Global Environmental Conservation

On September 1, 2022, Governor Hase of Ishikawa Prefecture issued the Declaration of a Carbon-Neutral Ishikawa.

## Carbon-Neutrality

Subtracting the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> absorbed by forests and other natural environments from the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> generated by everyday life and business activities, to achieve net-zero CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.



## Target for the Environment

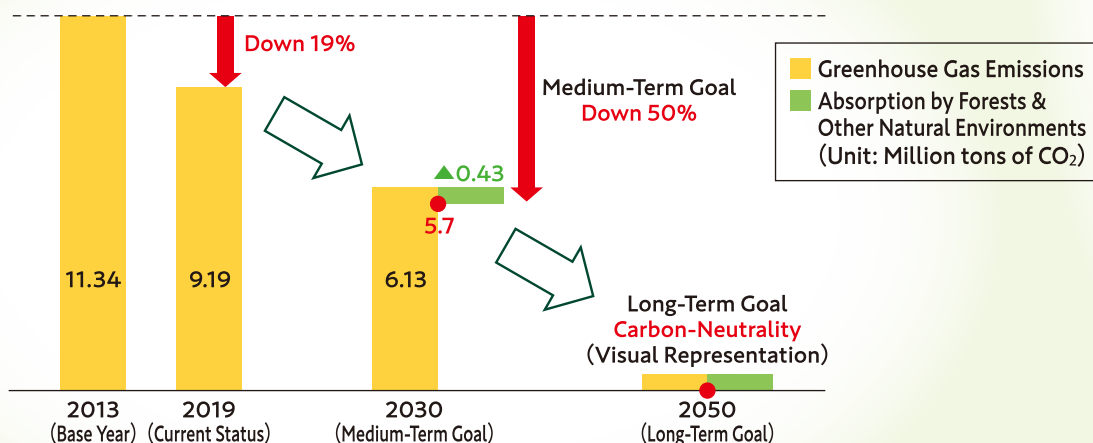
### 1 Reducing Greenhouse Gases Emitted by the People and Businesses of the Prefecture

Long-Term Goal

**Achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions (carbon-neutrality) in the prefecture by 2050.**

Medium-Term Goal

**Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% (compared to 2013) by FY 2030.**



### Emissions and Reduction Targets by Sector

Unit: Million Tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

Sector	①FY 2013 (Base Year)	②FY 2019 (Current Status)	Reductions (①→②)	③FY 2030 (Medium-Term Goal)	Reductions (①→③)
Household Sector	2.63	1.86	▲29%	0.88	▲66%
Business Sector	2.70	1.84	▲32%	1.32	▲51%
Industrial Sector	2.29	2.02	▲12%	1.43	▲38%
Transportation Sector	2.47	2.29	▲7%	1.61	▲35%
Other	1.25	1.16	▲7%	0.89	▲29%
Absorption by Forests	—	—	—	▲0.43	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.34</b>	<b>9.19</b>	<b>▲19%</b>	<b>5.70</b>	<b>▲50%</b>

# Policy Overview and Guidelines

## Fundamental Concepts

- We shall encourage understanding carbon-neutrality, and putting it into practice, among the people of Ishikawa.
- We shall promote energy conservation with an eye on the health of the people of Ishikawa, and promote adoption of renewable energy while maintaining harmony between the natural environment, local scenery, and living environments.
- We shall proactively promote efforts based on the unique characteristics of Ishikawa, which has an unusually high proportion of greenhouse gas emissions from the household and transportation sectors compared to Japan as a whole.

Ishikawa Prefecture	<b>Household 23.2%</b>	Business 23.0%	Industrial 25.2%	<b>Transportation 28.6%</b>
Japan	<b>Household 16.9%</b>	Business 20.5%	Industrial 40.8%	<b>Transportation 21.8%</b>

CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions by Sector for Ishikawa and Japan as a Whole (FY 2019)

## Reference Information

<b>Household Sector</b>	Homes account for a large portion of greenhouse gas emissions, and adoption of solar panels has been slow due to the prevailing misconception that Ishikawa gets relatively few hours of sunlight. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Annual Hours of Sunlight: National average 1,990 hours; Ishikawa 1,896 hours</li> <li>● Adoption of solar power: National average 4.1%; Ishikawa 2.7%</li> </ul> The rate of zero-energy house (ZEH*) adoption is far below the national average, because houses in Ishikawa tend to be larger in terms of floor space, and the cold climate leads to a need for high-performance insulation, which in turn makes construction expensive.
<b>Transportation Sector</b>	High average per-household private vehicle ownership (1.5/household, compared to nationwide average of 1.0/household)

- We shall also promote further efforts in the industrial sector, which has high emissions.
- We shall work to develop a trend toward the establishment of low-carbon lifestyles and businesses, and put initiatives into practice.
- This will also contribute to building a social virtuous cycle between the environment and the economy, and to achieving the SDGs.

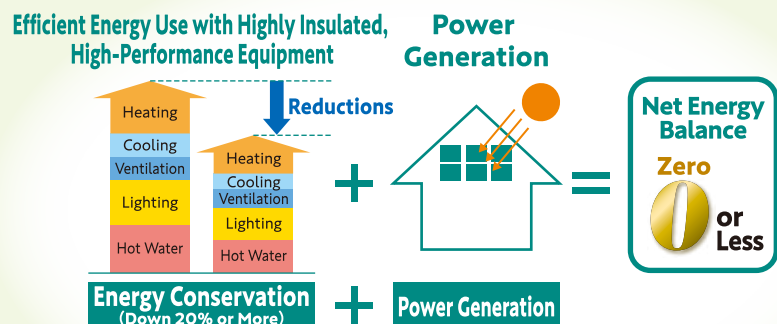
## Household Sector

### Encouraging the Adoption of Energy-Conserving Housing Suited to Ishikawa

- We shall promote zero-energy house (ZEH) adoption through efforts to train ZEH advisors, and to improve Ishikawa Eco-House functionality.
- We shall provide support for new ZEH construction and energy-conserving renovations.



Ishikawa Eco-House model house



ZEH\* Concept Diagram

\*Abbreviation of “(net) zero-energy house,” to refer to houses that achieve net-zero annual energy balance by conserving energy and generating power.

### Developing a Trend toward the Establishment of Low-Carbon Lifestyles

- We have designated October 10 as Ishikawa Zero-Carbon Day, and engaged in various educational efforts, such as encouraging the people and businesses of Ishikawa to turn off unneeded lights.
- Through the Ishikawa Eco App, we encourage people to act in eco-friendly ways, such as by rewarding points for eco-friendly lifestyle choices.



Ishikawa Eco App

## Transportation Sector

### Promoting Eco-Friendlier Vehicles

- We support the adoption of electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles, and fuel cell vehicles.
- We are working to develop hydrogen fueling stations.



Electric Vehicles



Kanazawa Port

### Promoting Eco-Friendlier Professional Driving

- We encourage businesses to engage in eco-friendlier driving, through workplace certifications, workshops, and awards for businesses with outstanding eco-friendly driving.

### Promoting the Development of Carbon-Neutral Ports

- We encourage carbon footprint reductions in ports and waterfront areas (Kanazawa and Nanao Ports), which are major greenhouse gas emitters.

## Business & Industrial Sectors

### Raising Awareness toward Eco-Friendly Business Activities

- We support expanded registration of businesses' environmental management systems.
- We support the adoption of energy-saving equipment and seminars on energy conservation.

### Providing Support Based on Businesses' Circumstances

- We send out experts to provide energy conservation guidance and suggestions.
- We provide information on zero-energy buildings (ZEB) and other best practices.

### Encouraging the Development of Eco-Friendly Products and Services by Ishikawa Companies

- We use the Ishikawa Ecodesign Award, and certifications of eco-friendly and recycled products made in Ishikawa, to encourage the development of eco-friendly products and services.
- We encourage R&D in carbon-neutrality-related fields, including hydrogen power and offshore wind power.



Energy Conservation Seminar



Ishikawa Ecodesign Awards

## Other Efforts

### Promoting Reductions in Plastic Waste

- We promote reductions in single-use disposable plastic such as shopping bags, through agreements with supermarkets, drug stores, and other businesses.

### Environmental Education and Hands-On Nature Experiences

- We take advantage of environmental learning opportunities, such as local production of renewable energy sources like hydrogen at Shunran-no-Sato for local consumption.

### Encouraging Adoption of Renewable Energy

- We encourage the introduction of renewable energy designed to harmonize with Ishikawa's rich natural environment, beautiful scenery, and human living environments.



### Promoting Eco-Friendly Farming

- We promote the adoption of eco-friendly farming techniques, such as extending the dry-ground period of rice farming in order to reduce methane emissions from rice fields.

### Promoting Efforts to Reduce Food Waste

- We are working to encourage people to avoid food waste.
- We promote food drives to collect donations of food from households, and publicize private organizations' food bank efforts.



Waste Reduction Market

## 2 Absorption and Fixation of CO<sub>2</sub> through Tree-Planting, Existing Forests, and Forestry

Target for the Environment

430,000 Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> Absorbed by Forests Annually, by FY 2030

### Maintaining and Conserving Diverse, Healthy Forests

- We promote cyclic usage of forest resources through the appropriate management and conservation of forests, as well as through harvesting of older trees and reforestation.

### Encouraging Use of Lumber from Ishikawa

- We subsidize the use of lumber from Ishikawa, to encourage the use of local lumber in houses and private-sector facilities.

### Promoting Forest Absorption Credits

- We publicize the J-Credit Scheme to forestry business operators.



High-Performance Forestry Equipment

## 3 Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions by the Prefectural Government

Target for the Environment

Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 60% (Compared to 2013) by FY 2030

### Proactive Adoption of Renewable Energy and Energy-Conserving Equipment

- We are installing solar panels where possible at prefecturally-owned facilities.
- We are converting lighting to use LEDs.
- Whenever possible, new official vehicles are eco-friendly models.
- When building new facilities, we aim to make them zero-energy-ready and use renewable energy sources whenever possible.
- We shall procure electric power from renewable energy sources.



Fuel Cell Vehicle



Solar Panels

## Promotional Structure

We have established the Citizens' Council to Promote a Carbon-Neutral Ishikawa, consisting of the prefectural government, local municipal governments, and other related organizations. The Council shares information on current situations and directions to proceed in, to be adapted into concrete practice.

# Coexistence between Humans and Nature

## Target for the Environment

Our goal is to bring back the natural environment of half a century ago, when the Japanese crested ibis still lived in the wild. Through restoration and conservation efforts by the prefectural government, we aim to reintroduce the Japanese crested ibis to the wild, and to pass on this desirable local environment to the next generation.

## Policy Overview and Guidelines

### Working to Reintroduce Wild Japanese Crested Ibises to the Noto Region

- We shall perform habitat surveys for animals that would serve as food sources for the Japanese crested ibis.
- We shall maintain feeding grounds and other habitat environments for the Japanese crested ibis.
- We shall spread awareness of the life and habits of the Japanese crested ibis, and how to properly watch them.
- We shall train and secure experts in surveys of rare plants and animals, such as the Japanese crested ibis.



Photo Courtesy of the Ministry of the Environment



Scan for More Information on the Ishikawa Prefecture  
Comprehensive Environmental Plan (In Japanese Only)