We conduct various activities to promote mutual understanding through means including introducing the traditional cultures and art of both the local area and Japan.

More...

We contribute to the social and economic development of countries by supporting improvements to infrastructure for daily life and education of personnel.

More...

We enthusiastically engage in community-based volunteer activities in the areas along pipelines in Japan and in oil and gas-producing countries.

More...

We deepen understanding of our business activities by holding exhibitions and stakeholder meetings.

More...
In October 2008, we assisted Chado Urasenke Tankokai (a prominent school of the Japanese art of tea, hereinafter referred to as Urasenke) in hosting a traditional tea ceremony in Abu Dhabi in honor of Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi. Local government officials and college students were also invited to the tea ceremony.

A few months earlier, when we afforded a brief exposure to the Japanese art of tea to the Crown Prince, who is interested in bushido (the way of the samurai) and other facets of traditional Japanese culture, he developed a keen interest in it. Immediately after, the Abu Dhabi government asked us to introduce the art of tea to the country and we gladly accommodated the request, in the belief that it would help foster deeper cultural exchanges between the two countries. We then worked with Urasenke, which had been instrumental in helping people around the world learn to appreciate the art of tea, to prepare to hold a tea ceremony in Abu Dhabi.

At the ceremony, the grand tea master of Urasenke prepared green tea for the Crown Prince in a traditional tea house that had been shipped all the way from Kyoto and set up at his palace. After the ceremony, the tea master spoke to local college students about the tradition, legacy and virtue of the art of tea. He also demonstrated how to make and taste green tea in the traditional manner, giving the students an opportunity to have a taste of Japanese culture.

At the request of the Crown Prince, plans have been proposed to add a tea room to the state guesthouse in Abu Dhabi, and to send a group of college students to Japan to study the art of tea at Urasenke. We will continue to play our role in helping the two countries enhance friendly relations through these cultural exchanges.

We would like to help the young people of Abu Dhabi learn more about Japan
Marking Supply Manager Abu Dhabi Regional Office Japan Oil Development Co., Ltd. Nobuo Hara

Up until the day before the tea ceremony, we had been concerned whether the people of Abu Dhabi would appreciate the Japanese art of tea, and especially whether college students would show any interest in it. Our concerns turned out to be unfounded as the students appeared to be fascinated by the art of tea only a few minutes into the event. From the conversation I had with some of them at the time, I found they were interested in Japanese pop culture, which led them to become intrigued with more traditional aspects of Japanese culture.

While many people in Abu Dhabi speak favorably of Japan, it is important in the long run to continue to offer the country's young people
opportunities, such as this tea ceremony, to learn more about Japan and Japanese culture. Graciously, the Crown Prince wishes that the art of tea will come to stay in Abu Dhabi, and that more tea ceremonies will be held. In this context, we need to know what exactly Abu Dhabi is looking for and determine what we can do about it.

We participated in Indonesia-Japan Expo 2008 held in Jakarta, the Republic of Indonesia, in November 2008 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries.

In our booth, we showcased the history of our E&P business in Indonesia and gave an update on the Abadi Project, a large-scale LNG project being carried out in the Masela Block and poised for the development phase.

We also gave visitors to the exhibition an opportunity to learn about the INPEX Scholarship Foundation, which has been financially assisting Japanese and Indonesian exchange students through a scholarship program since 1981. The foundation hosted a panel discussion on the theme “My days as an exchange student in a host country and what Japan and Indonesia can do to better understand each other and work together” among former scholarship students from the two countries. During the panel discussion, they shared their experiences and innocent bloopers they had made while studying in their respective host countries.

Japan Oil Development Co., Ltd. (JODCO), an INPEX Group company, has been participating in the annual Abu Dhabi International Hunting and Equestrian Exhibition (ADIHEX) since 2004.

The decision to participate in ADIHEX was made in response to a request by Majid Al Mansouri, the Secretary General of the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi and Executive Director of Emirates Falconers’ Club*, that JODCO should showcase Japanese falconry at the exhibition.

Among frequent visitors to the exhibition are members of the Abu Dhabi royal family and government officials. ADIHEX 2008 attracted approximately 95,000 visitors from 60 countries. In JODCO’s booth, falconers and swordsmiths from Japan gave live demonstrations of their skills to an enthusiastic crowd. JODCO also held a tea ceremony on the exhibition floor. These displays of traditional Japanese culture attracted tremendous attention from the visitors. JODCO will continue to attend ADIHEX. (For the latest information, click here.)

*Emirates Falconers’ Club: A club comprising falconers and falconry enthusiasts in Abu Dhabi
We co-sponsored a retrospective on Emily Kngwarreye, a leading Australian Aboriginal abstract artist, in Tokyo and Osaka from February through July 2008. This was the first significant exhibition of her work held outside Australia. We will continue to provide financial assistance to cultural activities and causes related to the regions where we operate.
We have been carrying out a five-year environmental preservation program for the Mahakam Delta on East Kalimantan, the Republic of Indonesia since 2007, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme and other parties.

The Mahakam Delta is located near the Offshore Mahakam Block where we have a working interest, and has a prominent area of mangrove vegetation that plays an important role in maintaining the biodiversity of the surrounding areas and of absorbing CO₂. It also provides a source of drinking water and serves as a transportation route for natural resources. However, the majority of the mangrove forests have been replaced by shrimp ponds, as an increasing number of local residents see the shrimp business as a lucrative source of foreign currency. Worse yet, chemicals used in the farms to protect shrimp from diseases have polluted the water in the delta.

We have launched the environmental preservation program not only to restore and preserve the mangrove forests in the immediate term, but also over the longer term to encourage local authorities and communities to restore and preserve the environment of the entire Mahakam Delta on their own, and to ensure sustainable development of the local economy and society.

Towards this end, we have been leading the following initiatives: (1) Helping to deploy a community development model intended to concurrently pursue the community's environmental preservation and economic development in agriculture and fishery; (2) Assisting local authorities in developing and implementing a policy on resolving issues over land-use rights; (3) Helping local authorities become better organized, staffed and informed; (4) Enlightening local residents on environmental preservation; and (5) Helping to develop guidelines in line with the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, which were formulated by the Indonesian government in 2003.

More specifically, over the past two years we have conducted surveys on a pilot farm; engaged in public relations activities at international conferences; provided environmental education and enlightenment for
government agencies, local authorities and schools; analyzed and assessed the ecosystem in the area; and planted 20,000 mangrove seedlings. Our plans for 2009 include monitoring the growth of the mangrove seedlings we planted; creating a map that shows the environmental condition of the area; continuing to enlighten public institutions on the environment; and continuing to lay the groundwork for implementing a community development model.

We are committed to contributing a total of U.S. $1 million to this program over five years. We will ensure the successful implementation of the program by working within the Executive Committee—the project’s highest decision-making body—to develop action plans and monitor their implementation.

Providing financial assistance to Japanese and Indonesian students through the INPEX Scholarship Foundation

We established the INPEX Scholarship Foundation in March 1981 with the aim of promoting the general educational and academic development of Japan and Indonesia, as well as enhancing mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries.

The foundation offers scholarships to Indonesian university graduates with a degree in natural science to take master courses at Japanese universities. It also gives assistance to young Japanese researchers who wish to study in Indonesia as part of cultural exchange programs between the two countries. A total of 138 Japanese and Indonesian students had been awarded scholarships as of the end of March 2009. (For the latest information, click here.)

Co-founded a college and sponsored an engineering program

The Petroleum Institute of Abu Dhabi is a college established primarily by the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company in 2001. The institute’s mission is to develop human resources equipped with engineering and management skills necessary for the oil and gas upstream and downstream business.

Japan Oil Development Co., Ltd. (JODCO), an INPEX Group company, and a few other international oil companies with exploration and production interests in the country helped establish the college and have been providing it with financial and management assistance. In addition, JODCO helped the institution expand its education and research programs. For instance, in January 2008 and January 2009, JODCO offered a short-term intensive program on remote-sensing technology that utilizes Earth observation satellites. JODCO will continue to provide assistance to educational projects. (For the latest information, click here.)
Japan Oil Development Co., Ltd. has been working with Abu Dhabi Oil Co., Ltd. (Japan) to organize an annual summer seminar in Japan since 1993 for students majoring in geology at UAE University. The three-week seminar offers classes not only in geology, but also on subjects that help students deepen their understanding of Japanese culture.

Five students of the Abu Dhabi Petroleum Institute have worked with five from UAE University in the program since 2007. Over the past 16 years that ended March 31, 2009, 102 students have participated in the seminars. (For the latest information, click here.)

The government of the UAE established the Emirates Foundation in 2005 to raise funds and disperse the funds to educational programs for young people and to research programs in the country.

Japan Oil Development Co., Ltd. (JODCO), as part of its effort to maintain and promote good relations with the UAE's government of Abu Dhabi, participates in the foundation as a member of the Board of Trustees—the foundation's highest advisory body. The board meets regularly to oversee program development and implementation. JODCO has been submitting proposals for a variety of programs in science and technology fields since 2008.

In October 2007, JODCO co-founded the Abu Dhabi Educational Fund with the Emirates Foundation. It was to commemorate the success of the Kumon program—a well-reputed program originally created in Japan designed to encourage children to develop self-learning habits and introduced in Abu Dhabi in 1998—in improving the academic performance of the country's youth. Once a year, the fund publicly recognizes children who make outstanding academic achievements.
Teiseki Transport System Co., Ltd. and Teiseki Topping Plant Co., Ltd.—both INPEX Group companies doing business primarily in Niigata Prefecture—host tours of their facilities for students from local elementary, junior high, and high schools on social studies programs. In fiscal 2008, the two companies hosted four tours for a combined total of 141 students. During the tours, the students learned about the basics of the E&P business, including the history of oil and natural gas production in Niigata Prefecture. We will continue to host these tours to maintain good relations with local communities.

We hope to give children an opportunity to understand the importance of natural resources
Managing Director Teiseki Transportation System Co., Ltd. Takao Yoshida

During the tour, I drew on my own experience at oil wells to explain to students the basics of the E&P business, including what oil and natural gas are made of; how to find and extract them from underground; how to transport them; and how they are used.

I hope that the children, who will grow to be tomorrow's leaders, had an opportunity to understand the importance of making better use of our finite natural resources.

In May 2008, our employees participated in the annual Kashiwazaki Shiokaze (sea breeze) Marathon and volunteered assistance for the event.

The marathon is organized by recreational runners, community volunteers and local businesses, and has been attracting an increasing number of participants every year. It has been chosen as one of Japan’s 100 most popular marathon events. Our employees began participating in the marathon as runners and volunteers in 2007. In May 2008, 30 employees ran the marathon and crossed the finish line; and another 29 employees
volunteered their assistance for the event and completed their jobs without incidents. They said they felt closer to the community and would continue to take part in the marathon.

Recognizing the importance of working as part of the community, we participated in festivals held in Joetsu.

As we recognize it important to work as part of the community, we strive to maintain good relations with local residents through increased participation in community activities. For instance, in Joetsu, Niigata Prefecture, where we are building a large-scale LNG receiving terminal, we co-sponsored the Ogata Festival in June 2008, the Naoetsu Gion Festival in July 2008, and the Shibukakihama Festival in April and August 2008. Our employees also participated in many activities during these festivals.

Volunteering for community cleanup on beaches, in parks and on service roads

Teiseki Topping Plant Co., Ltd., headquartered in Joetsu, Niigata Prefecture, participates in community cleanup activities in the area. Upon request by local authorities and organizations, its employees volunteer for cleanup on the beaches, in parks and on service roads. In fiscal 2008, 11 employees participated in four such activities. In addition, they voluntarily clean up in the vicinity of the company’s premises once a month. In fiscal 2008, a total of 331 employees took part in the cleanup, collecting a total of 163.8 kg of garbage. The company will continue to participate in these community service programs.

Participated in a community event in Darwin, Australia

In May 2009, we co-sponsored the annual Fred's Pass Show held in Litchfield Shire near Darwin, where we plan to build an LNG plant. This event is organized by a regional organization to raise people’s awareness of local industries. We had a booth at the show, where we gave away balloons to children. We also talked with local residents who visited our booth and raised their understanding of our planned project.
Our employees participated in the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Tree-Planting Ceremony in June 2008, organized by the Network for Preserving Environment in Satoyama (domestic woodland), a Kashiwazaki-based regional volunteer group. In this event, they planted oaks and beeches, and also trimmed underbrush. We will continue to assist pro-environmental efforts in the community through active participation in the event.
In June 2009, we participated in the annual Conference and Exhibition of the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA) held in Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia.

We have been participating in the annual APPEA Conference and Exhibition since 2006 to showcase the Ichthys Project, in which we have been carrying out an LNG development as an operator. As Darwin is a planned construction site for an LNG processing plant to be built as part of the Ichthys Project, we chose energy, employment, and community as the main themes of our message and stressed how we would develop harmonious relations with the city and people of Darwin.

The Chief Minister of Northern Territory said in his keynote address at the APPEA Conference that Darwin welcomed the Ichthys Project, as it would bring major investment and job opportunities to the city and that he expected us to hire local people and subcontractors for the project. One of our directors also spoke at the conference and said we are going to contribute to the local economy and make harmonious coexistence with local society through the Ichthys Project.

In addition, we invited local high-school students to a workshop in which we talked about the E&P industry and job opportunities that the project would create. The entire event turned out to be a success in many respects.

We realized the importance of having good relations with local stakeholders

Public Relations Group, Corporate Communications Unit Keisuke Yano

Visitors to our booth on the exhibition floor asked us about the Ichthys Project in general and job opportunities and future construction plans in particular, which were relevant to the community. It was a clear indication of how high an expectation the people of Darwin had of the project.

As the APPEA Conference and Exhibition was held in a city where we plan to build a plant, we witnessed firsthand how strong an interest local residents had in the project. We found they had mixed feelings about it. On one hand, they were positive about the investments and the job opportunities the project would bring; on the other, they were concerned about the potential impact the project would have on their social environment. We realized the importance of developing and maintaining good relations with local residents.
and businesses to make this large-scale project a success.

The direct interaction with the local people also gave us a good opportunity to renew our commitment to being a good corporate citizen and meeting the community's expectation by carrying out the project successfully and beginning production as scheduled.

We have been engaged in oil exploration as an operator off the shores of the Republic of Suriname since May 2008.

Suriname is known for its rich environmental resources, and its beachfronts provide a precious spawning ground for endangered sea turtles. In addition, fishing is the major industry in the country.

Before we conducted a three-dimensional seismic survey for use in oil exploration in the area, we carried out an environmental impact assessment and devised programs to monitor marine life and to ensure the safety of fishing boats.

In December 2008, working with Staatsolie, a Suriname state-owned oil company, we briefed the environmental authorities and fishermen on our exploration project and our pro-environment and pro-community efforts and won their support.

We will continue to conduct oil exploration in a responsible manner for the benefit of the community, while maintaining good communication with the regulatory authorities and local residents in Suriname.