The Sasakawa Peace Foundation Bldg.,
1-15-16 Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8524, Japan
TEL: 03-5157-5430 FAX: 03-5157-5420
Email: spfpr@spf.or.jp

▸One minute on foot from Exit 4 of Toranomon Station on the Tokyo Metro Ginza Line

For more details,
please visit our website.
www.spf.org/en/

Published by: The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
June 2019

Unauthorized duplication, reproduction,
or any other use of this publication is prohibited.

SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION

2019

Mission Statement

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) addresses the diverse and complex issues that human society is encountering in the 21st century. In order to respond to an increasing number of natural disasters and social crises, we implement and support a variety of programs and projects. As a private Japanese foundation, we strive to strengthen cooperation at all levels between Japan and the international community. Moreover, we make use of our freedom as a private foundation to promote activities, proposals, and exchanges in the search for a new governance model for human society.

Toward New Ocean Governance

We make proposals for better ocean governance and promote policy implementation to protect our oceans, which are the common heritage of mankind. Through international cooperation and coordination, we promote research about comprehensive ocean management and sustainable development. As an organization located in a country surrounded by the sea, we pursue a model of a new ocean state that maintains a balance between development and utilization of marine resources and environmental protection. We make efforts to enhance cooperation with the international community, especially with Asian and Pacific countries, to establish the ocean governance of the future.

Realization of World Peace and Security

We implement and support projects that contribute to world peace and security by devoting our efforts to the stability and development of the Asia-Pacific region and the international community. At the same time, we consider strategies for governance in new areas of maritime and space security in cooperation with leaders of other countries and in various fields by conducting studies and making proposals. We also examine and implement measures to ensure the security of citizens against internal conflicts, terrorism, and natural disasters, which have recently been increasing around the world.

Solving the Diverse Problems of the Planet

Keeping the diversity of the world community in view, we seek tailor-made solutions for each country and region. With the current aging of the population in Japan and the rest of the developed world, growth has slowed down in recent years. Social problems are arising from the aging population and increasing economic disparities. On the other hand, the population in the developing world is growing rapidly, bringing about various problems inside as well as outside the countries concerned. With the goal of creating practical solutions to these complex problems, we promote approaches that respect diversity. In order to realize a society where individuals can fully express their potential and contribute to creating a better future, we encourage innovative efforts at the policymaking level.

Sasakawa Peace Foundation April 1, 2015

INDEX

2 Program Policy

4 Japan–U.S. Program

6 International Peace and Security Department

10 Pacific Island Nations Program

12 Asia Peace Initiatives Department

14 Asia Social Integration Department

16 Gender Investment and Innovation Department

18 Sasakawa Japan–China Friendship Fund

20 Middle East and Islam Program Department

22 The Ocean Policy Research Institute

26 History of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation

27 Organization Chart

28 Foundation Profile

29 Councilors, Honorary Chairman, Trustees

This brochure contains a selection of current SPF projects.

Program Policy

In order to fulfill the mission set out in our Mission Statement, we reviewed our programs implemented since April 2015 and adopted the following five priority goals in 2017: (1) Further strengthening the Japan–U.S. relationship, (2) expanding Japan's presence in Asia, (3) enhancing understanding of and relationships with Islamic countries, (4) establishing ocean governance, and (5) empowering women. As a public interest incorporated foundation, SPF is able to implement unconstrained ideas and maintain a long-term perspective to work toward achieving these goals while remaining flexible in the face of global changes.

Further strengthening the Japan–U.S. relationship

The United States is Japan's most important ally from a political, economic, and security perspective. However, the people of the two countries still do not have a sufficient level of understanding and recognition of each other. SPF will further promote private-sector exchange between the people of Japan and the United States to strengthen bilateral ties. Particularly in the area of security, SPF will promote initiatives and deepen Japan's relationship with the U.S. based on diverse perspectives.

Expanding Japan's presence in Asia

While Asian countries and the region as a whole are enjoying strong economic growth, they also face a multitude of difficulties including a growing population and challenges with environmental protection. SPF sees Asia's issues as its own issues and aims to share Japan's extensive knowledge and unique solutions accumulated from its past experiences with the people of countries and regions across Asia. The foundation will explore measures that lead to a path for stable and sustainable development through collaboration between Japan and the rest of Asia.

Enhancing understanding of and relationships with Islamic countries

The emergence of extremism and protracted armed conflicts in the Middle East has had a ripple effect on the rest of the world, even reaching Muslim communities in Asia. Despite an increasing inflow of information on this topic, Japanese society still has a long way to go before establishing recognition and true understanding of people in Muslim societies. SPF will promote networking with Islamic countries around the world, urging Japanese people to form an accurate understanding about Muslim societies.

Establishing ocean governance

Various issues such as environmental pollution and excessive fishing have become common in oceans around the world, requiring urgent action. However, many countries have yet to fully address the ocean crisis they face. SPF will gather opinions from international experts in various fields regarding ways to make our oceans sustainable while also establishing mutual cooperation to generate a greater collective impact.

Empowering women

If Japan is to increase its influence in international society, women's empowerment is essential in all aspects of society including politics, economy, education, and science. There are many examples of female empowerment around the world that Japan should consider. SPF will focus on the roles that women fulfill in society to explore new potential solutions for a range of international and social issues.

Japan–U.S. Program

Promoting close cooperation and open discussion among diverse experts from Japan and the United States is of increasing significance to ensure regional peace and stability. As international relationships continue to evolve — including notable political turbulence in the United States — it has become even more important to deepen mutual understanding and foster cooperative ties between these two countries. We believe that deepening Japan–U.S. relations can contribute to sustaining regional stability and prosperity.

To this end, the Japan–U.S. Program implements a wide range of projects to build and strengthen a platform of experts and intellectual ideas, which would help Japan and the U.S. pursue opportunities for cooperation and tackle global challenges, from a medium- to long-term perspective.

Recognizing the importance of contributing to policymaking and formation of public opinions from an independent perspective, this program pursues building multi-faceted networks through strategic people-to-people exchange; promoting policy research and joint studies, primarily on foreign policy and security issues; encouraging and involving the next generation of experts in both countries; and enhancing information dissemination.

Japan–U.S. Opinion Leaders Exchange Program IV

Third year of a three-year project

[**Research and information dissemination**]

This project includes various activities including ❶ research and analysis regarding the current politics, foreign policy, and social environment of the United States; ❷ a policy recommendation project on the Asia strategy of the Japan–U.S. alliance; ❸ comparative studies on the relationships of various U.S. allies and partners with the United States; and ❹ information dissemination and publication aimed at deepening mutual understanding and strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

Publication of a special monograph series on Japan–U.S. relations with contributions from experts involved in the program

Asian-American U.S. state-level legislators' Japan visit program in cooperation with the U.S. Japan Council

[**People-to-people exchange**]

With the aim of contributing to the creation of a new and diverse network of influential opinion leaders from Japan and the United States, this project takes the two-pronged approach of welcoming American opinion leaders to Japan as well as sending Japanese opinion leaders to the United States. It also aims to foster broader cooperation, deepen mutual understanding, and build new and broader networks between the two countries. In addition, we conduct congressional exchanges in collaboration with SPF–USA and other U.S. organizations, enhancing relationships and trust among policymakers and lawmakers from both countries.

Young Strategists Forum

Second year of a three-year project

Project Partner German Marshall Fund

This project seeks to develop a strategic mindset among the next generation of experts in Japan, the United States, and other countries for an age of mounting domestic and international challenges. The project cultivates a new generation of strategic thinkers, enabling them to exert effective leadership in partnership with other democracies. The program also gives participants a high-level perspective on the Japan–U.S. alliance and its role in the Indo–Pacific region.

Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA (SPF–USA)

As a U.S. think tank specializing in Japan–U.S. relations in collaboration with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, SPF–USA seeks to influence policymaking and public opinion by conducting research projects on Japan–U.S. cooperation and disseminating its findings to policy communities in the two countries. In an effort to promote the importance of Japan–U.S. relations as well as mutual understanding and collaboration between the two countries, SPF–USA also works with a diverse group of experts and emerging next-generation leaders including policymakers, business leaders, members and staff of Congress, and researchers.

SPF–USA Chairman Admiral Dennis Blair

International Peace and Security Department

Since its establishment, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) has implemented and supported projects that contribute to global peace and security. The International Peace and Security Department carries out projects that strengthen peace and stability in Japan, the Asia-Pacific region, and the rest of the world. More specifically, the department conducts research, disseminates information, and provides policy recommendations concerning Japan's defense issues; the Japan–U.S. alliance, which has been a key contributor to the stability of Japan and the Asian region; regional issues in Asia; and challenges for world stability. Through these activities, the department also plays a part in private-sector defense diplomacy (Track II diplomacy).

The Study of Contemporary China "SPF China Observer"

Third year of a three-year project

This project carries out fixed-point observations of China's diplomacy, military affairs, economy, and other areas to develop an overall set of basic data for Japanese foreign policy making. Findings are compiled into academic papers and released publicly.

Publishing our analysis through the SPF China Observer website

Analysis of the Implication of China's Economic Operation

Third year of a three-year project

This project gathers data on China's investments, assistance, and other foreign economic activities in order to compare them with the country's diplomatic activities to highlight the ways that China's foreign economic activities play a role in its diplomatic strategy. The gathered data are also used in net assessment.

Balance Sheet of Lesser Allies and Implication for Japanese Alliance Policy

Second year of a two-year project

This project sheds light on the advantages and disadvantages of Japanese cooperation with the U.S. by comparing Japan with other U.S. allies in Asia and Europe. It also investigates how Japan should overcome its disadvantages and use its advantages in order to maintain a good relationship with the U.S.

Policy Proposal for Implementing "Proactive Contribution to Peace"

Third year of a three-year project

Under the slogan of "proactive contribution to peace," as presented by the Japanese government in its national security strategy, this project explores Japan's future options with respect to diplomatic and security policies and defines their order of priority to recommend policies for adoption.

A press conference to present a policy proposal

Security Dialogues and Defense Exchanges between Japan and Asian Countries II

Third year of a three-year project

This project organizes mutual visits and networking between Asia's elite defense officials and senior Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) officers to promote mutual understanding about defense situations and expand interpersonal networks, thereby contributing to building strong trust with relevant countries.

A delegation of JSDF officers visit facilities of the Vietnamese People's Army

Japan's Defense Diplomacy

First year of a three-year project

This research project aims to facilitate the public understanding of defense diplomacy in Japan and to make a positive impact on the government's policy formulation and implementation. To achieve these goals, the project will conduct relevant research including case studies of other countries, host seminars for practitioners and academics, and produce publications.

Japan–U.S. Alliance Study II

First year of a five-year project

In light of what some call a new Cold War between the U.S. and China, this project will review the significance of the Japan–U.S. alliance as a "public good" for Asia and the international community. Specifically, this project seeks to redefine and examine Japan's new role in its national security with the ultimate goal of formulating national security policy recommendations. This project will take an evidence-based approach to security assessments using tabletop exercises (TTX) and new analytic approaches to consider a variety of situations.

Presenting the latest news and analysis with IINA

Information Provision of International Situation and Security II

First year of a three-year project

This project will distribute the latest research and analysis on international and regional security and defense issues in English and Japanese through the International Information Network Analysis (IINA) website.

Japanese Energy Security in a New Era II

First year of a three-year project

This project analyzes domestic and international risk factors in Japan's energy security in order to strengthen Japan's energy resilience by refining and publicizing analytic resources including Japan's energy security risk map, making policy recommendations, and evaluating mid-to long-term energy risks.

A scene from a seminar on energy security

Research for Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Technology

Second year of a two-year project

Japan, as a country advanced in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the only nation to have suffered attacks by atomic bombs, has an important role to play regarding global nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation. To this end, this project aims to amass the diverse insights of experts from Japan, the U.S., and other countries through seminars on topics including the international control of nuclear fuel, international management of reprocessing and enrichment facilities, nuclear power plant safety management, and others. The results of these discussions will be drafted into policy proposals and compiled into written reports.

Enhancing National Cybersecurity

First year of a three-year project

To promote a more comprehensive understanding of the general state of cybersecurity in Japan, this project will gather experts from Japan and other countries for a series of workshops, seminars, and tabletop exercises (TTX). In addition, this project aims to formulate policy recommendations to bolster the national cybersecurity of Japan while strengthening information dissemination about new developments on topics including cyberattacks.

Security in the Indo-Pacific Region

First year of a two-year project

This project carries out extensive research on the current situation and issues of the Indo-Pacific region with special emphasis on the countries bordering the Indian Ocean. While looking into the roles of island nations in maritime security, the project explores comprehensive development strategies which could contribute to the stability and holistic development of the region.

SPF Chairman Nobuo Tanaka presents then-Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera with policy recommendations on Indian Ocean regional security

Pacific Island Nations Program

Since the establishment of the Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund in 1989, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) has carried out various activities, including exchange programs and human resource development projects, with the aim of contributing to the stability of the Pacific region as well as the prosperity of Pacific island nations.

More recently, SPF has focused on the Micronesia region, which is not only geographically close to Asia but also has deep historical ties with Japan.

In February 2016, SPF together with the Nippon Foundation signed a memorandum of understanding with the Republic of Palau to support its government through projects enhancing capacity-building efforts with the country's coastguard and promotion of eco-conscious tourism.

Furthermore, in light of the recent growing influence of Pacific island nations in the international arena, SPF will also broaden its focus to include emerging issues in the Pacific islands region.

Enhancing Human Resources for Maritime Security in the Micronesia Region II

First year of a three-year project

This project seeks to enhance the capability of Palau's coastguard through training of marine law enforcement officials and improving the operations of the small patrol boats as well as the 40-meter-long medium-sized patrol vessel provided by The Nippon Foundation. At the same time, this project will contribute to stability in Micronesia through dialogues and collaboration with relevant countries.

Training by Japan Coast Guard officers

Building Japan's Strategy on the Security Issues in the Pacific Island Region

Second year of a two-year project

In order to increase the effectiveness of the Japanese government's strategy for the regional security of the Pacific islands, this project will produce policy recommendations based on analysis of security and defense policies and relevant initiatives in the Pacific islands region. Furthermore, this project will work to strengthen the relationships between regional organizations including the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and SPF.

Promotion of Palau Sustainable Tourism Model

First year of a two-year project

To support economic growth while conserving the natural resources and culture of Palau, this project aims to establish a management system for community-based ecotourism informed by environmental capacity studies. These efforts in Palau will be shared with other Micronesian countries and regional organizations to serve as a model for sustainable tourism. More broadly, this project will contribute to the development of sustainable societies in the Pacific island nations through the creation of a regional tourism policy.

Post PALM8 (Eighth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting) Roundtable

Strengthening the Genuine Partnership between the Pacific Island Countries and Japan

First year of a three-year project

This project seeks to leverage SPF's position as a private sector platform to establish strategic partnerships between Pacific island countries and Japan by enhancing Track 1.5 and Track 2 dialogues. As a policy think tank for regional affairs in the Pacific islands, SPF will make policy recommendations to the government of Japan and other stakeholders based on the aforementioned dialogues, the latest information, and in-depth analysis.

Asia Peace Initiatives Department

Rapidly-growing Asia is plagued by conflicts in various areas where people have suffered from violence for many years. SPF has been committed to building peace in Thailand's Deep South, enhancing the capabilities of local civil society, and developing an environment conducive to peace dialogue. For several years, SPF has managed a program in Northeast India supporting the process of compiling policy recommendations for sustainable development by local intellectuals as well as launching initiatives to disseminate constructive information about the region. Furthermore, we assist in the training of journalists with the purpose of supporting democratization in Asia.

Japan's Roles in Peacebuilding

Second year of a two-year project

This project supports peacebuilding in southern Thailand by facilitating communication among parties and individuals involved in official Track 1 peace dialogues and by supporting capacity building of local civil society and journalists. Furthermore, we plan to organize an international workshop and other activities to share our experiences of peacebuilding in Southern Thailand over the past eight years.

Conflict Transformation in the Deep South of Thailand

Second year of a two-year project

In this project, SPF in partnership with Peace Resource Collaborative, a network of intellectuals based in Bangkok, focuses on activities to strengthen and deepen the relationship with parties and individuals in the Thai government and supports official working-level peace talks as well as initiatives to expand networks with policymakers in Bangkok.

Analysis of Pre-Peace Talk Initiatives in Peacebuilding

Second year of a two-year project

SPF will collaborate with Accord, an internationally acclaimed journal providing narrative and rigorous analysis of peace processes all over the world, with the aim of publishing a journal issue on the importance of the "pre-talk" phase, which comes before conflicting parties engage in peace dialogues. SPF's experiences in southern Thailand will be analyzed as one of the case studies. After the issue is published, a series of workshops will be organized in London and Brussels to share the findings and make policy recommendations.

Preserving and Sharing Histories and Memories of Northeast India

First year of a three-year project

In Northeast India, an ethnically diverse region with a rich cultural tradition, people have been suffering from hardships including conflict throughout history. This project aims to support cultural activities that allow local communities to preserve and share their experiences and history. Examples of these activities include the creation of publications, organization of events to celebrate cultural diversity, and development of documentary film archives.

Looking into the Past for a Future: Shared History of Northeast India and its Neighbors

Second year of a two-year project

The Indian government's Act East Policy has drawn increased domestic and international attention to Northeast India, the region that links South and Southeast Asia. In recent decades, attempts have been made to reestablish connectivity between countries in this unofficial region, which includes the area known as Northeast India, Bangladesh, and Myanmar, through a series of multilateral infrastructure initiatives to link the region and create a shared future. However, it seems that the results of such initiatives are profoundly conditioned by "social reconciliation," based on people-to-people contact established through mutual trust, shared confidence, and friendships.

To better understand these underlying factors, this project aims to consider a) whether the "shared history" of the region can constitute the core of the social capital essential to forge effective people-to-people ties and b) the scope and possibility of accommodating such an initiative to understand this "shared history" within the broader framework of regional cooperation. In particular, attempts will be made to forge academic collaborations among individuals and institutions in answering these two questions.

Asia Social Integration Department

Amidst increasing ASEAN integration and economic growth, Asian nations have had to contend with population aging and rapid changes in their socio-economic structures. Japan, which encountered these challenges earlier than its neighbors, can use its experiences and lessons learned to assist other countries in the region. By focusing on social issues in Asia, this department aims to address issues of population aging, gender, and migration as its central themes in order to obtain a comprehensive grasp of demographic, social, and structural changes in the region as well as associated challenges, thereby creating opportunities to present alternative solutions in a practical manner.

Proposing New Roles for Men in Asia

Second year of a three-year project

This project aims to study the role men play in promoting greater gender equality in Japan and other Asian countries. As part of this project, a survey was conducted in Japan, Seoul, Taipei, Shanghai, and Hong Kong focusing on the concept of so-called "caring masculinity." The preliminary evidence suggests that masculinity itself is a flexible concept, and that men may on a semi-conscious level be modifying their own interpretations of masculinity to adapt to new situations. The results from these surveys will be used to formulate policy proposals to address issues facing men in the region.

Discussions with Representatives from "Involved Fathers in Korea"

Asia Impact Dialogue

Second year of a three-year project

By facilitating dialogues among experts, civil society stakeholders, and policymakers, this project aims to address the diverse needs of populations in Japan and Asia in order to create practical solutions to common issues. To date, this project has convened workshops with local partners in Singapore, Fukuoka, and Vietnam to discuss topics such as aging in Asia, and shared knowledge and best practices of different countries in the region. Moving forward, SPF will arrange dialogues about gender equality and women's empowerment in the region, with a particular focus on the pay gap between men and women as well as the role of businesses and the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Building Migration Resource Platform for Asia

First year of a three-year project

This project takes a multifaceted approach to international migration in Asia to produce and distribute comprehensive information and analysis. To this end, the program will organize seminars and conferences attended by experts and practitioners, and also establish a platform for sharing resources. By doing so, this project seeks to improve information-sharing mechanisms, strengthen cooperation among various stakeholders, and bring the voices of migrants and their supporters into the policymaking process in order to realize safe and effective migration not only for the sending and receiving countries but also for the migrants themselves.

Gender Investment and Innovation Department

The Gender Investment and Innovation Department was established in FY 2017 after SPF identified women's empowerment as one of its main strategic pillars. Through the development of initiatives to support women's economic empowerment and gender equality, we envision a more prosperous, sustainable, and inclusive Asia. To achieve this goal, we work in close collaboration with regional partners to implement programs that meet local needs and to generate policy recommendations aligned with global trends to close gender gaps.

The Asia Women Impact Fund was also launched this year with the vision of empowering all women in Asia to reach their full potential. The Fund supports women entrepreneurs through innovative approaches to improve their access to finance, skills training, and business advancement through information and communication technologies (ICT).

Ecosystem Building for SDGs Financing

Second year of a three-year project

This project aims to promote and accelerate the growth of impact investing in Asia. Through a series of ecosystem-building activities such as publishing research reports and organizing workshops, we hope to encourage more philanthropic capital in Asia to flow into impact investing, to conduct research on the ways that various innovative financing mechanisms could create an impact, and to convene stakeholders of impact investing in Asia to facilitate partnerships and knowledge sharing.

Addressing Gender Issues in Asia through Entrepreneurship

First year of a five-year project

Critical gender gaps permeate many aspects of society in Southeast Asia. Factors ranging from access to healthcare and education to socio-cultural norms limiting household decision-making and agency influence the ability of women to reach their full potential. This pervasive issue has traditionally been tackled by government-based policy interventions and the dedicated work of NGOs and NPOs. However, entrepreneurship could provide a novel mechanism to unlock innovative market-based solutions to address gender gaps. In collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and international partners, over a period of five years, the Gender 50 project aims to identify and showcase 50 "gender impact entrepreneurs" who are improving the lives of women in Southeast Asia through entrepreneurship. By awarding and equipping these entrepreneurs with the support they need to further grow their business, we seek to contribute to scaling "gender impact" in the region.

Supporting Women Entrepreneurs in Asia

Single-year project

Entrepreneurship has the potential to improve the economic status and financial stability of women in Asia. However, the gap in access to resources, earnings and financial support between male and female entrepreneurs continues to widen. In collaboration with regional and global partners, this project aims to apply user centered design principles to support women entrepreneurs to gain access to technical assistance, skills training, and technologies that can facilitate business development and growth. Additionally, to develop a sustainable enabling environment, a focus will be placed on building an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem to advance gender inclusive incubation and acceleration in South East Asia.

Attendees of workshops for women entrepreneurs

Sasakawa Japan–China Friendship Fund

The Sasakawa Japan–China Friendship Fund, which originally launched in 1989, is one of the largest private-sector programs supporting exchanges between Japan and China. Since its establishment, the fund has promoted mutual understanding between the people of Japan and China and actively participated in efforts to build an environment for shaping constructive and cooperative ties between the two countries. In the future, the fund will organize people-to-people exchanges and dialogues in specific fields, provide information, and facilitate the creation of an environment that can contribute to mutual understanding through enhanced efforts to share experiences and cooperate to advance the societies and economies of both countries. The fund will also maintain broad awareness about opportunities for collaboration between Japan, China, and other countries in East Asia.

Japan–China Field Officer Exchange Program

Second year of a five-year project

SPF has restarted its exchange program between the Japan Self-Defense Forces and the China People's Liberation Army, which was conducted for 11 years until a temporary suspension following the deterioration of political relations in 2012. This program establishes yearly exchange visits between Japanese and Chinese forces. During these exchanges, visiting field officers tour the host country's ground, marine, and air force bases; undertake studies on national defense policies; exchange opinions with defense officials and civilians; visit businesses and agricultural villages; and travel to historic and cultural sites in efforts to foster mutual understanding and facilitate friendships.

Japan Self-Defense Force Officials visit the Shanghai Marine Base in China

Invitation Program for Chinese Journalists

Fourth year of a five-year project

This project invites China's media personnel, including popular bloggers and journalists, to come to Japan to experience the country first-hand, allowing them to relay their experience to the Chinese people.

Information Sending by a Chinese SNS Application

Third year of a three-year project

This project aims to provide mobile phone users in China with high quality information about modern Japan through an SPF account on Chinese social media. Chinese writers familiar with Japan edit and post on topics such as Japanese history, society, culture, tradition, nature, and trends as well as China-related topics provided by SPF.

Training Project for Chinese Rural Community Leaders

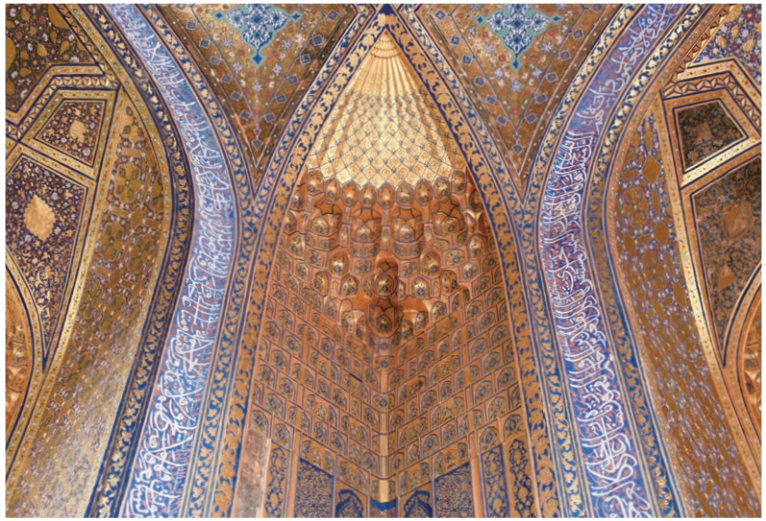
Third year of a three-year project

This training program aims to assist the social formation of China's farming communities, covering such themes as the environment, aging society, regional revitalization, and the introduction of community association activities similar to those in Japan. The project shares effective measures and the experiences of Japan with the leaders of Chinese farming communities to guide them toward solving the problems facing their communities.

Website for Dissemination of Information Phase III

First year of a five-year project

This project works in cooperation with the Chinese-language website "People's Daily Online" to provide information about China-related activities conducted by SPF and associated organizations. The project also posts articles about Japan that are designed to attract the attention of Chinese readers and disseminates other information intended to promote Chinese understanding of Japan.



Middle East and Islam Program Department

Protracted conflicts and an exodus of refugees have cast a dark shadow over the Middle East. Yet, at the same time, fresh recognition of its geopolitical significance has prompted major countries around the world to conduct activities in the Middle East. This new recognition has broadened the scope of the roles the region should play for peace, stability, sustainable growth, and global economic advancement. Recognizing this new momentum and the increased significance endowed to the Middle East, we conduct our projects with the aim of not only strengthening the relationship between Japan and Middle Eastern countries, but also developing the relationship between the Middle East and international society, including Japan, by promoting people-to-people exchange and policy dialogue. Our projects cover broad themes in the political, diplomatic, social, and cultural fields. We have also started a new project about global issues relevant to Islam including the issues of refugees and the global spread of terrorism.

UK–Japan Joint Research: Foundation for Original, Team-Based Research in the Modern Middle East Phase II

Second year of a three-year project

This program aims to cultivate a new generation of academics and regional specialists using an interdisciplinary approach to bolster the academic conversation about the politics, economics, diplomacy, and society of Middle Eastern countries. As a product of international collaboration and field work, the research produced under this program will expand the body of academic knowledge on the Middle East and add depth to the global community's understanding of the region.

Women's Empowerment in Iran and Japan

First year of a three-year project

This project aims to assist women's empowerment in Iran in order to achieve a fair and equal society. In particular, it will conduct Iran–Japan joint research on women's economic empowerment through information and communication technology (ICT), and provide women working in the culture and tourism sector with assistance to empower themselves. Through these activities, the project aims to serve as a bridge between Iran and the international community.

Promoting Understanding of Muslims in Japan

Single-year project

With the increasing number of inbound visitors to Japan as well as workers from abroad, the need for an accurate understanding of Islam in Japan is imperative. This project offers a series of lectures on Islam to a wider Japanese audience including local government officials, experts, members of the public, and media in order to promote accurate knowledge and understanding of Islam and to contribute to the development of an inclusive society where Japanese and non-Japanese people, including Muslims, can live together.

Human Exchanges between Japan and the Middle Eastern Countries

First year of a three-year project

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation started people-to-people exchange programs with the Middle Eastern region in 2009 and has since enhanced networks and relationships of trust between the people of Japan and Middle Eastern countries, including Iran. Through various approaches including exchanges between young leaders and academics, this project aims to contribute to mutual understanding and promote multifaceted human exchange between Japan and Middle Eastern countries, while searching for Japan's role in securing peace and stability in the region.

Chairman Nobuo Tanaka and Executive Director Junko Chano attending a meeting on Iranian women's entrepreneurship

The Ocean Policy Research Institute

The Ocean Policy Research Institute (OPRI) is the only think tank in Japan that conducts comprehensive research on ocean policy issues.
OPRI carries out extensive information gathering, research, data analysis, and material presentation regarding specific solutions for ocean issues. Moreover, it publishes studies for use as reference materials for policymaking. OPRI's predecessor, the Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF), began its activities in 2000 as a think tank focusing on ocean policy. Currently, our main activities fall into four areas: research, exchange, information dissemination, and developing and training talent.
In order to achieve the institute's goals, our experts utilize their expertise and collaborate with each other to run a variety of projects.
In FY 2019, OPRI will implement the following projects with the aim of establishing a new ocean governance mechanism.

Research and Measures on Global Warming and Ocean Acidification

Final year of a four-year project

This project disseminates scientific data on the domestic and overseas status of ocean warming, ocean acidification, and hypoxia to deepen public awareness of the current situation and tasks for the future. The project also examines and promotes issues that Japan should address (for example, building information infrastructures, organizing research collaboration inside and outside Japan, and identifying socio-economic impacts), and makes recommendations on necessary future countermeasures, including adaptive and mitigation measures.

Our team regularly issues information through various publications and our website

Ocean Education Pioneer School Program

First year of a three-year project

Conducted in coordination with The Nippon Foundation and the Research Center for Marine Education at the University of Tokyo, this project awards grants to schools to provide ocean education and supports experts in educational and maritime fields in order to develop ocean curricula and train future leaders in ocean education across Japan. The project strives to broaden the scope of ocean education at schools and enhance its quality, with the aim of promoting the development of skilled professionals who can serve as leaders in the new maritime age and contribute to international society.

Collection and Dissemination of Information on Island Studies

Second year of a three-year project

This project collects highly credible primary information that can be referenced in resolving various issues surrounding island territories. Our researchers analyze this information from the perspective of international law and disseminate their findings to the international community with the aim of contributing to the maintenance of maritime order and attaining a peaceful resolution of island-related issues from the perspective of a private sector organization.

Public Relations for Ocean Policy

First year of a two-year project

OPRI publishes the Ocean White Paper, which contains relevant topics from the year concerning ocean policy issues to increase awareness of ocean issues among the public. In addition, we publish the Ocean Newsletter, which gathers opinions from experts and the public, as well as books that explain current topics aimed at the public. We also hold the Ocean Forum every month, which serves as a place for OPRI experts and members of the public to debate and exchange opinions. Part of this forum is made accessible through our website.

An example of activities conducted under the Pioneer School grant

Promotion of International Cooperation in Ocean Related Fields

First year of a two-year project

This project awards grants to students studying at the World Maritime University (WMU) in order to cultivate experts who focus on solving various ocean and maritime issues. Our department promotes networking between human resources in maritime fields through supporting these alumni, who currently live in 61 different countries.

Innovative Research on the Future Ocean

First year of a two-year project

This project will produce research on critical ocean issues including global warming, ocean acidification, eutrophication, hypoxia, marine pollution, plastic and micro-plastic issues, and the depletion of marine resources. Additional areas of focus include comprehensive, individual, and proactive research projects in an effort to develop urgently required countermeasures and adaptation plans.

Policy Research on the Future Ocean

First year of a two-year project

In order to focus on conservation, disaster prevention measures, extensive research concerning the oceans, and promotion of ocean business, this project will study the connectivity between the services provided in these areas and the dangers to the ocean in an effort to realize a sustainable society. In addition, we will promote research toward consideration of adaptation and mitigation measures for ocean issues.

❶ **New Dangers to the Ocean**
This project will collect and analyze information on hypoxia, marine pollution, plastic, and micro-plastic issues.

❷ **Blue Economy/Disaster Prevention and Reduction Measures**
This project carries out research and gathers information regarding international fisheries policy, development of ocean industries, and revitalization of coastal communities in Pacific island nations, Southeast Asia, Europe, and the Middle East.

❸ **Climate Change and Policy**
Our researchers will attend domestic and international conferences and conduct a study to understand research trends on blue carbon with the aim of compiling policy recommendations.

❹ **Ridge to Reef/Remote Island Issues**
This project will focus on issues that concern both society and nature, including conservation of terrestrial ecosystems and the various impacts on the ocean caused by industrial activities.

Platform for a New Ocean Paradigm

First year of a two-year project

In order to present and disseminate research results, further exchange with experts in their respective fields, and establish a framework for conducting think tank activities, our experts will attend major international conferences regarding ocean issues. Furthermore, our team will share feedback and the latest international trends with experts in Japan to promote the development of Japanese ocean policy and support a platform through which Japan can make contributions to the ocean field at the international level.

A plastic bottle and other plastic waste mixed with leaves and wood debris

Establishment of Global Ocean Governance

First year of a three-year project

To establish holistic ocean governance inside and outside Japan, our department will promote international ocean governance, build domestic and international networks with other relevant organizations, and also proactively disseminate information. Within these activities, our researchers will form groups to carry out various projects concerning international and domestic policymaking, bilateral and local exchange, and information dissemination activities.

❶ **Establishing an International Platform for Marine Conservation**
This project will focus on the emergence of a new sea lane in the Arctic created by the melting of sea ice. In addition, this project aims to build a new conceptual tool that makes possible the visualization of various changes in the ocean from the perspective of maritime shipping lanes in order to work toward a proposal for a framework to discuss ocean governance.

❷ **Ocean Policies of Other Countries**
This project seeks to better understand the ocean policies of other nations by examining data and information collected from eight different countries, with the goal of utilizing this information to further develop the ocean policy of Japan.
The project will consider each country's approach to the basic laws concerning the ocean, planning, management structures, exclusive economic zone (EEZ) management, as well as assessments of major issues such as marine debris.

❸ **Ocean Security Policy Exchange**
~Ocean Policy Dialogue and Information Dissemination~
This project will arrange ocean policy dialogues between domestic and international research institutes in order to clarify issues related to ocean governance, with a particular focus on non-traditional maritime security themes.

❹ **Research on Ocean Issues in East Asia**
With the aim of discussing the ideal state of ocean policy between Japan and China, which is key to establishing ocean governance in East Asia, our team will conduct joint research projects with relevant overseas institutes focusing on topics including ocean search and rescue, establishment of a blue economy model, and conservation of the marine environment.

❺ **Collaborative Study on Blue Financing**
In the face of worsening natural disasters caused by climate change, this project will focus on risk finance for the small island states that are most vulnerable to these events. In addition, our team will conduct research on the creation of an adaptation model for the sustainable development of these small island states to develop a way forward utilizing the 'Blue Bond' concept.

❻ **Promoting SDGs Workshops and Ocean Policy**
Our team will conduct dialogues with policymakers and experts at SDGs workshops and Basic Act on Ocean Policy meetings to expand and improve ocean policy.

❼ **Plastic Waste in the Ocean**
This project aims to better understand the big picture regarding ocean plastic that originates on land by analyzing plastic waste that travels through rivers to the ocean. Through this analysis, our researchers will consider strategic countermeasures in collaboration with private companies, government agencies, and the public.

❽ **OPRI Journal**
OPRI intends to issue an original journal.

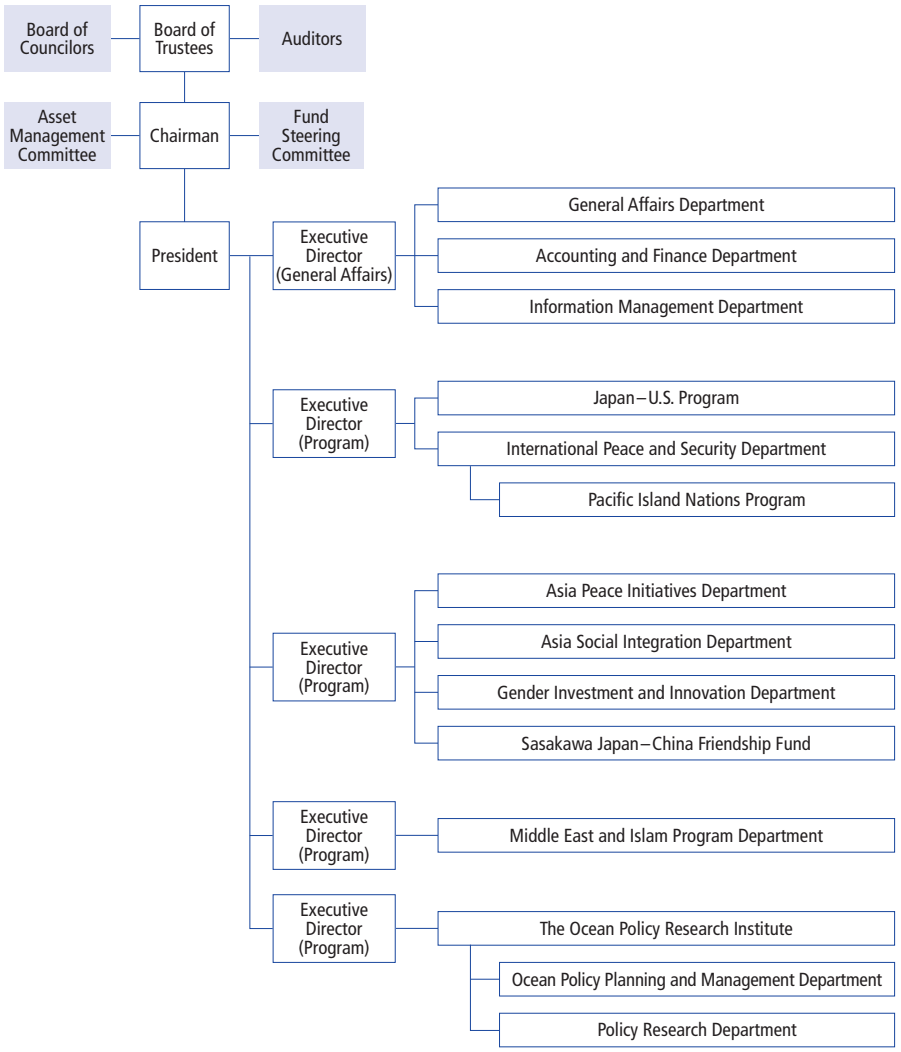
❾ **Information Dissemination Activities regarding the Ocean (bulletin, quarterly report, and special report)**
We will issue reports containing information and trends on maritime security.

OPRI and the National Institute for South China Sea Studies (NISCSS) co-hosted the "2018 Japan–China Maritime Dialogue" on July 30-31, 2018.

History of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation

- 1975 Establishment of the Japan Foundation for Shipbuilding Advancement
- 1986 Establishment of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation
  Setsuya Tabuchi appointed as inaugural Chairman
- 1987 Ryoichi Sasakawa appointed as Honorary Chairman
- 1989 Establishment of the Sasakawa Pacific Island Nations Fund
  in response to Honorary Chairman Sasakawa's proposal at the Pacific Islands Forum
  Establishment of the Sasakawa Japan–China Friendship Fund
- 1990 Changed its name from Japan Foundation for Shipbuilding Advancement to the Ship & Ocean Foundation (SOF)
- 1990 Establishment of The Sasakawa Central Europe Fund (SCEF)
- 1992 Establishment of the Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund
- 2001 Took over administration of WMU Sasakawa Fellowships Program from the Tokyo Foundation
- 2002 The Sasakawa Southeast Asia Cooperation Fund renamed "the Sasakawa Pan Asia Fund"
  the fund's target then expanded to the whole of Asia
- 2002 Founded the Institute for Ocean Policy within SOF
- 2004 Published the inaugural issue of the White Paper on the Oceans and Ocean Policy
- 2005 Began operating under the name Ocean Policy Research Foundation
- 2006 Compiled the "Ocean Policy Outline" and "Basic Ocean Law Outline" at the Basic Ocean Law Forum
- 2007 The Basic Act on Ocean Policy was enacted as lawmaker-initiated legislation. OPRF has worked since then on developing specific basic policies.
- 2009 Establishment of the Sasakawa Middle East Islam Fund, replacing The Sasakawa Central Europe Fund
- 2011 Became a Public Interest Incorporated Foundation
  under the public interest incorporated associations and foundations reform
- 2013 Legal status of the Ship & Ocean Foundation (SOF, a.k.a. Ocean Policy Research Foundation) became a General Incorporated Foundation
  under the public interest incorporated associations and foundations reform
- 2014 Received the Seventh National Maritime Award (Prime Minister's Award) in the "Special Contribution to Marine-Based Development of Japan" category
- 2015 Merged with the Ship & Ocean Foundation to become one of Asia's largest public interest incorporated foundations, with combined assets worth 142.6 billion yen
  with OPRF commencing operation as the Ocean Policy Research Institute
- 2016 Yohei Sasakawa appointed as the Honorary Chairman
- 2017 Establishment of the Sasakawa Program Fund
  using a portion of Specific Funds
  Establishment of the Asian Women's Impact Fund

Organization Chart (as of April 1, 2019)



Foundation Profile

●Name The Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF)

●Date of Establishment September 1, 1986
(Transition to public interest incorporated foundation in October 2011); merged with the Ship & Ocean Foundation in April 2015

●Objectives We are committed to achieving the following objectives by applying the innovative ideas and methods of the private sector:
(1) To respond to changes in nature and the social environment
(2) To contribute to the sound and sustainable development of human society, which is becoming more stratified and complex
(3) To build a new governance system for human society on this planet of oceans and land by promoting research activities, making policy recommendations, and supporting international cooperation and exchange

●Project description To achieve the above-mentioned objectives, we carry out the following projects or provide assistance to parties implementing projects:
(1) Conducting research, disseminating information, and raising public awareness with the aim of solving issues facing human society
(2) Developing human resources that contribute to solving societal issues, supporting exchanges, and building networks
(3) Conducting research, disseminating information, and raising public awareness with the aim of forming new governance systems
(4) Conducting R&D and studies on maritime affairs
(5) Promoting international understanding, international exchange, and cooperation
(6) Organizing conferences and events concerning items (1)–(5)
(7) Gathering and disseminating information and issuing policy recommendations concerning items (1)–(5)
(8) Lending facilities
(9) Conducting any other project required to achieve our objectives

●Endowment 63,104,392,000 (as of March 31, 2018)

●Special assets 61,874,499,000 (as of March 31, 2018)

●Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Expenses 3,689,050,000 (as of March 31, 2018)

Councilors, Honorary Chairman, Trustees (as of June 27, 2018)

●Councilors	Kiyotaka Akasaka	President, Foreign Press Center Japan
	Takeju Ogata	President, The Nippon Foundation
	Hideki Kato	President, Japan Initiative
	Atsuko Kanehara	Professor, Sophia University
	Shin Kisugi	President, The Open University of Japan
	Eiko Kono	Former Chairman, Recruit Co., Ltd.
	Koji Tanami	Advisor, MUFG Bank, Ltd.
●Honorary Chairman	Yohei Sasakawa	Chairman, The Nippon Foundation
●Trustees	Chairman	Nobuo Tanaka
	President	Shuichi Ohno
	Executive Director	Akinori Sugai (General Affairs)
	Executive Director	Junko Chano (Program)
	Executive Director	Atsushi Sunami (Program)
	Trustees	Motoshige Itoh — Professor, Gakushuin University
		Tamaki Ura — Director and specially appointed Professor, Center for Socio-Robotic Synthesis, Kyushu Institute of Technology
		Shigeki Sakamoto — Professor, Doshisha University
		Kaoru Hattori — Attorney at Law
	Auditors	Shuhei Okazaki
		Sadahiko Yoshimura — Certified Public Accountant