

Introduction to The Hitachi Global Foundation



Nurturing People, Connecting to the Future

The Hitachi Global Foundation aims to build a sustainable society, enhance the lives of the people and contribute to the international community, focusing on three key areas, namely "Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology," "Human Development" and "Realization of an Inclusive Society."



Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology

We support pioneering research in the fields of natural sciences, engineering and humanities, and recognize R&D efforts in Southeast Asia.

- The Kurata Grants
- The Hitachi Global Foundation Science and Technology Seminars
- The Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award
- Hitachi Fund Support for Research Related to Infectious Diseases

Human Development

We support nurturing the next generation of human resources who are creative and capable of designing society, especially on STEAM education and nurturing girls in science.

- Hitachi Future Innovator Program
- Girls in Science Support Project

Realization of an Inclusive Society

We conduct educational programs to realize an inclusive society where people can feel happy and lively, accepting diverse cultures and values.

- Realization of an Inclusive Society

Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology

The Kurata Grants

"The Kurata Grants" is a research fund for the advancement of science and technology in Japan proposed by and established with a donation from the second president of Hitachi, Ltd., the late Chikara Kurata, in 1967.

It started with President Kurata's realization that resource-deficient Japan, heavily reliant at the time on overseas science and technology, needed to establish its own world-class technology in order to prosper. Many people have since received this grant and also achieved great results as frontline researchers or educators.

Now that science and technology have made remarkable progress and the goal of promoting science and technology has shifted to a social role, we, in keeping with Kurata's philosophy, provides grants for natural science and engineering research by the next generation of researchers who will be able to solve global social issues, as well as for humanities and social science research that is fundamental to an advanced scientific and technological society, thereby contributing to the realization of a sustainable future society. We also widely publicize the results of research arising from these grants by holding research reporting events and publishing the Kurata Grant Research Report.

Natural Sciences and Engineering

Research period 1 ~ 2 years

Creative and pioneering research by young researchers (age of 45 or under) which contributes to finding solutions to social challenges from an international perspective. Applications can be made in any of the three areas below. Interdisciplinary research from a natural sciences and engineering perspective is also eligible.

I. Energy and the Environment

II. Urban Development and Transportation

III. Healthcare

Humanities and Social Sciences

Research period 1 year

Research which analyzes societal transformations brought about by advances in science and technology and the complex and interconnected issues which form the background of such from a humanities and social sciences perspective (society, culture, history, philosophy, ethics, law, economics, psychology, culture, arts, and etc.) in the exploration of the meaning and value of the development of science and technology and the forms that society can take. We are looking for research that comprehensively and structurally captures science and technology and society, and ideas from the perspectives of humanity or social systems.

Schedule

July to
September

Call for
applications

January

Selection
decision

March

Presentation
ceremony



Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology

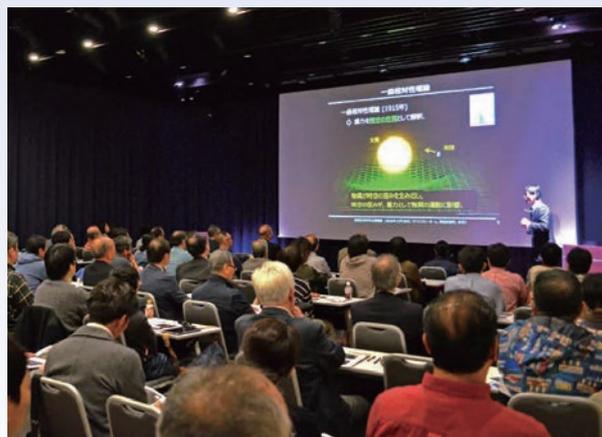
The Hitachi Global Foundation Science and Technology Seminars



This program offers seminars for the general public to experience the latest topics in science and technology. We provide people of all ages with an opportunity to experience the fun of science and the importance of looking at things through the eyes of science, by inviting researchers who are engaged in cutting-edge research, and recipients of the Kurata Grants, our research grant project, as lecturers.

In our seminars, we always take up hot topics from diverse fields such as medicine, engineering, life sciences, earth and space sciences, and information technology, and explain them in an easy-to-understand manner.

The seminars have interactive communication between the speakers and audience in a question and answer session, where questions from the audience are collected in advance and then shared.



The Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award



From fiscal 2020, this award recognizes outstanding research and development that helps to achieve the SDGs in line with ASEAN countries' recent economic development and improved standards of science and technology. In this way, it supports scientific and technological innovation that will contribute to the resolution of social issues in the region and the realization of a sustainable society.



Award details

Best Innovation Award

3,000,000 JPY per recipient

Outstanding Innovation Award

1,000,000 JPY per recipient

Encouragement Award

500,000 JPY per recipient



Application details

Each year, we set two goals and several relevant targets from the 17 goals and 169 targets. Applicants present their achievements in research and development that contribute to these goals and targets. They also submit a social implementation plan for their achievements describing their social vision for their country or the ASEAN region.

Eligibility for application

Every year, in accordance with the application details, eligible countries and eligible universities and research institutes are selected from among the ten ASEAN countries, and applicants from each university and research institute are recommended. Applicants are individuals or groups who are researchers, faculty members or students belonging to the eligible universities or research institutes.

Schedule

April - June

Call for applications

October

Selection decision

January

Announcement of award recipients

Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology

Hitachi Fund Support for Research Related to Infectious Diseases



In our global society, where social and economic activities are complexly linked, the pandemic of COVID-19 has caused personal, economic and social impacts in every country, and has also highlighted many vulnerabilities and issues in a variety of fields including politics, economy, legal systems, science and technology and international relations.

The Hitachi Global Foundation has established a grant program by donations from Hitachi, Ltd., its executives and employees, and executives from its Group company based on our vision. This fund is to provide grants for evidence-based research projects aiming to academically research, analyze, and study the various issues that have surfaced due to the pandemic of COVID-19, and then share the learnings internationally.

After selecting five research projects eligible for the grant, research activities are underway for three years starting in December 2021.

Criteria

- Joint research with multiple researchers (referred to as "research team")
- The principal researcher must belong to a university or research institution located in Japan (for-profit companies are excluded).
- The research team must have at least one researcher who belongs to a foreign university or research institution.

Eligible Fields

Eligible fields include research and analysis, and comparative analysis on the effects of COVID-19 on civic life, politics, economy, legal systems, science and technology, communities and international relations from a perspective of humanities and social science, policy science and social medicine, but it is not limited to research on COVID-19. Clinical or biomedical research is not eligible.

Grant Amount

Total amount: 150 million JPY

Grant Period

Three years from December 2021

Schedule

April 1, 2021	Start of application period
December, 2021	Start of grant
January, 2022	Overview of the selected research projects
March, 2023	1st interim report
March, 2024	2nd interim report
February, 2025	Report of Research Outcome Session •Symposium
After August, 2025	Publication of research report

Human Development

Hitachi Future Innovator Program



We have developed the Hitachi Future Innovator Program with the aim of fostering inquisitive thinking in children, who will lead the future, as well as the qualities and abilities to better solve problems.

This is an exploratory learning program that develops problem-finding and problem-solving skills, with the aim of helping students discover various problems around them, think for themselves, make independent decisions, and solve problems.

Skills training is conducted based on the teaching materials provided free of charge, and the students work in groups on tasks they have set themselves with the theme of creating an "Ideal school".

Hitachi Group employees act as instructors, providing advice to the student's ideas and supporting their learning.

Phase1 6 lessons Skills training Learning the skills necessary to be a school leader  * It may be used for morning study or home study. 1st on-site lesson with instructors: Motivating students	Phase2 8 lessons Project-based learning program [Let's Create an Ideal School !] Students work in groups on tasks they have set themselves with the theme of creating an "Ideal school." Hitachi Group employees as professional innovators, provide advice to the student's ideas and support them.  2nd on-site lesson with instructors: Defining the problem 3rd on-site lesson with instructors: Interim presentation 4th on-site lesson with instructors: Final presentation
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Duration **4 months** (14 hours of lesson plans and teaching materials are available, with the aim of conducting lessons once a week.)
 * It may be arranged and implemented according to each school's schedule.

Final deliverable **Presentations by students on solutions realizing an ideal school**



Girls in Science Support Project

Our educational program aims to develop human resources in science and engineering while supporting the motivation of female junior and senior high school students to pursue higher education in these fields. We feature interviews with top professionals from science and engineering backgrounds, including engineers and researchers working at the forefront, and hold experience-based events. The goal of our program is to encourage female students to have an interest in science and engineering careers experiencing the joy and wonder of innovation.

My Tomorrow is a special support website for female junior and senior high school students interested in science and engineering careers. It is designed to realize diversity in human resources and thereby contribute to the promotion of innovation. Exploring the experiences and lifestyles of top professionals, we hope to inspire female students to pursue a career in science and engineering.

10th Pioneer Talk & Workshop (July 2024)



Realization of an Inclusive Society

Realization of an Inclusive Society



We publish the e-journal "Global Society Review" which serves as a platform for building an inclusive society* where academic experts can utilize their expertise, exchange opinions, and have constructive interactions.

In addition to contributing to organic exchanges that go beyond specialized fields and fostering new ideas and perspectives, we also introduce the experiences and activities of those with various cultural backgrounds living in Japan to promote understanding and development of an inclusive society in Japan.

*A society where individuals of diverse nationalities and ethnic backgrounds coexist as community members, acknowledging cultural distinctions and striving for equitable relationships
(Source: Report of the Study Group on the Promotion of Inclusive Society — In Preparation for the Promotion of Inclusive Society in Communities, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, March 2006)



History of The Hitachi Global Foundation

The Kurata Memorial Hitachi Science and Technology Foundation Society for the Promotion of Technology in Japan/1967	Hitachi Mirai Foundation Youth Rehabilitation & Welfare Center/1967 Correctional Services Foundation/1971	The Odaira Memorial Hitachi Education Foundation Odaira Memorial Foundation/1971	Hitachi Environment Foundation Pollution Research Center /1972	Hitachi Scholarship Foundation 1984
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FY 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Established the Hitachi Global Foundation (April 1) •Set the fields of "Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology," "Human Development," and "Support for Local Communities" as the key areas
FY 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Launched 「Hitachi Future Innovator Program」 •Launched 「Girls in Science Support Project」 •Renewed 「The Kurata Grants」
FY 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Marked the 50th anniversary of Hitachi's foundation activity (March 29)
FY 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Revised the key areas to "Promotion of Academic Research, Science and Technology," "Human Development" and "Realization of an Inclusive Society"
FY 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Launched 「Symposium on Realization of an Inclusive Society」 •Launched 「The Hitachi Global Foundation Science and Technology Seminars」
FY 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Launched 「The Hitachi Global Foundation Asia Innovation Award」 •Expanded the eligibility fields of 「The Kurata Grants」 to the humanities and social science research field
FY 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Launched 「Hitachi Fund Support for Research Related to Infectious Diseases」 •Set up PR team under Secretary General
FY2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Renamed 「Symposium on Realization of an Inclusive Society」 to 「Realization of an Inclusive Society」
FY2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Published e-Journal "Global Society Review" as part of Realization of an Inclusive Society

