

Mori Building Adopts TNFD-aligned Disclosures to Strengthen Its Nature-positive Initiatives

Striving to increase its positive impact on urban ecosystem services and biodiversity

Tokyo, June 30, 2025 — Mori Building Co., Ltd., Japan’s leading urban landscape developer, announced today that it has begun disclosing key information about its urban development initiatives to achieve urban biodiversity and other nature-positive outcomes following the company’s decision to participate in the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) Forum.

As part of its TNFD-aligned disclosures, Mori Building conducted a study of its dependence on and impact on nature within its strategic portfolio of urban redevelopment projects in Tokyo’s Minato City and its regional energy supply business. The study revealed that the interaction between green spaces within the company’s various “Hills” complexes and nearby major green areas has created an ecological network that enables approximately 180 insect species to move about in the heart of Tokyo. The study also confirmed that Hills developments have formed rich, biodiversity-friendly soils capable of high carbon sequestration, similar to so-called *satoyama* areas of traditional Japan characterized by rich natural and arable land.

TNFD-based analysis of nature-related information (See following pages for details.)

• Formation of Ecological Networks Supporting Around 180 Insect Species, Including Threatened Ones

At Mori Building’s major developments, including ARK Hills, Roppongi Hills, Azabudai Hills and Toranomon Hills, vegetated and aquatic spaces serve as habitats for a wide range of species. In addition, these spaces interact with other large green areas nearby, such as the Imperial Palace grounds and Shiba Park. The study showed that such interactions foster the formation of ecological networks in central Tokyo that support diverse relationships between insects and plants, thereby helping to protect and foster urban biodiversity.

The findings also suggest that these networks facilitate the movement of approximately 180 insect species, including the Akashijimi butterfly (*Japonica lutea*), which the Tokyo Metropolitan Government has designated as a threatened species.



Chiyoda-ku (2011)
Diana Treebrown
NT (Near Threatened
species)



Chiyoda-ku (2010)
Japonica saepestrata
Vulnerable species
(Endangered Species
Category II)

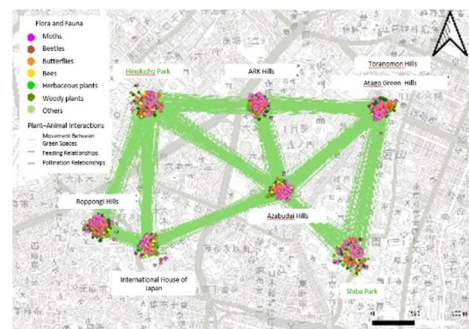


Outside of Tokyo
(2011)
Japanese Luna Moth
Vulnerable species
(Endangered Species
Category II)



Musashimurayama City
(2021)
Japonica lutea
Vulnerable species
(Endangered Species
Category II)

Source: Tokyo Red Data Book (Mainland Area), 2023

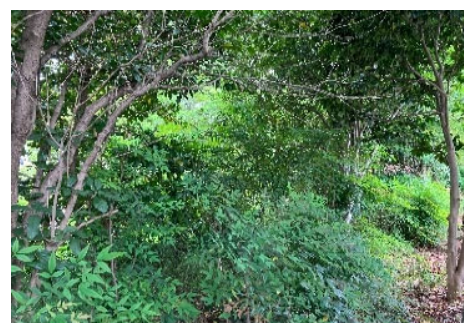


Ecological network formed in central Tokyo

• Creation of *Satoyama*-like, Carbon-rich Soils

The soils within Mori Building’s Hills developments support a rich diversity of soil microorganisms, the result of eco-minded planning during development and ongoing management and operation facilitating natural maturation over time.

These soils exhibit nutrient-cycling characteristics similar to those found in healthy *satoyama* soils. In addition, some areas were found to have exceptionally high levels of carbon sequestration, suggesting that these soils help mitigate climate change by capturing and storing carbon within their urban ecosystems.



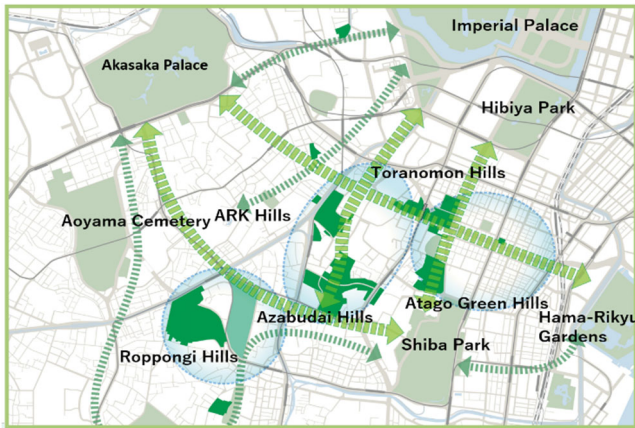
Rich *satoyama*-like soil (ARK Hills)

Cities form the foundation of human activity and are key to realizing a sustainable world. Mori Building, guided by its philosophy to “Create Cities, Nurture Cities,” is committed to furthering its initiatives to create a more nature-positive future, including by promoting harmony between cities and nature, urban decarbonization, and the circular use of urban resources.

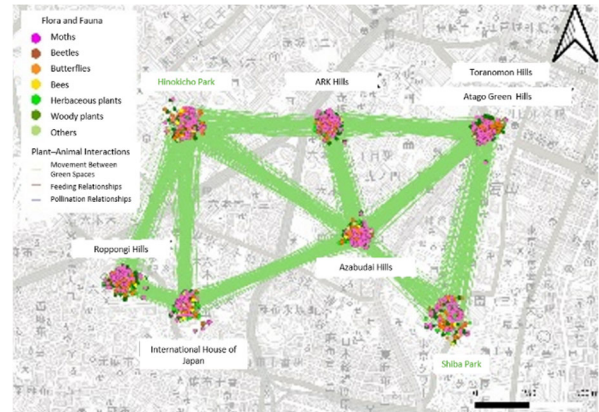
Positive Impact of Hills-complex Green Spaces on Biodiversity

Formation of Ecological Networks Supporting Around 180 Insect Species, Including Threatened Ones

The analytical study examined the relationship between the green spaces within Mori Building's Hills complexes and those in the surrounding Minato City area. Using the standard metric of a butterfly's 400-meter flight range, the connectivity between these green spaces was assessed. The results revealed that Hills green spaces are interacting with other large green areas, including the Imperial Palace, Hibiya Park, Akasaka Imperial Grounds, Aoyama Cemetery and Shiba Park. These interactions form a vast ecological network in central Tokyo that allows for the movement of diverse species, including approximately 180 species of insects. Four of these species are classified by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government as threatened, including the Akashijimi butterfly (*Japonica lutea*). Consequently, the green spaces appear to serve as important habitats for protecting biodiversity in Tokyo.



Hills Complexes and Surrounding Green Spaces



Hills Network (Visited by some 180 species of insects)



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Diana Treebrown
NT (Near Threatened
species)



Chiyoda-ku (2010)
Japonica saepestrata
Vulnerable species
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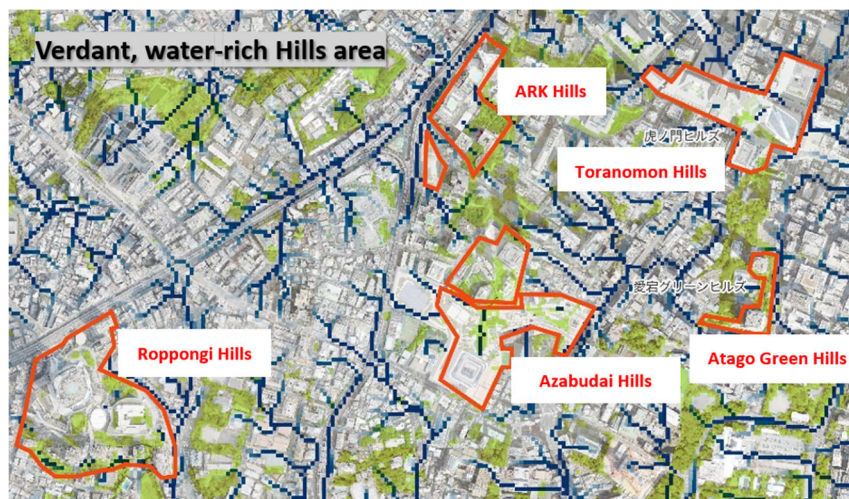
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Source: Tokyo Red Data Book (Mainland Area), 2023

The green spaces within each Hills complex comprise areas with vegetation and water, creating favorable environmental conditions for protecting biodiversity and serving as habitats for a wide range of species. Additionally, Mori Building has been actively creating habitats for rare species in various locations, including the Mohri Garden at Roppongi Hills and waterscape in the Woodpecker Garden at ARK Hills Sengokuyama Mori Tower. The study reaffirmed the effectiveness of these efforts.



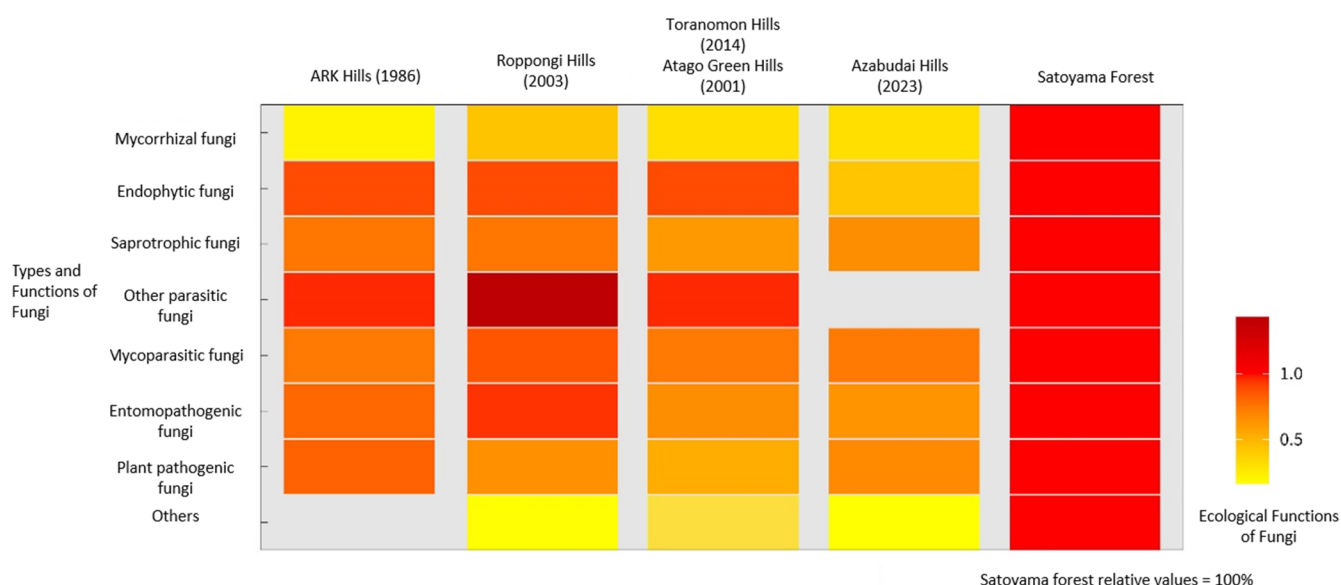
Soil Supporting Biodiversity: Favorable Microbial Conditions in Hills Green Spaces

Soil environments are the foundation of biodiversity because the diversity of microorganisms in soil is critical to supporting plants that take root and the animals that depend on them.

In the study, Mori Building conducted a comprehensive analysis of soil microorganisms using environmental DNA (eDNA) technology developed by Sunlit Seedlings Inc. A total of 48 soil samples were collected from green spaces across the Hills complexes (valid data from 47 samples).

The results revealed that eco-minded designing of green spaces and their purposeful management and operation have supported natural maturation, leading to high levels of microbial diversity. In fact, compared to soils found in naturally rich *satoyama* areas, Hills soils showed a high prevalence of microorganisms involved in nutrient cycling.

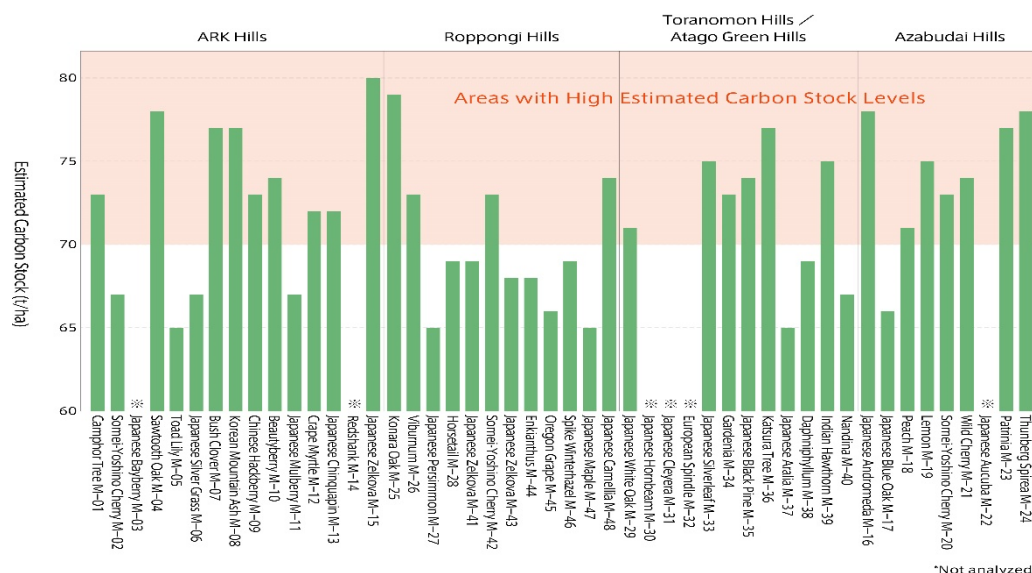
The diversity of functionally important microorganisms was especially high in soils at older developments, such as ARK Hills (completed in 1986) and Roppongi Hills (2003). These developments, which were designed to maintain continuity with their natural surroundings, were found to have soils more closely resembling those of *satoyama* areas, as compared to soils in the newer green spaces of Azabudai Hills, which was completed in 2023.



In addition, about 90% of the carbon absorbed by plants in these green spaces is transferred to the belowground ecosystem, where it is primarily used by soil microorganisms.

By comparing the microbial diversity in Hills green space soils with that in forest soils, the study estimated that the soils at each Hills development have a very high potential for carbon storage. These areas exhibited high microbial diversity and a relatively high presence of microorganisms performing ecological functions similar to those in natural forest soils.

The findings indicate that developing and maintaining high-quality soil environments, even in urban green spaces, can help to mitigate climate change by increasing carbon sequestration in the soil.



Appendix:

Survey and Analysis Methods

The study analyzed nature-related information using the Locate, Evaluate, Assess, Prepare (LEAP) approach, a framework proposed by the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) for assessing nature-related risks and opportunities. Using this approach, Mori Building analyzed its dependencies on and impacts on nature associated with its business activities. Based on this analysis, the company identified and evaluated related risks and opportunities.

In addition, in collaboration with Sunlit Seedlings Inc., a company with advanced ecosystem-analysis technologies such as environmental DNA (eDNA) profiling, Mori Building conducted a detailed assessment of its nature-related dependencies and impacts. This included an in-depth analysis of the positive impact generated by the company in its strategic area of operation in Minato City, Tokyo.

Mori Building's Initiatives Toward Achieving Nature-positive Cities

In recent years, more than 42,000 species worldwide have been identified as being at risk of extinction, highlighting the escalating crisis of biodiversity loss. Such loss threatens to exacerbate natural disasters and jeopardize economic activities. According to the World Economic Forum, over half of the global GDP—approximately 44 trillion dollars—depends on natural capital, suggesting that environmental degradation could lead to significant economic losses. At the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in December 2022, the goal was established to become nature-positive by 2030 in order to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and restore natural systems.

In response, Mori Building has pursued its Vertical Garden City model to address urban challenges related to nature and biodiversity. The concept involves consolidating fragmented land parcels to create large sites on which to construct super high-rise buildings, allowing for extensive green spaces on the open ground and rooftops. This approach promotes urban development that fosters the coexistence of humans and nature, with careful consideration given to biodiversity.

Mori Building was an early participant in efforts to protect global biodiversity. In 2008, the company was one of nine leading Japanese firms to sign the Leadership Declaration of the Business and Biodiversity Initiative at COP9. In addition, Mori Building participated in COP10 in Aichi in 2010, further demonstrating its commitment to protecting biodiversity in urban areas.

The company undertook its first major ecological greening initiative—creating new urban greenery that harmonizes people and nature—at ARK Hills Sengokuyama Mori Tower (completed in 2012). The project received top AAA certification from the Japan Habitat Evaluation and Certification Program and it was registered as a green space under the Tokyo Metropolitan Government's Edo no Midori program. Subsequent projects, including Toranomon Hills Mori Tower completed in 2014 and Azabudai Hills completed in 2023, have furthered the company's ecosystem-conscious initiatives. Going forward, Mori Building is committed creating nature-positive urban environments in central Tokyo.



Rendition of a Vertical Garden City

About Mori Building

Mori Building is an innovative urban developer based in Tokyo. The company is committed to maximizing the magnetic power of cities by creating and nurturing safe, sustainable and cosmopolitan urban centers based on its unique Vertical Garden City concept of high-rise centers for business, education, leisure and residence. The concept is applied in the company's many leading-edge projects, including ARK Hills, Roppongi Hills, Toranomon Hills, and Azabudai Hills in Tokyo and the Shanghai World Financial Center. Mori Building is also engaged in real estate leasing, project management and consultation. Please visit www.mori.co.jp/en

International media inquiries

Public Relations, Mori Building Co., Ltd.
+81 (0)3 6406 6606
koho@mori.co.jp

Weber Shandwick Japan
Mayuko Harada (+81 (0)90 9006 4968)
Minako Momose (+81 (0)80 8751 8014)
Yuko Kato (+81 (0)90 8963 3525)
moribldg@webershandwick.com