

July 12, 2024

Participated in OIST Coral Project by Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University as Special Partner

Nippon Sanso Holdings Corporation (President CEO: Toshihiko Hamada, hereinafter referred to as NSHD) is pleased to announce that we have joined as a special partner the OIST Coral Project by the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (President: Dr. Karin Markides, hereinafter referred to as OIST), which has taken a leading role in conserving coral reefs in Okinawa and around the world.



[Planting coral seedings] (provided by OIST)

Accumulated damage to coral reefs due to global warming and other factors has made coral death and habitat deterioration more serious at an unprecedented scale and speed all over the world including Japan. Coral reefs are one of the most biodiverse places on earth. It is also said that corals fix carbon dioxide in the ocean through the formation of their skeleton, contributing to the expansion of blue carbon* and tackling global warming.

* Blue carbon: It refers to carbon absorbed and stored in the ocean environment through the activities of marine organisms. Marine ecosystems that absorb and store blue carbon are called blue carbon ecosystems.

The OIST was the first in the world to successfully decode the entire genetic information (genome) of corals and zooxanthellae that live symbiotically with corals and has developed a method to identify coral species from the eDNA (environmental DNA) contained in seawater. Through research utilizing these cutting-edge technologies, the OIST has launched the OIST Coral Project to work on conserving coral reefs in Okinawa and around the world.

NSHD has agreed on the aim of the project and decided to participate and cooperate on

it as a special partner. We will support activities to conserve coral reefs in Okinawa and around the world through coral reef monitoring using eDNA technology established by the OIST and research using genome analysis technology.

For coral conservation activities in Okinawa, Taiyo Nippon Sanso Corporation (Head Office: Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, President: Kenji Nagata), a domestic gas industry company of NSHD, will participate in local coral reef conservation activities.

Through this project, the NSHD Group will proactively work to protect biodiversity and fight against global warming to contribute to achieving a sustainable future.

For more information on the OIST Coral Project → <https://www.oist.jp/oist-coral-project>

The Nippon Sanso Holdings Group is the world's fourth-largest supplier of industrial, electronic, and medical gases, operating in four geographic regions - Japan, U.S., Europe and Asia & Oceania - covering over 30 countries and regions. In addition, the Thermos business supplies THERMOS branded products to more than 120 countries worldwide. Since its foundation as Nippon Sanso Ltd. in 1910, the group stands for creating social value through innovative gas solutions that increase industrial productivity, enhance human well-being and contribute to a more sustainable future. With more than 19,000 employees, together, we are "The Gas Professionals" and we all have the same goal: "Making life better through gas technology"

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