

Kyushu Economic Federation

Organization Profile

2022 - 2023



Kyushu, Japan



Greeting from Our Chairman



The Kyushu Economic Federation (KEF) is a regional, integrated economic organization with a membership of over 1,000 companies doing business in Kyushu, Japan. It was established in April 1961 in Fukuoka as the fourth comprehensive economic organization in Japan after Keidanren (Tokyo), Kansai (Osaka) and Chubu (Nagoya).

Due to its proximity to the rest of Asia, Kyushu has long functioned as a cultural and commercial gateway.

KEF aims to expand international commerce and showcase Kyushu's economic potential. In particular, KEF has been focusing on economic exchanges with other Asian nations. In 2001, KEF established a new platform called "The Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technological Conference" with China and South Korea, with each country alternating annually as event host. Additionally, KEF has been strengthening international economic relationships under the MOUs (Memorandums of Understanding on economic exchanges) concluded with 14 organizations in 11 countries and regions in Asia.

In 2020, we opened the Kyushu Promotion Center in Hanoi, Vietnam. The goal is to provide information and to bolster Kyushu's name recognition among ASEAN countries.

KEF works to deepen international relationships by globally promoting Kyushu's unique advantages. We are currently organizing events such as the "Tour de Kyushu", an international cycling competition where professional cyclists will race in Kyushu; and a conjunctionally-held program called "Discover Kyushu" to promote cycle tourism in Kyushu.

Under the philosophy of "A United Kyushu", KEF is doing its utmost to "move Japan forward from Kyushu". We will make it our highest priority to revitalize international trade and resume the movement of human resources, which are key to further growing the Kyushu economy.

We are pleased to draw your attention to Kyushu, a region in Japan with high economic potential, and look forward to working with you.

About "Economic Federations" in Japan

In addition to the Chambers of Commerce and Industry that exist throughout the world, there are economic federations unique to Japan. These include the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren) in Tokyo and 8 regional economic federations throughout the country,

The Kyushu Economic Federation is an organization comprised of members in various fields of industry and academia whose offices and factories are located in the Kyushu region (including Yamaguchi and Okinawa Prefecture). It is committed not only to economic development but also to comprehensive regional development through the resolution of various regional issues.

Sumio Kuratomi, Chairman
Kyushu Economic Federation
(Chairman and Representative Director,
Nishi-Nippon Railroad Co., Ltd.)



Our Activities and Notable Achievements

Since its foundation in 1961, the Kyushu Economic Federation (KEF) has been working on the revitalization of the regional economy and implementing activities in cooperation with companies, organizations, prefectural governments, and local branches of central government under the philosophy of “A United Kyushu”.

KEF formulated the “Kyushu Future Vision 2030” in 2021 in commemoration of its 60th anniversary, proposing goals that companies in Kyushu should aim to achieve by 2030. The vision includes 2 main themes: “economic growth and productivity gains” and “community wellness”. KEF continues to use the advantages available in Kyushu to create an ideal future.

The core body that promotes our activities is the committees. KEF’s 9 in-house committees and 8 regional committees in each prefecture engage in study/research/making proposals to resolve the various issues Kyushu is faced with. KEF enhances its partnership with related organizations, operates economic exchanges with foreign countries, and petitions concerning various matters.



Petitioning the Prime Minister

KEF continues to work with the government, municipalities, related organizations, and other economic groups, makes policy proposals for the self-reliance of the region, and facilitates the implementation thereof.

Meanwhile, KEF has concluded MOU’s (Memorandums of Understanding on economic exchange) with over 10 major economic organizations and government agencies in Asian countries/regions and has been carrying out various economic exchanges.

Notable Achievements

Accelerating Development of the Rapid Transportation Network in Kyushu



© West Nippon Expressway Company Limited

Expressway

(Kyushu, Miyazaki, Oita, Nagasaki, Higashi-Kyushu)

Shinkansen (Bullet Train)

(Kyushu Shinkansen, Nishi Kyushu Shinkansen)



© Kyushu Railway Company

Attracting Automobile Companies to Kyushu (as Kyushu’s Key Industry)



Nissan (1975-)



HONDA

Honda (1976-)



TOYOTA

Toyota (1992-)



DAIHATSU

Daihatsu (2004-)

The Kyushu Economic Federation (KEF) and The Kyushu Economy International (KEI) have so far concluded 14 MOUs with nationwide economic organizations and government agencies in 11 countries/regions in Asia and have been carrying out various mutual economic exchanges.

* KEI secretariat is run by the Kyushu Economic Federation and Kyushu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry.

| Country/Region | MOU Partners | Date of Conclusion |
|----------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Vietnam | • Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) † | 2009/02 |
| Hong Kong | • Chinese General Chamber of Commerce (CGCC) • Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) | 2011/11 2012/08 |
| Taiwan | • Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce (CNAIC) | 2012/06 |
| Indonesia | • Investment Coordination Board, Republic of Indonesia (BKPM) † | 2012/11 |
| Thailand | • Thailand Board of Investment (BOI) † | 2012/11 |
| Myanmar | • The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry (UMFCCI) | 2013/02 |
| Singapore | • Singapore Business Federation (SBF) | 2013/07 |
| India | • Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) | 2014/06 |
| China | • Shanghai Entrepreneur Association (SEA) • Department of Commerce of Shandong Province (DCSP)* • Weihai Municipal People's Government (WMPG)* | 2014/09 2018/06 2018/06 |
| Malaysia | • Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) † | 2015/11 |
| Philippines | • The Board of Investments of the Republic of the Philippines (BOI) † | 2019/07 |

† MOU concluded as Kyushu Economy International (KEI).

* MOU specific to cooperation in food distribution (KEF Agricultural Division is in charge).

What We Provide for Member Companies Utilizing MOUs

| No | SERVICES | CONTENTS |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | OBTAINING INFORMATION | In cooperation with our MOU partners and related organizations, we research the local economic situation and investment environment in other countries for Kyushu companies. |
| 2 | BUSINESS MEETINGS AND SEMINARS | We accept delegations from MOU partners and organize business meetings and seminars to support Kyushu companies in expanding overseas. |
| 3 | ECONOMIC EXCHANGE DELEGATIONS | We dispatch economic exchange delegations abroad to meet potential local business partners, visit governmental agencies and establish connections to support Kyushu companies in starting and expanding abroad. |
| 4 | BUSINESS MATCHING | In cooperation with our MOU partners, we introduce local business partners from abroad to meet the demand of Kyushu companies. |
| 5 | HUMAN RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS | We promote projects contributing to the development and utilization of human resources competent in international business (international students, etc.) and promote the globalization of Kyushu companies. |
| 6 | ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION (KEI) | The Kyushu Economy International (KEI), a cooperative organization with its members including KEF and the Kyushu Branch of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), support promoting globalization of the Kyushu economy by utilizing METI's connections with other countries and regions. |



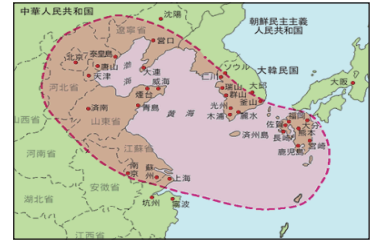
Exchanges with Asian Countries

The Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technological Conference

The governments and economic organizations of Japan (Kyushu), China, and South Korea have held "The Yellow Sea Rim Economic and Technological Conference" every year since 2001. With the aim of promoting the formation of an "Open Yellow Sea Economic Zone", topics in fields such as trade, investment, and technology in the



Yellow Sea Rim region are discussed.



The conference is widely recognized and highly evaluated as a beneficial platform for these three countries. It has also become a place to offer opportunities for its participants from the fields of industry, government, and academia to build their new partnerships.

The Kyushu-Korea Economic Exchange Conference

Kyushu and South Korea have held this conference regularly since 1993 to discuss common issues for both regions with the aim of expanding exchanges in trade, investment and industrial technology. Another aim is to facilitate interregional exchanges by complementing each region's resources including technology, funding, and human resources.



At this meeting, both sides propose and discuss specific projects that contribute to economic



and industrial exchanges between Kyushu and South Korea, and both sides are working together on projects that have reached a consensus. Through the accumulation of these consultations and the continuous implementation of various exchange projects, we are working to strengthen the economic exchange relationship between Kyushu and South Korea.

Kyushu Promotion Center in Hanoi, Vietnam

With the support of KEF, KAMICHIKU VIETNAM JOINT STOCK COMPANY leased state-owned facilities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam and opened the Kyushu Promotion Center in Hanoi (KPC) in November 2020.



KPC aims to fulfill its functions as a base for showcasing the attractiveness of the Kyushu region and for passing



on information provided by Kyushu's local governments, companies, and various organizations to Vietnam. It is also expected to play a role as a base for companies and organizations expanding into ASEAN countries. It is equipped with co-working spaces and other facilities to promote exchanges between Vietnam and Kyushu in various fields such as food culture, tourism, trade and investment, and human resources.



Growth of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishery Industries in Kyushu

In order to support primary industries in Kyushu, KEF is promoting not only the further local consumption of Kyushu's primary products but also increasing the exportation of those products to the rest of Asia.

For example, KEF supported the establishment of a regional trading company platform, "the Kyushu Food Export Council" in 2020. Charged with widening sales channels internationally, it is a source for smaller food businesses in Kyushu to promote the export of processed foods.

Additionally, in order to address the issues of an aging population and dwindling human resources, KEF is introducing new technologies to add value and improve cost effectiveness.

KEF has supported cross-industrial cooperation aiming for streamlining and sophistication by the introduction of new technologies such as "AgriTech", and petitioning the government for deregulation to increase competitiveness.



Kyushu Fair in Cambodia

Attracting International Tourism Through Cycling Initiatives

From 2023, KEF will start hosting an international bicycle race called the "Tour de Kyushu" and a cycling tour called "Discover Kyushu" in cooperation with the prefectures and major economic organizations in Kyushu. The aim is to bring awareness of the beauty of Kyushu, and the charm of its history, culture, and food to the world, while aiding in the recovery from COVID-19 and recent natural disasters.



The "Tour de Kyushu" is a cycle race accredited by the International Cycling Union (UCI). The participation of top athletes from Japan and abroad is expected to give a boost to the local economy and increase the name recognition of Kyushu. We also aim to make it a sustainable event for regional revitalization by implementing SDGs' initiatives such as reducing environmental impact and promoting local production for local consumption.



"Discover Kyushu" aims to make Kyushu a travel destination where cyclists from all over the world gather. Attractive cycling courses have been set up where the nature and culture unique to Kyushu can be enjoyed.

We hope that Kyushu will become a mecca for cycling tourism in Japan in the future as the name recognition of these two cycling events increase.



Organization Overview

NAME

KYUSHU ECONOMIC FEDERATION

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT

APRIL 6, 1961

CHAIRMAN

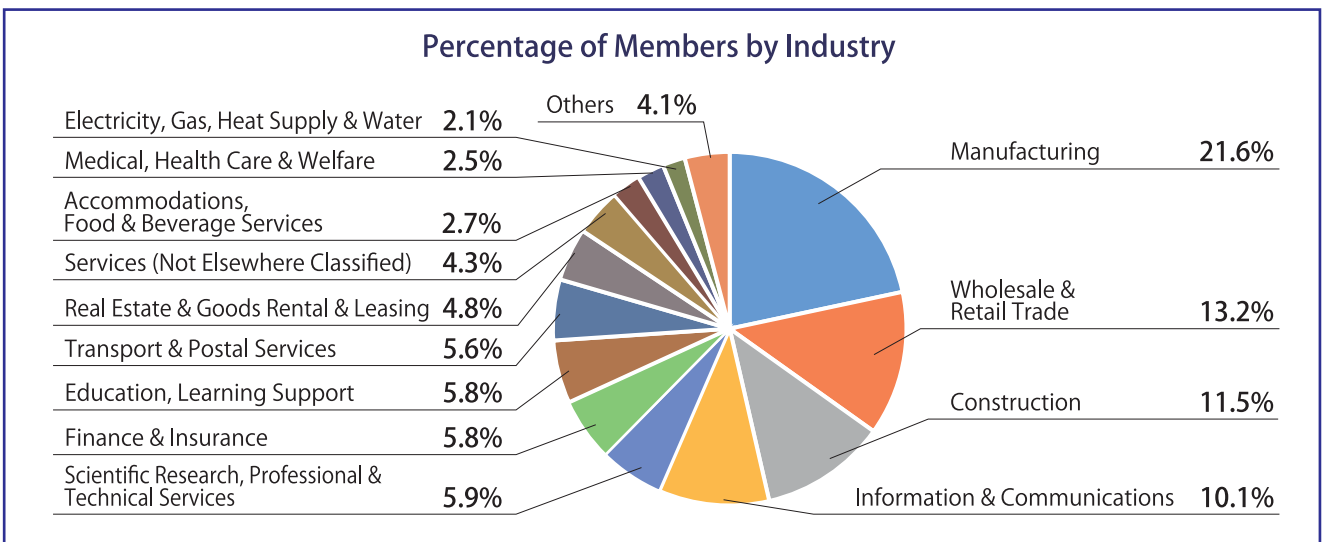
SUMIO KURATOMI (9th)

OFFICERS

- CHAIRMAN 
- VICE CHAIRMEN 
- DIRECTORS 
- SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR 
- MANAGING DIRECTOR 
- AUDITORS 



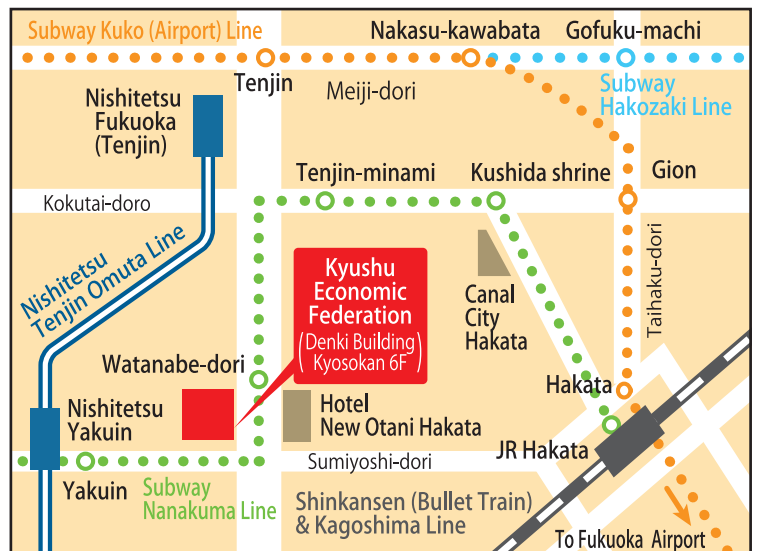
MEMBER CORPORATIONS: 1,001 (As of September 1st, 2022)



TRANSPORTATION

From Hakata Station:
5 min. by subway

From Fukuoka Airport:
15 min. by subway
25 min. by taxi





Kyushu Economic Federation

Organization Profile 2022-2023

Kyushu Economic Federation

Denki Building Kyosokan 6th Floor

2-1-82 Watanabe-dori, Chuo-ku,

Fukuoka, 810-0004 Japan

TEL: +81-92-761-4261

FAX: +81-92-724-2102

URL: <https://www.kyukeiren.or.jp>

Email: info@kyukeiren.or.jp

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