



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



G20 GLOBAL
LAND INITIATIVE



鎮守の森の
プロジェクト

Yokohama Declaration on Miyawaki Forests



We, the practitioners and enthusiasts of Miyawaki forests gathered in Yokohama, Japan, for the First International Symposium on Miyawaki forests co-hosted by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification G20 Global Land Initiative and the Morino project.

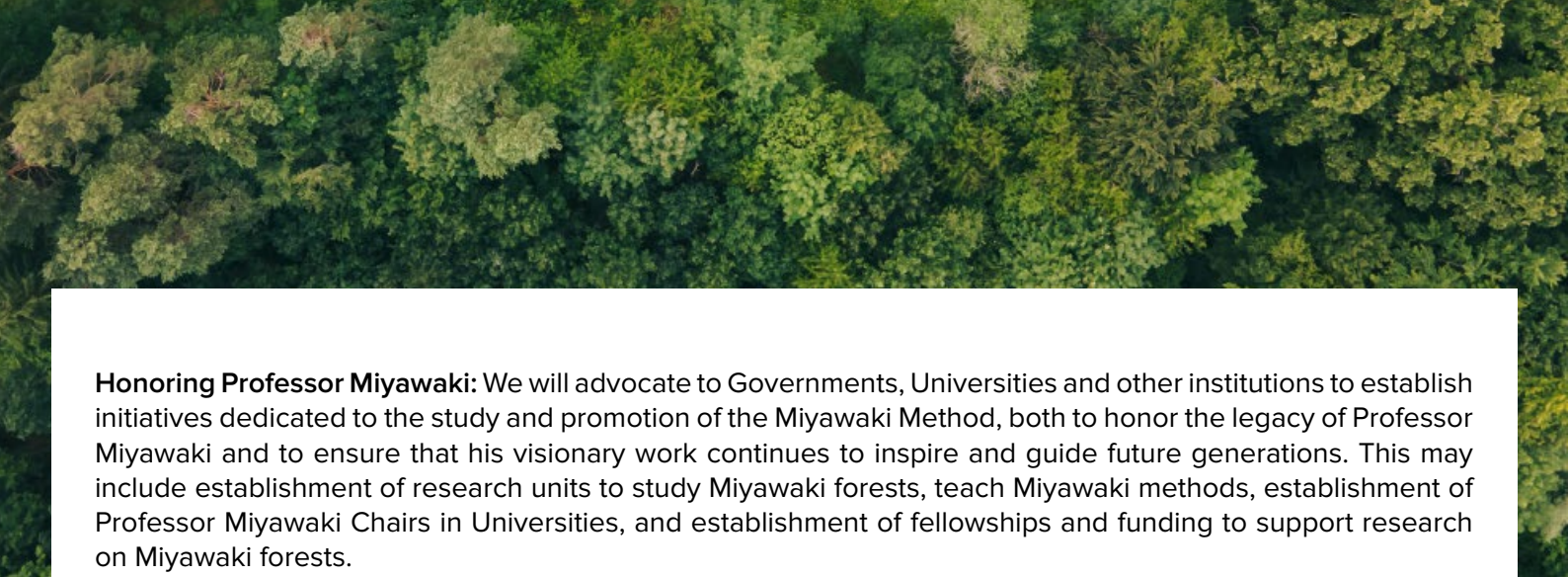
Recognizing the urgent global challenges of climate change, rapid biodiversity loss, land degradation, rapid urbanization, and the growing detachment of children and urban dwellers from nature and the loss of connection to the natural world;

Acknowledging the immense potential of Miyawaki forests to address these challenges through their remarkable ability to enhance biodiversity, mitigate climate change, adapt to its impacts, restore degraded lands, and provide invaluable ecosystem services that are essential for human well-being;

Inspired by the visionary work of Professor Akira Miyawaki and his pioneering approach to forest restoration;
We declare the following:

Miyawaki Forests are a Critical Global Solution: Miyawaki forests are a global solution offering a powerful tool to address the interconnected challenges facing our planet and to create a more sustainable future for generations to come.

Global Miyawaki Forest Practitioners Network: We will establish a Global Miyawaki Forest Practitioners Network to serve as a platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and advocacy. This network will bring together experts from around the world to advance the field of Miyawaki forests, promote their implementation on a global scale, and contribute to the development of policies and guidelines. Regular meetings and conferences will be organized to foster community building, exchange best practices, and disseminate knowledge about Miyawaki forests. This network will also collaborate with organisations with aligned mandates such as the Petit Forest Network, UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, Society for Ecological Restoration, among others.



Honoring Professor Miyawaki: We will advocate to Governments, Universities and other institutions to establish initiatives dedicated to the study and promotion of the Miyawaki Method, both to honor the legacy of Professor Miyawaki and to ensure that his visionary work continues to inspire and guide future generations. This may include establishment of research units to study Miyawaki forests, teach Miyawaki methods, establishment of Professor Miyawaki Chairs in Universities, and establishment of fellowships and funding to support research on Miyawaki forests.

Recognition of Global Actors: We will establish annual awards to recognize individuals, organizations and communities that have made significant contributions to the development and implementation of Miyawaki forests worldwide. These awards will serve to encourage and inspire further action and innovation in this field.

Standardizing Approaches: We will develop a global framework or guidelines for Miyawaki forest plantation, taking into account regional and bioclimatic differences to ensure the successful implementation of these forests in diverse ecological contexts and to maximize their benefits. We will also make effort to translate the guidance, videos and literature on this topic available in different languages to other languages of interest. We will also work with other institutions to establish certification for practitioners on Miyawaki methods.

Education and Capacity Building: We will increase efforts to educate stakeholders, including policymakers, communities, and individuals, about the benefits of Miyawaki forests and to build the capacity of experts to undertake Miyawaki forest plantations. This will empower communities and future generations to become active stewards of their local environments and contribute to the global restoration of our planet. We will also develop both online and in person courses on Miyawaki methods which will enable students to obtain certification and credit on the topic.

Integration into Landscapes: We will work with local authorities, mayors, business and communities to introduce Miyawaki forests for urban land restoration and recreational parks. By incorporating these forests into landscapes, we can foster a deeper connection between people and nature and create a more healthy living.

Creating Nature Labs in the Schools and Universities: We will work with schools and universities around the world to establish Miyawaki forests within their campuses as living teaching laboratories, outdoor classrooms and places for recreation for students. By involving students in creating such nature labs, we will create a new generation of youngsters who understand the physical and spiritual linkages of humanity with nature.

Fostering Global Expansion of Miyawaki Forests: We will establish a comprehensive online platform serving as a centralized repository of information. This platform will include a global database of existing Miyawaki forests, detailing their locations, size, species composition, and ecological outcomes. Additionally, it will include a database of potential natural vegetation for each region as well as feature a directory of experts and institutions worldwide who are actively engaged in planting and promoting Miyawaki forests. This platform will also serve as a clearing house to connect between experts, project proponents and financial funding opportunities. This resource will facilitate knowledge sharing, collaboration, and the replication of successful Miyawaki Forest initiatives on a global scale.

Finally, We commit to working together to promote the widespread adoption and implementation of Miyawaki forests as a sustainable and effective solution to the pressing challenges of our time.

11 October, 2024
Yokohama, Japan