


**THE SUMITOMO FOUNDATION**  
**FISCAL 2024 GRANT FOR**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PROJECTS**  
**Application Guide**

The Sumitomo Foundation (“The Foundation”) offers this grant program to address the global environmental issues, one of the most critical issues facing humanity in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

### 1. Research Project to Grant

The global environmental issues are one of the most critical issues facing humanity, which include the problems such as global warming, ozone layer destruction, acid rain, decrease of species, food and population, desertification, and pollution as well as the challenges such as conservation of biodiversity, use of renewable resources and energy for the realization of carbon neutrality, and achievement of SDGs. We believe it is necessary to analyze and build countermeasures with a multifaceted approach in order to solve these problems and challenges, and seek for research projects from various perspectives of social sciences, humanities and natural science.

<b>General Research</b>	Research projects which fit the purpose of this grant program as described above for any field or theme
<b>Special Subject Research</b>	Research projects on the below subject (please refer to page 3 for detail) <FY2024 Research Subject> “Interdisciplinary research and/or international collaborative research to control the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere as an urgent task for humanity.”

Notes) The following research projects are not eligible:

- 1) Research projects for profit making or those likely to lead to profit making.
- 2) Research projects entrusted by a third party.
- 3) Research projects which have been substantially completed.

### 2. Grant Amount & Grant Period

	<b>General Research</b>	<b>Special Subject Research</b>	
Budget total	¥70 mil	¥30 mil	Left over amount for Special Subject Research would be used for General Research.
Amount per project	Max ¥5 mil	Max ¥10 mil	These amounts are the upper limits of the applied amount, respectively.
Number of projects	App.40	App. 3	
Grant Period (to be selected)	1 year or 2 years	2 years or 3 years	If necessary during the grant period, Grant Period can be extended to a total of 3 years and 4 years respectively together with the initial period.

Notes)

- 1) Grant Period will start from the date of grant receipt (scheduled in November this year).
- 2) If there is an interruption of research due to maternity leave or childcare leave, the extension will be allowed separately from the above.

### 3. Qualifications of Applicant

Any applicant (sole researcher or representative of research group) who falls under either (1) or (2) described below is qualified to apply.

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| <p>(1) Regardless of the nationality, anyone who belongs to a university, a college or a research institution in Japan with an approval from an authorized person representing the affiliation to apply for this grant program.</p> <p>(2) Anyone other than (1) above who has Japanese nationality or a permission for permanent residence in Japan.</p> <p>Provided that anyone who belongs to a profit-making organization fully or even partially is not eligible to apply.</p> |
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Notes)

- 1) The Applicant should be responsible for carrying out proposed research project and managing the whole process including financials and reporting.
- 2) Anyone cannot apply for duplicates of our grant programs including this grant program, while the Applicant can be a collaborator of other applicants.

#### 4. Applicable Expenses

Direct expenses for the proposed research project are applicable except the following expenses.

- (i) Remuneration for services rendered by the Applicant and the Collaborator(s).
- (ii) Administrative expenses incurred by research institutes to which the Applicant and the Collaborator(s) belong.
- (iii) Expenses to purchase any instrument, apparatus or equipment for general use such as PC, Server, Printer, Camera and so on.

#### 5. Duties of Applicant (as Grantee)

The Grantee shall provide a consent letter to the Foundation and comply with the duties stipulated in the letter, which include reporting the research result and accounting result to the Foundation in the designated format when the grant period has expired, acknowledging the grant from the Foundation on the publication of research results, and allowing the Foundation to reprint the reported research result (summary only) on its home page as well as post it on the data base of The Japan Foundation Center for publication. Furthermore, if an event sponsored by the Foundation such as a results report meeting is held, please understand in advance that you may be required to participate in the event and/or submit materials.

#### 6. Selection Process

The Selection Committee of Foundation will review and assess the applications from the several perspectives such as Sociality, Feasibility, Originality, Interdisciplinary and Necessity, and propose its selection to the Board of Directors of Foundation, scheduled in October 2024 for final solutions, which will be immediately notified to the Applicants by email. Applied amount may be reduced as a result of the valuation by the Selection Committee. The Foundation shall not accept any questions about the reasons of selection/ rejection.

#### 7. Procedure for Application

The Applicant should apply through the website of the Foundation in Japanese or English.

- 1) Please access to the website of the Foundation, and submit application in Japanese or English. Please take note the research subject of English application should be written in Japanese, and the contact person should be designated the person whom the Foundation can contact in Japanese language.
- 2) The Applicant should submit application document of (1) Application and (2) Approval from Affiliation (if applicable). For details, please refer to “Procedure & Instruction for Application”.
- 3) Neither the application documents 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.

#### 7. Application Term

Commencement Date: April 15, 2024 (Access to URL is available on the Commencement Date.)
Deadline: June 30, 2024 17:00pm (Japan Time)

After the receipt 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, please inquire to the Foundation by email, or the Applicant would fail in the registration. Please take note that the Foundation may cancel its registration of the application which does not comply with Application Guide and/or Procedure & Instruction for Application.

#### 8. Contact for Inquiry

The Sumitomo Foundation/Environment Research Program Officer

1-12-16 Shibadaimon Minato-ku, Tokyo JAPAN 105 – 0012

Telephone: 81-3-5473-0161 Facsimile: 81-3-5473-8471

Email: [environment@sumitomo.or.jp](mailto:environment@sumitomo.or.jp) URL: <https://www.sumitomo.or.jp/e/>

## FY2024 Special Subject

### <Subject>

“ Interdisciplinary research and/or international collaborative research to control the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere as an urgent task for humanity.”

### <Explanation>

While the signs of the convergence of the COVID-19 pandemic are finally recognized, we are still in a challenging situation, such as the crisis of global food and energy supply and increasingly frequent disasters due to severe weather. Especially, extreme weather phenomena worldwide are threatening a sustainable future, which was warned by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres saying “the era of global warming has ended and the era of global boiling has arrived.” The international community needs to work on controlling the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere that causes global warming and climate change as a top priority.

This is a difficult problem that cannot be solved enough with just a single specialty because a wide range of aspects such as climate, ecosystem, society, economy and policy are intertwined. To understand these aspects comprehensively and integrate relevant information and insights, an interdisciplinary approach is essential. Experts in different fields must work together and grasp the problem from a comprehensive perspective. To mitigate the situation and build a sustainable future, various approaches based on scientific insights are needed, such as the spread of renewable energy, improvement of energy efficiency, promotion of sustainable agriculture and urban planning, promotion of carbon dioxide resourceization and storage, measures against greenhouse gases accelerated by permafrost melting due to global warming and forest fires, and utilization of carbon pricing. Furthermore, from the perspective of social implementation, it is essential to form a social consensus that takes into account legal, political, economic and social factors.

In this context, the Grant Program calls for creative and interdisciplinary research to control the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere as an urgent task for humanity. If it is a world-wide issue or an issue related to certain overseas area, internationally cooperative research is expected. **The Grant Program also welcomes not only natural scientific approach but human/social scientific approach which explores the change of human conducts and socio-economic system, or combined approach.**