

Japan Forest Environment Transfer Tax (Rinshin Kankyō Jōyo Zei)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Japan

Quality score: 80/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

Since 2019, Japan distributes ¥40–62 billion/year to municipalities and prefectures for managing private plantation forests; from April 2024 funded by a ¥1,000/capita national levy covering all citizens, with 35 watershed funds channelling payments to private forest owners.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	2/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	3/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	2/3
Governance, certification & transferability	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-06-21

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) / Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications — accessed 2026-06-21

IntechOpen – Japanese Forest Conservation System: The Forest Environment Tax — accessed 2026-06-21

MDPI Sustainability – Status and Trends in Forest Environment Transfer Tax across 47 Prefectures — accessed 2026-06-21

CBD – Introducing an Environmental Tax for Forests in Japan — accessed 2026-06-21

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