

# Creating a sustainable economy and society

ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP ORGANIZING CLUB



Pamphlet

[www.epoc.gr.jp/](http://www.epoc.gr.jp/)



## Message from the Chairman



Toshikazu Koike,  
Chairman of the Environmental Partnership Organizing Club  
Brother Industries, Ltd.



Yukihiro Shinohara,  
EPOC Vice-Chairman  
DENSO CORPORATION



Shigeru Kobayashi,  
EPOC Vice-Chairman  
NGK INSULATORS, LTD.



Nobuyuki Masuda,  
EPOC Vice-Chairman  
Toho Gas Co., Ltd.



Satoru Katsuno,  
EPOC Vice-Chairman  
CHUBU Electric Power  
Co., Inc.



Atsuhito Mori,  
EPOC Vice-Chairman  
Central Japan  
Railway Company



Shigeki Terashi,  
EPOC Vice-Chairman  
TOYOTA MOTOR  
CORPORATION

The Environmental Partnership Organizing Club (EPOC) was established in February 2000 mainly by the industrial sector in the Chubu region with the aim of building a recycling-oriented economic society through research, communication, implementation, and information dissemination with regard to activities that can reduce our impact on the environment beyond the boundaries of industry and business categories. EPOC is involved in a variety of activities to that end.

Since the establishment of EPOC, we have been moving forward with a wide range of activities in accordance with the needs of the society and our members. These activities include acquiring ISO 14001 certification; sharing information that contributes to environmental management; surveying advanced case studies of resource recycling, carbon reduction, and coexistence with nature; environmental education for future generations; and exchanging opinions with trainees from overseas. We have also been focusing on initiatives in cooperation with local governments and communities. These include hosting the Aichi Environment Award together with Aichi prefecture since 2005, supporting the realization of recycling-oriented societies based on the introduction of pioneering examples that help to reduce environmental impact, and providing assistance for Expo 2005 Aichi Japan, the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10) in 2010, and the UNESCO World Conference for Sustainable Development (ESD) in 2014.

Additionally, EPOC formulated its Vision for 2030 in 2019, making a fresh new start toward the realization of a sustainable economy and society by streamlining the EPOC organization and reorganizing its functions and roles in order to focus on environmental innovation that can lead to societal transformation.

In the meantime, society has become more widely aware of initiatives and approaches that involve SDGs, and people have started to think more deeply about sustainability. When it comes to addressing climate change in particular, we have no time to lose. Japan has committed to a 46 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2013 levels by 2030 and to becoming carbon neutral by 2050. However, the international situation has changed greatly since Russia's invasion of Ukraine last year. In particular, problems involving the supply of fuel and energy are having a major impact on the global economy, and in order to overcome these problems, there has been a marked tendency to argue that investment in renewable energy should be put on hold while priority is given to securing fossil fuels and ensuring a stable supply of power, which goes against reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

In this context, it is no easy matter to achieve our major goals not only in terms of reducing our environmental impact but also to conserve the environment and biological diversity. We at EPOC, more than ever, need to share information with our members and to seriously consider what can be done beyond corporate walls.

Going forward, EPOC will continue to promote a variety of activities from a perspective that encompasses not only the Chubu region but all of Japan and the rest of the world. I hope I can count on your continued support and active participation in our activities.

*Toshikazu Koike* Chairman of the Environmental Partnership Organizing Club

## Organizational Objectives

With industry-based environmental opinion leaders at the core of its activities, EPOC will seek to realize eco-efficiency, make available information on environmental measures in central Japan, and work to create a globally outstanding environmentally advanced region and a safe and pleasant recycling society.

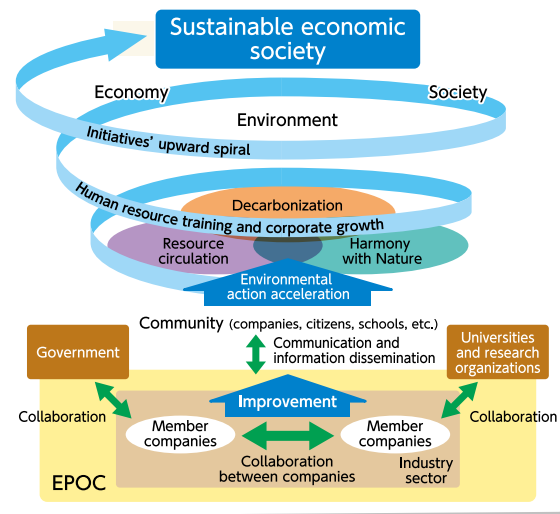
- Promotion of ecological action in society as a whole
- Enhancement of ecological awareness among the public
- Dissemination of information to encourage ecological action
- Undertaking of international exchange activities to promote ecological action

## Vision for 2030

## Toward the realization of a sustainable economic society through environmental achievements and partnership

We aim to create a sustainable economic society in harmony with Low-Carbon, resource circulation, and Harmony with Nature through environmental achievements attained by companies.

- Program Guidelines**
- Environmental management practice and strengthening of collaboration between members for:
    - Further improvement of the entire industry sector
    - Promotion of resolute of environmental/societal issues, technological reform, and creation of innovation through business operations
  - Provision of environmental action opportunities through region-based communication with non-member companies, citizens, schools, etc. and information dissemination to them.



## Main Activities

### Environmental Management Subcommittee

We provide member companies with information useful in their work with environmental management and administration, such as societal movements and laws and regulations related to environmental issues, technological information, and case examples from other companies through seminars and inspections. Study group meetings are also held by subcommittee members at their own places of study.



Seminar on leading environmental management

### Decarbonization Subcommittee

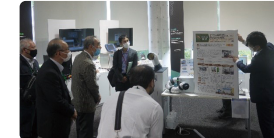
By researching current social trends toward achieving carbon-neutrality and innovative initiatives related to hydrogen and energy conservation, and by communicating wide-ranging case studies and information about innovative technology such as energy conservation technology that transcends the boundaries of business categories and industries, we aim to improve each member company and promote mutual exchange and cooperation.



Group photo at a local workshop

### Resource Circulation Subcommittee

In order to advance the formation of recycling-oriented societies in the Chubu region, we are holding seminars, inspections, and more together with Aichi Prefecture as we work to increase our know-how and technology as well as exchange information with member companies. We are sharing and disseminating solutions and the latest information with regard to the recycling of resources through a collaboration with industry, government, and academia.



Tour of company that received an Aichi Environmental Award

### Harmony with Nature Subcommittee

We support the future initiatives of our corporate members by examining case studies and offering support programs. The initiatives cover all corporate activities with a focus on understanding the impact on the ecosystem, measures for reducing that impact and other corporate initiatives that sustainably use the benefits provided by the ecosystem.



Visiting an environmental conservation action zone

### Reporting on Activities and Providing Information

Reports on EPOC's achievements are compiled and distributed in order to promote the use and application of the information. In addition, the latest information on the environment and EPOC's activities are introduced on our website to raise environmental awareness in various business sectors and expand the scale of our activities.

EPOC  
web site  
www.epoc.gr.jp/



### 2023 Aichi Environmental Award Ceremony

The Aichi Environment Awards, which is undertaken on commission by the Aichi Prefectural Government, is one of the main channels for raising public awareness about environmental initiatives and encouraging new efforts that build on them. Lectures and events that bring together corporate members are also organized in order to fortify central Japan's roles as a global leader on environmental issues.



2023 Aichi Environmental Award Ceremony

### Interacting with Youth Team

In order to support environmental awareness and environmental education of youth, particularly elementary and junior high school students, we provide practical, activity-oriented environmental lectures using the educational tools and facilities of our member companies, and we engage in a wide variety of environmental awareness activities in cooperation with the government and other organizations.



Environmental talk given by corporate member at a school

### Overseas Team

We continue to study and deepen our understanding of overseas environmental regulations and trends, and we disseminate highly effective information on their impact as well as preventive measures both within and outside EPOC. Our goal is to contribute to the overseas activities and business development of our members through the planning of international events (seminars, study sessions, opinion exchange meetings, and so on) in cooperation with each subcommittee/team and their planning activities.



A local workshop

### Meetings

A seminar on environmental initiatives for experts environmental fields as well as other interested parties is organized as part of the annual general assembly. Mid- and long-term strategies are discussed at the semiannual board of directors meetings and executive committee meetings.



General Assembly



Lecture meeting



Exchange meeting

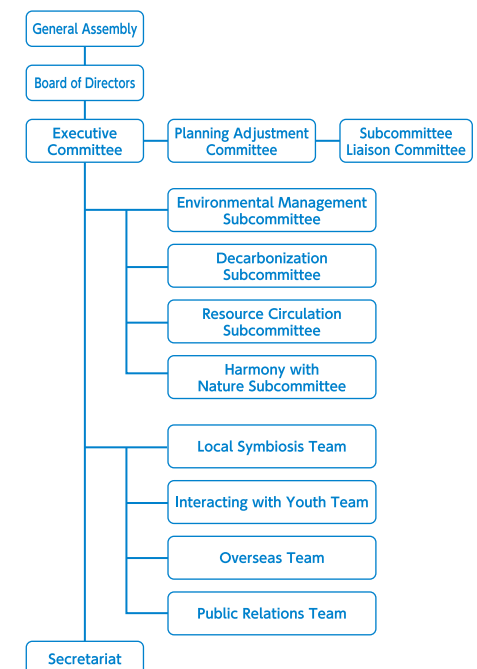
## Executives and Advisors (As of July 13, 2023)

<b>Chairman</b>	Toshikazu Koike	Brother Industries, Ltd.	Director and Chairman
<b>Vice-Chairmen</b>	Yukihiro Shinohara	DENSO CORPORATION	Vice President
	Shigeru Kobayashi	NGK INSULATORS, LTD.	President
	Nobuyuki Masuda	Toho Gas Co., Ltd.	President
	Satoru Katsuno	Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.	Chairman of the Board of Directors
	Atsuhito Mori	Central Japan Railway Company	Executive Vice President
	Shigeki Terashi	TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION	Executive Fellow
<b>Directors</b>	Mutsuhiro Seshita	AISIN CORPORATION	Associate Officer
	Masato Sekiya	EBARA CORPORATION	Branch Manager
	Mikio Nakane	SINTOKOGIO, LTD.	Director/Senior Executive Officer
	Tetsuya Yamamoto	Daiseiki Co., Ltd.	President
	Hiroaki Matsuda	TOYOTA INDUSTRIES CORPORATION	Senior Executive Officer
	Noriyuki Hiramitsu	NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION	Managing Executive Officer Head of Works, Nagoya Works
	Hiroshi Yorita	NORITAKE CO., LIMITED	Managing Executive Officer
	Yoshimaro Yusuki	Hitachi, Ltd.	Corporate Officer General Manager Hitachi, Ltd., Chubu Area Operation
	Kazuya Hotate	Fujitsu Limited	Corporate Executive Officer, Head of Social Systems Unit
	Takashi Yamamura	MITSUMI & CO., LTD.	General Manager, Chubu Office
	Takuya Ogawa	Rinnai Corporation	Managing Executive Officer, General Manager of Corporate Planning Headquarters
<b>Auditors</b>	Masatsugu Kasano	OKAYA & CO., LTD.	Member of the Board, Senior General Manager
	Shinichi Odo	NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	Representative Director Chairman of the Board
<b>Advisors</b>	Hidehiko Teramura	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	Director-General, Chubu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry
	Ryuji Nakayama	Ministry of the Environment	Director General, Chubu Regional Environment Office
	Hideaki Ohmura	Aichi Prefecture	Governor
	Hajime Furuta	Gifu Prefecture	Governor
	Katsuyuki Ichimi	Mie Prefecture	Governor
	Takashi Kawamura	Nagoya City	Mayor
	Toshihiko Ota	Toyota City	Mayor
	Masanobu Hasatani	Aichi Institute of Technology	Research Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering
	Yasuo Suzuoki	Aichi Institute of Technology	Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering
<b>Secretariat Director</b>	Nobuyuki Kosaka	Central Japan Industries Association (ChuSanRen)	Senior Managing Director

## Membership

Total: 253 corporate members as of July 13, 2023

## Organization



# Invitation to Join EPOC

## Benefits

- Members can get firsthand knowledge of environmental initiatives through exchanges with companies in other fields as well as through exchanges that bring together the business, academic, and public sectors. They can specifically learn what other companies and organizations are doing to reduce the environmental impact of their operations and the success they have achieved.
- Members gain access to the latest information on the environment through lectures, seminars, and symposiums.
- Members can take part in surveys, studies, and other activities related to the creation of a recycling-oriented socioeconomic system.

## Eligibility (for regular and special members)

- 1. ISO14000 series certification
- 2. Other certification under another global environmental standard
- 3. Recommendation by other EPOC members based on:
  - a. Efforts to acquire the ISO 14000 series certification or other global environmental standard
  - b. Support for a company seeking to acquire certification for a global environmental standard
  - c. Recognized commitment to activities aimed at reducing the environmental impact

## Application

- Download the application form from our Web site, complete it, and send it to the EPOC Secretariat by mail. Applicants will be notified of a decision from the Secretariat after the application has been screened.

## Membership Fees

- 1. Annual dues  
Regular members (corporations and organizations) 50,000yen per share (excluding tax)  
Regular members must in principle purchase at least two shares. However, smaller enterprises (those that qualify as such under the Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Basic Act) can purchase a minimum of one share.  
Special members (scholars, specialists, and public organizations) : Free
- 2. Initial admission fee : 50,000yen (including tax)
  - a. EPOC will issue a membership certificate upon admission.
  - b. Requests for admission and withdrawal will be granted in accordance with EPOC rules.