## Sustainability Issues Surrounding the Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry Industries

Sustainability issues in the agriculture, fishery, and forestry industries become more grave with each passing year.

The Norinchukin Bank recognizes that these issues go to the foundation of our businesses.

Sustainability Issues Surrounding the Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry Industries

## Food Waste and Food Loss

- Estimates say that the citizens of Japan throw away the equivalent of one cup of cooked rice every day
- Food waste also involves greenhouse gas emissions required for transport and incineration

Urbanization and Rural Decline

### Climate Change

- Agriculture, forestry, and other land use account for nearly one quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions
- Natural disasters such as typhoons, floods, and large-scale forest fires overseas are increasing in number year by year, causing significant damage to agricultural products
- High temperatures in Japan are causing issues with growth and quality degradation

### Lack of Workers

Low Birth Rates and Declining Population

# Sustainable Agriculture, Fishery, and Forestry industries

- Relatively few farmers and companies in Japan are obtaining GAP, FSC®, MEL\*, and other certifications compared to their counterparts overseas
- At the same time, food manufacturers and distributors are beginning to show preferences for certified products

Loss of Biodiversity

### **Marine Plastics**

- Some estimates say that the volume of marine plastic will exceed the volume of fish in the ocean by the year 2050 if no action is taken
- Some estimates say that seafood eaters ingest the plastic equivalent of one credit card pre week in marine plastic

#### Management and Utilization of Forest Resources

- While many planted forests in Japan are reaching depletion, reforestation efforts are not keeping up
- Factors include stagnant stumpage prices, increased costs of reforestation, and difficulty in finding workers

### Foreign Worker Human Rights

- As the shortage of farm workers becomes a challenge, dependence on foreign workers increases every year
- Illegal activities by employers are also a problem in agriculture

\*GAP: Good Agricultural Practice FSC®: Forest Stewardship Council® MEL: Marine Eco-Label Japan

Sustainability issues in agriculture, fishery, and forestry industries are nothing less than the very foundation of the Norinchukin Bank business



We will contribute to solutions through our businesses