

Others

The Challenge to Solve Social Issues

Strategies and Risk Management

NYK Group's Basic Stance on Human Rights
Systems and Programs

Initiatives

- Environmental Preservation
- Supporting Developing Countries
- Realizing an Inclusive Society
- Fostering Future Generations
- Initiatives Overseas
- Disaster Relief

Related Data

● Joint Research to Discover Medicinal Resources from Marine Organisms

NYK and Chuo University launched a joint research initiative to discover novel natural products from marine organisms in 2025. This project seeks to identify previously unknown substances that may have beneficial applications for humanity, including potential new medicinal resources, from marine organisms attached to ship hulls and other surfaces, and to elucidate the effects of those substances. Historically, natural products have played a pivotal role in the development of groundbreaking medicines, akin to the discovery of penicillin, the world's first antibiotic, from mold. There have been past instances where new natural products from marine organisms were discovered to inhibit the proliferation of pathogens responsible for infectious diseases. Going forward, NYK will primarily provide the environment for collecting marine organisms, while Chuo University will handle the collection, exploration of unknown natural products, and their usefulness assessment. Through this collaboration, NYK aims to discover new substances that will serve as a foundation for supporting our healthy and prosperous lives.

● Argo Program: International Science Project

The Argo Program is a project for launching floats (Argo floats) capable of monitoring ocean waters for changes in water temperature, salinity, and pressure. Approximately 3,000 Argo floats are deployed around the world, one for every 300 square kilometers of ocean, to monitor changes in the oceans indicating the effects of climate change. On November 19, 2010, NYK concluded an agreement titled "Agreement on Cooperation in Deployment of Scientific Floats for Global Ocean-Monitoring" with the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMTEC), a national research organization. For over a decade, the Company has been launching Argo floats, advancing the Argo Program, and contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs) defined by the UN.

Scientists around the world utilize the measurement results of the Argo floats in their investigations and research. Through summary reports of the UN-established Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the knowledge acquired from the plan is utilized in the framework of international global warming countermeasures and the policy decisions governing each country's response to climate change. Recently, in addition to climate change predictions regarding the El Niño phenomenon, the research has also contributed to improving the accuracy of weather reports, which are generally more familiar.

Going forward, NYK will continue to utilize the resources of its owned vessels and shipping routes to launch Argo floats in remote areas that are difficult for related organizations' ships to access.

● Supporting Environmental Preservation in Mikawa Bay

In June 2023, NYK donated 3 million yen to Nishio City in Aichi Prefecture to support the environmental preservation activities in the Mikawa Bay area, where many vessels enter and leave port. The funds mainly went toward activities such as surveys and replanting of seaweed beds* and eelgrass seedlings. Moreover, since 2023, the NYK Group employees have also been participating as volunteers for the annually held eelgrass replanting.

*Seaweed bed: A location where a variety of seaweed grow. Also referred to as the cradles of the seas, they are an important habitat that fulfills the roles of filtering water and providing a place for laying eggs and raising the young of sea creatures.

● Participation in Recycling Activities

NYK has been participating in the collection of empty disposable contact lens cases. The collected cases are recycled and transformed into various products such as ballpoint pens. NYK also utilizes these recycled products as novelties.

Supporting Developing Countries

Utilizing its resources, the NYK Group supports the realization of a society that can provide equal opportunities for education, health, and labor to people in developing countries.

● Transport Assistance for Used School Backpacks

NYK offers free transport assistance via a group company that operates container ships to support "School Backpack Supplies to School Children Program" in Afghanistan. This program is organized by JOICFP (Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning) in which the organization donates used school backpacks of Japanese children to the children in Afghanistan.

Many of the school children in Afghanistan walk over 10 kilometers one way along steep mountain paths to attend open-air schools. By carrying textbooks and notebooks in school backpacks, they can safely walk along dangerous mountain paths. Previously, the guardians considered their children as wage workers; however, after observing children commuting to school with school backpacks, they began to become aware of the significance of education. The backpacks are now fundamental symbols of education among people in Afghanistan.



School Backpack Supplies to School Children Program

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• Transporting Picture Books

The NYK Group supports the "Books for Children" campaign of the Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA), a public corporation that provides educational support to children in Asia. Since 2004, NYK has been working with a group company that operates container ships to provide transportation services to Cambodia, Laos, and other countries.

The SVA has participated in volunteer activities since 1999 by attaching translations in local languages to picture books written in Japanese. There are not enough schools, teachers, or textbooks in Cambodia and Laos due to national conflicts and poverty, and few local children's book authors. Picture books that are distributed by the SVA, are delivered to libraries in needy areas and used in classrooms to improve literacy and emotional education.



Books for Children Campaign

• Transporting Wheelchairs

NYK has supported the activities of the Sakura Wheelchair Project (a specified nonprofit organization) and Wheelchairs of Hope (NPO) by transporting wheelchairs that are no longer in use in Japan to Ukraine and Pakistan.



Sakura Wheelchair Project

• Charity Collaboration: Charity RUN + WALK+α

Since 2017, the NYK Group has been conducting the "Charity RUN + WALK+α" event to promote the health of the Group employees through familiar sports such as running and walking, as well as to raise awareness of social issues. Donations made by employees based on their participation fees and the amount of exercise they perform are donated to Médecins Sans Frontières to contribute to improving the health of people who have no access to medical services due to conflict or disaster.

In recognition of these efforts, in 2018, NYK was certified as a "Tokyo Sports Promotion Company" by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.



• Charity Collaboration: Donation of Winter Clothing

NYK supports the winter clothing donation activity conducted by the Philippine Society of Japan (a non-profit organization) for Filipino nurse and care worker candidates coming to Japan under the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), and donate winter clothing collected within the company every year.

• Charity Collaboration: TABLE FOR TWO International (TFT) Lunch Menu

In April 2009, NYK started to support NPO TABLE FOR TWO International (TFT) by selling TFT healthy lunch menu at its cafeteria. NYK donated an amount based on the number of lunch menu sold to the organization. Subsequently, from October 2013 onwards, NYK is offering the TFT healthy menu once a week at its cafeteria. For each purchased TFT lunch menu, 20 yen is donated to TFT for one school meal for children in developing countries.



• Selling Fairtrade Products

NYK switched the coffee served inside its head office coffee shop in April 2016 to Fairtrade products. Fair trade is a trade mechanism that aims to improve the lives and independence of producers and workers in developing countries, who may find themselves in a disadvantageous position, by agreeing to continuously purchase the materials and products of developing countries at appropriate prices. As part of the company's social contribution activities and rising employee awareness of global social issues, NYK has been making Fairtrade products such as coffee, tea, and chocolates available for sale to employees. In FY2024, 53,279 cups of Fairtrade certified coffee and tea drinks were sold.

In 2024, NYK was awarded the Gold Status Fairtrade Workplace certification by Fairtrade Japan. This recognition is granted to companies and organizations that register as providers or users of internationally certified Fairtrade products throughout the year, actively promote awareness of Fairtrade certification both internally and externally, and proactively support the expansion of Fairtrade practices within the workplace. NYK was one of four companies to receive the gold certification for exceeding the standard for coffee in fiscal 2023.



Fairtrade Mark



Fairtrade Workplace Certification

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Realizing an Inclusive Society

The NYK Group aims to realize a society where all people can live comfortably.

● Aozora Soccer School

Since 2022, in collaboration with Tokyo Football Club Co., Ltd. (FC Tokyo), NYK has been hosting the Aozora Soccer School for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities at its Tobitakyu Sports Center.



Aozora Soccer School

● Making Envelopes from Vintage Nautical Charts

Since April 2019, the NYK Group volunteers have used their lunch breaks to make envelopes from nautical charts that are no longer in use. These envelopes are then donated to the Japan Braille Library and used in its shop to package items destined to recipients living with a visual impairment.



Making Envelopes from Vintage
Nautical Charts



Making envelopes

● Support for Swan Bakery

Swan Bakery was primarily established by the Yamato Welfare Foundation and Yamato Transport Co. Ltd. (currently, Yamato Holdings Co., Ltd.) for the purpose of fostering a society in which all people, including people with disabilities, can live and work in harmony. Swan opened its first shop in Ginza, Tokyo, in 1998, and the company has established bakeries and franchises nationwide. In 2005, NYK began supporting the activities of the Swan Bakery through internal sales.



● Sales of Castanet Bakery Goods

Castanet is a workplace operated by the social welfare corporation Hanamizuki No Kai, which allows its employees to work actively and to the best of their abilities. Since 2011, NYK has supported these activities by selling sweets made with select ingredients at the Company shop.

Fostering Future Generations

The NYK Group utilizes its resources to foster future generations who will lead the future.

● International Short-term Student-exchange Program

NYK conducts an international short-term student-exchange program between the NYK-TDG Maritime Academy (NTMA), which NYK operates in the Philippines, and national maritime schools in Japan.

● Shiki Theatre - Kokoro no Gekijo

To convey the important things in life, such as the importance of life, compassion, and the joy of trusting one another to our children through the stage, NYK has become a sponsor for the 2024 edition of "Kokoro no Gekijo," a project run by Shiki Theatre Company that invites sixth graders across Japan to attend family musical performances free of charge.



Shiki Theater - Kokoro no Gekijo (Photo: Takahiro Higuchi)