



## Policy for the future:

The JFE Group recognizes biodiversity preservation as a key challenge and conducts assessments to minimize the ecological impact from business activity. Our initiatives include cooperating with the community to monitor biodiversity and carry out preservation activities in order to minimize ecological impact around the steelworks, as key facilities for our business, and in surrounding areas. It also involves developing iron and steelmaking slag products that can help restore the marine environment. Furthermore, outside of our business operations, we launched a joint research program with the local government and are conducting environment-related training for local communities.

## Restoring Marine Ecosystems

Marine Stone™, a gravel-type steel slag product, is a habitat forming material that suppresses hydrogen sulfide, which arises from an unhealthy seabed and improves water and sediment quality in enclosed coastal waters.

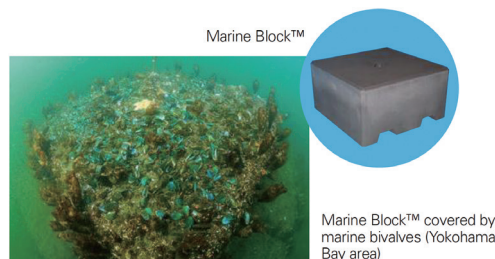
Its effectiveness in improving marine environments has been widely recognized, and the joint project with Hiroshima University received the Minister's Prize (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries) in the 12th Eco Products Awards and the Grand Prize in the 26th Nikkei Global Environmental Technology Award. Hiroshima Prefecture has used a total of 38,000 tonnes of Marine Stone™ in its Fukuyama Port Marine Environment Creation Project (inner harbor area). Its marine environment improvement property was confirmed to still be effective in 2019, four years after its initial placement.



Inner harbor area of Fukuyama Port, Hiroshima Prefecture, where Marine Stone™ is laid out, at low tide. The entire area is covered by seaweed.

## Contributing to the Creation of an Attractive Seaside Town

In a joint research project with the City of Yokohama, JFE Steel has confirmed that steel slag products, including Marine Block™, which is steel slag absorbing CO<sub>2</sub> gas, provide a highly effective base for nurturing and growing sea organisms while also facilitating the natural cleansing of seabeds and seawater. We will continue to work on this project with the City of Yokohama toward improving the marine environment in Yokohama Bay and developing an attractive seaside town.



**The JFE Group engages with members of the community in activities to preserve biodiversity.**