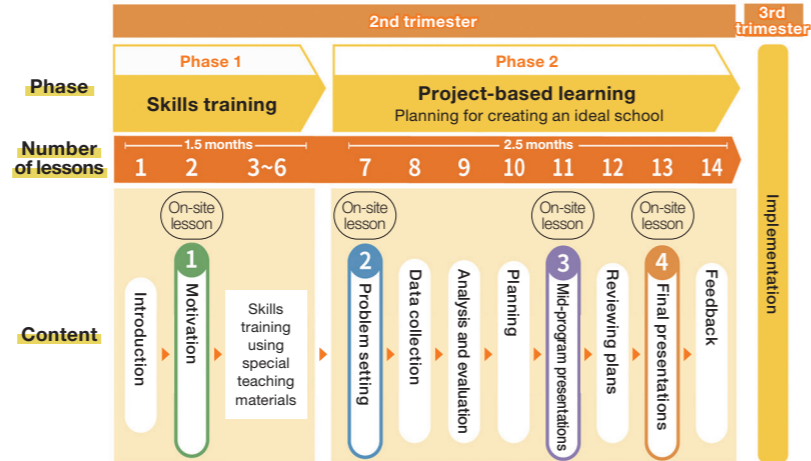


Hitachi Future Innovator Program Four On-site Lessons



The Hitachi Global Foundation has developed the project-based learning “Hitachi Future Innovator Program” for fifth graders with the aim of fostering the abilities to find and solve problems required of future human resources in science and technology. Since 2016 we have collaborated with Hitachi Group companies to offer on-site lessons at schools.

The FY2022 program was carried out amid the COVID-19 pandemic, as in the previous fiscal year, but schools in Japan are now returning to a normal pre-pandemic classroom setting. On-site lessons were conducted at four schools, with two schools learning online and the other two in-person with thorough anti-infection measures in place.

Toda Minami Elementary School in Toda City

Fourth on-site lesson on December 15 (Final presentations)

The final presentations took place with six lecturers participating online as they did in the mid-program presentations. All fifth graders gathered in the gym and looked nervous, but they confidently delivered their presentations based on their studies as well as advice offered by the lecturers in the previous lesson. At the end of the presentations, the vice principal praised all fifth graders, "You've done a great job!"



Joyo Elementary School in Tamamura Town

Fourth on-site lesson on December 16 (Final presentations)

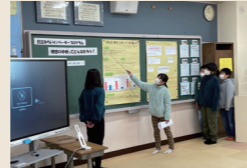
The fourth on-site lesson was held online as previous lesson. Students gathered in the gym and presented what they had prepared in teams. The lecturers were impressed by how much the students had learned from their mid-program presentations. The series of four lessons was successfully completed, with the principal giving all fifth graders a strong message of encouragement at the end of the last lesson.



Oomika Elementary School in Hitachi City

Fourth on-site lesson on January 17 (Final presentations)

Students spared no effort in preparing for their final presentations revising their materials and checking the content until the very last minute. They gave it their all and looked delighted after receiving compliments and specific advice from the five lecturers.



Realization of an Inclusive Society

Forum: Developing the “Power to Thrive” for High School Students with Foreign Backgrounds – What support is needed based on the current educational situation

Transcripts of the lectures and panel discussion at the “Realization of an Inclusive Society” forum held on December 10 (Saturday), 2022 have been published.

“Enhancing Educational Measures for Foreign Students”

– Institutionalizing Japanese language instruction in high schools and other institutions
Mr. Yoshiaki Ishida, Director, International Education Division, Education Policy Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology



Multicultural Youth Project members

“Challenges and Possibilities for Tokyo to Provide Educational Opportunities and Comprehensive Support for Students with Foreign Backgrounds”

– Based on a questionnaire survey of 79 Tokyo metropolitan high schools and interviews with 30 schools
Dr. Misako Nukaga, Graduate School of Education, The University of Tokyo

Activity report on the “Multicultural Youth Project” created by students with foreign backgrounds in Kanagawa Prefecture for their juniors

Alumni members sharing their roles and lives in Japan with their juniors

News Letter

Vol.45/Apr.2023

The Hitachi Global Foundation publishes news letters featuring its many activities. We offer various types of news about our Foundation, ranging from activity reports on symposiums, seminars, awards ceremonies, and other events to our latest topics. Please take a look to find out more.

Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology

The Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award FY2022 Awards Ceremony



From the left
FY2020 Best Innovation Award Recipient
(Dr. Tan Minh Nguyen, Hanoi University of Science and Technology)
FY2021 Best Innovation Award Recipient
(Dr. Thuy Phuong Thi Pham, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology)
FY2022 Best Innovation Award Recipient
(Dr. Sri Juari Santosa, Gadjah Mada University)
FY2022 Best Innovation Award Recipient
(Dr. Phung Thi Kim Le, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology)
FY2020 Best Innovation Award Recipient
(Dr. Ajeng Arum Sari, National Research and Innovation Agency)

The FY2022 Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award ceremony took place in Tokyo on January 10 (Tuesday), 2023.

The Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award was launched in FY2020 as a program to promote science, technology, and innovation that contribute to solving social issues and realizing a sustainable society in the ASEAN region.

The Best Innovation Award winners in FY2020, FY2021, and FY2022 were invited to the ceremony held in Japan as the event for past two fiscal years had been canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The awardees presented an outline of their research during the event. In the question-and-answer session, the presenters held a lively discussion with selection committee members and other awardees. A reception followed the award ceremony to deepen exchanges among the participants.

For details of the award ceremony, please visit The Hitachi Global Foundation website.



Presentation of research outlines



Reception

The Kurata Grants

FY2022 Presentation Ceremony and Research Briefing Session

The FY2022 (54th) Kurata Grants presentation ceremony was held at the Hitachi Baba Memorial Hall in the Hitachi, Ltd. Central Research Laboratory "Kyōsō-no-Mori" facility on March 2 (Thursday), 2023. This fiscal year's grants were presented to 44 researchers selected after thoroughly reviewing the 213 applications submitted from across Japan.

The Kurata Grants research fund was established with a donation by Hitachi, Ltd.'s second president, the late Chikara Kurata. We offer grants to research in the natural sciences, engineering, humanities, and the social sciences related to highly technological societies carried out by the next generation of researchers working to solve global social problems.

During the ceremony, Mr. Keisuke Hanaki, chairperson of the selection committee, reported on this fiscal year's selection process. The Hitachi Global Foundation president handed a grant certificate to each recipient and introduced their research themes. At the end of the ceremony, four researchers representing each category and area talked about their future ambitions and plans.

Please see the website below for the research themes of the 44 recipients.

<https://www.hitachi-zaidan.org/global/topics/topics009.html>



Speech by recipients' representative

Following the ceremony, a research briefing session was held at the same venue. Four representatives who have completed their research periods presented their research results.

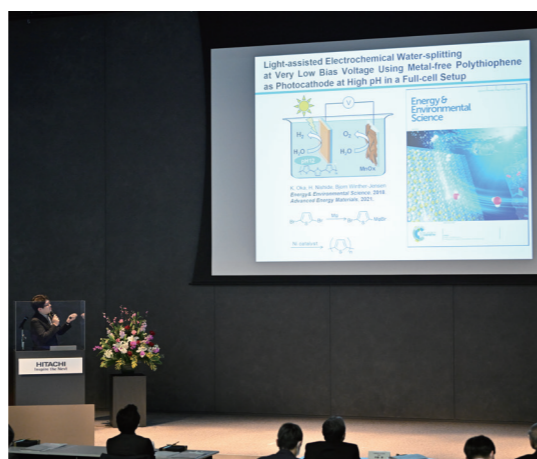
With the closing of the ceremony and session, the participants moved to a different venue and deepened their interactions exchanging information in a friendly atmosphere. We wish this occasion would support further development of their research.

Presentation 1: Energy and the Environment Field, Dr. Kouki Oka, Osaka University
Carbon-Free Green Hydrogen Production by Visible-Light-Driven Water-Splitting with Polythiophene

Presentation 2: Urban Development and Transportation Field, Dr. Masashi Soga, The University of Tokyo
Exploring optimal urban development forms for the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services: Field data and simulation analysis

Presentation 3: Healthcare Field, Dr. Shinichiro Tsutsumi, RIKEN
Cerebellar circuit basis for psychiatric pathogenesis

Presentation 4: Humanities and Social Sciences Area, Dr. Takeshi Tanemura, Hokkaido University
Development of a communication method for science and technology using drama and research of the change of participants' attitude toward the acceptance of advanced science and technology



Research results presentation

Hitachi Fund Support for Research Related to Infectious Diseases

First Interim Report Meeting

The first interim report meeting of the Hitachi Fund Support for Research Related to Infectious Diseases took place on March 7 (Tuesday), 2023.

The Hitachi Fund Support for Research Related to Infectious Diseases is a grant program for evidence-based research projects that conduct academic research, analyses, and reviews on various issues that have surfaced due to the pandemic of COVID-19, and to internationally share the research findings and knowledge. This fund was established in 2021 with donations from Hitachi, Ltd., its executives and employees, as well as Hitachi Group company executives.

The call for applications began in April 2021. Based on the selection committee's review, five research projects were selected in November of the same year, and activities began in December. The research activities are scheduled to continue for three years until the end of November 2024.

At the first interim report meeting, the representatives of each research project reported on the progress of their activities and future plans. The question-and-answer session that followed featured a lively discussion with the attendees, including members of the selection committee.



Commemorative photo of the participants



First interim report meeting

First Interim Report Meeting

Comprehensive Research

"International Joint Study on Public Health Economics and Value Assessment of Prevention in Pandemic – Lessons learned from COVID-19 and evidence-based recommendations for future crisis"

Speaker: Isao Kamae, Project Professor, Graduate School of Public Policy, The University of Tokyo
(on behalf of Principal Researcher)

Field Expanding Research

"Malaria eradication in the era of COVID-19 pandemic: a study integrating sociological, economic, and medical approaches to overcome the challenges in tropical Africa"

Speaker: Akira Kaneko, Specially Appointed Professor, Department of Parasitology, Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka Metropolitan University

"Covid-19 and Society: Comparative Analysis of Risk Communication, Expertise, and Citizenship"

Speaker: Mikihiro Tanaka, Professor, Faculty of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University

"Exploration of Practical Wisdom and Resilience Overcoming Downside Risk -Collecting grassroots voices in Africa under COVID-19"

Speaker: Kazuyo Hanai, Project Assistant Professor, Institute for Future Initiatives, The University of Tokyo

"Implementing wastewater-based epidemiology in Asian communities to strengthen resilience against pandemics"

Speaker: Eiji Haramoto, Professor, Interdisciplinary Center for River Basin Environment, University of Yamanashi