

Introduction to the FY2025 Business Plan

The Nippon Foundation pursues activities in the public interest using grants received under the Motorboat Racing Law as our primary source of funds. While maintaining accountability through the public release of information and third-party evaluations, we fulfill our responsibilities as an institution designated to support the recovery of the maritime shipping industry and as a public interest incorporated foundation, with the aim of realizing a sustainable and inclusive society through future-oriented activities.

With today's society undergoing drastic changes, issues related to maritime and ocean affairs and to the daily lives of people in Japan and around the world continue to become increasingly diverse and complex. Climate change is manifesting itself in the form of increasingly larger typhoons and more frequent heavy rains caused by ocean heat waves, having a serious effect on economies and people's lives. The increasing intensity of these natural disasters is affecting energy supplies and economic activity on a global scale, and bringing about greater disparities and social uncertainty. Stagnation in international cooperation resulting from Russia's invasion of Ukraine and increasing tensions in the Middle East is also contributing to greater economic uncertainty. In Japan, an aging and contracting population is changing the social structure, creating a need for greater support for social welfare and child-rearing. Nevertheless, simply addressing individual issues without demonstrating robust, effective policies will not overcome problems including a decline in Japan's international competitiveness, an accelerating decrease in the birthrate, and the diminishing of young people's dreams for the future.

We must aim to resolve these issues with a sense of urgency through comprehensive approaches that are aligned with all of society. With The Nippon Foundation's Basic Principles as a reference point for common understanding, the Foundation is responding to a broad range of issues through swift action. The successful models that we seek are cutting-edge initiatives to resolve social issues that lead to government policy proposals and spur private-sector activities. By providing a framework that strives to balance self-reliance, mutual aid, and public assistance, we are contributing to the creation of a sustainable social infrastructure. Through these initiatives, we will continue to work to resolve issues by embodying a consistent direction for Japan's future while verifying their effectiveness.