

Biodiversity

Activity and Results

Green by ICT

Biodiversity Consideration for Base Station Installation

Along with energy efficiency, KDDI is also taking biodiversity into concern for the construction of base stations. One example is cooperating with municipalities and environmental conservation associations to delay base station construction when it falls during the time that the Northern Goshawk and Oriental Stork build nests and lay eggs. Another example is the transplanting and afforestation of rare plants that exist on sites with guidance from the Ministry of the Environment. Furthermore, we select construction methods that do not produce pile driving noise so that the delivery, breeding, and milking of livestock is not effected by construction noise. Even though we have their understanding on the necessity for base station construction, we take great effort to build reliable relationships with municipalities and neighbors by minimizing the effect that base station construction has on the environment.

Research on Behavior of Endangered River Dolphins

KDDI R&D Laboratories is utilizing the acoustic technology cultivated by maintenance and inspection of submarine cables that connects continents and collaborating with the Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, and WWF-India to observe the ecology of the Ganges River dolphin.

The Ganges River dolphin is a species of dolphin that live in the basin of the Ganges River. There are about 2,000 dolphins and are in danger of becoming extinct. To determine the surrounding environment of the murky waters where they live, these dolphins emit

high frequency ultrasonic waves known as "clicks". By catching these ultrasonic clicks with underwater microphones, we hope to survey the dolphins' behavior underwater. One advantage of using this method is that it enables the observation of large numbers of dolphins without having any effect on their behavior. Because observers simply listen to the ultrasonic waves that the dolphins emit, there is no need for them to physically touch the dolphins, thereby eliminating any impact.

In FY2015, KDDI received the Fuji Sankei Group Award of the 25th Grand Prize for the Global Environment Award in recognition of the contribution of these efforts to biodiversity protection.

In addition, the same type of ultrasonic wave monitoring equipment is being installed on floating homes in the Mahakam River in Borneo, to research the behavior of Irrawaddy dolphins and evaluate the impact of the growing river traffic. Moving forward, KDDI will continue to conduct research on river dolphins that face the threat of endangerment in various regions.

Activity and Results

Green Road Project

Environmental Conservation Activities by Employees

In FY2015, as in previous years, KDDI conducted environmental conservation activities in regions across Japan. Employees and their families participated in volunteer activities in a variety of settings in each region, ranging from mountains to rivers and beaches.

On Mt. Takao (Hachioji, Tokyo), KDDI continued conducting activities that began in FY2014, involving students from Tokyo Metropolitan KOGEI High School in an industry-academic partnership. Together, we made effective use of cypress wood obtained through tree-thinning activities by constructing benches and donating them to local retirement homes and other locations.

