

Social Contributions and Cultural Support

One of Sumitomo Corporation's Activity Guidelines is "contributing to society as a good corporate citizen."

In the course of promoting social contribution activities, we set up The Committee for Promoting Social Contributions, an internal, laterally structured organization, to deliberate on what our social contribution activities should be and how to best proceed with them.

Social Contribution Activities

Sumitomo Corporation Scholarship

As one of our commemorative projects, we began extending scholarships to students from 35 universities and graduate schools in 17 Asian countries since 1996 which was the 50th anniversary of Sumitomo Corporation's commencement of trading. The Sumitomo Corporation Scholarship, offered in cooperation with our overseas offices, aims to nurture next-generation leaders in these countries, and at the same time, to promote better relations with Japan. We are currently providing scholarships to about 900 students a year.

Sumitomo Corporation Fellowship

Since 1991, Sumitomo Corporation has made annual donations to the New York University School of Law to assist foreign students there from Asian and East European countries (two students annually).

Programs for Children

Two programs for children have been organized, one dealing with personal computers and the other with sports.

1) Kids Pasocco Club

Personal computers and communication equipment were donated to five children's nursing homes in the Kanto area, and children are taught how to use the computers by volunteers from sponsoring companies including us.

2) Support to the J-League Players Association (JPA) Soccer School

The school has a curriculum in which J-League players teach soccer to children from nursing homes in the Kanto and Kansai areas. This program teaches children social skills and the importance of teamwork, as well as how to enjoy sports. (Hosted by J-League, J-League Players Association, and social welfare councils in those areas.)

Donation of Goods/Utilization of Surplus Materials

Sumitomo Corporation donates its merchandise and various articles provided by executive members and employees to stricken areas, to single mothers and their children, and to nursing homes.

We also send various merchandise to charity bazaars, and the proceeds from their sale go to social welfare and non-profit organizations.

Volunteer Leave

In order to promote volunteer activities of our employees, we introduced a volunteer leave system in 1998, and every year dozens of personnel use this system to participate in volunteer activities.

Cultural Support Activities

Junior Philharmonic Orchestra

Based on the idea of "fostering buds for the future," Sumitomo Corporation has been supporting the activities of the Junior Philharmonic Orchestra (JPO), and has done so annually since 1992.

It was long under the baton of the late Naozumi Yamamoto, a famous Japanese conductor and composer who had worked to spread the appeal of classical music.

The JPO is highly recognized internationally and has given many concerts in and outside Japan. Many of its members have gone on to become professional musicians.



Attendees of the Scholarship awards ceremony in Hanoi



Junior Philharmonic Orchestra Concert