



**THE SUMITOMO FOUNDATION  
FISCAL 2022 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/or international collaborative research to address the environmental problems under with/ post COVID-19 era.”

The COVID-19 pandemic, still uncontrollable, is leaving a big impact on human conducts as well as social structures. Excessive disposable plastics including non-woven masks, medical gloves and vaccine syringes are used over the world, which are creating a new environmental problem. It might be necessary to reconsider the conducts such as a re-use and a sharing regarded as environmentally friendly before. On the other hand, behind the benefits from the advance of DX society (AI, IOT), new resource and environment issues are emerging through the extravagant consumption of electricity by using super-computer, big data storage and appliance equipped with AI. In the

meantime, natural disasters caused by unusual climate changes occur more and more frequently, and the problems get worsen and more complicated by combining global warming, environmental pollution on an earth basis, shortage of waters and foods, and exhaustion of natural resources.

In this context, the Grant Program calls for comprehensive and interdisciplinary research proposals to address the environmental problems under with/post COVID-19 era, especially for creative research proposals and/or internationally cooperative research proposals (if it is a subject on an earth basis) in the priority research subjects; decarbonized society, maintenance as an industry of agriculture/fishery and forestry through the preservation of natural resource, restoration of marine and land ecosystems, sustainable energy, sustainable use of renewable resource, air/marine pollution on a regional or global scale, environmental deterioration and sanitary problems caused by micro plastic and hazardous chemicals. **The Grant Program also welcomes not only natural scientific approach but human/social scientific approach or combined approach which explores how human conducts and socio-economic system have changed or should change, reflected by the COVID-19 pandemic situation.**

**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 applicant.
- The following projects are not eligible:



submitted to Foundation when the grant period has expired. The reports on research results shall be posted on Foundation's website etc.

- (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 2022, 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 e-mail.

#### 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

From FY2022 Grant, the Applicant should apply for this program through the website of the Foundation in Japanese or English. The Applicant should submit two application documents, (1) Application, (2) Approval from a research institution including university/college (if applicable). For details, please refer to "Procedure & Instruction for Application".

Access to URL for the application is not available until the Commencement Date. Neither the application document nor other material submitted shall be returned to the Applicant.

#### <Personal Information>

The personal information provided in the application is to be used strictly for the purposes of selection as well as notification of the results of evaluation to the applicants. The Applicants will be asked to show their consent on the website to the Foundation's policy of the protection of personal information. Please note, however, that the name of grantees (successful applicants), their affiliation, title, theme of research project and grant amount will be announced to the public in due course.

#### 2. Application Term

Commencement Date: April 15, 2022

Deadline Date : June 30, 2022

Japan Time(JST): 24:00

After the acceptance of application documents, the registration number will be notified to the Applicant by email. Unless the Applicant receives it within one day after the submission through the web-site, please inquire to the Foundation by email, or the Applicant would fail in the registration.

Please take note that even if the registration number has been assigned, the Foundation may cancel its registration of the application which does not comply with Application Guide and/or Procedure & Instruction for Application

Notes:

- The new subject for FY2023 Special Subject Research will be disclosed around October, 2022.

### V. Where to contact

Please contact the address below for any inquiries concerning the application.

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