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Materiality of the Kuraray Group

In terms of previous materiality formulated in 2015, 18 material issues were determined, but the materiality was not sufficiently identified from the perspective of solving social issues through business. Accordingly, the Kuraray Group reviewed materiality, which forms the core of its Sustainability Concept.

In the review, we focused on clarifying the issues that the Kuraray Group should resolve through its business operations. To respond to the demands of the globalizing society, all division general managers in Japan and overseas participated in discussions to select new material issues. We believe the Kuraray Group's business utilizing pioneering technologies can contribute to addressing many material issues. These include the five domains currently specified as material issues, which are "improving the natural environment," "improving the living environment," "effective use of resources and reduction of environmental impact," "improving supply chain management" and "building a 'company that people can take pride in'."

Going forward, we plan to formulate a medium-term sustainability plan based on new materiality in line with the next medium-term management plan.

New Materiality

Improving the natural environment Improving the living environment Climate change measures—GHG Water and Air purification Contribute to the safe and reliable Promotion of health and wellness for all Solution of marine plastics and plastic waste Biodiversity conservation
Development of next-generation applications, products and technologies supply of food and water Development of next-generation applications, products and technologies • Imp ement of quality of life _____ * Creating Value to Strengthen the Foundation of Kuraray

Creating Value through Business



Linking Materiality with SDGs

In line with this revision of materiality, material issues that the Kuraray Group should address have been identified from the terms of the SDGs, as shown below in "Procedure to identify materiality."

Each material issue has been linked with the SDGs to clarify the relationship. This allows the Group's sustainability activities to not only address the Group's material issues but also contribute to achieving the target of the SDGs.

Creating Value through Business

Improving the Natural Environment

- By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, Ø eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous
- chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of 6.3 untreated wastewater and substantially increasing
 - recycling and safe reuse globally



- By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution **7** of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities,
- 14.1 including marine debris and nutrient pollution



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6.a

Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience

Improving the Living Environment

services and access to safe, effective, quality and

By 2030, expand international cooperation and

affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

capacity-building support to developing countries in

water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes,

including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency,

Achieve universal health coverage, including financial

risk protection, access to quality essential health-care

Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable * Development, complemented by multistakeholder
17.16
17.16
partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries



17.17 and resourcing strategies of partnerships

Creating Value to Strengthen the foundation of Kuraray

١.	By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination	6 and a	By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally	部 8.7	measures to eradicate forced
3.4 s	By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies	¹³ 🐨 13.3	Improve education, awareness- raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning		child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
c	and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities	By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal 14.2 ecosystems to avoid significant		Bui cul	lding a"company ture we can be proud of"
2.4 i i s v t	By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reducetheir release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impactson human health and the environment	14.2	adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans	^{5 هیر} چ	End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
co g	By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse				

Procedure to Identify Materiality

Material issues (materiality) that the Kuraray Group should deal with on a priority basis have been identified in accordance with the following procedure. Materiality will be reviewed periodically in accordance with developments in the international community, changes in the business environment, and so on.



Step 1

The details of international guidelines and studies by sustainability assessment institutions that are used in extracting and summarizing social issues are as follows.

GRI, Environmental Reporting Guidelines (2012 Version), RBA, MSCI, FTSE4Good, DJSI, ISO26000, UN Global Compact, Green Paper EU, European Commission Strategy on CSR, German Stability Code, Circular Economy Package, American Chemistry Council

Step 2

The four aspects extracted from the "The Chemical Sector SDG Roadmap" of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) are as follows:

Food disposal, water processing, climate change, and people's health and wellness

Step 3

The materiality matrix of the Kuraray Group, which evaluates comprehensively by using the two axes of the "materiality for stakeholders" and "materiality for the Kuraray Group" is shown below.



Materiality Matrix of the Kuraray Group

"Corporate governance," "CSR management," "ethics/code of conduct," "risk management," "relationships with stakeholders," and "top statement" are to be dealt with separately from materiality.

As a result, materiality that the Kuraray Group is expected to deal with on a priority basis were identified as the following 19 aspects:

1	2	3	4	5

Diversity and inclusion	Emission of GHG and harmful substances to the environment	Energy saving / Use of renewable energy	Working smarter and human resource development	Occupational safety and health
6	7	8	9	10
Marine plastics and plastic waste	Product stewardship	Respect for human rights	Food loss	Measures to water shortage
11	12	13	14	15
Reduce / Reuse / Recycle	Climate change	People's health and wellness	Biodiversity	Innovation
16	17	18	19	
CSR Procurement	Supply chain management	Reduction of wastes	Use of water resources	

Step 4

The 19 aspects identified in Step 3 were grouped to determine the following five items of "improving the natural environment," "improving the living environment," "effective use of resources and reduction of environmental impact," "improving supply chain management," and "building a 'company that people can take pride in'" as materiality candidates.

In addition, "improving the natural environment" and "improving the living environment" were grouped under the broad category of "creating value through business," with "effective use of resources and reduction of environmental impact," "improving supply chain management," and "building a 'company that people can take pride in'" under "creating value to strengthen the foundation of Kuraray."

		The 19 aspects identified in the materiality matrix	
Creating Value	Improving the Natural Environment	2、3、10、11、12、14、15	
through Business	Improving the Living Environment	9、10、11、13、15	
	Effective Use of Resources and Reduction of Environmental Impact	2、3、10、11、18、19	
Creating Value to Strengthen the foundation of Kuraray	Improving supply chain management	7、16、17	
	Building a "company culture we can be proud of"	1、4、5、8	

Step 5

The materiality candidates determined in Step 4 were reported to and approved by the Board of Directors.

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