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Publication: The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
 Published in February 2018

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Program Policy of 2017



Working toward actualizing missions set out in its Mission Statement, the SPF is reviewing its programs, implemented since April 2015, and has adopted five priority goals for 2017, i.e. (1) Further strengthening Japan–U.S. relationship, (2) expanding Japan’s presence in Asia, (3) enhancing understanding on and relationship with Islamic countries, (4) establishing ocean governance and (5) empowering women.

Implementing unconstrained ideas as a Public Interest Incorporated Foundation, and maintaining a long-term perspective, the SPF is drawing up plans for achieving these goals, while staying aware of the need to adapt to changes in world situations flexibly and swiftly.

Further strengthening Japan–U.S. relationship



For Japan, the United States has been the most important ally from political, economic and security perspectives. Even to this day, however, it cannot be said that the people of the two countries have a sufficient level of understanding and recognition about each other. The SPF will further promote private-sector exchange between the people of Japan and the United States to make the bilateral ties closer and stronger than ever before. In the area of security, in particular, multi-faceted perspectives are used in promoting initiatives.

Expanding Japan’s presence in Asia



Asian countries and regions are enjoying strong economic growth, but facing a multitude of difficulties in terms of growing population, environmental protection, etc. at the same time. The SPF sees Asian people’s issues as its own issues, and shares Japan’s extensive knowledge as well as its unique solutions accumulated from its past experiences with the people of countries and regions across Asia. Efforts will be made to explore measures that lead to a path for stable and sustainable development under collaboration between Japan and the rest of Asia.

Enhancing understanding on and relationship with Islamic countries



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

Establishing ocean governance



Various issues such as environmental pollution and excessive fishing are becoming apparent in oceans around the world, requiring urgent action. However, many countries have yet to fully address the ocean crisis they face. The SPF will gather opinions from international experts of various fields about making our oceans sustainable, and establish mutual cooperation, so as to generate a greater collective impact.

Empowering women



The empowerment of women is essential in all aspects of our society, including politics, economy, education, and science, so that Japan can increase its influence in international society. The world offers numerous well-developed examples of women’s empowerment from which Japan should learn. The SPF will focus on roles that women fulfill in society, exploring new potential solutions to a range of international and social issues.



Japan–U.S. Program Department

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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. Especially as international relationships continue to evolve—including notable political turbulence in the United States—it becomes even more important to deepen mutual understanding and foster cooperative ties between these two countries.

Our program aims to build and strengthen, within the nonprofit sector, a platform of experts and a strong knowledge base to help Japan and the U.S. pursue opportunities for cooperation and tackle global challenges from a medium- to long-term perspective. We believe that strong Japan–U.S. relations and cooperation can greatly contribute to regional stability and prosperity. To this end, the Japan–U.S. program implements a wide range of projects. Recognizing the importance of contributing to policy-making and formation of public opinions from an independent perspective, it seeks to build multi-faceted, tight interpersonal networks through strategic people-to-people exchange, promoting policy research and joint studies (primarily on diplomatic and security issues), encouraging and involving next-generation experts in both countries, and enhancing the dissemination of information.

In cooperation with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA (SPF-USA) and other U.S. think tanks, the Japan–U.S. Program conducts and promotes unique projects such as people-to-people exchange, joint research, policy dialogues, and information dissemination, taking advantage of its strength as a private-sector foundation. Through these projects, we connect diverse people, organizations, and sources of research and knowledge, and we disseminate outcomes to wider communities.

▶ Japan–U.S. Opinion Leader Exchange Program IV

Type Self-operated
Implementing agency Sasakawa Peace Foundation

[Research and Information dissemination]

This work includes various activities, such as ① research and analysis regarding the current political, diplomatic, and social environment of the United States, ② policy recommendation project on Asia strategy of the Japan–U.S. alliance, ③ comparative studies on the relationships of various U.S. allies and partners with the United States, and ④ information dissemination and publication aimed at deepening mutual understanding and strengthening cooperation between the two countries.

[People-to-people exchange]

Seeking to contribute toward creating a diverse and strong network of interpersonal relationships among influential opinion leaders from Japan and the United States, this project takes a two-way approach, inviting American opinion leaders to Japan and 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 the SPF-USA and other U.S. organizations, enhancing networking and relationships of trust among policymakers and lawmakers from the two countries.

▶ Japan Update through Japan-America Societies

Type Grant
Implementing agency National Association of Japan-America Societies, Inc. (NAJAS) (USA)

To deepen medium-to long-term Japan–U.S. relationships, it is essential to promote understanding of Japan and of Japan–U.S. relations not only in major American cities but also in local cities. To this end, in cooperation with Japan–America Societies across the U.S., this project organizes seminars to promote mutual understanding between the two countries, and it provides opportunities to reaffirm the importance of Japan–U.S. relations.

▶ Young Strategists Forum 2

Type Grant
Implementing agency The German Marshall Fund (GMF) of the United States (USA)

This project seeks to develop a strategic mindset among the next-generation 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 U.S.–Japan alliance and its role in the Asia–Pacific region.

▶ Asian American Leadership Delegation

Type Grant
Implementing agency U.S.–Japan Council (USJC)(USA)

This project provides Asian American state legislators with a week-long trip to Japan, to deepen their interest in and understanding of Japan and Japan–U.S. relations. The project encourages those legislators to promote an understanding about Japan and to strengthen Japan–U.S. relations at a broader level across the United States. It also aims to provide an opportunity for Japanese leaders to learn regarding the historical background of Asian Americans and to deepen their understanding of the diverse nature of American society and politics.

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, the SPF-USA seeks to influence policymaking and public opinion by conducting research projects on Japan–U.S. cooperation and disseminating its research 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, the SPF-USA also works with diverse groups 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

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Since its establishment, the Sasakawa Peace Foundation 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 Asian region and the world. More specifically, it 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, Asia's regional issues, and challenges for world stability. Through these activities, the Department also plays a part in private-sector defense diplomacy (Track II diplomacy).

▶ Japan-U.S. Alliance Study

Type Self-operated (first year of four-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project strives to define the significance of the Japan-U.S. alliance as a "Global Commons" of the regional and international community and Japan's roles within the framework. The research examines scenarios and flows to identify behaviors anticipated in various situations and their challenges, and it expands the application of its findings broadly to other regions of the world.

▶ Introduction of Net Assessment

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project seeks to adopt the net assessment method (a method of general strategy evaluation in which trends of two countries in conflict are statistically examined to identify each country's strengths and weaknesses) used by the U.S. Defense Agency and to turn it into an assessment tool to study Japan's security approach.

▶ SPF China Observer

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project carries out fixed-point observations of China's diplomacy, military affairs, economy, etc. to develop an overall set of basic data for analyzing China's foreign policy. Findings from the observations are compiled into specialized analyses and released to external parties.

▶ NATO Summit Warsaw and Implication for Japan-U.S. Alliance

Type Self-operated (second year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project is conducting a comparative study of the negotiation tactics employed by European NATO member states in the period leading up to the 2016 NATO Summit Warsaw, with the aim of formulating recommendations for the alliance policy of Japan, another junior partner of the United States.

▶ Table Top Exercise for National Security

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project designs and carries out tabletop exercises involving specific scenarios to examine policy judgments and operational actions in particular situations. The purpose is to identify issues in Japan's security policy decision-making processes as well as systemic issues concerning security cooperation between Japan and the United States.

▶ Analysis of the Implementation of China's Economic Operation

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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

▶ U.S.-Japan Alliance Workshop

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

The United States has multiple national security networks. This project engages in dialogues with networks other than the National Security Network in Washington, D.C. to attain deeper understanding of U.S. security policy and the Japan-U.S. security alliance.

▶ Security in the Indian Ocean Region

Type Self-operated (second year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project has explored the possibilities for cooperation to maintain peace and stability in the Indian Ocean region and aims at formulating policy recommendations through dialogue among the major democracies, namely, Australia, India, the U.S., and Japan.



▶ Strengthening Defense Capabilities in Cyber Space II

Type Self-operated (one-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project is generating policy recommendations on issues such as domestic and international legal systems, government organizations, and international collaboration with an emphasis on the Japan–U.S. cooperation so as to reinforce Japan’s cyber defense capabilities. The project also organizes a monthly seminar on cyber security.

▶ Energy Cooperation in North East Asia

Type Self-operated (second year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project uses a scenario planning method to explore risk scenarios in the energy category and also studies various countries’ risk reduction policies, with the goal of reducing energy risks in Northeast Asia.

▶ Private-Sector Defense Diplomacy Research

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project carries out research on the defense diplomacy employed by advanced states, and it tries to examine the significance and usefulness of defense exchanges organized by a private-sector organization, so as to explore policies that can reinforce Japan’s defense diplomacy.

▶ Information Provision of International Situation and Security

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project is building a new information website on specialized security situations around the world. It distributes information obtained by analyzing security conditions concerning the United States, China, the Korean Peninsula, Europe, Russia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and the Japan–U.S. security alliance.

▶ Japanese Energy Security in a New Era

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project analyzes risk factors in Japan’s energy security and aims to construct a risk map while also determining risk scenarios of particular severity, so as to prompt a response in the form of public-and private-sector partnerships and reinforce countermeasures in coordination with other Asian countries.

▶ Security Dialogues and Defense Exchanges between Japan and Asian Countries II

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project organizes mutual visits and networking between Asia’s elite defense officials and Japan’s senior SDF officials, so as to promote mutual understanding about defense situations and expand interpersonal networks, thereby contributing to building trust with relevant countries.

▶ Policy Proposals for Implementing “Proactive Contribution to Peace”

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Under the category of “proactive pacifism,” 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 so as to recommend policies for adoption.



- 1 Monthly Cyber Security Seminar
- 2 International Conference on Security in the Indian Ocean Region (held in New Delhi, India in February 2017)

Featured Topics



High-level roundtables with experts

Creating a venue for dialogue between government officials and experts from Japan and abroad to contribute to world peace, stability, and Japan’s national security.

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation takes advantage of its position as a nonprofit, independent private-sector organization to invite prominent persons, experts, and working-level officials from various countries for policy dialogues and exchange programs. In October, 2017, when North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg visited Japan, the SPF organized a closed roundtable prior to the official conference, inviting academics, former high-ranking government officials, and incumbent senior SDF officers and government officials to exchange frank opinions on matters including Japan–NATO relations and Asia’s regional situations. Unlike inter-governmental discussions, this type of dialogue, involving professionals and researchers from both the public and private sectors (Track 1.5),

facilitates discussions that transcend participants’ official capacities. For this reason, it is considered especially effective in promoting mutual understanding and building trust. The SPF will continue to provide venues for dialogue on diplomacy and security issues.



NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg listens to remarks by a Japanese participant (October 2017)

Launch of the Asia Women Impact Fund

The Asia Women Impact Fund was launched in the second half of FY 2017.

In many Asian countries, inequality persists throughout the fabric of society. One of the most pressing issues is women’s economic instability and low formal employment. Many Asian women have pursued entrepreneurship as a way to gain economic independence and income but systemic gender barriers frequently make this a challenging path. For instance, women often experience greater difficulties in securing large loans from financial institutions, thereby confining the growth of women-owned businesses. Hence, improving women’s access to finance could be an effective solution to achieve gender equality in entrepreneurship.

The Asia Women Impact Fund was established to support women’s economic empowerment and promote gender equality in Southeast Asia. The fund will invest about 100 million USD of the foundation’s endowment to support initiatives including microfinance and investment in businesses that improve the livelihoods of women while generating sustainable financial returns. Furthermore, the return on these investments should support ongoing grant-making and concessionary investments to support female entrepreneurs in Southeast Asia.



See page 16 for more information on the Gender Investment and Innovation Department.

SPF President Shuichi Ohno announces the establishment of the Asia Women Impact Fund at the Sankalp Forum, Jakarta.



Pacific Island Nations Program

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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

More recently, the SPF has focused on the Micronesia Region, which has in-depth historical ties with Japan and is closely located to Asia geographically. In February 2016, the SPF, together with the Nippon Foundation, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Republic of Palau to support its government through projects for enhancing capacity building of Coast Guard and promoting Eco-conscious Tourism.

▶ Enhancing Human Resources for Maritime Security in the Micronesia Region

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project seeks to enhance capacity building of Coast Guard of Palau, which lacks sufficient maritime management capability for its vast exclusive economic zone (EEZ), thereby contributing to safety assurance and conservation of marine resources in Palau and the rest of Micronesia.

▶ Changing Situation of Economic Cooperation Towards Pacific Island Countries and Region

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project builds the foundation for accumulating information concerning trends of economic cooperation by non-OECD countries among Pacific island countries and its region, which is lacking in Japan, and suggests effective actions based on analysis of the identified trends.

▶ Realizing Environment-conscious Tourism in Palau

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project introduces the method for environmental carrying capacity evaluation for tourism and community based eco-tourism for realizing Eco-Conscious Tourism that will achieve economic independence and sustainable development of Palau with balancing its economic growth and conservation of environment and cultural resources.

▶ Establishing New Japan-Pacific Island Countries Dialogue by Enhancing Second Track Diplomacy

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project promotes Second Track Diplomacy, led by the SPF, to deepen Japanese people's understanding of Pacific island nations, and issues practical recommendations for addressing new challenges of the Pacific island countries and its region, thereby reinforcing ties between Japan and Pacific island nations.



1 Gathering with trainees who completed the Human Resource Enhancement training for Coast Guard in Japan (Palau) / As part of the "Enhancing Human Resources for Maritime Security in the Micronesia Region" project, 15 trainees (OJT) of Palau's Maritime Law Enforcement Division underwent training at the Maritime Technical College (Ashiya City, Hyogo Prefecture).



2 Japan training for community based eco-tourism (Kumano City, Mie Prefecture) / As part of the "Realizing Environment-conscious Tourism in Palau" project, trainees of Babeldaob Island's state governments underwent training in Okinawa (Iriomote Island) and Mie (Kumano City, Ise City, Shima City, Toba City) Prefectures.



Asia Peace Initiatives Department

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Fast-growing Asia is plagued by conflicts in various areas where people have suffered from violence for many years. The 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. Since last year, the SPF has also started 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.

▶ Peace-Building and Japan's Roles

Type Self-operated (third year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project supports peace building in southern Thailand by seeking to advance Track I official dialogue concerning the conflict taking place there. It also supports strengthening the international network of experts in the field of conflict mediation as well as enhancing Japan's presence in this area.

▶ Asia Peacebuilding Initiatives II

Type Grant (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency Hosei University

This project operates the Asia Peace-building Initiatives website (<http://peacebuilding.asia>), which disseminates information about Asia's conflict zones and peace-building activities, incorporating local information and statements from involved parties, to Japan and the rest of the world. The website serves as a catalyst helping local organizations and experts involved in peace-building in conflict zones to enter partnerships with Japan and with international society, while also building momentum toward peace.

▶ Science Journalism Capacity Development in Indonesia

Type Self-operated (single-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project seeks to develop journalism skills for science reporting in Indonesia. Amidst the rapid proliferation of online media and social networking services, the project aims to contribute toward establishing an environment that provides correct, scientifically reliable information to citizens. The project offers training to young journalists through a mentoring system, and it is also creating an online platform for science stories, covering topics such as foods, environment, health, and disasters.

▶ Expanding and Strengthening the Role of Legal Aid and CSOs in Peace Process II

Type Grant (third year of three-year project)
Implementing agency Jakarta Legal Aid Institute

This project contributes to enhancing the capabilities of civil social organizations (CSOs) in southern Thailand, as well as to the consolidation of local NGOs. It also enhances the capabilities of students from southern Thailand studying in Indonesia in the areas of basic human rights, international peace-building initiatives, and non-violent means of conflict resolution.

▶ Promoting the Creation of New Value through Media and People's Exchange for Northeast India

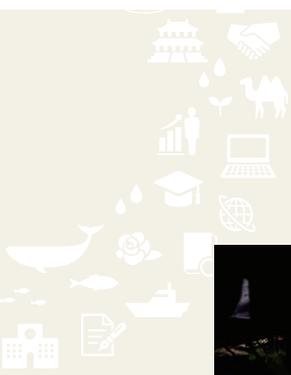
Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Past media coverage of Northeast India, which borders Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and China, has tended to place great weight on insurgencies, violence, and conflicts. This project assists capacity building for people engaged in media, literature, and art, and it disseminates constructive information that breaks stereotypes and gives hope to local youths, thereby reshaping the region's existing image and promoting a correct understanding of its diversity and potential.

▶ Building Sustainable Economic Corridors in Northeast India

Type Self-operated (single-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

As a result of the Indian government's Act East policy, the country's eight northeastern states, which link South and Southeast Asia, have been attracting strong attention from inside and outside the country due to their potential value. This project creates a platform to bring together experts from those states and promotes continuous and active intellectual exchange and dialogue, with the aim of contributing to comprehensive, sustainable development that takes advantage of the region's rich natural resources, as well as its enormous biological and cultural diversity.



Asia Social Integration Department

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Amidst ASEAN integration and economic growth, Asian nations are exposed to population ageing and rapid changes in their socio-economic structures. Japan, which has experienced these challenges earlier than its neighbors, can make good use of its experiences and lessons learned to assist other countries. Focusing on social issues in the Asian region, this Department takes on the issues of population ageing, gender, and migration as its central themes, aiming to attain a comprehensive grasp of demographic and social structural changes as well as associated challenges, so as to present alternative solutions in a practical manner.

► Issues and Implications of Ageing Asian Population

Type	Self-operated (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency	The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Targeting East Asia (Japan, South Korea, and China) and Southeast Asia (Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and the Philippines), countries where population ageing is progressing at different rates, this project examines Japan's experiences and lessons learned from having experienced population ageing ahead of its Asian neighbors, with the aim of presenting specific solutions to issues likely to emerge in these countries as well.

► Support for the establishment of KOSEN (College of Industrial Technology) Education System in Mongolia

Type	Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency	The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This is Phase 2 of a project that has been in place since FY2013 for the purpose of introducing the internationally acclaimed Japanese KOSEN (College of Industrial Technology) education system as a way of fostering the development of practical engineers who can support economic growth in Mongolia. The project seeks to complete a five-year education program pioneering the KOSEN education in Mongolia, thereby contributing to the establishment of the education system in that country.

► The Role of Men in Gender Equality

Type	Self-operated (single-year project)
Implementing agency	The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project advocates for a new image of modern-day men, different from that of traditional men, so as to rectify gender inequality by addressing mental biases, systems, and social practices based on traditional roles for men and women that have been widely accepted in Japan, East Asia and Southeast Asia. Based on comparative research conducted in various countries, the project seeks to implement effective projects targeting men in line with local conditions and accordingly recommend policies.

► Educating New Leaders in Disaster Management through Multi-Sector Cooperation

Type	Grant (second year of two-year project)
Implementing agency	Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management (Japan)

The Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management (A-PAD) promotes partnerships among businesses, governments, and NGOs for emergency response, restoration, and reconstruction in Asia Pacific nations. Targeting younger persons, this project strives to train next-generation leaders and strengthen their ability to deliver emergency support within Asian countries as well as to coordinate mutual emergency assistance at a regional level in Asia.

- 1 KOSEN model class conducted by experts from Japan (Mongolia).
- 2 In-home care delivered by a visiting care manager and healthcare volunteers (Thailand).





Gender Investment and Innovation Department

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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).

▶ Promoting Innovative Finance for Development

Type Self-operated (second year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project investigates the current status of innovative financing in Asia, with the aim of identifying existing barriers to financing for development and exploring novel approaches to scale up innovative social financing mechanisms. Working in collaboration with nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, international organizations, and social entrepreneurs, this program aims to construct an ecosystem for innovative social finance in Asia and raise awareness of current trends through conferences and seminars.

▶ Promoting Investment for Women Entrepreneurs in Asia

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project aims to improve the economic status and financial stability of women in Asia by supporting entrepreneurship. It helps women entrepreneurs in Asia to gain access to finance, skills training, and technologies that can support their business development and growth, resulting in more sustainable economic growth in the region.

▶ Women's Leadership and Economic Empowerment

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project examines novel approaches to closing gender gaps in economic empowerment. In-depth research, workshops, and policy recommendations have focused on ways to address the gender wage gap, promote gender equality in STEM through assessment, understand the impact of unconscious bias on women's career progression, and explore the impact of technology on women's economic empowerment in Asia.



Astronaut Naoko Yamazaki speaking at the Gender Assessment Workshop in May 2017.



Japan–China Cooperation Department

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

The Japan–China Cooperation Department is the successor to the Sasakawa Japan–China Friendship Fund (originally launched in 1989), one of the largest private-sector programs supporting exchanges between Japan and China. From its establishment, the Fund promoted mutual understanding between the people of Japan and China and actively participated in efforts to build an environment for shaping constructive, cooperative ties between the two countries. In the future, the Department will organize people-to-people exchanges and dialogues in specific fields, provide information and facilitate an environment that can contribute to mutual understanding, and enhance the sharing of experiences and cooperation so as to advance both countries' society and economy. It will also maintain broad awareness about collaboration opportunities involving Japan, China, and other countries in East Asia and will explore new cooperation projects.

▶ Facilitating Sino–Japan Communication in the Field of International Law

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Confrontation between Japan and China over the South China Sea reflects political and diplomatic friction between the two countries and is partially attributable to a lack of open dialogue in this field. This project promotes exchange in the field of international law and strengthens the network of experts, with the aim of sharing philosophical perspectives and knowledge.

▶ Creating a Glossary of Modern History Terms regarding Sino-Japanese Relations

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

The SPF has published several books about Japan's and China's perception of history in both the pre-war and post-war periods, as well as on the two countries' modern and contemporary history. However, these books were targeted at experts. The present project draws on the skills of young researchers from Japan and China to compile reference materials for general readership.

▶ Review Meeting for Japanese Education in China

Type Self-operated (single-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

The SPF has consistently supported Japanese language education in China. This year, the SPF is looking back on its past activities and building a network of stakeholders, while also organizing a symposium on Japanese language education in China.

▶ Joint Research and Publishing towards Solving Issues Shared by Japan and China

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

In 2009, the SPF launched a project to translate high-quality Japanese books into Chinese and publish them in China; since then it has published over 100 titles. As an extension of that achievement, this project facilitates joint research by Japanese and Chinese experts on issues common to the two countries, such as environmental contamination, social security, and food safety, and publishes the outcomes of this research in China.

▶ Website for Dissemination of Information Phase II

Type Self-operated (fourth year of five-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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

▶ Training Project for Chinese Rural Community Leaders

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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

▶ Invitation Program for Chinese Journalists

Type Self-operated (second year of five-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project invites China's media personnel, including popular online bloggers and journalists, to come to Japan and enjoy a first-hand experience of the country, so that they can report accurately on their experience to the Chinese people.



Middle East and Islam Program Department

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Protracted conflict and exodus of refugees have cast a dark image on the Middle East. Yet, at the same time, fresh recognition of its geopolitical significance has prompted major countries around the world to establish activities in the region. This new recognition has broadened the scope of roles the region should play for peace, stability, sustainable growth and economic advancement of the world. Recognizing this new momentum and the increased significance endowed to the Middle East, the SPF promotes people-to-people exchange and policy dialogue on critical issues in the political, diplomatic, social and cultural fields. The global issue of Islam (including the issues of refugees and globally-spreading terrorism) has been added as a new project area of this Department.

Rediscovering Religion and Islam for Promoting Peace in the Modern Society

Type Self-operated (single-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

It is predicted that terrorism, refugees and other Islam-related issues seen around the world will become pressing issues in Japan in the near future. In preparation, this project gathers basic knowledge about matters such as the relationship between religion and society, while also investigating precedents set by Europe and America, which take an innovative approach to these issues, and disseminating their outcome to Japan to raise awareness.

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

Type Grant (2nd year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The School of Inter-Disciplinary Area Studies, University of Oxford

This project strives to foster and reinforce human resource development of Middle East Studies for young researchers, based on the framework of international collaboration with the University of Oxford. The project also encourages researchers to carry out cross-country teamwork and fieldwork in the Middle East.

The Changing Geopolitics of the Middle East: Inter-Regional Cooperation and Globalization

Type Grant (2nd year of two-year project)
Implementing agency Sabanci University

Working toward peaceful coexistence and sustainable/stable development in the Middle East, this project facilitates Turkish and Asian researchers to share mutual awareness and knowledge, so as to establish specific areas of cooperation between Turkey and Asia. Through this project, the SPF strives to contribute to the establishment of an academic exchange network between Turkey and Asia.

Building Relationships between Iran and International Society

Type Self-operated (2nd year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

With Iran making a full-scale return to international society, this project assists in preparing for an environment whereby Iran can exert its full potential in various areas, and contribute to regional/world peace, stability and development as a major power in the Middle East.



The international symposium titled "Women, Peace and Sustainable Development," held in Teheran



The Ocean Policy Research Institute

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

The Ocean Policy Research Institute's (OPRI) predecessor, the Ocean Policy Research Foundation (OPRF), began its activities in 2000 as a think tank specializing in research, policy recommendations, and information dissemination concerning ocean policies, with the aim of attaining a "harmonious relationship between mankind and the oceans." The Foundation contributed to the adoption of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy in 2007. Since then, the Foundation has actively participated in international conferences and discussions on ocean governance and served as a think tank promoting the materialization and implementation of the 12 Basic Measures set out in the Basic Act on Ocean Policy. Taking over OPRF's activities as well as its human resources, knowledge, and networks that facilitated its operations, the OPRI plans to engage in ocean-related research, exchange, and information dissemination activities within and outside Japan.

▶ Policy Research on Marine Resource Conservation, etc.

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

In view of the critical state of oceans today and to ensure that oceans, the source of life, are passed on to future generations in a healthy state, this project makes recommendations to international society on effective policies and measures for their implementation. These recommendations address a variety of issues such as drastic changes in marine ecosystems and the depletion of fisheries, both of which lead to decreased fishing activity and thus to a more vulnerable society and economy. The project also reinforces partnerships with overseas organizations to initiate joint activities, such as the development of new policies.

▶ Study on Effective International Cooperation for Arctic Governance

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project coordinates discussions among Arctic-related experts from Japan, the Arctic region, and Asian nations, to identify specific initiatives that Japan should implement in the Arctic region and the optimum state of international cooperation. Findings will be disseminated in the form of recommendations designed to contribute to the promotion of Arctic policies.

▶ Research on Adaptation Measures for Global Warming and Ocean Acidification

Type Self-operated (second year of four-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project shares information on the domestic and overseas status of global warming in oceans and on ocean acidification, and it disseminates this information to deepen public awareness of current situations and future tasks. The project also examines and promotes issues that Japan should address (e.g., building information infrastructure, organizing research collaboration in and outside Japan, and identifying socio-economic impacts), and it makes recommendations on necessary future countermeasures (including adaptive and mitigation measures).

▶ Research on Integrated Ocean Management

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project carries out research for the establishment of ocean governance in Japan as well as across the globe, with the aim of promoting Japan's initiatives and international cooperation on integrated ocean management, building domestic and international networks, and providing constructive recommendations to governments and other relevant organizations.

▶ The Conservation, Use and Study of Marine Biological Diversity

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

The purpose of this project is to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction (BBNJ). The project supports research, study, and specific policy proposals and measures aimed at establishing a new ocean governance that effectively balances conservation and sustainable use.

▶ Development of Integrated Coastal Management Model Site Projects

Type Self-operated (first year of two-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Following on from site selection in Phase 1 (FY2010–FY2012) and standardized model development in Phase 2 (FY2013–FY2015), this project represents Phase 3 (FY2016–FY2018) of a multi-phase undertaking related to Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) model sites. It defines specific details of ICM models for wide-range coastal areas under several administrations and island coast areas, and it clarifies the overall picture of multi-layered ICM initiatives (including capacity development) with the potential for international adoption.

* This project is carried out with a grant from The Nippon Foundation.

▶ **Support and Promotion of Maritime Security Resource Exchanges**

Type Self-operated (second year of two-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

With the aim of ensuring stable and sustainable use of the oceans under international law and of contributing to the peaceful resolution of conflicts surrounding the territorial rights of island nations, demarcation of national jurisdiction waters, and resource development, this project promotes policy research against the background of comprehensive security. It seeks to achieve sustainable, peaceful development in the ocean environment while also coordinating dialogues to stabilize the maritime security environment and achieve mutual understanding with relevant countries.

▶ **Research on Maritime Issues of East Asia**

Type Self-operated (first year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Based on an understanding of the need for multilateral coordination in East Asian seas, this project facilitates discussions among experts from Japan, China, and other relevant countries on the characteristics of ocean issues that differ from those on land. The discussions focus on exploring solutions concerning various aspects of the ocean, including legal perspectives on international ocean areas, environmental conservation, resource management, and maritime security.

▶ **Studies to Promote Implementation of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy**

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Through the work of the Study Group on Strategy for the Basic Act on Ocean Policy, set up following the reorganization of the Study Group for the Follow-Up of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy in February 2012, OPRI continues to implement activities such as issuing constructive policy recommendations to actualize key maritime measures. This project continues to drive the Study Group's efforts to contribute to the promotion of Japan's ocean policies.

▶ **Collecting and Disseminating Information on Maritime Security**

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project collects publicly accessible information and partners with overseas research institutes and related organizations to exchange information about military developments on the oceans; maritime security issues arising from conflicts, piracy and, other illegal activities; incidents concerning maritime routes; various countries' Coast Guard policies; and the impact of climate change on maritime security. The information collected is analyzed, assessed, and then disseminated to relevant bodies, thereby contributing to policy research on maritime security.

▶ **Collection and Dissemination of Information on Island Territories**

Type Self-operated (single-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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

▶ **Promotion of Ocean Policy Studies**

Type Self-operated (single-year project)
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project carries out research activities on various ocean-related policy issues from cross-sectoral, inter-disciplinary, and comprehensive perspectives, so as to promote and disseminate ocean policy studies.

▶ **Promotion of International Cooperation in Ocean Related Fields**

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project cooperates in facilitating international education and development of maritime personnel, cultivating professionals who can take a comprehensive perspective on international maritime issues that may arise in the future, and promoting their exchange and networking. The project also implements measures to assist the networking of maritime and ocean education organizations around the world, thereby promoting international exchange and cooperation in ocean-related fields.

▶ **Networking of Ocean-related Scholarship Programs**

Type Self-operated (single-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

This project organizes gatherings for graduates of ocean-related scholarship programs funded by The Nippon Foundation, to promote capacity development and international exchanges in the maritime field, strengthen international networks of experts, and explore effective coordination across nationalities, organizations, and fields of study. Through such efforts, the project aims to resolve various ocean-related issues that involve multiple countries and fields.

▶ **Ocean Education Pioneer School Program**

Type Self-operated (second year of three-year project)*
Implementing agency The Sasakawa Peace Foundation

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 it also supports experts in educational and maritime fields, so as to they develop ocean education 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.

▶ **Research and Development for Ocean Floor Mapping**

Type Grant (single-year project)*
Implementing agency GEBCO Guiding Committee

This project supports the process of developing technology for ocean floor mapping. Specifically, it assists the GEBCO-NF Team, formed around nine graduates of the "Postgraduate Certificate in Ocean Bathymetry" training course conducted by GEBCO (General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans) with funding from The Nippon Foundation, as it participates in the international technology competition, XPRIZE. Through this process, the team intends to contribute to the Seabed 2030 project, the goal of which is to chart the entire topography of the world's oceans by 2030.



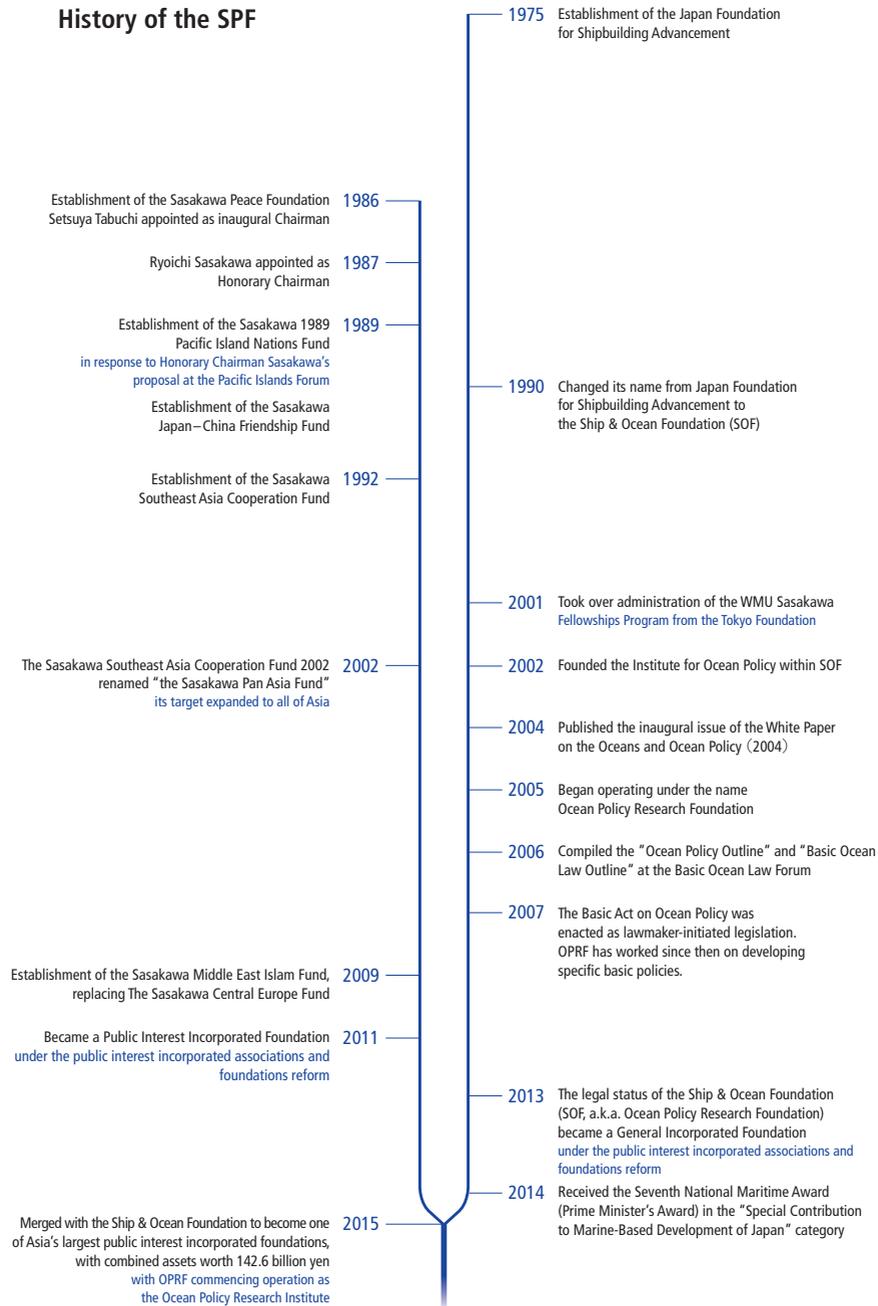
- 1 Recommendation papers: OPRI composes various recommendation papers as the outcome of its ocean policy research. Pictured from top left, clockwise, are recommendation papers on ocean research (Arctic policy, integrated ocean policy, and Integrated Coastal Management), ocean education (elementary school version, Grand Design for Ocean Education, and English version of Grand Design), ocean management (development, use, and conservation of exclusive economic zones, islands, and surrounding seas), and miscellaneous global issues (ocean acidification, climate change and oceans, and high seas governance).



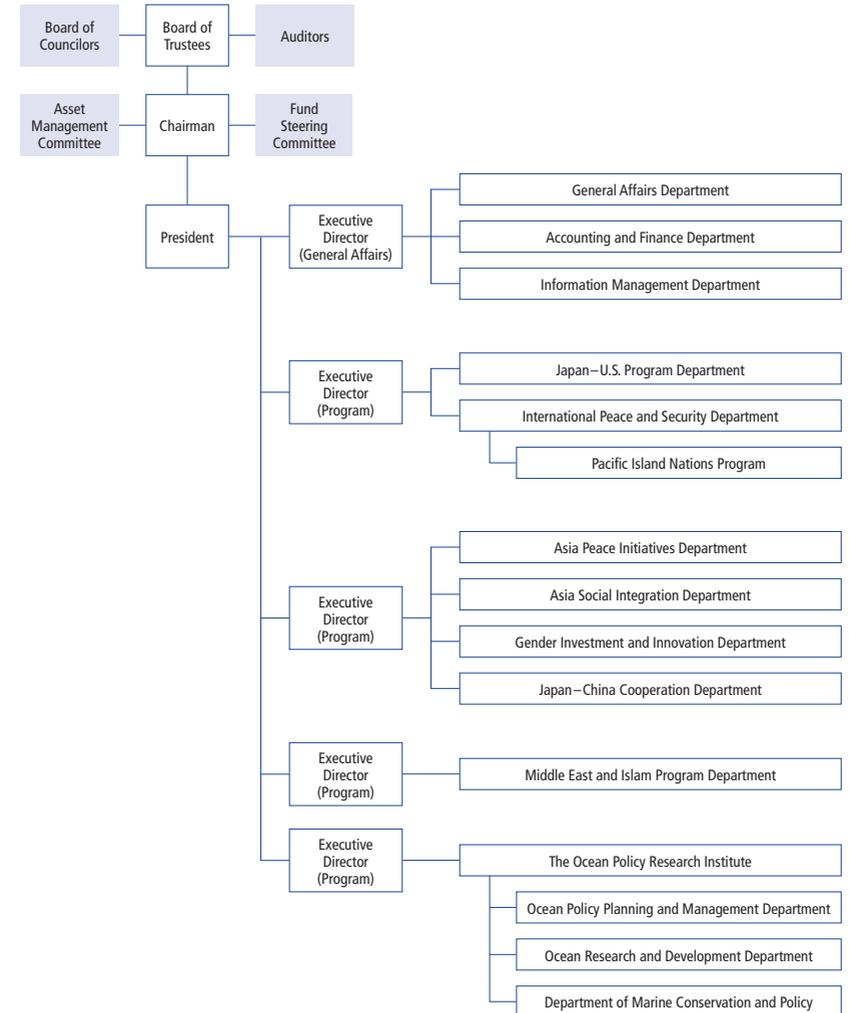
- 2 Ocean-related education: When hands-on educational activities are conducted near the ocean, it is important to provide appropriate guidance, ensure safety, and encourage children to explore autonomously. The Ocean Education Pioneer School Program supports schools and teachers as they undertake initiatives on ocean-based learning.

* This project is carried out with a grant from The Nippon Foundation.

History of the SPF



Organization Chart



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	<p>We are committed to achieving the following objectives by applying the innovative ideas and methods of the private sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To respond to changes in nature and the social environment; - To contribute to the sound and sustainable development of human society, which is becoming more stratified and complex; - 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 projects.
Project description	<p>To achieve the above-mentioned objectives, we carry out the following projects or provide assistance to parties implementing the projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Conducting research, disseminating information, and raising public awareness with the aim of solving issues in human society. (2) Developing human resources that contribute to solving issues in human society, supporting human exchange, and networking. (3) Conducting research, disseminating information, and raising public awareness with the aim of forming new governance systems in human society. (4) Conducting R&D and studies on maritime affairs. (5) Promoting international understanding, international exchange, and international cooperation. (6) Organizing conferences and events concerning items (1)–(5) above. (7) Gathering and disseminating information and issuing policy recommendations concerning items (1)–(5) above. (8) Lending facilities. (9) Conducting any other project required to achieve our objectives.
Endowment	64,733,688,433 (as of March 31, 2017)
Special assets	63,274,842,018 (as of March 31, 2017)
Fiscal 2017 Operating Expenses	3,849,373,000 (as of June 29, 2017)

Councilors, Honorary Chairman, Trustees (as of June, 2017)

Councilors	Takeju Ogata	President, The Nippon Foundation	
	Hideki Kato	President, Japan Initiative	
	Shin Kisugi	Executive Trustee and Vice President, The Open University of Japan	
	Eiko Kono	Former Chairman, Recruit Co., Ltd.	
	Yoichi Sumi	Professor Emeritus, Yokohama National University	
	Masayuki Takahashi	Professor Emeritus, The University of Tokyo	
	Koji Tanami	Advisor, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, 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
		Yuko Miyazaki	Attorney at Law
	Auditors	Shuhei Okazaki	
Sadahiko Yoshimura		Certified Public Accountant	