

Implementation Guideline
for Certification System for Securing Quantity and Quality Urban Green Space

(General Rules)

Article 1 Certification System for Securing Quantity and Quality Urban Green Space shall be carried out in accordance with the Urban Green Space Act (Act No. 72 of 1973) (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"), the Order for Enforcement of the Urban Green Space Act (Cabinet Order No. 3 of 1974, hereinafter referred to as the "Enforcement Order"), the Regulations for Enforcement of the Urban Green Space Act (Ministry of Construction Order No. 1 of 1974, hereinafter referred to as the "Enforcement Regulations"), the Standards for Securing Quantity and Quality Green Space (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Notification, hereinafter referred to as the "Standards") , and other laws, regulations and related notifications, as well as in accordance with the provisions of this Guideline.

(Purpose)

Article 2 The purpose of this Guideline is to promote efforts to secure quantity and quality urban green space by private business operators and entities through the Certification System for Securing Quantity and Quality Urban Green Space.

(Definitions)

Article 3 “Green space” in this Guideline refer to green space prescribed in Article 3, Paragraph 1 of the Act, and include planting, flower beds, and other facilities for greening purposes.

2 “Plan(s) for securing quantity and quality urban green space ” in this Guideline refer to plans to secure quantity and quality green space prescribed in Article 88, Paragraph 1 of the Act.

3 “Green space securing projects operators” in this Guideline refer to green space securing projects operators prescribed in Article 87, Paragraph 1 of the Act.

4 “Green space securing projects” in this Guideline refer to green space securing projects prescribed in Article 88, Paragraph 1 of the Act.

5 “Sites” in this Guideline refer to sites prescribed in Article 1, Paragraph 1(1) of the Order for Enforcement of the Building Standards Act.

6 “Blocks” in this Guideline refer to the smallest unit of an area that is subdivided by roads, railways, tram tracks, or other permanent facilities, waterways, or other such boundaries.

7 “Facilities utilizing green space” in this Guideline refer to facilities deemed to be necessary to facilitate convenience for users of garden paths, squares, and other green spaces, and include garden paths, squares, open areas for walking, walkways within sites, parking lots, benches, pavilions, etc.

- 8 “Green space conservation facilities” in this Guideline refer to facilities deemed to be necessary in relation to the conservation of green spaces, and include retaining walls, fire prevention facilities, etc.

(Eligible Entities)

Article 4 Green space securing projects operators who can apply to certify plans for securing quantity and quality urban green space are landowners of the eligible land or persons carrying out projects with the consent of the landowner. However, this does not include business operators whose management is effectively under the control of organized crime groups, etc. or equivalent entities, and whom the police authorities have requested to be excluded from public works projects by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and for whom this status is ongoing.

Joint applications by multiple parties are also permitted. In such cases, a representative of the application shall be selected from among the multiple parties submitting the application jointly (hereinafter referred to as the "group"), and rules and regulations shall be established to clarify the group's decision-making method for project implementation, the persons-in-charge, and the division of roles within the group. All members of the group shall comply with the provisions of the proviso.

(Certification Targets)

Article 5 Plans for securing quantity and quality urban green space that are eligible for certification shall meet all the following criteria.

- (1) Plans related to projects for which any of the following apply:
 - a. Projects for the creation and management of new green spaces
 - b. Projects that contribute to maintaining and improving the quality of existing green spaces
- (2) Plans related to projects implemented in city planning areas or quasi-city planning areas.
- (3) Projects with a green space area of 1,000 square meters or more, in areas where green space securing projects described in the plan for securing quantity and quality green space (hereinafter referred to as “target land”) are implemented.
- (4) Projects for which the ratio of green space area to the target land is 10% or more.
- (5) Green space securing projects described in the plan for securing quantity and quality urban green space, in principle, must not be projects that result in a decrease of green space area compared to the land utilization before. However, only in cases such as developing the necessary facilities for securing green space, a decrease of up to 5% is permitted. The reference point for "land utilization before" here shall be set as either January 1, 2020 or the time of application, whichever had a larger green space area. However, if the applicant

has acquired ownership or leasehold rights of the target area for the project after January 1, 2020, the reference point shall be set as the time of acquisition of ownership or leasehold, or at the time of application, whichever had a larger green space area.

(6) The planning period shall be five years.

2 Target land shall cover the entire site, including green spaces, in principle. In the case of a project that is carried out across more than one site, the target land shall be the area of the overall projects carried out as an integrated project, in principle. Here, "area of the overall projects carried out as an integrated project" refers to the planning areas and/or project areas prescribed in the various laws and regulations, systems, methods, etc. that are applied to the planning and development of the project (urban redevelopment projects, land readjustment projects, Special Districts for Urban Renaissance, various district plans, collective comprehensive designing systems, Factory Location Act, etc.). However, if any of the following items apply, the area shall be handled in the ways prescribed in the relevant item.

(1) If a project is comprised of multiple projects, the green space area on the site of each project is 300 square meters or more, and any of the following criteria apply to the entire project, the entire site containing the green space in question would be eligible for certification.

a. If multiple green spaces are located within a single block

b. Even if multiple green spaces are located across more than one block, the distance between green spaces is 250 meters or less

c. Even if multiple green spaces are located across more than one block and the distance between each green space exceeds 250 meters, the green spaces are connected by continuous planting and pedestrian paths, etc., a collaboration system, such as councils, has been established by diverse entities in the area, including landowners or leaseholders, companies engaged in business activities, and residents, and a policy concerning the green space of the area in question has been presented in area management plans or other plans

(2) When the target land straddles adjacent blocks, the transportation facilities between blocks shall, in principle, be excluded from the target land. However, they may be included with the consent of the administrator.

(3) In the case of projects carried out as an integrated project, if the construction periods of each work area are different, the area of the overall projects carried out as an integrated project shall be the target; however, if there are significant differences in the construction periods of each work area and there are work areas that are still in the conceptual stage and cannot be evaluated at the time of application for certification, the area excluding those work areas shall be the target land. Once the project plans for the work areas in the conceptual stage have been clarified, the plans shall be changed to cover the overall project area.

- (4) In the case of a project carried out on land that is not the site of a building, the area of the land that will be preserved for green space or the area of the overall projects carried out as an integrated project shall be the target land.
- 3 The targets of evaluation when conducting technical investigations into the conformity of Plans for securing quantity and quality urban green space with the Standards shall be green spaces, facilities utilizing green space, and green space conservation facilities within the target land. If roads are included in the the target land, the target land shall include roadways, but the targets of evaluation shall be walkways, road plantings, planting bases, etc., excluding roadways.

(Evaluation and Certification Standards)

Article 6 When screening an application for certification under Article 88, Paragraph 1 of the Act, the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism shall conduct a technical survey and an evaluation on the conformity of the Plans for securing quantity and quality urban green space subject to the application, with the Standards, in accordance with the evaluation standards (Appendix) and the following items. The evaluation of green spaces shall be conducted based on the anticipated state of the spaces five years from the start of the planning period. However, evaluation related to the management and operation of green spaces shall be based on the efforts made each fiscal year.

- (1) Evaluate all base evaluation items.
 - (2) For core evaluation items, evaluate all "Required" items.
 - (3) Of the core evaluation items, evaluate the "Selection" items based on a total of 10 items selected by the certification applicant. Of the "Selection" items, evaluate specific items as well from the perspective of enhancing the value of the region.
- 2 The Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (hereinafter referred to as the "Minister") shall certify a Plans for securing quantity and quality urban green space as conforming with the Standards if it meets all of the following criteria.
- (1) All base evaluation items meet the evaluation standards.
 - (2) For core evaluation items, all "Required" items are at Level 1 or higher, and the total points are 50 points or more.
- 3 The Minister shall assign a rank to a Plan for securing quantity and quality urban green space that is certified as conforming to the Standards in the preceding paragraph, according to the rank corresponding to the conditions set out in Table 3, based on the level corresponding to the green space ratio set out in Table 1 and the level corresponding to the total score of each item set out in Table 2.

Table 1 Level corresponding to green space ratio

Green space ratio	Level
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Green space ratio is 30% or more	AAA
Green space ratio is 20% or more and less than 30%	AA
Green space ratio is 10% or more and less than 20%	A

Table 2 Level corresponding to total score

Total score	Level
Total score is 100 or more	AAA
Total score is 75 or more and less than 99	AA
Total score is 50 or more and less than 74	A

Table 3 Certification rank

Conditions	Rank
Both the level corresponding to green space ratio and the level corresponding to total score are AAA	★★★
Both the level corresponding to green space ratio and the level corresponding to total score are AA (excluding cases where the conditions below apply)	★★
Both the level corresponding to green space ratio and the level corresponding to total score are A	★

(Screening Committee)

Article 7 In order to conduct screening appropriately and fairly when granting certification under Article 88, Paragraph 1 of the Act, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism shall convene a meeting of the screening committee comprising three or more external experts, and listen to their opinions from a professional standpoint.

2 The external experts referred to in the preceding paragraph may not partake in discussions on matters in which they have a personal interest.

(Renewal of Certification)

Article 8 Green space securing projects operators who have been certified under Article 88, Paragraph 1 of the Act (hereinafter referred to as "certified business operators") shall apply for certification of changes to the planning period based on Article 89, Paragraph 1 of the Act if they wish to renew their certification. When doing so, evaluation and certification shall be conducted based on the evaluation and certification standards in place at the point of application for certification of the changes in question.

(Handling of Outline Changes After Certification)

Article 9 Even if a certified Plan for securing quantity and quality urban green space is

recognized as no longer meeting the evaluation and certification standards set out in Article 6 due to changes to this Guideline after certification, the plan shall remain valid until the end of the planning period of the certified Plan for securing quantity and quality urban green space in question.

(Regular Reporting)

Article 10 Certified projects operators must report to the Minister on the implementation status of the certified Plan for securing quantity and quality urban green space every fiscal year.

2 The report prescribed in the preceding paragraph must include the following matters.

- (1) The overall progress status of the green space securing project in question
- (2) The implementation status of each initiative related to the evaluation items
- (3) Monitoring results of outcome indicators

(Green Space Area Calculation Method)

Article 11 In this Guideline, green space area shall be the total of the areas calculated using the methods prescribed in each of the following items, corresponding to the respective classification of green space and greening facilities.

(1) Greening space: Total area calculated using the methods in each of the following items, corresponding to the respective classification of green space.

a. Trees: Total area calculated using one of the following methods

1. The total of the horizontal projection areas of the crowns of each tree (excluding parts whose horizontal projecting plane coincides with the horizontal projecting plane of the crowns of other trees)
2. For the horizontal projecting plane of the crown of each tree (limited to those 1 m or higher; the same applies in 2. below), taking the radius as the radius set out in the right column of the following table corresponding to the height of the tree set out in the left column of the same table, the total horizontal projection area of the circle calculated by regarding the center of the trunk of the tree in question as its central circle (excluding the parts that coincide with the horizontal projecting plane of the circle whose horizontal projection area has been calculated by regarding the center of the trunk of another tree as its central circle, or the horizontal projecting plane of the crown of 1.)

Height of trees	Radius
1 m or higher to below 2.5 m	1.1 m
2.5 m or higher to below 4 m	1.6 m
4 m or higher to below 5 m	2.1 m
5 m or higher	(Height of trees ×

	0.7+0.7) / 2 m
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- b. Grass and other ground cover plants: The horizontal projection area of the land within the site, or the buildings and other structures present on that land whose surfaces are covered with grass or other ground cover plants (excluding the parts whose horizontal projecting plane coincides with the horizontal projecting plane calculated pursuant to the provisions of item a.)
 - c. Flower beds and similar: The horizontal projection area of the land within the site, or the buildings and other structures present on that land whose surfaces are covered with soil or other materials for the growth of flowers and other similar plants (excluding the parts whose horizontal projecting plane coincides with the horizontal projecting plane calculated pursuant to the provisions of item a. or b.)
 - d. Streams, ponds, and similar: The horizontal projection area of the land within the site, or the buildings and other structures present on that land with parts that have streams, ponds, and similar present (excluding the parts whose horizontal projecting plan coincides with the horizontal projecting plane calculated pursuant to the provisions of items a. to c., and limited to those that form a natural environment together with trees, plantings, etc.)
- (2) Greening facilities installed on the exterior walls of buildings: Total vertical projection area of the sections where greening facilities have been installed.

(Administration)

Article 12 The administration related to this Outline shall be carried out by the Urban Environment and Lifestyle Division of the City Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

(Other)

Article 13 In addition to the provisions of this Guideline, matters necessary for the operation of the Certification System for Securing Quantity and Quality Urban Green Space shall be prescribed separately.

Supplementary Provision

(Effective Date)

Article 1 This Outline shall come into effect on ○ ○, 2024.

<Appendix> Evaluation Standards

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Climate Change Countermeasures	Greenhouse gas absorption and fixation	1	Absorption of greenhouse gases by green	Does the plan create and manage green spaces as CO2 sinks?	Required	0	CO ₂ absorption amount/site area = less than 0.2 kg/m ²	0pt
							1	CO ₂ absorption amount/site area = 0.2 kg/m ² or more to less than 0.4 kg/m ²	1pt
							3	CO ₂ absorption amount/site area = 0.4 kg/m ² or more to less than 0.6 kg/m ²	3pt
							5	CO ₂ absorption amount/site area = 0.6 kg/m ² or more	5pt
Core Indicators	Climate Change Countermeasures	Greenhouse gas absorption and fixation	2	Carbon storage through wood use	Does the plan utilize wood that contributes to carbon storage?	Selection	0	There are no plans to utilize wood	0pt
							1	Carbon storage (CO ₂ equivalent)/site area = less than 0.05 kg/m ²	1pt
							3	Carbon storage (CO ₂ equivalent)/site area = 0.05 kg/m ² or more to less than 0.10 kg/m ²	3pt
							5	Carbon storage (CO ₂ equivalent)/site area = 0.10 kg/m ² or more	5pt
Core Indicators	Climate Change Countermeasures	Greenhouse gas emissions reduction	3	Reduction of Life-Cycle Carbon	Does the plan ascertain the amount of greenhouse gases emitted throughout the lifecycle of the entire project?	Selection	0	The amount of greenhouse gas emissions is not ascertained, and reduction targets are not set.	0pt
							1	The amount of greenhouse gas emissions is ascertained in any one of the stages of the construction process—material production, distribution, construction, maintenance, operation, demolition.	1pt
							3	The amount of greenhouse gas emissions is ascertained in multiple stages of the construction process—material production, distribution, construction, maintenance, operation, demolition.	3pt
							5	The amount of greenhouse gas emissions is ascertained in multiple stages of the construction process—material production, distribution, construction, maintenance, operation, demolition, and reduction targets are set.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Climate Change Counter measures	Greenhouse gas emissions reduction	4	Reducing GHG emissions through the greening of buildings	Does the plan involve the greening (rooftop and wall greening) of buildings that contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions?	Selection	0	Rooftop and wall greening area that contributes to reducing the building's energy consumption/ building area = less than 20%	0pt
							1	Rooftop and wall greening area that contributes to reducing the building's energy consumption/ building area = 20% or more to less than 30%	1pt
							3	Rooftop and wall greening area that contributes to reducing the building's energy consumption/ building area =30% or more to less than 40%	3pt
							5	Rooftop and wall greening area that contributes to reducing the building's energy consumption/ building area = 40% or more	5pt
Core Indicators	Climate Change Counter measures	Heat counter measures	5	Reduction of ground surface temperatures	Does the plan involve initiatives that take into consideration ground surface temperature as a heat countermeasure?	Selection	0	Area where ground surface temperature is reduced by green spaces etc./Area of ground surface etc. where temperature increases are expected due to solar radiation = less than 20%	0pt
							1	Area where ground surface temperature is reduced by green spaces etc./Area of ground surface etc. where temperature increases are expected due to solar radiation = 20% or more to less than 40%	1pt
							3	Area where ground surface temperature is reduced by green spaces etc./Area of ground surface etc. where temperature increases are expected due to solar radiation = 40% or more to less than 60%	3pt
							5	Area where ground surface temperature is reduced by green spaces etc./Area of ground surface etc. where temperature increases are expected due to solar radiation = 60% or more	5pt
Core Indicators	Climate Change Counter measures	Heat counter measures	6	Formation of wind paths	Does the plan involve initiatives that take into consideration wind paths as a heat countermeasure?	Selection (Enhancement of the Regional Value)	0	There are no plans for initiatives that take into consideration wind paths.	0pt
							1	There is one initiative that take into consideration wind paths, based on the results of predictions and evaluations from wind environment simulations, etc.	1pt
							3	There are two or more initiatives that take into consideration wind paths, based on the results of predictions and evaluations from wind environment simulations, etc.	3pt
							5	There are three or more initiatives that take into consideration wind paths, based on the results of predictions and evaluations from wind environment simulations, etc.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Climate Change Counter measures	Heat counter measures	7	Heatstroke countermeasures using green shade	Does the plan involve the establishment of green spaces, etc. that will be effective as a heatstroke countermeasure?	Selection	0	Area shaded through the formation of green shade/Area of ground surface, etc., in pedestrian spaces, exposed to direct sunlight = less than 20%	0pt
							1	Area shaded through the formation of green shade/Area of ground surface, etc., in pedestrian spaces, exposed to direct sunlight = 20% or more to less than 40%	1pt
							3	Area shaded through the formation of green shade/Area of ground surface, etc., in pedestrian spaces, exposed to direct sunlight = 40% or more to less than 60%	3pt
							5	Area shaded through the formation of green shade/Area of ground surface, etc., in pedestrian spaces, exposed to direct sunlight = 60% or more	5pt
Core Indicators	Climate Change Counter measures	Water disaster counter measures	8	Rainwater storage and infiltration	Does the plan involve initiatives that contribute to rainwater storage and infiltration (runoff control)?	Selection (Enhancement of the Regional Value)	0	Average infiltration capacity of the site = less than 10mm/hr	0pt
							1	Average infiltration capacity of the site = 10mm/hr or more to less than 20mm/hr	1pt
							3	Average infiltration capacity of the site = 20mm/hr or more to less than 30mm/hr	3pt
							5	Average infiltration capacity of the site = 30mm/hr or more	5pt
Core Indicators	Climate Change Counter measures	Resources recycling	9	Recycle materials	Does the plan use recycled materials?	Selection	0	There are no plans to use recycled materials.	0pt
							1	There is one initiative to use recycled materials.	1pt
							3	There are 2 or more initiatives to use recycled materials.	3pt
							5	There are 3 or more initiatives to use recycled materials.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Climate Change Counter measures	Resources recycling	10	Effective utilization of resources	Does the plan utilize resources effectively?	Required	0	There are no initiatives related to the effective utilization of resources. (Appendix 2)	0pt
							1	There is one initiative related to the effective utilization of resources. (Appendix 2)	1pt
							3	There are two or more initiatives related to the effective utilization of resources. (Appendix 2)	3pt
							5	There are three or more initiatives related to the effective utilization of resources. (Appendix 2)	5pt
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Conservation of water resources	11	Reduction of water use	Does the plan reduce the amount of water used, such as through rainwater utilization and water-saving?	Required	0	There are no plans to utilize rainwater in green spaces.	0pt
							1	There are plans for one initiative related to utilizing rainwater or water-saving in green spaces.	1pt
							2	There are plans for two or more initiatives related to utilizing rainwater or water-saving in green spaces.	2pt
							3	There are plans for three or more initiatives related to utilizing rainwater or water-saving in green spaces.	3pt
							4	The initiatives in Level 3 are carried out, and rainwater utilization rate in green spaces is 50% or more.	4pt
							5	The initiatives in Level 3 are carried out, and rainwater utilization rate in green spaces is 80% or more.	5pt
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Preservation of a diverse habitat and growth environment	12	Preservation of cohesive green spaces	Does the plan preserve cohesive green spaces of a certain scale and above?	Selection (Enhancement of the Regional Value)	0	The area of cohesive green spaces is less than 800 m ² , or the area of cohesive green spaces is 800 m ² or more with the short side measuring less than 10 m.	0pt
							1	The area of cohesive green spaces is 800 m ² or more with the short side measuring 10 m or more.	1pt
							2	The area of cohesive green spaces is 2,000 m ² or more with the short side measuring 10 m or more.	2pt
							3	The area of cohesive green spaces is 3,000 m ² or more with the short side measuring 20 m or more.	3pt
							4	The area of cohesive green spaces is 5,000 m ² or more with the short side measuring 20 m or more.	4pt
							5	The area of cohesive green spaces is 10,000 m ² or more with the short side measuring 30 m or more.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Pers pective	Category	N O	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Poin ts
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Preservation of a diverse habitat and growth environment	13	Hierarchical structures	Does the plan involve forming hierarchical structures in green spaces, etc. (woodlands and trees)?	Required	0	Level 1 standards are not reached.	0pt
							1	All of the following standards are achieved in cohesive green spaces. • The continuous area of the tree crowns in the canopy layer is smaller than a 10mx10m square, but the canopy layer is within a 10mx10m square of the green space area. • There is either a shrub layer or a herb layer beneath that. • There are multiple tree species in each layer.	1pt
							2	All of the following standards are achieved in cohesive green spaces. • The continuous area of the tree crowns in the canopy layer is bigger than a 10mx10m square. • There is either a shrub layer or a herb layer beneath that. • There are multiple tree species in each layer.	2pt
							3	All of the following standards are achieved in cohesive green spaces. • The continuous area of the tree crowns in the canopy layer is bigger than a 10mx10m square. • There are both a shrub layer and a herb layer. • There are multiple tree species in each layer.	3pt
							4	All of the following standards are achieved in cohesive green spaces. • The continuous area of the tree crowns in the canopy layer is bigger than a 20mx20m square. • There is either a shrub layer or a herb layer beneath that. • There are multiple tree species in each layer.	4pt
							5	All of the following standards are achieved in cohesive green spaces. • The continuous area of the tree crowns in the canopy layer is bigger than a 20mx20m square. • There are both a shrub layer and a herb layer. • There are multiple tree species in each layer.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Pers pect ive	Category	N O	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Poin ts
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Preservation of a diverse habitat and growth environment	14	Ecotones	Does the plan involve forming ecotones in woodland, grassland, and waterfront areas?	Selection	0	• There is only one woodland, grassland (excluding lawns), or waterfront area habitat, or there are multiple habitats that are not adjacent to enable the movement of living things between them.	0pt
							1	• There are two woodland, grassland (excluding lawns), or waterfront habitats, which are adjacent to enable the movement of living things between them.	1pt
							3	• There are two habitats with a transitional zone of continuously changing environments, and which are adjacent to enable the movement of living things between them.	3pt
							5	• Woodland, grassland (excluding lawns), and waterfront areas are all present with a transitional zone of continuously changing environments, and which are adjacent to enable the movement of living things between them.	5pt
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Preservation of a diverse habitat and growth environment	15	Initiatives contributing to good habitat and growth environment formation	Does the plan involve initiatives contributing to animal and plant habitat and growth environment formation?	Selection	0	• The initiatives set out in the appendix are not present, or limited to one initiative.	0pt
							1	• Two or more initiatives set out in the appendix are present.	1pt
							3	• Four or more initiatives set out in the appendix are present.	3pt
							5	• Six or more initiatives set out in the appendix are present.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Harmony with the surrounding environment	16	Vegetation rooted in the local community	Does the plan create and manage vegetation rooted in the local community?	Required	0	Less than 30% of the trees and herbs which comprise the cohesive green spaces or the entire green spaces are native species (excluding foreign native species).	0pt
							1	30% or more to less than 50% of the trees and herbs which comprise the cohesive green spaces or the entire green spaces are native species (excluding foreign native species).	1pt
							3	50% or more of the trees and herbs which comprise the cohesive green spaces or the entire green spaces are native species (excluding foreign native species).	3pt
							5	50% or more of the trees and herbs which comprise the cohesive green spaces or the entire green spaces are regional propagating material.	5pt
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Harmony with the surrounding environment	17	Ecosystem networks	Does the plan involve creating green spaces that contribute to the formation of ecosystem networks?	Selection (Enhancement of the Regional Value)	0	• The presence of the target green space does not increase the index value of the ecosystem network status (± 0), and there is no alignment with plans for the formation of local ecosystem networks prepared by local governments, such as basic green plans and regional biodiversity strategies.	0pt
							1	• The presence of the target green space increases the index value of the ecosystem network status by less than 0.5 points. Or, the index value does not increase (± 0), but there is alignment with plans for the formation of a local ecosystem network prepared by the local government, such as basic green plans and regional biodiversity strategies.	1pt
							3	• The presence of the target green space increases the index value of the ecosystem network status by 0.5 points or more. Or, the index value increases by less than 0.5 points, but there is alignment with plans for the formation of a local ecosystem network prepared by the local government, such as basic green plans and regional biodiversity strategies.	3pt
							5	• The presence of the target green space increases the index value of the ecosystem network status by 0.5 points or more, and there is alignment with plans for the formation of a local ecosystem network prepared by the local government, such as basic green plans and regional biodiversity strategies.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Reduction of the impact on the ecosystem	18	Prevention from alien species	Does the plan prevent the intrusion of and elimination of alien species?	Required	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are plans to use alien species that we should be wary of. With regard to alien species that we should be wary of, there are no manuals for eliminating alien species nor manuals to prevent their intrusion. 	0pt
							1	(Level not set)	1pt
							3	With regard to alien species that we should be wary of, there are manuals for eliminating alien species as well as an implementation system for control measures.	3pt
							5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With regard to alien species that we should be wary of, there are manuals as well as an implementation system for preventing their intrusion. 	5pt
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Reduction of the impact on the ecosystem	19	Reduction of chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers	Does the plan involve the restriction and proper management of chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers?	Required	0	There are no restrictions or rules regarding the use and storage of chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers, and there is no understanding of the laws and regulations regarding the use of pesticides.	0pt
							1	Rules have been prescribed regarding the use of chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers, and plans are in place for their use.	1pt
							3	In addition to Level 1, rules have been prescribed regarding restrictions on the use of chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers, and there are plans to determine the need for control, the appropriate timing for control, and control methods upon checking the situation of pest outbreaks in the managed area.	3pt
							5	In addition to Level 3, there are plans to implement green space management measures that minimize the use of chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers by carrying out control based on a stance of comprehensive control, including the use of organic fertilizers and mechanical weeding.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Reduction of the impact on the ecosystem	20	Management of chemical substances	Does the plan involve the proper management of materials that contain chemical substances such as plastics?	Required	0	The usage status of chemical substances such as plastics is not ascertained, and there are no conduct guidelines in place.	0pt
							1	The usage status of chemical substances such as plastics is ascertained.	1pt
							3	The usage status of chemical substances such as plastics is ascertained, and there are conduct guidelines in place.	3pt
							5	The usage status of chemical substances such as plastics is ascertained, and there are quantitative targets in the conduct guidelines to limit use.	5pt
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Reduction of the impact on the ecosystem	21	Procurement considering to biodiversity/sustainability	Does the procurement of materials take biodiversity/sustainability into consideration?	Required	0	Does not meet the standards of Level 1.	0pt
							1	Sections where wood, cement, sand, and steel are used are identified in lists and drawings.	1pt
							3	In addition to Level 1, the business operator or suppliers involved in the procurement of each material have established a procurement policy that takes into consideration biodiversity/sustainability.	3pt
							5	In addition to Level 1, there are plans to procure some of the materials used in green spaces based on the procurement policy described in Level 2.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Preservation of Biodiversity	Environmental education	22	Environmental education	Does the plan involve implementing environmental education that contributes to understanding of biodiversity and to behavioral changes?	Selection	0	There are no plans to implement environmental education that contributes to understanding of biodiversity and to behavioral changes.	0pt
							1	There are plans to publish information that contributes to understanding of biodiversity and behavioral changes, and to update the information periodically.	1 pt
							3	There are plans to use the premises to periodically implement environmental education programs targeted at direct stakeholders such as employees and business partners.	3pt
							5	There are plans to use the premises to periodically implement environmental education programs targeted at a diverse audience including local residents and the public.	5pt
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Open spaces	23	Ensuring openness	Does the plan ensure openness?	Required	0	• There are no opportunities for employees, residents, and others involved with the site to utilize the green space.	0pt
							1	• There are opportunities only for employees, residents, and others involved with the site to utilize the green space.	1pt
							2	• There are opportunities for anyone other than those involved with the site to utilize the green space with prior registration.	2pt
							3	• There are opportunities for anyone other than those involved with the site to utilize the green space without prior registration (if there are less than 150 days in a year on which the green space may be used for three hours or more in a day).	3pt
							4	• There are 150 days or more in a year on which the green space may be used for three hours or more in a day by anyone without prior registration (excluding Level 5).	4pt
							5	• Anyone may use the green space at all times.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Pers pect ive	Category	N O	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Poin ts
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Open spaces	24	Universal design	Does the plan support use of the green space by all people? (barrier-free, multilingual support, etc.)	Required	0	• The plan does not support use of the green space by all people.	0pt
							1	• Facilities utilizing green space included in the site are, in principle, compliant with standards for facilitating movement in buildings.	1pt
							2	-	
							3	• In addition to Level 1, there are plans to take universal design into consideration in programs and activities held in green spaces to enable participation by a diverse range of people, including persons with disabilities, pregnant women, families with children, and foreigners.	3pt
							4	-	
							5	• In addition to Level 3, there are plans to take universal design into consideration by reflecting the needs of a diverse range of people into the development of green spaces and the programs and activities held in those spaces.	5pt
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Formation of secure and safe spaces	25	Crime prevention and safety	Does the plan involve forming secure and safe spaces in the aspects of crime prevention and use?	Required	0	Areas within green spaces that are at risk of accidents or crime are not identified.	0pt
							1	Areas within green spaces that are at risk of accidents or crime are identified, and some form of measures are in place.	1pt
							3	There are adequate measures in place to prevent accidents in areas that are at risk, and adequate surveillance to prevent crime, including at night.	3pt
							5	In addition to Level 3, there are plans to review areas that are at risk of accidents or crime at least once a year, and to implement measures if new issues arise.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Pers pect ive	Category	N O	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Poin ts
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Formati on of secure and safe spaces	26	Evacuation sites	Does the plan ensure that the space can serve as an evaluation site during a disaster?	Selection	0	There are no spaces that can be used as a temporary evacuation site by local residents.	0pt
							1	Spaces that can be used as a temporary evacuation site by local residents are available, and there are plans to publicize this.	1pt
							3	In addition to Level 1, there is 1 m ² or more but less than 2 m ² of area per person that is available for use by local residents as an evacuation site. In addition, there is 1 m ² or more but less than 2 m ² of area per person that has been designated or provisionally designated as an official evacuation site, and which is available for use as an evacuation site. In addition, agreements have been concluded or provisionally concluded to accept persons who are stranded away from home, etc.	3pt
							5	In addition to Level 1, there is 2 m ² or more of area per person that is available for use by local residents as an evacuation site. In addition, there is 2 m ² or more of area per person that has been designated or provisionally designated as an official evacuation site, and which is available for use as an evacuation site.	5pt
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Formati on of secure and safe spaces	27	Buffer green spaces	Does the plan preserve buffer green spaces?	Selection	0	The buffering function of buffer green spaces is not recognized, or the buffering distance of buffer green spaces is less than 11 m.	0pt
							1	A buffering distance of at least 11 m is preserved by the buffer green spaces.	1pt
							3	A buffering distance of at least 16 m is preserved by the buffer green spaces, and if the buffer green spaces are mainly composed of trees, their composition and species provide a moderate degree of buffering function.	3pt
							5	A buffering distance of at least 24 m is preserved by the buffer green spaces, and if the buffer green spaces are mainly composed of trees, their composition and species provide a high degree of buffering function.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Improvement of physical and psychological health	28	Improvement of physical health	Does the plan incorporate facilities and programs that contribute to the improvement of physical health?	Required	0	In green spaces or areas where green spaces are available for use, walkways or other spaces that may be freely used for walking (physical activities) have not been created.	0pt
							1	In green spaces or areas where green spaces are available for use, walkways or other spaces that may be freely used for walking (physical activities) have been created.	1pt
							2	In green spaces or areas where green spaces are available for use, there are plans to install facilities that are intended for, and may be freely used for, exercise, such as lawn squares.	2pt
							3	In addition to Level 2, there are plans to implement exercise programs utilizing spaces that are available for physical activities and exercise at least once a year.	3pt
							4	In addition to Level 2, there are plans to implement exercise programs utilizing spaces that are available for physical activities and exercise at least once a month.	4pt
							5	In addition to Level 4, facilities that may be freely used for physical activities and exercise are installed in areas where green spaces are available for use, and there are plans for creative efforts to promote greater use of such spaces for physical activities and exercise.	5pt
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Improvement of physical and psychological health	29	Improvement of mental health	Does the plan develop the environment, including rest facilities, etc. as spaces in which people can relax?	Required	0	There are no rest facilities and spaces inside the green space, nor areas where green spaces are available for use.	0pt
							1	There are rest facilities and spaces inside the green space where people can sit down such as benches, lawns, etc., or there are areas where green spaces are available for use.	1pt
							2	There are rest facilities and spaces inside the green space with shading, such as the formation of green shade from the shade of trees, and pergolas, etc., or there are areas where green spaces are available for use.	2pt
							3	The greenery visible from the viewpoints of rest facilities and spaces, etc. with shading is comprised of diverse plants such as tall trees, shrubs, herbs, etc.	3pt
							4	In addition to Level 3, programs designed to encourage interaction with nature are implemented at a frequency of at least once a year.	4pt
							5	In addition to Level 3, programs designed to encourage interaction with nature are implemented at a frequency of at least four times a year (about once every quarter).	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Pers pective	Category	N O	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Poin ts
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Formati on of regional communi ties	30	Regional communities	Does the plan incorporate programs that contribute to the formation of regional communities?	Selection	0	• There are no plans for programs that contribute to the formation of regional communities.	0pt
							1	• There are plans to implement programs that contribute to the formation of regional communities.	1pt
							2	• There are plans to implement programs that contribute to the formation of regional communities at least once every quarter.	2pt
							3	• There are plans to implement programs that contribute to the formation of regional communities at least once a month, with activity contents that enable exchanges between people of diverse attributes and generations.	3pt
							4	• There are plans to implement programs that contribute to the formation of regional communities at least once a month, with activity contents that enable exchanges between people of diverse attributes and generations. Additionally, there are programs that local residents can implement at their own discretion.	4pt
							5	• There are plans for programs that contribute to the formation of regional communities at least once a month, with activity contents that enable exchanges between people of diverse attributes and generations. • Additionally, there are programs that local residents can implement at their own discretion, as well as plans to implement programs that involve residents, NPOs, and other regional entities in their planning and operation.	5pt
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Creation of livelines s	31	Interaction and stays	Does the plan incorporate activities aimed at increasing the flow of people?	Selection	0	There are less than five activities that utilize green spaces for activities that encourage people to stay and engage in exchanges.	0pt
							1	There are five or more activities that utilize green spaces for activities that encourage people to stay and engage in exchanges.	1pt
							3	There are 10 or more activities that utilize green spaces for activities that encourage people to stay and engage in exchanges, and there are programs that encourage people to engage in three or more of these activities.	3pt
							5	There are 20 or more activities that utilize green spaces for activities that encourage people to stay and engage in exchanges, and there are programs that encourage people to engage in ten or more of these activities.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Creation of liveliness	32	Walkable spaces	Does the plan create green spaces that contribute to the formation of walkable spaces that are connected to the surrounding community?	Selection (Enhancement of the Regional Value)	0	Green spaces are inaccessible from public roads directly.	0pt
							1	Green spaces are accessible from public roads directly.	1pt
							3	Green spaces are accessible directly from public roads, and it is possible to pass through the green spaces.	3pt
							5	There is a network that spreads out from the surrounding areas, allowing people to walk continuously through greenery.	5pt
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Enhancement of landscape	33	Roadside greening	Does the plan involve roadside greening that contributes to improving the surrounding environment?	Selection	0	• The greening rate of connecting road sections is less than 50%.	0pt
							1	• The greening rate of connecting road sections is 50% or more.	1pt
							2	• The greening rate of connecting road sections is 60% or more.	2pt
							3	• The greening rate of connecting road sections is 70% or more.	3pt
							4	• The greening rate of connecting road sections is 80% or more.	4pt
							5	The greening rate of connecting road sections is 80% or more. Additionally, there are plans to open up garden paths and greenways through the greening of connecting road sections, allowing pedestrians to enjoy greenery that is integrated with the road.	5pt
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Enhancement of landscape	34	Design concepts	Has a design concept been established, and is the plan designed in a way that is aligned with that concept?	Selection	0	A design concept has not been established.	0pt
							1	A design concept has been established, and a plan for the establishment of green spaces is prepared based on this concept.	1pt
							3	There are plans for planting as well as plans for colors and materials related to structures based on the design concept.	3pt
							5	In addition to Level 3, an image of a mature green space landscape in the future has been presented clearly.	5pt

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Core Indicators	Improvement of Well-being	Utilization of farming	35	Farming use	Does the plan incorporate programs for the development and utilization of farming?	Selection	0	There are no farms.	0pt
							1	There are farms that may only be used by a limited group of people, such as employees.	1pt
							3	There are rental farms that may be used by local residents and others. Alternatively, local residents and others may use farms through farm utilization programs.	3pt
							5	Local residents and others may use farms as rental farms, and may use farms through farm utilization programs.	5pt
Core Indicators	Common	Progressive Initiatives	36	Progressive Initiatives	Does the plan involve the implementation of other advanced initiatives?	Selection	5	There are plans to implement advanced initiatives.	5pt
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Appropriate project implementation	37	Clarification of the purpose and goals	Does the plan clarify the purpose and goals of the project?	Required	-	The purpose of the project is clear, and concrete goals have been set.	-
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Appropriate project implementation	38	Creation of a development, maintenance and management plan	Are there implementation plans for appropriate development, maintenance and management based on the purpose and goals of the project?	Required	-	Implementation plans have been prepared for appropriate development, maintenance and management based on the purpose and goals of the project.	-

Core / Base Indicators	Pers pective	Category	N O	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Poin ts
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Appropriate project implementation	39	Clarification of the implementation system	Does the plan clarify the implementation structures and persons-in-charge?	Required	-	The implementation structures and persons-in-charge are clearly set out.	-
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Appropriate project implementation	40	Involvement of experts	Are green space experts and landscape engineers involved in the preparation of project plans and project implementation?	Required	-	The following green space experts and engineers are involved. • From the planning stages, advice is received periodically from qualified green space experts. • A system is in place to properly secure qualified landscape engineers for the development, maintenance and management of green spaces.	-
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Appropriate project implementation	41	Ensuring funds	Are mechanisms in place to secure adequate funds for management, including development, maintenance and management?	Required	-	The costs of developing, maintaining and managing green spaces, and the methods for procuring these funds, are considered appropriately.	-
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Appropriate project implementation	42	Implementation of monitoring	Does the plan implement monitoring appropriately and reflect the results of the monitoring in maintenance and management?	Required	-	The specific content, method, frequency, system, and other details related to the monitoring of quantitative targets set and other initiatives to ensure the sustainability of the effects of green spaces, have been presented.	-

Core / Base Indicators	Perspective	Category	NO	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Points
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Disclosure of information	43	Disclosure of information	Is information on green spaces disclosed?	Required	-	Information is disclosed on the project contents and green spaces, or there are plans to disclose such information.	-
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Communication with local residents, etc.	44	Communication with local residents, etc.	Is there communication with local residents, etc.?	Required	-	During the conceptualization, maintenance and management, and operational stages of the project, opportunities are created for communication with local residents etc., and the contents of such communication are reflected in the green space development, maintenance, and management plans as necessary.	-
Base Indicators	Management • Governance	Management of negative impacts	45	Management of negative impacts	Does the plan identify other negative impacts that may arise through the project, and incorporate appropriate measures to address them?	Required	-	Other negative impacts that may arise through the presence of the green space or its development, maintenance, and management are identified in advance, and appropriate measures to address them are presented.	-
Base Indicators	Understanding and Reflecting Land and	Land and regional characteristics	46	Natural environment, history, culture	Have the origins of the land been ascertained and reflected in the plan?	Required	-	The origins of the land and surrounding region (terrain, history, etc.) have been ascertained and reflected in the development plan as well as maintenance, management, and operational plans.	-

Core / Base Indicators	Pers pect ive	Category	N O	Evaluation items	Evaluation indicators	Required / Selection	Level	Evaluation standards	Poin ts
Base Indicators	Understanding and Reflecting Land	Land and regional characteristics	47	Social situation	Is the social situation of the land and surrounding region ascertained, and reflected in the plans and design?	Required	-	The social conditions of the land and surrounding region (population, facilities, transportation, disaster prevention and mitigation, land use status, development status, circular economy, etc.) as well as social issues specific to the region, are ascertained based on documents and surveys, etc., and are reflected in the plan.	-
Base Indicators	Understanding and Reflecting Land	Laws and regulations and administrative plans	48	Compliance with regulations	Is the legal positioning ascertained and complied with?	Required	-	Laws and regulations that must be complied with in the development, maintenance and management of green spaces are ascertained and complied with.	-
Base Indicators	Understanding and Reflecting Land and	Laws and regulations and administrative plans	49	Administrative plans	Is the plan based on relevant administrative plans, etc.?	Required	-	Relevant administrative plans such as basic green plans, and urban development plans, etc. prepared by the local residents, etc. are ascertained, and the plan is based on such plans.	-
Base Indicators	Understanding and Reflecting Land and	Issue setting	50	Setting of appropriate issues	Are items that are consistent with land and regional issues selected?	Required	-	Issues are set based on the characteristics of the land and region in question, and items that are consistent with these issues are selected.	-

(Table) Examples of initiatives for

“Item 17: Initiatives contributing to good habitat and growth environment formation”

Examples of target organisms and initiatives	Main project implementation stages		
	Development	Maintenance and management	Operation
○ Initiatives to encourage the arrival of birds, insects, etc.			
• Selection and planting of food plants for animals (provision of food resources)	•		
• Installation of birdhouses, etc. (creation of nesting and breeding areas for birds, bees, etc.)	•		
• Installation of birdbaths and areas with shallow water (creation of drinking and bathing areas for birds)	•		
• Effective planting arrangements using mixed hedges, etc. (providing food for flowers and fruits over multiple seasons, minimizing the occurrence of pests and diseases, etc.)	•		
○ Initiatives to increase the number of hiding places for birds, lizards, insects, soil animals, etc.			
• Installation of structures with many gaps, such as stacks of wood, brushwood fences, piles of stones, and log revetments (creation of hiding places for terrestrial organisms)	•	•	
• Mowing grass infrequently, leaving some grass uncut, and leaving grass clippings temporarily on the ground (creation of habitats and escape routes)		•	
• Leaving dead and fallen trees as they are (creation of nesting areas and habitats for deadwood-dwelling organisms)	•	•	
○ Initiatives to enable mammals, reptiles, frogs, etc. to move on land			
• Avoiding or improving structures that impede the passage and movement of animals, such as the installation of underpasses and structures they can crawl out of (securing routes for animals to move through)	•		
○ Initiatives to increase the number of habitats of aquatic organisms such as fish and dragonfly nymphs			
• Waterfront structures with changes in water depth and flow speed (creation of diverse habitats)	•		
• Installation of revetments with many gaps, such as stone and log revetments (creation of hiding places for aquatic organisms)	•		
○ Initiatives that are considerate of plants and animals in general			
• Using quality topsoil on the developed land both within and outside the site, where native species primarily grow (preserving and creating vegetation consisting mainly of native species) <Examples of initiatives> *Leaving unaltered the vegetation on the developed land that had existed before the project plan *Temporarily storing topsoil from the developed land that had existed before the project plan, and laying it back as topsoil for the new green space *Collecting topsoil from a nearby developed land that is outside the site but which has vegetation close to the desired state of the green space, and using it as topsoil for the new green space	•	•	
• Zoning of spaces for humans and other living organisms (securing areas without human interference)	•		•
• Reducing light pollution when implementing night lighting* (light pollution countermeasures) *Due to the ecology of plants and animals, it is preferable not to have night lighting to begin with.	•		•
○ Other autonomous initiatives ()	•	•	•

【Reference】

- Urban Green Space Act (Act No. 72 of 1973)

(Definitions)

Article 3

The term “green space” as used in this Act means woodlands, grasslands, riparian areas, rocky areas, or lands whose conditions are similar thereto (including agricultural lands), either alone or in combination, or lands adjacent thereto that together form a favorable natural environment.

- Building Standards Act Enforcement Order (Cabinet Order No. 338 of 1950)

(Definitions of Terms)

Article 1

- 1) Sites A single building or a group of lots with two or more buildings that are inseparably related in use.