



**THE SUMITOMO FOUNDATION
FISCAL 2021 GRANT FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Application Guide

The Sumitomo Foundation (hereafter “Foundation”) offers this grant program to promote the resolution or improvement of any environmental issue, one of the most critical issues that humankind faces on the earth in accordance with the following terms and conditions.

Note:

This program may change subject to the condition of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

I. Eligible Research Projects

1. Research Category

(1) **General Research**

Any research project, mainly in the field of social sciences, humanities, or natural science that is related to environmental issues.

Notes:

- Researches related to earthquake disaster such as the Great East Japan Earthquake and to nuclear accidents such as radioactive contamination are welcome.

(2) **Special Subject Research**

Any research project, the object of which matches the research subject designated by Foundation set forth herein.

Research Subject for this fiscal year

“Interdisciplinary research and international collaboration research to investigate and solve the growing environmental problems in a global scale and environmental problems related with the social transition in post COVID-19 era”

It is expected that there is a wide range of social transition caused by the enormous impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Grant Program calls for comprehensive research proposals to investigate new structures of environmental problems under the social transition in post COVID-19 era and to provide solutions, while contemplating the growing environmental problems in a global scale. The Grant Program also expects research proposals to make

contribution to the realization of social transformation toward Sustainable Development Goals including inter-generational sustainability through the process of social restructuring in post COVID-19 era.

The Grant Program specifically expects proposals to contribute to realizing a sustainable society by identifying environmental impacts of natural disaster and deteriorating living circumstances of socially vulnerable groups caused by the global warming as well as by providing solutions. The Grant Program also expects interdisciplinary and international collaborative research which integrate natural science and human/social science approaches for the following priority research fields; conservation of agriculture/fishery and forestry, restoration of marine and land ecosystems, regional/global scale air pollution and marine pollution, environmental deterioration and sanitary problems caused by micro plastic and hazardous chemicals. Sustainable energy and renewable resource management.

The Grant program also hopes for research proposals for compact city system for new socio-economic schemes, autonomous supply and chain system, transition of our daily living styles and communication system.

Notes:

- Regardless of the explanation above, even basic or individual researches following the principle of the Research Subject are acceptable.
- Researches by young researchers are also eligible regardless of age or job title of the

- (2) Written reports on research results and on a final accounting of funds spent shall be submitted to Foundation when the grant period has expired. The reports on research results shall be posted on Foundation's website.
- (3) When a thesis or any similar document is to be published based on the results of proposed research, it is required to acknowledge Sumitomo's grant by clearly mentioning on such published material that the research was made possible by this grant from Foundation. One set of photocopies of the material needs to be submitted to Foundation.

III. Selection and Approval of Eligible Projects

1. Selection Process

Applications for this grant will be evaluated for selection by the Selection Committee of Foundation. The Board of Directors of Foundation, scheduled to meet in October 2021, will give the final approval to the selection of the projects eligible for this grant. Results of the selection will be notified to the applicants by letter.

2. Selection Criteria

Selection shall put weight on the following perspectives;

- (1) Sociality
- (2) Feasibility
- (3) Originality
- (4) Interdisciplinary
- (5) Necessity

Notes:

- The amount of grant applied for may be reduced as a result of the evaluation by the Selection Committee.
- Foundation may not reply to any inquiries regarding the reasons for selection/rejection of the proposals.

IV. Procedure for Application

1. Documents and Steps

Application forms should be made under Windows PC environment as Foundation's application system is based on Windows OS.

- (1) Download the application form (Page 1) from the Foundation's website.

- (2) Fill out the application form ("Page 1" and "Page 2 to 5") in accordance with the instruction sheet. The "Page 1" should not be altered to any other file format as it is a special PDF format where necessary data can be input to be uploaded by Foundation later.
- (3) Refer to "Q & A (frequently asked)" for further assistance.
- (4) The "Page 1" should be written **in Japanese only** while "Page 2 to 5" can be written in either Japanese or English. But in the case of English, a "Contact Person" who can fluently speak and write in Japanese is compulsory to fill in.
- (5) Submit only "Page 1" to the designated email address below by attaching to an email (hereafter "Email Application"). Do not send "Page 2 to 5" at this stage.

-Designated Email Address for Email Application:

sumitomo-
found.kanbosyu2021@xqb.biglobe.ne.jp

-Deadline for Email Application: June 9, 2021

Email Applications should be sent to Foundation on or before the deadline for Email Applications and be dispatched preferably during the daytime in Japan local time. Email Applications should be sent as early as possible to avoid the heavy congestion anticipated just before the deadline. Foundation shall get back to the applicant to acknowledge the receipt of the Email Application with a Receipt Number (4 digits) assigned to the application after confirming the accuracy of Email Applications by Foundation. Be sure to fill in the Receipt Number in the upper-right corner of each application form (Page 1 to 5). Handwriting the number after printing out the forms is also acceptable. After obtaining the authorization to apply for this grant program from your affiliation and signing by the applicant on Page 1, prepare both an original full set (Page 1 to 5) and a

duplicate set of photocopies.

- (6) The following application documents (hereafter “Postal Application”) shall be submitted by postal mail to Foundation.

-One original hard copy (Page 1 to 5)
and

-One duplicate hard copy (Page 1 to 5)

Notes:

- Both original and duplicate Application forms should be mono-color print and single-side copy (dual-side copy is not acceptable).
- Staple the upper-left corner of the original application form but as for the duplicate copy, do not staple or clip, just put in a clear plastic file folder.
- After submitting the Email Application, if an amendment is needed, attach the small tab indicating “Amendment” to where amended and highlight the data amended on Page 1 of the original application.
- Indicate “Application for Environmental Research Grant Enclosed” on the face of the envelope.
- Read carefully both this Application Guide and Instruction Sheet before preparing the application since any application with a discrepancy is not acceptable by Foundation.
- As for an application from a foreign country, the address can be written in English or a letter-size application form may be exceptionally acceptable.
- The application document submitted once will not be returned to the applicant.
- Hand delivery of the application directly to Foundation by the applicant is not acceptable.
- Since the acknowledgement of Postal Application will not be made by Foundation, a certified mail or registered mail is highly recommended.
- The designated email address for the Email Application will be closed in a certain period of time after the submission deadline described below. Use Foundation’s regular email address below in case of need to contact Foundation after the closure of the designated email address for Email Applications.
- The personal information provided in the

application is to be used strictly for the purposes of selection as well as notification of the results to the applicants. Please note, however, that the name of grantees (successful applicants), his/her affiliation, title, subject of research project and grant amount will be announced to the public in due course.

- The new subject for FY2022 Special Subject Research will be disclosed around October, 2021.

2. Deadline

Email Application

must be received by Foundation on or before **June 9, 2021.**

Postal Application

must be received by Foundation on or before **June 30, 2021.**

Notes:

- As described above, 2 steps are needed to complete the application.
First: Email Application to obtain Receipt Number from Foundation.
Second: Postal Application to complete the application procedure.
- Postal Applications by means of facsimile or email are invalid.

V. Where to Apply

Please contact the address below for application forms prescribed by Foundation or for any inquiries concerning the application. (The form both in Japanese and in English can be downloaded from Foundation’s website in the format of PDF or Word).

The Sumitomo Foundation
1-12-16 Shibadaimon
Minato-ku, Tokyo JAPAN 105—0012

Telephone: 81-3-5473-0161

Facsimile: 81-3-5473-8471

E-mail: sumitomo-found@msj.biglobe.ne.jp

URL: <http://www.sumitomo.or.jp/e/>