

# Community and Society

**Related Materiality** 

Contributing to communities





## **Basic approach**

The Hodogaya Chemical Group believes that as corporate citizens contributing to the sustainable development of the community is an important activity in carrying out its business. We are engaged in various community contributions including the nurturing of children through chemistry, environmental conservation activities in the regions where the Group's plants are located, and the provision of tangible and intangible objects that are useful for the rich lifestyles of people.

In addition, if a disaster is designated as a major disaster by the Cabinet Office, where one of our key bases is located, and the damage to the area around the base is severe, we donate a certain percentage of the previous fiscal year's earnings to the impacted prefecture. Most recently, in August 2023, we made a donation through the corporate version of hometown tax to contribute to the regional revitalization of Fukushima Prefecture, which we have always been indebted to.

### Hosting Sign Language Courses for Companies

(M.A., Management Department, Koriyama Plant)

To promote understanding and active communication with those who are hearingimpaired, we hosted the "Corporate Sign Language Course" organized by



Koriyama City at our Koriyama Plant. The program was held every Wednesday over three periods: December 2023 to February 2024, June to July 2024, and May to June 2025, totaling 25 sessions with approximately 60 participants in total.

In the course, participants learned simple self-introductions, greetings, and practical sign language expressions that can be used in the workplace. Unlike textbooks or video-based learning, the face-to-face format allowed them to grasp subtle differences in expression and finger movements.

Going forward, we will continue to foster mutual understanding and deeper communication by being mindful of others' circumstances and situations.

## Supporting Children's Curiosity and Creativity

(M.S., Management Department, Yokohama Plant)

Hodogaya Chemical participates in the "Summer Vacation Children's Chemistry Experiment Show," presenting a workshop on creating water-based



pens using our specialty dyes and exploring color separation. While assisting with the experiments, we were impressed by the children's flexibility and creativity. Through the paper chromatography (color separation) experiment, many works were produced that reflected ideas adults would never have imagined. Together with the children, we were able to truly experience the event's theme: "Chemistry is so much fun!"

Around 60 of our employees supported this event over the two-day period. With many young staff members taking part, the atmosphere was vibrant, and it highlighted their strong willingness to contribute to society.

### From Oshima Tidal Flats: Shunan City Blue Carbon Project in Tokuyama-Kudamatsu Port

(K.A., Environmental Safety Office, Nanyo Plant)

This project ("PJ") is an advanced initiative in Shunan City, located along the Seto Inland Sea, that leverages the natural power of fishing ports and surrounding areas to help prevent global warming and revitalize the local community.

The central site of the PJ, Oshima Tidal Flats, is Japan's first 29-hectare artificial tidal flat with the primary goal of promoting the autonomous regeneration of clams. It is a valuable habitat supporting a rich ecosystem, home to seagrasses such as eelgrass, clams, oysters, octopuses, small fish, and a diverse range of other organisms.

Seagrass beds not only absorb carbon dioxide from the seawater but also serve as nurseries for juvenile fish, contributing to the recovery of fishery resources.

The PJ has expanded its activities, with seagrass restoration and planting efforts, including eelgrass, underway at Heta (Tsugi) fishing port. In addition, local schools, citizens, companies, and government agencies collaborate to monitor the marine environment and provide experiential learning, helping to raise environmental awareness.

By participating in marine environmental improvement activities that support building future communities in harmony with nature, centered on blue carbon initiatives for a decarbonized society, we aim to contribute to biodiversity enhancement and local climate change mitigation\*, while also enhancing corporate value.

\* As a "blue carbon ecosystem" that plays a vital role in absorbing and sequestering CO2, it has been certified for 95.6 t-CO2 credits in 2025 (of which 3.2 t-CO2 are attributable to our Company).



