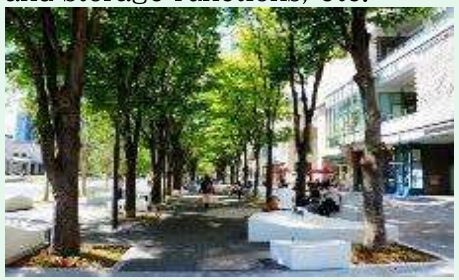
Green Infrastructure

What is Green Infrastructure?

Green Infrastructure is a nature-based initiative to create sustainable and attractive national land, cities, and regions in both structural and non-structura aspects, such as social infrastructure development and land use.

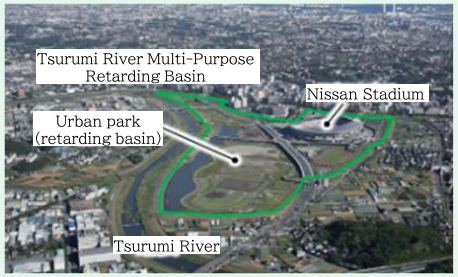
Ⅰ. Climate Change, Disaster Prevention, and Mitigation

Permeable and water retentive sidewalks, parks with infiltration and storage functions, etc.



Grand Mall Park

Retarding basin integrated with parks



Tsurumi River Multi-Purpose Retarding Basin

Ⅱ. Formation of Living Spaces Rich in Greenery and Water

Park as a greenery axis connecting Lake Biwa and the urban area

Kusatsu River Site Park

Greenery spaces managed by the local residents

Mitsuke English Garden

Ⅲ. Formation of Urban Space That Attracts Investment and Manpower

Office space in harmony with the natural environment

Futako Tamagawa Rise

Greening of downtown business districts

Marunouchi Street Park

Ⅳ. Regional Development and the Conservation of the Natural Environment, Landscape, and Ecosystem

Preserve and create habitats and breeding environments for living organisms and diverse river environments.

Umeda River
(Tsurumi River system)

Conversion of devastated paddy fields into biotopes and places for environmental education

Tachibai Water Land Improvement District

History and Positioning of Green Infrastructure

History of Green Infrastructure

Late 1990~.

- Leading efforts in Europe and the U.S.
  - U.S.A. (Portland, etc.): Rainwater management through urban greening. Mitigation of water overflow, purification quality, and others.
  - Europe: Biodiversity conservation, climate change measures, and others.

2015

- "Green infrastructure" was first coined in a government document in the National Spatial Strategy (approved by the Cabinet in August 2015).
- Later, green infrastructure was placed in the Priority Plan for Social Infrastructure Development (approved by the Cabinet in Sep) and other government plans.

2018

- Established the **Green Infrastructure Council** (Chairperson: Prof. Haruo Ishida , Uni. of Tsukuba) (December) and began discussions on its promotion.

2019

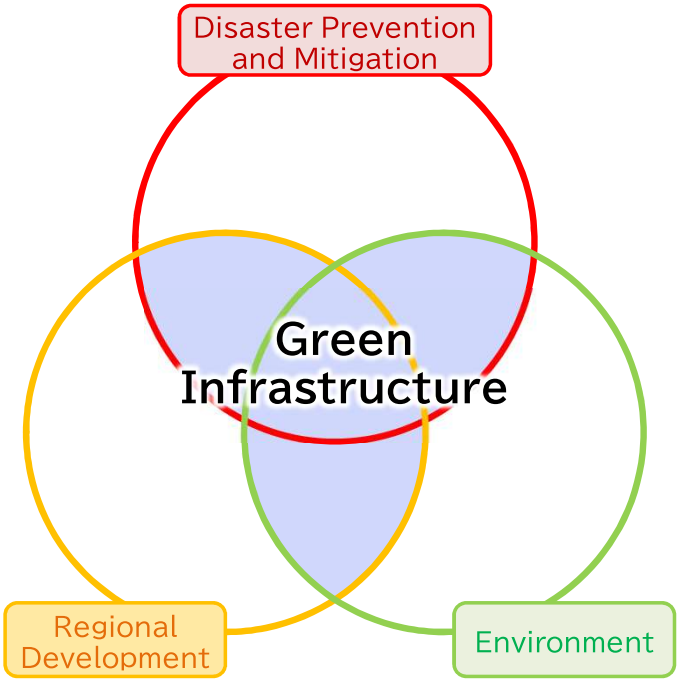
- **"Green Infrastructure Promotion Strategy " was released by the MLIT** (July).

2020

- **Established the Green Infrastructure Public-Private Partnership Platform (March)** for participation and public-private partnerships among diverse organizations.

Positioned in major government documents (since FY2021)

Cabinet Decision, etc.	Plan name, etc.
May 28, 2021	Fifth Priority Plan for Infrastructure Development
May 28, 2021	Basic Land Policy
June 9, 2021	Regional Decarbonization Roadmap (set by the Council for National and Local Decarbonization)
June 17, 2021	Annual Plan for National Resilience 2021 (set by the Promotion HQ)
June 18, 2021	Green Growth Strategy Through Achieving Carbon Neutrality in 2050 (formulated by the ministries concerned)
June 18, 2021	Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2021
June 18, 2021	Follow-up on the Growth Strategy
June 18, 2021	Basic Policy for Creation of Towns, People, and Jobs 2021
June 22, 2021	Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) on SDGs [JPN Ver.]
July 30, 2021	Action Plan for the Promotion of Watershed Flood Control (Set by the Working-level Conference of ministries concerned)
October 22, 2021	Global Warming Countermeasure Plan
October 22, 2021	The 6th Strategic Energy Plan
October 22, 2021	Climate Change Adaptation Plan
December 24, 2021	SDGs Action Plan 2022
March 30, 2022	30by30 Roadmap (set by the Liaison Conference of the ministries concerned with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan)
June 7, 2022	Basic Policy of Digital Garden City Nation Initiative
June 7, 2022	Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2022
June 18, 2022	Follow-up on the Growth Strategy
June 21, 2022	Annual Plan for National Resilience 2022 (set by the Promotion HQ)



Formulation of Green Infrastructure Promotion Strategy (2019)

◆Social and Economic Background of Green Infrastructure

(1) Responding to climate change
(2) Urban development in a global society
(3) Affinity with SDGs, ESG investments, etc.
(4) Responding to changes in land use in a society with a declining population
(5) Maintenance of existing stock
(6) Realization of a society living in harmony with nature
(7) Environmental, social, and economic foundations rooted in history, lifestyle, and culture.

◆Features and Significance of Green Infrastructure

(1) Diversity of Functions

- The facility or space itself has diverse functions.
- Not just a social capital that serves as a venue for various activities but also fulfills various functions utilizing the entire area's resources.

(2) Participation of Diverse Entities

- Involvement of various entities in maintenance and management through an alliance with locals and private companies.
- Formation of new communities and social capital based on green infrastructure.
- Proper management is necessary because of the participation of diverse entities.

(3) Will Exhibit Its Function Over Time ("Growing" or "Nurturing" Infrastructure)

- Over the years, the function will be demonstrated in response to changes in the natural environment, or new roles will emerge.
- Over time, it will form the region's history, life, and culture.
- Adaptive management based on the uncertainties of the natural environment is necessary

◆Situation Where the Use of Green Infrastructure Should be Promoted

(1) Responding to climate change
(2) Formation of urban space that attracts investment and human resources
(3) Formation of office space in harmony with the natural environment
(4) Sustainable land use and management
(5) Utilization of wasted land and regional development due to population decline, etc.
(6) Comfortable utilization of urban space
(7) Formation of ecosystem networks
(8) Formation of a rich living space

◆Measures to Promote Green Infrastructure

Basic policy: Build green infrastructure initiatives based on broad collaboration among diverse organizations in the review process when promoting social infrastructure development and land use.

(1) Expansion of an environment for mainstreaming green infrastructure

① Create a public-private partnership platform for green infrastructure
② Establish a consultation service, etc.
③ Position various statutory plans
④ Reassess operational policies, and others related to urban planning
⑤ Establish technical guidelines and research and develop elemental technologies
⑥ GI considerations in civil engineering design
⑦ Organize the division of roles and cost burdens for each entity

(2) Enhance support for the promotion of green infrastructure

① Implement model projects and horizontal development of good practices
② New support system for planning, etc.
③ Comprehensive green support system
④ Promote rainwater harvesting and infiltration measures using GI
⑤ Implement priority support through grants, etc.
⑥ Provide financial support for private initiatives
⑦ Create case studies on securing financing

(3) Develop Evaluation Methods for Green Infrastructure

Green Infrastructure Public-Private Partnership Platform

- ✓ In March 2020, MLIT established the “Green Infrastructure Public-Private Partnership Platform” as a forum where various organizations participate and bring together diverse knowledge and skills related to green infrastructure.
- ✓ The Planning and PR Div. , Technology Div., and Finance Div. were established to promote the social application of green infrastructure through the evaluation of surveys, research, and financing methods on the social diffusion of green infrastructure.

Green Infrastructure Public-Private Partnership Platform (Est. March 2020)

Chairman: Keiji Nishizawa (Chairman, Keidanren Comm. on Nature Conservation)

Vice Chairman: Shiro Wakui (Distinguished Prof., Dept. of Environmental Studies, Tokyo City Uni.)

Chair of the Steering Comm.: Haruo Ishida (Prof. Emeritus, Uni. of Tsukuba)

Members

- Pref. Muni.
- Relevant Government Auth.
- Private Business Academic Org. , etc.
- Individual

As of Nov 30, 2022

Member Classification	No. of Members
Pref. & Muni.	98
Relevant Government Auth.	12
Private businesses, academic org., etc.	474
Individual	1, 031
Total	1, 615

Activities

Planning and PR Div.

Social Diffusion of GI

- ➢ Expand partnership building among members
- ➢ Implement the GI Grand Award
- ➢ Deliberate fostering of understanding for educational institutions

Technical Div.

Research and Investigate GI Technology

- ➢ Systematic organization of evaluating methods to visualize the GI effect
- ➢ Studies on effective utilization of GI technology

Finance Div.

Consideration of GI Funding

- ➢ Implement regional model demonstration to study diverse financing options
- ➢ Examine measures to utilize blended finance through public-private partnerships

【Main Private Members】

*Figs. in parentheses indicate the No. of members.

Construction/Environmental Consultants/Think Tanks (135),
Construction (102), Landscaping (62),
Survey Planning and Design (26),
Real Estate (18), Finance (10),
Mass Media (7),
Industry Associations (51), NPOs (16),
Research Institutions (18),
Others (40)