

About the Asahi Glass Foundation

Profile

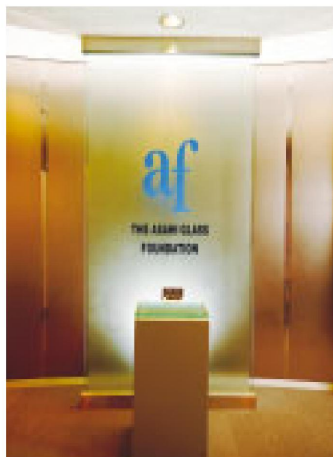
The Asahi Glass Foundation was established in 1933 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Asahi Glass Co., Ltd., celebrated in 1932. For more than eighty years, the Foundation's research grant program focused solely on providing financial assistance in the field of applied chemistry.

In response to major industrial, economic and social changes in the late twentieth century, and recognizing that new research was becoming increasingly advanced, globally oriented and interdisciplinary, the Foundation in 1992 augmented its activities by introducing a commendation program to recognize and reward profound research and practice in the area of world environmental conservation. This change is designed not only to further the study of sciences but also to promote research and practices that will serve the world community into the future.

The research grant is no longer limited to applied chemistry, but now encompasses all natural sciences, and human/social sciences fields. In all areas, the grant program promotes innovative research that will serve society into future generations.

The Foundation's commendation program, which focuses on the increasingly relevant issue of the global environment, sponsors the annual Blue Planet Prize, an international award inaugurated in 1992 to commend individuals and organizations in recognition of their contributions to solving global environmental problems.

The Foundation strives to contribute to the creation of a richer, more vibrant society. To this end, it supports research in natural and social science fields and recognizes individual and organizational efforts to solve issues of environmental concern to people around the world.



The Asahi Glass Foundation's home is in Tokyo's Science Plaza Building.

Program Overview

1. Research Grant Program
 - a. Research Encouragement Grants
 - b. Continuation Grants for Young Researchers
 - c. Continuation Grants for Outstanding Projects
 - d. Environmental Research: The Kondo Grant
 - e. Overseas Research Grants (Thailand and Indonesia)
 - f. Research Grant Presentation Ceremony and Seminar on Research Findings
2. Commendation Program
 - a. Blue Planet Prize, an international environmental award
 - Awards ceremony
 - Commemorative lectures
 - b. Other environment-related activities
 - Annual survey: “Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind”
 - Information about environment-related events, including Round Table Conference on Global Environment Problems and publications
3. Publications
 - a. Annual Report & af News
 - b. Related issues for Research Grant Program and Commendation Program

URL:<http://www.af-info.or.jp/en>



Financial Information

Total assets of the Foundation at the end of fiscal 2012 amounted to ¥27.9 billion. The budget for activities in fiscal 2012 is ¥761 million.

History

- 1933 The Asahi Glass Co., Ltd., establishes the Asahi Foundation for Chemical Industry Promotion.
- 1934 The Asahi Foundation for Chemical Industry Promotion gains recognition as a nonprofit organization and increases its basic endowment to ¥1 million. The Foundation begins extending research grants to university researchers in the field of applied chemistry.
- 1961 The Foundation changes its name to the Asahi Glass Foundation for Industrial Technology.
- 1982 The Foundation begins research grants for Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.
- 1988 The Foundation begins research grants for Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia.
- 1990 To support the expansion of its activities, the Foundation revises its funding program and changes its name to the Asahi Glass Foundation. The Foundation begins extending comprehensive research grants.
- 1992 The first annual Blue Planet Prize awards ceremony is held. The first annual “Questionnaire on Environmental Problems and the Survival of Humankind” is conducted. The Foundation begins providing research grants to the fields of humanities and social sciences. The first seminar presenting findings from Foundation-granted research in Thailand is held at Chulalongkorn University. The Foundation begins issuing a semiannual newsletter, *af News*, in Japanese and English.
- 1993 The first seminar presenting findings from Foundation-granted research is held. The first seminar on Foundation-assisted research in Indonesia is held at the Institut Teknologi Bandung. The foundation inaugurated an Endowed Chair in Chemical Engineering at the University of Oklahoma.
- 1994 The Foundation publishes *Zaidan 60 Nen no Ayumi*, a history of its first 60 years, in Japanese.
- 1997 The Foundation issues *A Better Future for the Planet Earth*, a publication commemorating the fifth anniversary of the Blue Planet Prize.
- 2002 The Foundation commemorates the 10th anniversary of the Blue Planet Prize. Publication of *Toward the Future of the Blue Planet -10-Year History of the Blue Planet Prize* ;10th anniversary commemorative lectures. Publication of *A Better Future for the Planet Earth Vol. II*.

- 2006 The Foundation begins “Special Round Table Conference on Global Environment Problems.”
- 2007 Publication of A Better Future for the Planet Earth Vol. III.
- 2008 The Foundation commences Continuation Grants for Young Researchers, Continuation Grants for Outstanding Projects and a Task-Oriented Research grants.
- 2009 Publication of Our Vision: Conditions for Survival (in Japanese and English).
The Foundation becomes a Public Interest Incorporated Foundation.
- 2010 Publication of Conditions for Survival : Toward a “Solar Energy-Based Society” Full of Vibrant Life (in Japanese and English).
The Foundation begins new grant program “Environmental Research: The Kondo Grant”.
- 2011 Publication of Conditions for Survival (in Chinese & in Korean).
Symposium “Conditions for Survival” held.
- 2012 The Blue Planet Prize laureates jointly presented a paper titled Environment and Development Challenges: The Imperative to Act.

Directors and Councillors

As of April 10, 2013

Directors Chairman

Tetsuji Tanaka

Former Senior Executive Vice President, Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.

Senior Executive Director

Shunichi Samejima

Former Head of Secretariat, the Asahi Glass Foundation;

Former Chief Executive, F2 Chemicals; Former Director, Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.

Trustees

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Director General, The National Museum of Nature and Science,

Director General, Yamashina Institute for Ornithology

Kazuhiko Ishimura

President & CEO, Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.

Kakutaro Kitashiro

Senior Advisor, IBM Japan, Ltd.

Yukiharu Kodama

President, The Mechanical Social Systems Foundation;

Former Administrative Vice-minister of International Trade and Industry

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Professor Emeritus, former President, Osaka University

Terunobu Miyazaki

Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University

Akio Morishima

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Professor Emeritus, Nagoya University

Hachiro Nakanishi

Auditor, Professor Emeritus, Tohoku University

Ryoji Noyori

President, RIKEN

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Professor Emeritus, University of Tsukuba

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Professor Emeritus, former President, Kyushu University

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Japan Science and Technology Agency;
Former President, Science Council of Japan;
Former President, The University of Tokyo

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Former President, The Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd.

Takashi Terashima
Former Corporate Auditor, Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.

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Astronaut

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Former Commissioner for Cultural Affairs

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Former Chief Justice, the Supreme Court of Japan

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Professor Emeritus, former President, Waseda University

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Professor Emeritus, former President, Hitotsubashi University

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Kazuo Tsukuda
Senior Executive Adviser, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.