

CONTENTS

- 1. Signed a disaster support agreement with Kurashiki city. P1
- 2. Hosting the "Tree-Raising Gathering" event in Moriyama. P2
- 3. Gunze Shopping Center fostering local connection. P3

February 25, 2026
Gunze Limited

In May 2025, Gunze announced its mid-term management plan, "VISION 2030 stage 2," which declares the company's commitment to achieving sustainable business operations that balance "social value" and "economic value." This commitment will build a sustainable business foundation and establish Gunze as a company that will continue to be chosen globally.

Furthermore, Gunze actively promotes collaboration to revitalize local communities and address challenges. This approach is grounded in the company's founding philosophy of "Coexistence and Mutual Prosperity". In this 16th edition, we highlight our initiatives under the theme of "Collaboration with Local Communities".

Toward a Disaster-Resilient Society: Gunze Sports and Kurashiki City Sign Disaster Support Agreement

Guided by its founding philosophy of "Coexistence and Mutual Prosperity", the Gunze Group continues to support the safety and well-being of local communities. As part of this commitment, Gunze Sports has signed a disaster support agreement with Kurashiki City in Okayama.

Under the agreement, Gunze Sports will make its facilities available as emergency evacuation sites during disasters. In addition, its professional trainers will provide exercise support for evacuees during prolonged shelter stays. By combining physical infrastructure with specialized expertise, the initiative helps prevent physical decline and strengthens regional disaster preparedness.

Gunze Sports will also participate in disaster prevention activities in normal times, contributing to community awareness and resilience. Through daily health support and rapid response in emergencies, the company reinforces its role as a trusted community partner.



Gunze Sports and Kurashiki City Sign Disaster Support Agreement

We have signed a disaster support agreement with Kurashiki City

Now marking its 20th anniversary, the Gunze Sports Ivy Square Club has grown into more than a fitness facility—it is a place of reassurance and connection for the community. This trust was evident when residents, including those living alone, sought comfort at the club following a recent earthquake.

Aiming to serve as a "third place" beyond home or work, the club views disaster support as a natural extension of its mission.

Providing evacuation space and expert-led exercise programs helps ease the physical and mental strain of prolonged evacuation life. With experienced trainers serving all generations, Gunze Sports remains committed to giving back to the community that has supported it for two decades.



Mr. Naito, Gunze Sports Manager

Promoting Community Coexistence and Forest Conservation through the Tree-Raising Gathering at Biwako Forest of Global Citizens

Gunze established a plant in Moriyama city, Shiga in 1967. Today, it operates its main plastic film business, as well as its R&D and technology development functions, there. In line with its Sustainability Basic Policy, Gunze actively participates in local community initiatives, such as Moriyama City's "Biwako Forest of Global Citizens" tree-raising gathering. The Biwako Forest of Global Citizens is a Shiga Prefectural park that was created by converting the former Yasu River site into a wooded area. Sharing this vision, Gunze supports the annual "Tree-Raising Gathering" through the Sansui-kai business association. Originally a tree-planting activity launched in 2001, the program evolved to include tree thinning in 2014, reflecting the forest's growth. This initiative aims to promote environmental education for future generations and foster coexistence with the local community.



Gunze team at Tree-Raising Gathering



Tree thinning operations

Hosting the "Tree-Raising Gathering" event

The "Tree-Raising Gathering" at the Biwako Forest of Global Citizens is a long-standing community initiative led by the Moriyama City Business Alliance, Sansui-kai. Established in the 1960s by companies that had newly entered Moriyama City, Sansui-kai was founded to promote friendship, regional cooperation, and local prosperity. Today, 47 city-based businesses participate. Through regular meetings and activities such as cleaning Lake Biwa, members work closely with the local government to support community development.

The Tree-Raising Gathering is a key part of these efforts. Having moved beyond the initial planting stage, the initiative now focuses on maintaining and improving forest health.

One highlight of the event is the rare opportunity to fell trees approximately five meters tall. Participants work together, sawing until their arms ache, and share the excitement of hearing a tree fall with a sharp crack. This year, about 200 people—across companies, generations, and genders—joined forces, naturally supporting one another throughout the work. Sharing the physical challenge fosters smiles, camaraderie, and a strong sense of unity. As an organizer, witnessing this spirit of cooperation brings a deep sense of fulfillment.

Caring for the forest also contributes to CO₂ reduction and the protection of Lake Biwa's environment. Moriyama City's Citizen Charter calls for "a well-ordered city overflowing with beautiful water and greenery," and the Tree-Raising Gathering puts that vision into action.

Now in its 25th year, the event continues to grow as a symbol of community collaboration. As organizers, we hope it will carry on for many years and be remembered as an initiative that helps build a sustainable society.



Mr. Hikawa, Gunze Plastic Company Manager (Chairman of the Sansui- Kai) and Ms. Tachiiri.

Tsukashin: A Community-Centered Shopping Center Fostering Local Connection

Located in Amagasaki City, Hyogo, the Gunze Group's Tsukashin shopping center is enhancing its appeal through a community-centered strategy focused on families and the generations responsible for child-rearing. With a selection of local specialty shops and everyday retailers, Tsukashin aims to become an integral part of residents' daily lives.

Beyond shopping, the center offers "Stay-and-Experience" features, such as natural hot springs, a sports club, and spacious garden areas. These features create an environment where visitors can comfortably spend the entire day. Through these initiatives, Tsukashin continues to evolve as a lively community hub.

Since last year, Tsukashin has sponsored a hands-on crafting event using scrap materials organized by the Amazukuri Pavilion Executive Committee. The event provides a space for community interaction and introduces children to the joy of creating things. Tsukashin remains committed to being a "town of relaxation" that brings warmth, vitality, and connection to the local community



Workshop: "Let's Make Eco Monsters from Scrap Materials"



Workshop: "Let's Play with Gears! Gear Factory"

Crafting Workshop Using Scrap Materials

In this experiential workshop, children learn the fun of crafting while using surplus materials from Amagasaki-based companies to raise awareness of environmental responsibility. Participants will create the original character "Eco Monster" from the materials and learn the value of reuse.

A new program, the "Gear Factory," was added this year, allowing children to assemble plastic-molded gears and experience how motion is created through interlocking mechanisms. A free technical experience corner, which includes metal polishing, highlights the advanced manufacturing skills found in Amagasaki.

Inspired by the open-factory movement, the initiative was launched three years ago to introduce the public, especially elementary school students, to the region's manufacturing strengths. The Amazukuri Pavilion Executive Committee organizes the program, bringing together local businesses, government, and support organizations. The program promotes Amagasaki as a manufacturing city while fostering new connections between industry and the community.



Mr. Ohira, Amagasaki City Industrial Policy Division

For more information, please contact

GUNZE LIMITED, Corporate Communication Department
TEL : +81-6-6348-1314 (Shinji Nonaka)
GUNZE website <https://www.gunze.co.jp/english/>