



KYOSAI IN JAPAN

— FACT BOOK 2025 —

JAPAN COOPERATIVE INSURANCE
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

KYOSAI IN JAPAN FACT BOOK 2025

This brochure has been compiled to introduce the business result of the major kyosai organizations in Japan for fiscal 2024 and activities of JCIA (Japan Cooperative Insurance Association Incorporated) and its member societies.

Each cooperative engaged in kyosai business offers support to its members who are anxious about various things such as natural disasters, road accidents, illness, and their old age, and gets involved in activities to expand its network of “mutual aid.”

Consequently, the main kyosai organizations under cooperative laws in fiscal 2024 achieved business results as follows; the number of members: 78 million, the number of policies: 129 million, the amount insured: 776 trillion yen, the premium income : 6,136 billion yen, the claims paid: 4,502 billion yen, the total assets: 66,490 billion yen.

The kyosai organizations have been playing a significant role to supplement social security system in Japan by providing a means of mutual help among their members.

The kyosai organizations will endeavor to carry out their social responsibilities in order to meet members' expectations through products that satisfy their needs and prompt claim payments. We appreciate your continued understanding and support.

We hope this brochure will be useful for well understanding about kyosai and its societies in Japan.

February 2026
JCIA

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I Kyosai Business in Japan

1 Cooperatives and Kyosai Business

(1) About Cooperatives

A cooperative is a non-profit organization established voluntarily by a group of people who desire to improve their lives and carry out various activities.

Anyone who pays membership fee in accordance with the terms and conditions of each organization can become a member. The members of a cooperative are able to take advantage of various services offered by each cooperative and can reflect their own views on the operation. As symbolized by the slogan, “One for all and all for one,” cooperatives aim to protect and enrich the lives of their members based on the concept of mutual help.

The services of cooperatives are wide-ranging and related to all aspects of our daily life, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, purchasing, banking, kyosai, job creation, traveling, housing, welfare, and medical care.

Cooperatives around the world share the same principles to put these values into practice. Especially, they are internationally expected to serve as one of the organizations to be able to resolve or relieve social problems in each country including unemployment, poverty, and disparity.

(2) About Kyosai

Kyosai is a mutual aid system where the members share their premium to establish mutual assets, and the funds are paid out at times of unexpected contingencies, to compensate for the financial deficit and stabilize the lives of the members and their family in preparation for various risks that jeopardize our daily life such as the death, hospitalization, house damage or traffic accidents.

2 Major Kyosai Organizations in Japan

In Japan various kinds of Kyosai Organizations exist and there are four kinds of cooperative laws such as Agricultural Cooperative Society Law, Fisheries Cooperative Association Law, Consumers’ Livelihood Cooperative Society Law and Small, and Medium Sized Enterprise Cooperative Act.

Each Kyosai Organizations is according to the applicable law permitted to operate kyosai.

List of Organizations, their Applicable Laws and Authorities

Applicable Laws	The Authorities of Laws	Name of Organizations (JCIA members are printed in green color)
Agricultural Cooperative Society Law	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Zenkyoren & Agricultural Cooperatives in Prefectural and Regional Level ^(*)
Fisheries Cooperative Association Law		Kyosuiren & Fisheries Cooperatives in Prefectural and Regional Level ^(*)

Applicable Laws	The Authorities of Laws	Name of Organizations (JCIA members are printed in green color)
Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law	Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare	Kokumin Kyosai co-op, Saikyosairen CO-OP Kyosai, Zenkokuseikyoren, Seikyo Zenkyoren Boseikyo, Kanagawa Kenmin Kyosai^{(*)1} Zenkoku Denryoku Seikyoren, Kouun kyosai NihonYusei Group Roudousha Seikyo Dentsu Kyosai, Shinrin Roren Kyosai Zentabako Seikyo, Zensuidokyosai Jichiro Kyosai, Kyosyokuin Kyosai Zentokuseikyokumiai Zenkoku Syuhan Seikyo, Tobacco Seikyo Zenkoku Choson Syokuin Seikyo Toshiseikyo, Keiseikyo, Zensyokyo
Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Cooperative Act	Cooperatives Act Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and others	Nikkaren & Fire Insurance Cooperatives in Prefectural and Regional Level ^{(*)1} Kokyoren^{(*)2} & Truck Transport Insurance Cooperatives ^{(*)1} Zenjikyō & Automobile Insurance Cooperatives in Prefectural and Regional Level ^{(*)1} Chusairen & Welfare Insurance Cooperatives in Prefectural and Regional Level ^{(*)1} Kaigyōui Kyosai^{(*)1} , Zenbeihan ^{(*)3} , Nissyokukyoso ^{(*)3}

The regulator of each institution is as same as the authorities of applicable laws unless otherwise stated below.

*1 : Regulated by Prefectural Levels

*2 : Regulated by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

*3 : Regulated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

3 Major Product Line by Kyosai Organizations

Kyosai products by the cooperatives cover total protection such as life and non-life as preparation for a variety of risks members face within their lives.

Kyosai organizations provide a wide range of coverage to satisfy the needs of their members. Among them, the five typical products are as follows:

(1) Fire Kyosai

This is to provide coverage against damages to homes and contents caused by fire, lightning strike, burst and explosion. Also, there are some products which cover the damage caused by earthquake, storm, flood and snowfall.

(2) Life Kyosai

This is to provide coverage against risks with regard to physical well-being (death, physical impediment, sickness, injury, nursing care). There are other types of kyosai under which a policyholder can reserve money for the life or for the education of children.

(3) Personal Accident Kyosai

This is to provide coverage for death or injury etc. caused by a variety of accidents.

(4) Automobile Kyosai

This policy provides compensation for damages to the other party caused by automobile accidents, accident coverage for the insured and their family members, and physical damage coverage for policyholders' vehicles.

All vehicles including motorbikes and moped must be insured with the compulsory automobile liability kyosai.

(5) Annuity Kyosai

Annuities are paid every year beyond the specified age after the contribution period to ensure financial stability after retirement.

II Business Results for Kyosai Organizations in Fiscal 2024

The following are the overall kyosai business performance results for kyosai organizations under cooperative laws in fiscal 2024, which are based on data of “Kyosai Yearbook 2026” (Business Results in Fiscal 2024) published by JCIA.

1 Overview of the Kyosai Business

	FY2023	FY2024	Growth
Number of Members (in thousands)	78,179	78,157	0.0%
Number of Policies (in thousands)	130,114	128,906	−0.9%
Amount Insured (in billions of Yen)	787,994	775,775	−1.6%
Premium Income (in billions of Yen)	6,176	6,136	−0.6%
Claims Paid (in billions of Yen)	4,610	4,502	−2.3%
Total Assets (in billions of Yen)	67,537	66,490	−1.6%

※1 “Number of Policies”, “Amount Insured” and “Premium Income” are based on Policies in force

※2 “Amount Insured” does not include that of automobile kyosai and compulsory automobile liability kyosai

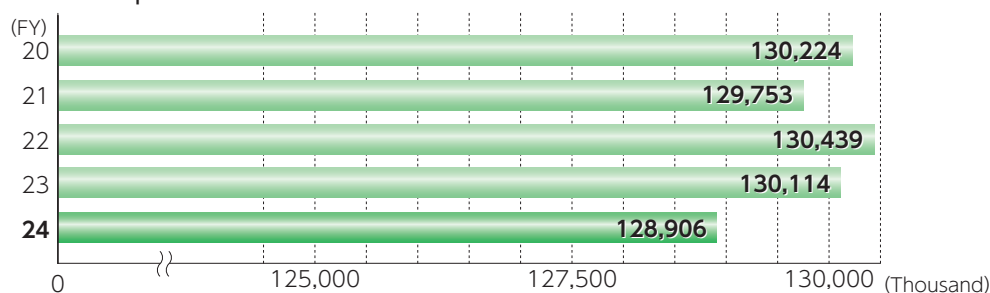
(1) Number of Members..... 78,157 thousand

The number of members decreased by 0.0% (22 thousand) down to 78,157 thousand.

(2) Number of Policies 128,906 thousand

The number of policies decreased by 0.9% (1,208 thousand) down to 128,906 thousand.

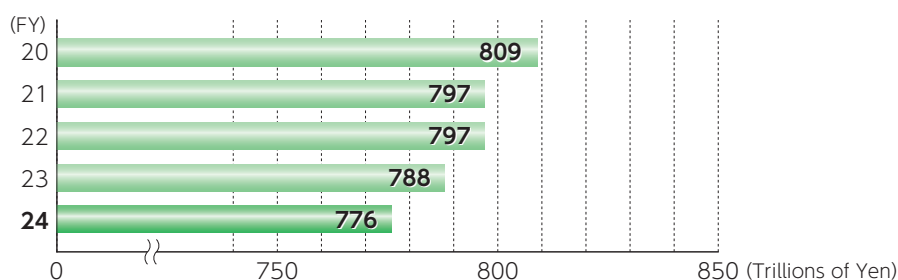
●Trend in number of policies



(3) Amount Insured 775.78 trillion yen

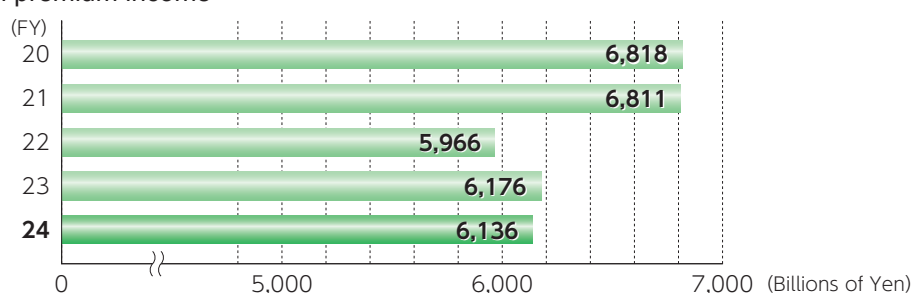
The amount insured decreased by 1.6% (12,219 billion yen) down to 775.78 trillion yen.

●Trend in amount insured

**(4) Premium Income 6,136 billion yen**

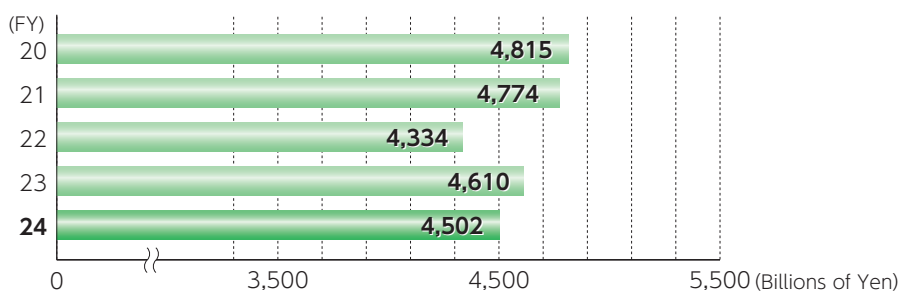
The premium income decreased by 0.6% (40 billion yen) down to 6,136 billion yen.

●Trend in premium income

**(5) Claims Paid 4,502 billion yen**

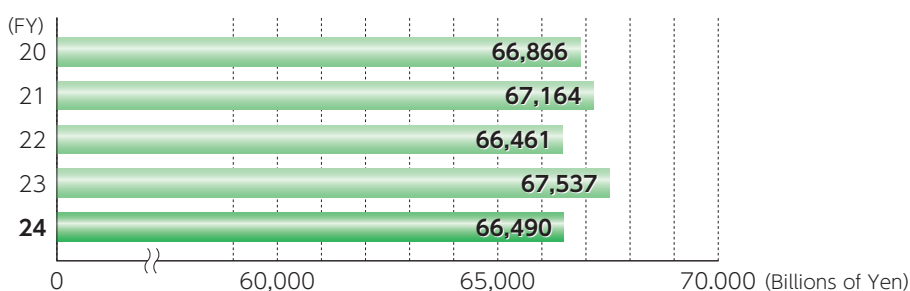
The claims paid decreased by 2.3% (108 billion yen) down to 4,502 billion yen.

●Trend in claims paid

**(6) Total Assets 66,490 billion yen**

The total assets decreased by 1.6% (1,047 billion yen) down to 66,490 billion yen.

●Trend in total assets



2 Business Trends by Type of Kyosai

(1) Fire Kyosai

In comparison with the preceding year (Fiscal 2023), the number of policies decreased by 1.3% (281 thousand) down to 22,171 thousand. The amount insured decreased by 0.3% (1,043 billion yen) down to 415,605 billion yen. The premium income decreased by 1.3% (19 billion yen) down to 1,432 billion yen. The claims paid increased by 3.4% (41 billion yen) up to 1,247 billion yen.

◆ ◆ ◆ Business Trend of Fire Kyosai ◆ ◆ ◆

Fiscal Year	Number of Policies (Thousand)	Change from Previous Year	Amount Insured (Billions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Premium Income (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Claims Paid (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year
2020	23,603	− 1.8%	424,802	− 0.2%	1,846,859	− 1.8%	1,684,314	− 1.0%
2021	23,109	− 2.1%	422,447	− 0.6%	1,759,299	− 4.7%	1,766,438	4.9%
2022	22,789	− 1.4%	420,578	− 0.4%	1,458,970	− 17.1%	1,125,464	− 36.3%
2023	22,451	− 1.5%	416,648	− 0.9%	1,451,474	− 0.5%	1,206,296	7.2%
2024	22,171	− 1.3%	415,605	− 0.3%	1,432,012	− 1.3%	1,247,464	3.4%

(2) Life Kyosai

In comparison with the preceding year (Fiscal 2023), the number of policies decreased by 1.1% (656 thousand) down to 60,173 thousand. The amount insured decreased by 3.5% (10,420 billion yen) down to 288,450 billion yen. The premium income increased by 1.5% (48 billion yen) up to 3,346 billion yen. The claims paid decreased by 7.5% (171 billion yen) down to 2,097 billion yen.

◆ ◆ ◆ Business Trend of Life Kyosai ◆ ◆ ◆

Fiscal Year	Number of Policies (Thousand)	Change from Previous Year	Amount Insured (Billions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Premium Income (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Claims Paid (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year
2020	61,360	0.5%	319,643	− 1.9%	3,540,148	7.0%	1,996,966	− 10.4%
2021	61,419	0.1%	311,405	− 2.6%	3,594,023	1.5%	1,896,071	− 5.1%
2022	61,601	0.3%	309,354	− 0.7%	3,064,340	− 14.7%	2,089,286	10.2%
2023	60,829	− 1.3%	298,869	− 3.4%	3,298,162	7.6%	2,268,193	8.6%
2024	60,173	− 1.1%	288,450	− 3.5%	3,346,205	1.5%	2,097,463	− 7.5%

(3) Personal Accident Kyosai

In comparison with the preceding year (Fiscal 2023), the number of policies decreased by 1.2% (236 thousand) down to 19,652 thousand. The amount insured decreased by 1.5% (623 billion yen) down to 40,556 billion yen. The premium income decreased by 3.3% (1.9 billion yen) down to 54.4 billion yen. The claims paid decreased by 3.3% (0.9 billion yen) down to 25.6 billion yen.

◆ ◆ ◆ Business Trend of Personal Accident Kyosai ◆ ◆ ◆

Fiscal Year	Number of Policies (Thousand)	Change from Previous Year	Amount Insured (Billions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Premium Income (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Claims Paid (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year
2020	17,760	− 23.0%	31,262	− 48.5%	60,676	− 1.8%	31,084	− 11.2%
2021	17,938	1.0%	31,442	0.6%	59,346	− 2.2%	28,367	− 8.7%
2022	18,930	5.5%	36,005	14.5%	58,083	− 2.1%	27,471	− 3.2%
2023	19,888	5.1%	41,179	14.4%	56,317	− 3.0%	26,528	− 3.4%
2024	19,652	− 1.2%	40,556	− 1.5%	54,434	− 3.3%	25,644	− 3.3%

(4) Automobile Kyosai (Including Compulsory Automobile Liability Kyosai)

In comparison with the preceding year (Fiscal 2023), the number of policies increased by 0.5% (84 thousand) up to 16,310 thousand. The premium income increased by 1.3% (7.5 billion yen) up to 569 billion yen. The claims paid increased by 6.4% (21 billion yen) up to 345 billion yen.

◆ ◆ ◆ Business Trend of Automobile Kyosai ◆ ◆ ◆

Fiscal Year	Number of Policies (Thousand)	Change from Previous Year	Premium Income (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Claims Paid (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year
2020	16,267	0.7%	584,085	− 1.6%	290,419	− 10.7%
2021	16,219	− 0.3%	574,322	− 1.7%	282,832	− 2.6%
2022	16,250	0.2%	569,262	− 0.9%	298,837	5.7%
2023	16,225	− 0.2%	561,914	− 1.3%	324,360	8.5%
2024	16,310	0.5%	569,413	1.3%	345,257	6.4%

(5) Annuity Kyosai

In comparison with the preceding year (Fiscal 2023), the number of policies decreased by 2.6% (133 thousand) down to 4,903 thousand. The premium income decreased by 9.4% (73.2 billion yen) down to 710 billion yen. The claims paid increased by 0.4% (2.8 billion yen) up to 773 billion yen.

◆ ◆ ◆ Business Trend of Annuity Kyosai ◆ ◆ ◆

Fiscal Year	Number of Policies (Thousand)	Change from Previous Year	Premium Income (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year	Claims Paid (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Year
2020	5,234	3.5%	760,303	19.0%	797,286	− 2.8%
2021	5,188	− 0.9%	798,038	5.0%	786,209	− 1.4%
2022	5,137	− 1.0%	790,078	− 1.0%	777,267	− 1.1%
2023	5,035	− 2.0%	782,925	− 0.9%	770,537	− 0.9%
2024	4,903	− 2.6%	709,694	− 9.4%	773,364	0.4%

III About JCIA

1 JCIA

JCIA is a general incorporated association which was established for the purpose of promoting coordination among member societies and contributing to the development of cooperatives and kyosai. Main activities of JCIA are Research and Studies of cooperatives and kyosai, Human Resources Development and Training

for member societies, Public Relations, Information dissemination of the 『Web Kyosai and Insurance』, and Providing Consultations about inquiries and complaints from policy holders and/or their related persons.

2 Objectives

The purpose of JCIA shall be to promote sound development of the kyosai businesses operated by cooperatives, thereby contributing to stabilizing the lives and improving the welfare of people engaged in

the agriculture, forestry and fisheries industries as well as other employees and workers in local communities or small and medium-sized business owners.

3 History

After World War II, quite a few kyosai organizations were established and have subsequently developed in Japan. Kyosai has steadily spread its network of cooperation and drawn further attention from the society as an entity supporting many members' life.

In these surroundings, cooperation and exchanges between kyosai organizations with common philosophy and base had been increasing, and there has arisen a need to establish a framework to share and coordinate the opinions of these societies in order to deal with common issues.

Under these circumstances, in April 1992, JCIA was established as a body to promote cooperation and coordination among kyosai organizations as a result of collective efforts by seven kyosai organizations.

After an establishment, JCIA has carried out activities

such as research and study, training, publication, holding seminars and lectures, conducting "Research Committee on Cooperative Insurance Theory" in order to deal with common issues among the member societies and to promote exchanges between kyosai organizations.

JCIA launched the Customer Consultation Department in 2003 as the third party body with the aim of consultation and support for the resolution of complaints from cooperative insurance policyholders. It was certified by the Minister of Justice under the ADR Promotion Act in 2010.

JCIA made a transition to a general incorporated association in April 2013, responding to a reform of the public interest corporation.

4 Member Societies

At present, JCIA consists of 12 full members, 1 first-class supporting member and 4 second-class supporting members.

■ Full Member

Full Member is a cooperative that is established in accordance with the laws for the purpose to operate the kyosai business nationwide in Japan and any organization equivalent.

■ First-Class Supporting Member

First-Class Supporting Member is a cooperative body that

is established in accordance with laws for the purpose of operating the kyosai business nationwide in Japan.

■ Second-Class Supporting Member

Second-Class Supporting Member is a cooperative body that is established in accordance with laws for the purpose of operating the kyosai business.

Membership Categories	Organization Name
Full Member	Zenkyoren (National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives)
	Kyosuioren (National Mutual Insurance Federation of Fishery Co-operatives)
	Kokumin Kyosai co-op (National Federation of Workers and Consumers Kyosai Cooperatives)
	Saikyosairen (Japan Reinsurance Federation of Consumers' Cooperatives)
	CO-OP Kyosai (Japan CO-OP Insurance (Kyosai) Consumers' Co-operative Federation, CO-OP Kyosai)
	Zenkokuseikyoren (The Federation of Japanese Consumer Cooperatives, FJCC)
	Seikyo Zenkyoren (Japan Federation of Mutual Aid Cooperatives, JAFMAC)
	Nikkaren (National Federation of Fire Insurance Co-operatives for Small Business)
	Kokyoren (National Mutual Insurance Federation of Truck Transport Co-operatives)
	Zenjikyō (National Federation of Motor Insurance Cooperatives)
	Zenrosai Kyokai (The Foundation for Promoting Workers Welfare and Mutual Aid Insurance)
	Kyoei Fire (The Kyoei Fire and Marine Insurance Company Ltd.)

Membership Categories	Organization Name
First-class Supporting Member	NOSAI Kyokai (National Agricultural Insurance Association)
	Boseikyo (Consumer Co-operative of Ministry of Defense)
Second-class Supporting Member	Kanagawa Kenmin Kyosai (The Kanagawa Kenmin-Kyosai Consumer's Cooperative)
	Chusairen (Small and Medium size Enterprise Welfare Cooperative Insurance Federation)
	Kaigyoui Kyosai (Cooperative of Mutual Insurance for Medical Practitioners)

5 Management Structure



6 Main Activities

(1) Research and Studies

- Conducting research and study activities and expressing opinions to address common issues to the member societies (e.g. the revision of laws, etc.).
- Research on kyosai theory conducted by the “Research Committee on Kyosai Theory,” comprised mainly of researchers.
- Keeping track of trends in the cooperative and commercial insurance business and exchanging information.
- Organizing business study workshops in order to provide the executives and employees of the member with information of international and domestic issues which affect kyosai.

(2) Human Resources Development and Training

- Holding training seminars in order to improve the skills of the executives and staff of kyosai organizations, and provide information for the member societies and related organization.
- Support for training seminars operated by the member societies.

(3) Consultations

- Providing telephone consultations about inquiries and complaints from policy holders and/or their related persons regarding kyosai business operated by the member societies.
- Support for the resolution of disputes provided by Customer Consultation Department as the Alternative

Dispute Resolution (ADR) body certified by the Minister of Justice under the ADR Promotion Act.

(4) Public Relations and Publications

- Publishing “Kyosai in Japan Fact Book.”
- Information dissemination of the “Kyosai Yearbook”.
- Holding “JCIA Seminars” with the aim of raising awareness of cooperatives and the kyosai business, and considering various social issues.

(5) 『Web Kyosai and Insurance』

Disseminating information on practical knowledge of Kyosai, research results on Kyosai and cooperatives, trends in the Kyosai and insurance industries, etc.

(6) Promotion of Mutual Exchanges

- Promotion of cooperation and coordination among the member societies.
- Cooperation with domestic cooperatives as a member of Japan Co-operative Alliance (JCA).
- Cooperation with kyosai-related organizations.

(7) International Activity

- Cooperation with overseas cooperatives and cooperative insurers such as International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) and International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF).
- Conducting research and studies on trends in the situation concerning cooperative/commercial insurance in overseas.
- Dissemination of information to overseas countries.

IV JCIA Member Societies

1 List of Member Societies

Full Member

Zenkyoren National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives

Address	JA Kyosai Building, 2-7-9, Hirakawa-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8630 Tel: +81-3-5215-9100 (https://www.ja-kyosai.or.jp/about/annual_report/)	
Applicable Law	The Agricultural Cooperative Society Law	
Competent Authority	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in 1951. In 2000 Zenkyoren (then a national federation only) merged with 47 prefectural kyosai federations, which had been located in each prefecture, thus forming a two-tiered organizations consisting of 47 prefectural headquarters and a national headquarter (Tokyo). 	
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japan Agricultural Cooperatives (JA) nationwide and Zenkyoren jointly run a kyosai business. Zenkyoren administers operations including the planning of diverse programs, systems development, asset management, and liability reserves for claims payment. 	
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole life kyosai Single-premium whole life kyosai Underwriting-standards mitigation type whole life kyosai Term life kyosai Decreasing term life kyosai Endowment life kyosai Single-premium endowment life kyosai Children's kyosai Assumed-interest-rate change type annuity kyosai Medical kyosai Underwriting-standards mitigation type medical kyosai Cancer kyosai Nursing care kyosai Single-premium nursing care kyosai Disability kyosai Specific severe disease kyosai Senility kyosai Building endowment kyosai Fire kyosai Automobile kyosai Compulsory automobile liability kyosai Personal accident kyosai Liability kyosai Farmer liability kyosai Volunteer comprehensive kyosai Group term life kyosai Cooperative-owned building fire kyosai Retirement annuity kyosai National pension fund kyosai Defined contribution annuity kyosai Worker's property accumulation savings kyosai and others 	
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kyosai business is one of the services along with farm guidance activity, marketing and purchasing, and credit provided by Japan Agricultural Cooperative Group (the JA Group). Based on its business philosophy of mutual aid, Zenkyoren provides coverage for the entire lives of its members and policyholders (comprehensive coverage of life, homes and automobiles). JA and Zenkyoren jointly contract policies and integrally provide coverage through fulfilling each function. 	

Kyosuiren National Mutual Insurance Federation of Fishery Co-operatives

Address	Kanda Ogawamachi 2-Chome Building, 2-3-6, Kanda Ogawamachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0052 Tel:+81-3-3294-9641 (https://www.kyosuiren.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	The Fisheries Cooperative Association Law
Competent Authority	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zensuikyo, forerunner of Kyosuiren, entered into kyosai business in 1951. • In 2008, Japan Fisheries Cooperatives (JF), Fish Processors Cooperative Association and Kyosuiren jointly came to write kyosai business according to the revision of the Fisheries Cooperatives Association Law.
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various types of kyosai, such as fire kyosai, householder's comprehensive kyosai, comprehensive life kyosai, crew's welfare kyosai and the like.
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choko (Comprehensive life kyosai) • Kurashi (Householder's comprehensive kyosai) • Nenkin (Fishermen annuity kyosai) • Kasai (Fire kyosai) • Noriko (Crew's welfare kyosai) • Danshin (Group credit life kyosai) • National pension fund kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyosuiren comprises fishery cooperatives (JF), fisheries production cooperatives, fish processor cooperatives and their federations. It was established as the only federation engaged in the kyosai business with each member cooperative and federation contributing a share of the capital. Jointly selling kyosai contracts, Kyosuiren, JF and others play their respective roles and operate the kyosai business in an integrated manner. • As a major business of JF, JF kyosai aims to expend all possible means to "safeguard the livelihoods" of fisherpersons, thereby Protecting beautiful sea and fisheries and kyosai contributing to the development of attractive fishing villages and communities where people can live in affluence and peace of mind.

Kokumin Kyosai co-op National Federation of Workers and Consumers Kyosai Cooperatives

Address	2-12-10, Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-8571 Tel:+81-3-3299-0161 (https://www.zenrosai.coop/english/english.html)
Applicable Law	The Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law
Competent Authority	Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first Workers and Consumers Kyosai Cooperative was established in Osaka in 1954. Since then the "Prefectural Workers and Consumers Cooperative" has been established in each prefecture. • In 1957 eighteen prefectural workers and Kyosai Organizations, who had already started businesses, gathered together to establish a central organization, called the National Federation of Workers and Consumers Kyosai Cooperatives (Abbreviated name: "Rosairen.") • In 1976 national integration was realized by the unification of campaign policy, kyosai business, profit and loss accounting, and organizational/secretarial operations. Its abbreviated name was also changed to "Zenrosai." • In June 2019, on marking its 60th anniversary, a nickname "Kokumin Kyosai co-op" was adopted in order to become a more friendly and approachable organization.
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyosai business, and guidance, information sharing, and arrangements for member societies
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kokumin kyosai (General public kyosai) • Traffic accident kyosai • New comprehensive health kyosai • Long term life kyosai • Annuity kyosai • Group term life kyosai • New group life kyosai for retirees • Mutual aid benefit kyosai • New group annuity kyosai • Smile kyosai (Fire insurance/Natural disaster kyosai) • Smile kyosai with social contribution for eco-house • Smile kyosai for mortgage of Labour Bank • My car kyosai (Automobile kyosai) • Compulsory automobile liability kyosai • Liability kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kokumin Kyosai co-op is a federation which consists of 58 member societies: 47 member societies of Consumers Kyosai Cooperatives based on local workers in each prefecture, eight member societies of Consumer Kyosai Cooperatives for workers at workplaces which are constructed beyond the borders of the prefectures, and three member societies of consumers' federations. • Kokumin Kyosai co-op, as a consumer cooperative taking charge of workers' voluntary welfare movement, engages mainly in the kyosai business, while building a circle of mutual relief for companies' employees as well as local workers and consumers. In this way, Kokumin Kyosai co-op is aiming at the realization of its philosophy, which is, "Creation of a rich and safe society through everyone's helping each other."

Saikyosairen Japan Reinsurance Federation of Consumers' Cooperatives

Address	2-12-10, Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-8531 Tel: +81-3-3320-1711 (https://www.saikyosairen.or.jp/english/index.html)
Applicable Law	The Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law
Competent Authority	Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1975: Kokuro Kyosai (currently Zenkoku Kouun Kyosai), Zentei Kyosai, Dentsu Kyosai, Zenrinya Kyosai (currently Shinrinoren Kyosai) and Zensembai Kyosai (currently Zentabaco Seikyo) formed "Tansan Kyosai Rengokai (Federation of Industrial Cooperative Insurance Societies)" and started automobile kyosai. • 1980: Zenrosai, Jichiro Kyosai and Nikkyosai Seikyo (currently Kyoshokuin Kyosai) joined these companies to form Jidosha Kyosairen. • 1987: Jidosha Kyosairen was reorganized and incorporated to Zenrosai Saikyosairen (Zenrosai Reinsurance Federation of Consumers' Co-operatives). • 2004: Automobile kyosai business was incorporated to Zenrosai. • 2006: The name of the organization changed from Zenrosai Saikyosairen to Saikyosairen.
Line of Business	• Reinsurance business serving as the key reinsurance player for the kyosai organizations
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire reinsurance • Natural peril reinsurance • Life reinsurance • Traffic accident reinsurance • Comprehensive reinsurance • Automobile reinsurance • Compulsory automobile liability reinsurance
Features	• Saikyosairen is the sole reinsurance operation society in Japan. Through its reinsurance business, Saikyosairen has contributed to the stabilization of the management of membership and the sound development of the business. It also engages in strengthening the relationship between the member societies and kyosai organizations, and in supporting direct contracts.

CO•OP Kyosai Japan CO-OP Insurance (Kyosai) Consumers' Co-operative Federation, CO-OP Kyosai

Address	4-1-13, Sendagaya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0051 Tel: +81-3-6836-1300 (https://coopkyosai.coop/english/)
Applicable Law	The Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law
Competent Authority	Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1951: Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU) was established. • 1984: JCCU started Kyosai business. • 2008: CO•OP Kyosai was established as a federation specializing in kyosai businesses. • 2009: CO•OP Kyosai started to operate the businesses.
Line of Business	• Kyosai business, and guidance, communication and adjustment for consumer cooperative member societies, as well as promotion of life planning activities
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO•OP kyosai (Tasukeai) • CO•OP student comprehensive mutual kyosai • CO•OP automobile kyosai • CO•OP kyosai (Aipurasu) • CO•OP kyosai (Zuttoai) • CO•OP life kyosai (New ai ai) • CO•OP fire kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CO•OP Kyosai, jointly founded by consumer cooperatives operating CO-OP kyosai businesses and JCCU, is a consumers' federation that runs kyosai business. • CO•OP Kyosai promotes kyosai in conjunction with the supply and purchasing business for the members, and kyosai businesses are steadily growing. CO•OP Kyosai is attracting attention as the developing and expanding kyosai organizations in Japan.

Zenkokuseikyoren The Federation of Japanese Consumer Cooperatives, FJCC

Address	Omiya Kadomachi SQUARE 14F, 2-118, Daimoncho, Omiya-ku, Saitama-shi, Saitama 330-8708 Tel:+81-48-633-6200 (https://www.kyosai-cc.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	The Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law
Competent Authority	Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in 1971 as The Cooperative Unions of Greater Tokyo Area. Changed its name to The Federation of Japanese Consumer Cooperatives in 1981. Started life kyosai (Kenmin Kyosai) business in 1982. Started new fire kyosai (with coverage for storm and flood damage) business in 1985.
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kyosai business, and guidance, communication and adjustment for consumer cooperative member societies
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life kyosai (Child type, Comprehensive coverage type, Hospitalization coverage type, Middle and early old age type, Hospitalization coverage for the middle and early old-aged type) Fire kyosai (New fire kyosai)
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A prefectural kyosai scheme or "Kenmin Kyosai" was established in Saitama in 1973 and it has subsequently spread throughout Japan. Nowadays, As a Todohukenmin Kyosai Group is implemented in all 47 prefectures, Tomin Kyosai (Tokyo), Domin Kyosai (Hokkaido), Fumin Kyosai (Kyoto • Osaka), Zenkoku Kyosai (Kanagawa), including Kenmin Kyosai.

Seikyo Zenkyoren Japan Federation of Mutual Aid Cooperatives, JAFMAC

Address	Nissay Shin Osaka Building 14F, 3-4-30, Miyahara, Yodogawa-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 532-0003 Tel:81-6-6350-0033 (https://www.zenkyoren.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	The Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law
Competent Authority	Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in 1956.
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kyosai business of fire and reinsurance business of fire and traffic accident kyosai
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire kyosai Fire reinsurance Traffic accident reinsurance
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nationwide organizations that operate community-based kyosai businesses cooperate with each other with the aim of developing and improving their regional kyosai businesses.

Nikkaren National Federation of Fire Insurance Co-operatives for Small Business

Address	Nihonbashi Chuo Building, 2-11-2, Nihonbashi Hamacho, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-0007 Tel: +81-3-3667-5111 (https://www.nikkaren.or.jp/)	
Applicable Law	Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Cooperatives Act	
Competent Authority	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in 1960. Merged National Mutual Insurance Federation of Co-operatives for Small and Medium Size Enterprises (Chusho-Kigyo Kyosai) in 2014. 	
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire kyosai business written jointly with the member societies Reinsurance of kyosai liability accepted by the member societies in the course of kyosai business Original kyosai for members of the member societies 	
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire kyosai Business interruption support kyosai Automobile kyosai Medical & cancer kyosai Comprehensive personal accident kyosai Labor disaster compensation kyosai 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life and personal accident kyosai Automobile accident expenses kyosai Income protection kyosai Business interruption mutual aid kyosai Small and medium enterprises comprehensive liability kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nikkaren is a kyosai cooperative organized in response to the needs of small and medium-sized business owners, who desire to support each other and protect themselves from unexpected accidents such as fire. Sales promotion activities are systematically conducted by signing consignment contracts with small and medium-sized enterprises, including cooperatives, commerce and industry cooperatives, chambers of commerce and industry, and commerce and industry conferences. Nikkaren set up new “Earthquake risk coverage clause” to cover loss and damage of homes and ordinary buildings in January 2020 and promotes “Business interruption support insurance”, etc. for assisting the business continuation of small and medium-sized enterprises, etc. in terms of “compensation.” 	

Kokyoren National Mutual Insurance Federation of Truck Transport Co-operatives

Address	Tokyoto Truck Sogokaikan, 3-1-8, Yotsuya, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0004 Tel:81-3-3341-6271 (https://www.kokyoren.or.jp/)	
Applicable Law	Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Cooperatives Act	
Competent Authority	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established in 1972. 	
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinsurance business, guidance, adjustment, and communication for member societies and kyosai business compensating for injuries which the employees of the member societies suffered from labor accident. 	
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bodily injury liability kyosai Property damage liability kyosai Physical damage kyosai 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drivers’ and passengers’ personal accident kyosai Labor accident kyosai Compulsory automobile liability kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trucking businesses greatly contributed to the economic growth of Japan after the war as the leading provider of land transportation. However, frequent traffic accidents have caused social problems and since around 1960, dump trucks have been deemed “deadly vehicles.” Consequently, in the commercial insurance industry, premium for all types of trucks have been raised and in some cases the insurer has refused to sign contracts with trucking businesses. After 1970, truck transport kyosai cooperatives have been established throughout Japan and kyosai businesses have spread widely to address problems related to traffic accidents. Kokyoren is characterized by its cooperatives in the truck transport industry. Kokyoren actively promotes traffic accident prevention along with its kyosai business. It holds approximately 2,500 seminars on safe driving every year. 	

Zenjikyo

National Federation of Motor Insurance Cooperatives

Address	Ichigaya Chuo Building, 14, Ichigaya Hachimancho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-0844 Tel:+81-3-3267-1911 (https://www.zenjikyo.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Cooperatives Act
Competent Authority	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
Establishment	• Established in 1975.
Line of Business	• Reinsurance business for member societies engaged in automobile kyosai and compulsory automobile liability kyosai businesses. Guidance, liaison and coordination for member societies. Lending business funds to member societies and borrowing funds on behalf of member societies. Automobile kyosai business written jointly.
Kyosai Product Range	• Automobile reinsurance • Compulsory automobile liability reinsurance • Automobile kyosai
Features	• Member societies conduct automobile kyosai businesses, in order to help small and medium-sized enterprises, etc. to cover, under the spirit of mutual aid, economic losses incurred by other small and medium-sized enterprises, etc. due to accidents that are attributed to the ownership, use, or management of automobiles owned by them. Zenjikyo operates reinsurance business for those member societies to diffuse their responsibility to provide kyosai coverage and ensure that the claims will be paid in an appropriate manner.

Zenrosai Kyokai

The Foundation for Promoting Workers Welfare and Mutual Aid Insurance

Address	Roundcross Shinjuku 5F, 2-11-17, Yoyogi, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 151-0053 Tel:+81-3-5333-5126 (https://www.zenrosaikyokai.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	Act on Arrangement of Relevant Acts Incidental to Enforcement of the Act on General Incorporated Associations and General Incorporated Foundations and Act on Authorization of Public Interest Incorporated Associations and Public Interest Incorporated Foundations
Competent Authority	Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Association of Workers Welfare Promotion was established in 1982 and Foundation for Workers Welfare and Cooperative Insurance was established in 1989. Both of them were consolidated and became Zenrosai Kyokai (National Association for Workers Welfare and Cooperative Insurance) in 2004. • Zenrosai Kyokai effected entity conversion to a general incorporated foundation in 2013. • Zenrosai Kyokai has been carrying out “think tank business” based on its public interest expenditure plan and “mutual aid activities” as an authorized specific insurance business, but will end its “think tank business” on May 31, 2025, and these activities were taken over to related organizations, including Kokumin Kyosai co-op.
Line of Business	• Zenrosai Kyokai is a general incorporated foundation that specializes in “mutual aid business” that contribute to the improvement and development of workers' welfare.
Insurance Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expenses insurance for celebration or condolence • Fire insurance for cooperative societies' own buildings • Automobile insurance for cooperatives societies' own cars • Non-life insurance agency business (Fire insurance, Automobile insurance)
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business associated with expenses insurance for celebration or condolence, fire insurance for cooperative societies' own buildings, and automobile insurance for cooperatives societies' own cars^(※) is operated as an approved specified insurance business under the Insurance Business Law. ※ Automobile insurance for cooperatives societies' own cars will cease operations at the end of March 2026. • As a business to complement the approved specified insurance business, a non-life insurance agency business of fire insurance and automobile insurance has been operated for organizations that are eligible to be policyholders in the approved specified insurance business since July 1, 2014. (Insurer: the Kyoei Fire and Marine Insurance Company Ltd.) • Zenrosai Kyokai comprises the “Three Basic Corporations of Kokumin Kyosai co-op Group,” together with Kokumin Kyosai co-op and Saikyosairen.

Kyoei Fire The Kyoei Fire and Marine Insurance Company Ltd.

Address	1-18-6, Shimbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8604 Tel: +81-3-3504-0131 (https://www.kyoeikasai.co.jp/)
Applicable Law	Insurance Business Act
Competent Authority	Financial Services Agency
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Founded in 1942 by industrial cooperative association, the predecessor of today's cooperative unions and cooperative societies including agriculture, forestry and fishery cooperative unions, shinkin/shinkumi banks, and consumer cooperatives. In 2003, Kyoei Fire became a privately held corporation from a mutual company. The company was funded by cooperative unions and cooperative societies, establishing a firm position as an insurance company based on cooperative unions and cooperative societies both in name and in reality.
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the spirit of coexistence and mutual aid, the company operates non-life insurance business based on strong relationships with various cooperative unions.
Insurance Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire insurance (earthquake insurance) Voluntary automobile insurance Compulsory automobile liability insurance Personal accident insurance Medical insurance Cancer insurance Income protection insurance General liability insurance Movables comprehensive insurance Fidelity credit insurance Commercial credit insurance Contractors' all risks insurance Occupational accident compensation insurance Marine hull insurance Marine cargo insurance
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The company operates a unique insurance business based on relationships with various cooperative unions and cooperative societies. It has an established reputation for an ability to develop products. For instance, it developed Japan's first insurance products including fire insurance with a maturity refund and hole-in-one insurance.

First-Class Supporting Member

NOSAI Kyokai National Agricultural Insurance Association

Address	19, Ichibancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8411 Tel: +81-3-3263-6411 (https://www.nosai.or.jp/nosai_kasou/nosai_eng_01.html)
Applicable Law	Act on Arrangement of Relevant Acts Incidental to Enforcement of the Act on General Incorporated Associations and General Incorporated Foundations and Act on Authorization of Public Interest Incorporated Associations and Public Interest Incorporated Foundations
Competent Authority	Cabinet Office
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural Insurance Society was established in 1940. Agricultural Mutual Insurance Society was established in 1948. Agricultural Mutual Insurance Society was renamed to "National Agricultural Mutual Insurance Association" in 1949. The organization shifted to a public interest incorporated association in 2013.
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and study of the agricultural insurance system, research and study for promoting agriculture and stabilizing agricultural management, spread and awareness-raising activities for farmers and the public, and others
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The businesses of NOSAI are managed by the Agricultural Mutual Insurance Associations (municipal level), the Prefectural Federation of Agricultural Mutual Insurance Associations (prefectural level), etc. It operates the following kyosai businesses: rice, wheat and barley kyosai; livestock kyosai; fruit and fruit-tree kyosai; field crop kyosai; greenhouse kyosai; farmer's house kyosai; farming equipment kyosai; agricultural products in storage kyosai and agricultural management income protection kyosai.
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to stabilize agricultural management, the agricultural insurance system provides mutual aid services to compensate for losses incurred by farmers due to natural disasters and other unforeseen accidents, and insurance services to mitigate the impact of declining agricultural income on agricultural management. NOSAI Kyokai is the central organization of the Agricultural Mutual Insurance Association and the Prefectural Federation of Agricultural Mutual Insurance Associations.

Second-Class Supporting Member

Boseikyo Consumer Co-operative of Ministry of Defense

Address	Kuipo Building 6F, 2-1, Ichigaya Honmuracho Shinjyuku-ku, Tokyo 162-0845 Tel: +81-3-5227-1610 (https://www.boseikyo.jp/)
Applicable Law	The Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law
Competent Authority	Mistry of Health, Labor and Welfare
Establishment	• Established in 1963.
Line of Business	• Various types of kyosai
Kyosai Product Range	• Fire kyosai • Life kyosai • Long term life kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boseikyo is a consumers' cooperative society. Its affinity groups in workplace are Ministry of Defense defined by Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Defense (Chapter II), Mutual Aid Association Of Ministry of Defense defined by National Public Officers Mutual Aid Association Act (Act No.3), Labor Management Organization for USFJ Employees, Incorporated Administrative Agency defined by Act on the Labor Management Organization for USFJ Employees, Independent Administrative Agency, and Boeisyoy employee consumer cooperative. • The organization structure and corps for Ministry of Defense and Self-Defense Forces spreads nationwide, and its headquarter is in Tokyo and staff are stationed in each place in order to operate the business.

Kanagawa Kenmin Kyosai The Kanagawa Kenmin-Kyosai Consumer's Cooperative

Address	1-1-8-2, Sakuragi-cho, Naka-ku, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa 231-8418 Tel: +81-45-201-0816 (https://www.kenminkyosai.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	The Consumers' Livelihood Cooperative Society Law
Competent Authority	Kanagawa Prefecture
Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1966: A voluntary organization was established and provided "Comprehensive life kyosai" for citizens in Kanagawa Prefecture. • 1973: "The Kanagawa Kenmin-Kyosai Consumer's Cooperative Insurance" was certified and recognized as "Kenmin Kyosai" in Kanagawa Prefecture.
Line of Business	• Kyosai business • Insurance agency business
Kyosai Product Range	• Life and children kyosai • Traffic accident kyosai • Personal accident kyosai • Liability kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the spirit of mutual aid, the basic philosophy of the association is to "guarantee security and a sense of purpose in life", and it is a professional association that operates mutual aid businesses, mainly life kyosai, in Kanagawa Prefecture. • As an educational program for members, the association holds events such as "Iki-iki Kenko (Vivacious Health)", "Iki-iki Seikatsu (Vivacious Life)", and "Child Care Support" as social activities.

Chusairen Small and Medium size Enterprise Welfare Cooperative Insurance Federation

Address	Nihonbashi Aruga Building, 2-2-5, Nihonbashi Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-0027 Tel: +81-3-3275-1121 (http://www.chusairen.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Cooperatives Act
Competent Authority	Tokyo Prefecture
Establishment	• Established in 2012.
Line of Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinsurance business of kyosai liability borne by the member societies. • Joint kyosai business concerning kyosai contracts for which it bears kyosai liability jointly with member societies. • A range of other businesses conducted in support of member societies.
Kyosai Product Range	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinsurance business for Life and personal accident kyosai etc. • Life and medical kyosai • Labor accident kyosai
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chusairen was established as a federation in January 2012. Its base is a kyosai society newly established by a public interest corporation who had been operated kyosai business for small and medium-sized owners, responding to the laws related to the reform of the public interest corporation. Chusairen provides various support business and reinsurance business for the member societies as well as joint kyosai business with the members.

Kaigyoui Kyosai Cooperative of Mutual Insurance for Medical Practitioners

Address	Toho Building 3F, 1-10-6, Minamichitose, Nagano-shi, Nagano 380-0823 Tel: +81-26-217-6600 (https://www.kaigyouikumiai.or.jp/)
Applicable Law	Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Cooperatives Act
Competent Authority	Nagano Prefecture
Establishment	• Established in 2010.
Line of Business	• Kyosai business for members and its incidental business
Kyosai Product Range	• Income protection kyosai for medical practitioners
Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being invested from Cooperatives of medical insurance doctors (Business cooperative) of 7 prefectures and the founders (practitioners), Kaigyoui Kyosai was founded and authorized by the Kanto Shin-Etsu Welfare Bureau in January 2010 (Since April 2015 it has been supervised by Nagano Prefecture). • In August 2010, “Income protection plan for medical practitioners” was launched in order to offer income protection and support restoration of business in case of business interruptions due to illness or injury of medical practitioners. • Its aims are to stabilize the medical supply system and to secure the business and living of doctors and dentists who are providers of medical care.

2 List of Product Line Provided by Major Kyosai

	Organization	Product Line					
		Fire	Life	Accident	Auto.	Annuity	Others ^{※3}
Agricultural Cooperatives	Zenkyoren	○	○	○	○	○	○
Fishery Cooperatives	Kyosuiren	○	○			○	
Consumers Cooperatives	Kokumin Kyosai co-op	○	○	○	○	○	○
	CO・OP Kyosai	○ ^{※1}	○		○ ^{※1}		
	Zenkokuseikyoren	○	○	○			
	Seikyo Zenkyoren	○	○ ^{※2}	○ ^{※2}			
	Boseikyo	○	○				
	Kanagawa Kenmin Kyosai		○	○			○
Business Cooperatives	Nikkaren	○	○	○	○		○
	Kokyoren				○		○
	Zenjikyō				○		
	Chusairen		○				○
	Kaigyōui Kyosai						○
Agricultural Insurance Associations	NOSAI Kyokai	○					○

※1: Products are based on Kokumin Kyosai co-op's policy terms and conditions

※2: Products are provided by some of the member societies of Seikyo Zenkyoren

※3: "Others" are as follows:

- 'Worker's property accumulation savings kyosai', 'Farmer liability kyosai', 'Liability kyosai', 'Volunteer comprehensive kyosai' by Zenkyoren
- 'Mutual aid benefit kyosai', 'Personal liability kyosai' by Kokumin Kyosai co-op
- 'Liability kyosai' by Kanagawa Kenmin Kyosai
- 'Business interruption support kyosai', 'Labor disaster compensation kyosai', 'Income protection kyosai', 'Business interruption mutual aid kyosai', 'Small and medium enterprises comprehensive liability kyosai' by Nikkaren
- 'Labor accident kyosai' by Kokyoren
- 'Labor accident kyosai' by Chusairen
- 'Income protection plan for medical protectioners' by Kaigyōui Kyosai
- 'Rice, wheat and barley kyosai', 'Livestock kyosai', 'Fruit and fruit-tree kyosai', 'Field crop kyosai', 'Greenhouse kyosai', 'Farming equipment kyosai', 'Agricultural products in storage kyosai', 'Agricultural management income protection kyosai' by NOSAI Kyokai

3 Member Societies' Efforts towards Natural Disasters

(1) Insurance Claims and Condolence Money Paid by Member Societies

In the wake of natural disasters such as huge earthquakes, powerful typhoons, and heavy rains, member societies endeavor to pay insurance and condolence money promptly to the affected policy holders in order to help them put their lives back in order as quickly as possible and carry out various activities for disaster prevention and mitigation.

■ Natural disasters of insurance payout which exceeded 100 Billion Yen

The amount of insurance and condolence money paid by Member Societies amounted to more than 100 Billion Yen for the following devastating natural disasters such as Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995 and the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011.

Year	Name of Natural Disasters	Insurance and Condolence Money Paid
1991	19th typhoon of 1991 (Mireille)	172 Billion Yen
1995	Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake	144 Billion Yen
2004	18th typhoon of 2004 (Songda)	136 Billion Yen
2011	Great East Japan Earthquake	1,228 Billion Yen
2016	Kumamoto Earthquake	183 Billion Yen
2018	21th typhoon of 2018 (Jebi)	188 Billion Yen
2019	15th typhoon of 2019 (Faxai)	124 Billion Yen
2019	19th typhoon of 2019 (Hagibis)	143 Billion Yen
2021	Fukushima Earthquake of 2021	127 Billion Yen
2022	Earthquake with epicenter off the coast of Fukushima of 2022	181 Billion Yen
2024	Noto Peninsula Earthquake	188 Billion Yen

※The above figures are the total amount of payments calculated based on reports from individual member societies as of the end of September 2025. Some member societies may include in the amount of payments not only general insurance payouts but also life insurance payouts. The total amount of payments does not include any payments made by member societies who are not able to figure out the amount for each disaster.

19th typhoon of 1991 (Mireille)

Human damage: Number of missing and dead: 62; number of injuries: 1,499.

Property damage: Number of damaged houses: 170,447; number of houses inundated above and below floor level: 22,965.

Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

Human damage: Number of missing and dead: 6,437; number of injuries: 43,792.

Property damage: Number of completely destroyed houses: 104,906; number of half destroyed houses: 144,274; number of partially destroyed houses: 390,506.

18th typhoon of 2004 (Songda)

Human damage: Number of missing and dead: 45; number of injuries: 1,301.

Property damage: Number of damaged houses: 43,140; number of houses inundated above and below floor level: 8,360.

Great East Japan Earthquake

Human damage: Number of missing and dead: 22,332 number of injuries: 6,242.

Property damage: Number of completely destroyed houses: 122,053; number of half destroyed houses: 284,074; number of partially destroyed houses: 750,069.

Kumamoto Earthquake

Human damage: Number of dead: 273; number of injuries: 2,809.

Property damage: Number of completely destroyed houses: 8,667; number of half destroyed houses: 34,719; number of partially destroyed houses: 163,500.

21th typhoon of 2018 (Jebi)

Human damage: Number of dead: 14; number of injuries: 980.

Property damage: Number of damaged houses: 97,910; number of inundated above and below floor level: 707.

15th typhoon of 2019 (Faxai)

Human damage: Number of dead: 9; number of injuries: 160.

Property damage: Number of damaged houses: 93,096; number of inundated above and below floor level: 276.

19th typhoon of 2019 (Hagibis)

Human damage: Number of missing and dead: 121; number of injuries: 388.

Property damage: Number of damaged houses: 75,758; number of inundated above and below floor level: 29,941.

Fukushima Earthquake of 2021

Human damage: Number of dead: 3; number of injuries: 184.

Property damage: Number of completely destroyed houses: 144; number of half destroyed houses: 3,070; number of partially destroyed houses: 35,361.

Earthquake with epicenter off the coast of Fukushima of 2022

Human damage: Number of dead: 4; number of injuries: 248.

Property damage: Number of completely destroyed houses: 224; number of half destroyed houses: 4,630; number of partially destroyed houses: 52,388.

Noto Peninsula Earthquake

Human damage: Number of missing and dead: 636; number of injuries: 1,398.

Property damage: Number of completely destroyed houses: 6,532; number of half destroyed houses: 23,680; number of partially destroyed houses: 134,949.

※The figures for casualties and damage are based on the Japan Fire and Disaster Management Agency website, “Disaster information list”. However, for 19th typhoon of 1991 (Mireille), the figures are based on the Japan Meteorological Agency website, “Examples of typhoon disaster”

■ Insurance payout for recent great natural disasters

The following are the amount of insurance and condolence money paid by Member Societies for recent great natural disasters.

Name of Natural Disasters	Insurance and Condolence Money Paid
Fukushima Earthquake of 2021	127 Billion Yen
Earthquake with epicenter off the coast of Fukushima of 2022	181 Billion Yen
14th typhoon of 2022 (Nanmadol)	41 Billion Yen
Noto Peninsula Earthquake	188 Billion Yen

※The above figures are the total amount of payments calculated based on reports from individual member societies as of the end of September 2025. Some member societies may include in the amount of payments not only general insurance payouts but also life insurance payouts.

The total amount of payments does not include any payments made by member societies who are not able to figure out the amount for each disaster.

(2) Member Societies' Efforts

■ Distribution of free disaster-relief tarpaulins and emergency kits

Zenkyoren provides free disaster-relief tarpaulins and emergency kits to its policyholders whose houses have been damaged due to natural disaster. (This service is for **Zenkyoren** policyholders who fulfill certain requirements.)



Tarpaulin (Size: 3.6 m × 5.4 m (12 tatami mats))



Emergency Kit

■ Disaster Prevention Class by Professor the Vuton

Zenkyoren holds the Disaster Prevention Class by Professor the Vuton, a hands-on learning program in which participants experience the realistic motion of past and anticipated major earthquakes using the Jishin the Vuton earthquake simulator, a chair-type device for experiencing earthquake motion, and are reminded of the need to prepare for earthquakes on a daily basis by, for example, securing furniture.



Experiencing Jishin the Vuton



■ Support activities including visits to all insured households

Kyosuiren visits all insured households in the disaster-stricken areas to assess any earthquake and typhoon damage and works to provide relief payments as quickly as possible. Moreover, **Kyosuiren** has conducted relief activities, including the delivery of relief supplies to the victims of typhoons, earthquakes, and other natural disasters that occurred in FY2024.

■ Information Provision Activities through the Information Magazine “Inochi no Koe”

Kyosuiren distributes “Inochi no Koe (The Voice of Life),” an information publication to protect people from

natural disasters and marine accidents, and posts it on its website. “The Voice of Life” is an information magazine that asks JF cooperative members to share their experiences and lessons learned from various large-scale disasters that have occurred in the past and provide them as a “voice” to help safeguard the lives of people in coastal areas across the country. The magazine provides information on mutual aid in readiness for future disasters in a spirit of mutual support and empathy of both the providers and recipients of such information.



Information magazine
“Inochi no Koe”

In the third issue published in FY2024, **Kyosuiren** interviewed members who had experienced the Central Sea of Japan Earthquake, the Kumamoto Earthquake, the Eruption of Miyakejima, typhoons, and torrential rains, and published the interviews in “The Voice of Life.”

■ Future Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Project

Kokumin Kyosai co-op, which started out as a housing insurance provider (Disaster Kyosai), has been developing the Future Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Project since March 2021 to further promote the development of disaster prevention and mitigation and network building based on the lessons learned and experience gained from its disaster responses to date.

① Moshimo Project

The Moshimo (what-if) Project is an initiative that aims to create a resilient city by encouraging individuals to think about what they can do to be prepared for an emergency. In FY2024, the Moshimo FES was held in Osaka City and Nagoya City in collaboration with various companies and organizations. **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** organized booths and stage events where families could experience “what if” preparedness while having fun, and educated visitors about disaster prevention and mitigation.

*The Moshimo FES Shibuya 2024 was called off because of a typhoon.



A stage event at the Moshimo FES Osaka 2024



Disaster prevention and mitigation booth exhibition at the Chi-SUN Chi-SHOW Festival (Shimane)

② Enhancement of activities by disaster prevention specialists

Kokumin Kyosai co-op has encouraged its staff members to acquire the Bousaishi (disaster prevention specialist) qualification to carry on local disaster prevention and mitigation activities, and as of the end of FY2024, 966 staff members have acquired the Bousaishi qualification. These disaster prevention specialists have been developing their activities to become the core of the network of security in each area.

■ Disaster prevention and mitigation using digital technologies

To promote disaster preparedness, **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** provides various contents and services for members and consumers through its website and official apps and at various events. Specifically, using digital technologies, **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** is providing, for example, VR experiences where participants can feel as if they are actually experiencing disasters, such as an earthquake, a typhoon, and flooding, with images and music, and the Ground Diagnosis Service for Your Home that enables users to know ground strength and natural disaster risks in specific areas by entering the address of the area.



Booth exhibition at the Abeten BOSAI Switch (Osaka)



Ground Diagnosis Service for Your Home

■ Disaster prevention and mitigation program for children —Cocreation with Junior Eco-club—

Since FY2021, as a co-creation activity with the Japan Environment Association, one of the recipients to whom **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** has contributed, **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** has been providing a disaster prevention and mitigation program for children of the Junior Eco Club, a body engaged in environmental education and learning throughout Japan. In FY2024, 153 clubs (2,988 participants) from across Japan participated in the Bosai × Eco CAMP for Everyone for disaster prevention and mitigation.



An activity at the Bosai × Eco CAMP for Everyone

■ Disaster Area Support Project for Everyone

Kokumin Kyosai co-op has been developing the Disaster Area Support Project for Everyone since March 2024 as a new relief initiative to help create peace of mind in local communities. Under the Disaster Area

Support Project for Everyone, **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** donates 100 yen from each quotation for Smile Kyosai to volunteer (support) groups engaged in recovery support activities in disaster-stricken areas. **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** has donated a total of 20,752,000 yen (as of the end of FY2024) to the Japanese Red Cross Society, the Japan National Council of Social Welfare, and NPOs.



Disaster Area Support Project for Everyone

■ Disaster prevention and mitigation awareness initiatives around the country

With the aim of safeguarding oneself and minimizing damage through daily preparedness, **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** holds events throughout Japan to disseminate knowledge on disaster prevention and mitigation. **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** implements a variety of initiatives, including booth exhibition where parents and children can experience simulated disasters and disaster prevention crafts that allow people to learn and practice disaster prevention in a relaxed and fun manner. In FY2024, **Kokumin Kyosai co-op** held 163 disaster prevention and mitigation events nationwide, bringing the number of events held to date to 757.



Disaster prevention and mitigation booth exhibition at the Tokushima Co-op Festival (Tokushima)

■ Contribution to disaster prevention and mitigation by offering risk maps

Kyoei Fire & Marine Insurance creates and offers a risk map for each location in order to raise awareness of disaster prevention and mitigation and contribute to the safety and security of each community. With the risk map, **Kyoei Fire** makes efforts to talk with individual and corporate clients. Behind **Kyoei Fire**'s efforts, the risk of property damage and prolonged suspension of business activities is increasing due to intensified large-scale storm and flood damage that occurs more and more frequently.



Disaster risk map for corporate clients

4 International Activities of the Member Societies

Philosophy and practice of cooperatives have been spreading not only in Japan but also in the world.

Each member society participates in various international activities based on its belief that development of co-operative movement in the world contributes to the world peace, enhances social justice and improves people's living and welfare.

(1) ICA

International Co-operative Alliance (ICA, established in 1895, and headquartered in Brussels, Belgium) is an alliance of cooperatives, in which 310 alliance members across 104 countries participate. Nationwide organizations of cooperatives across all kinds of sectors including agriculture, consumer, credit, insurance, health, fishery, forestry, workers, tourism, housing, and energy join in ICA from all over the world. The worldwide affiliated members of ICA amount to 1 billion individuals.

For the purpose of expanding the cooperative movement all over the world, promoting international cooperation among cooperatives, disseminating the values and principles of a cooperative, and contributing to world peace and security, ICA has been working on spreading information, conducting international conferences and seminars, and taking initiatives to reflect its opinions and suggestions to the United Nations (UN) agencies and other organizations.

JCIA has been an associate member of ICA since 2014.

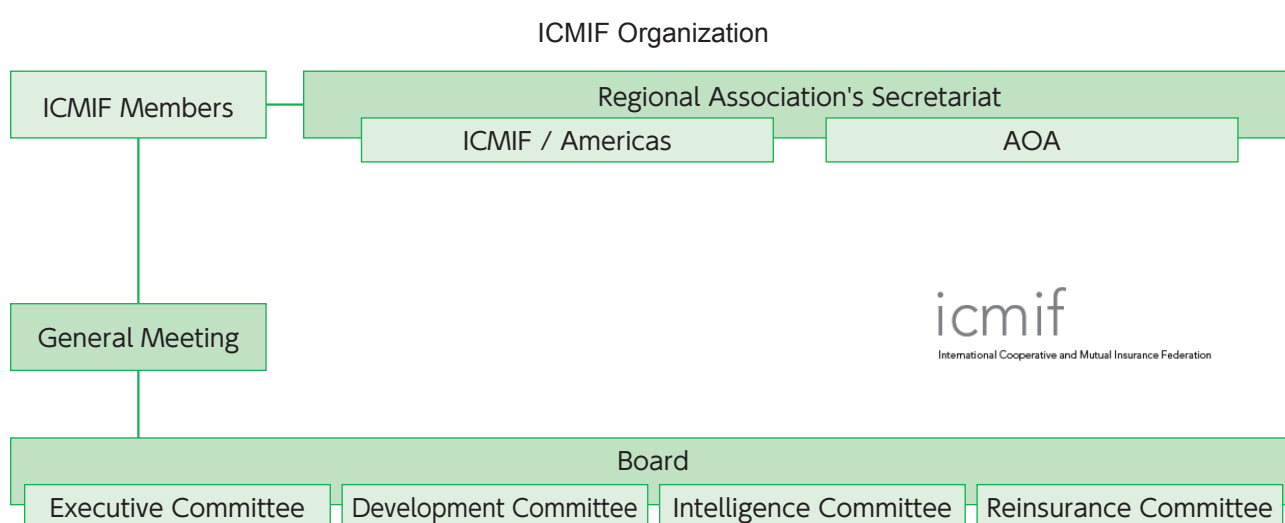
(2) ICMIF

International Co-operative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF, established in 1922, and its secretariat in Manchester, UK), is one of the sectional organizations of ICA. There are 220 members at ICMIF as of October 2025. The total amount of premium income in all members in 2023, is 238 billion USD. ICMIF conducts some activities, such as exchanging information, holding a seminar, personnel exchange and reinsurance business in order to work toward development of cooperative insurance.

There are seven ICMIF full members, which are Zenkyoren, Kyosuiren, Kokumin Kyosai co-op, Saikyosairen, CO•OP Kyosai, Nikkaren, and Kyoei Fire among JCIA member societies, also JCIA is an associate member. Zenkyoren and Kokumin Kyosai co-op are the ICMIF Board member. Japanese ICMIF members enhance international cooperation by serving as the director or the member of various committees of ICMIF.

Also, there are 45 members in 10 countries at Asia and Oceania Association of the ICMIF (AOA), which is a regional association of ICMIF, as of October 2025, and it holds a seminar, a forum and so on.

AOA's Secretariat is at Zenkyoren, and Japanese kyosai organizations have played leadership role of its operation.



Japanese kyosai organizations of ICMIF members

Full Member	Main Role of Japanese Kyosai Organizations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zenkyoren • Kyosuioren • Kokumin Kyosai co-op • Saikyosairen • CO・OP Kyosai • Nikkaren • Kyoei Fire 	ICMIF Director Election Organization	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member • Excusive Committee Member • Intelligence Committee Member • Reinsurance Committee Member 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zenkyoren, Kokumin Kyosai co-op Zenkyoren Zenkyoren, CO・OP Kyosai Zenkyoren
Associate Member	AOA Director Election Organization	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JCIA • JA Kyosai Research Insutitute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson and Secretariat • Auditor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zenkyoren Kyosuioren

(3) Major activities of ICMIF

① ICMIF Biennial Conference 2024 and Young Leaders Programme

The ICMIF Biennial Conference 2024 took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in November 2024, in which 370 people from 120 organizations in 35 countries participated and various keynote presentations and panel discussions were made on the theme of “Collaborating with purpose.”

As for Japanese member organizations, 29 people from six organizations, Zenkyoren, Kokumin Kyosai co-op, Saikyosairen, CO・OP Kyosai, Nikkaren, and the JCIA, participated in the conference.

The ICMIF Young Leaders Programme was also held during the conference, mainly for young leaders under the age of 35 from member organizations, in order to provide an opportunity to learn from and collaborate with peers at other ICMIF member organizations and also an opportunity to network with CEOs, senior executives, industry leaders, and key external influencers from around the world. The 58 participants from 19 countries included 13 people from five Japanese member organizations, Zenkyoren, Kokumin Kyosai co-op, Saikyosairen, CO・OP Kyosai, and the JCIA.



ICMIF Biennial Conference



Participants in the ICMIF Young Leaders Programme

② Lectures in the JCIA Seminar

Ms. Liz Green, the Chief Executive Officer of ICMIF, and Mr. Ben Telfer, the Chief Membership Officer of ICMIF, gave lectures in the JCIA Seminar, held in Tokyo on March 19, 2025, on the theme of “ICMIF’s global view of a modern cooperative insurer.” In the lectures, following the introduction to ICMIF, some topics, including the characteristics of modern cooperative insurers and case studies on ICMIF affiliated organizations, were discussed.



Liz Green, CEO



Ben Telfer, CMO



JCIA Seminar

1 Beginning of the Modern Cooperative Movement in the World

The Rochdale Equitable Pioneers Society, established by a group of 28 artisans in the town of Rochdale in 1844, is generally regarded as the prototype of the modern cooperative society.

The original rules and practices they put in place formed what are known as the Rochdale Principles of Co-operation, foremost among which are the principles of ‘one member one vote’, ‘pro rata distribution of profits upon the amount of purchases’, ‘charging the market prices without credit’, and ‘allocation of certain profits to education’. These principles are known as the Rochdale Principles of Co-operation and have been succeeded to the cooperative movement today.

These cooperative principles were adopted as a form of “Statement on the Cooperative Identity” (see page 29) at the General Assembly held in Manchester in 1995.

Today, cooperatives are offering a variety of products and services in many countries worldwide and are estimated to have around 1.2 billion members.



The actual building of the Rochdale Equitable Pioneers Society established in 1844. This is currently used as the Rochdale Pioneers Museum.

2 History of Kyosai in Japan

(1) Establishment of Industrial Union

After the medieval period, mutual financing associations called ‘tanomoshi-kou’ or ‘Yui-kou’ came into existence among community members in villages and towns. However those associations gradually ceased to exist as a result of the modernization by the Meiji Government.

Nevertheless, German cooperatives attracted the attention of the Japanese Government, which focused on importing advanced western systems under a policy of increasing wealth and military power. “A cooperative model contributes to the stable lives of farmers which makes up the majority of the Japanese population, and will lead to political stability in the long run.” This was the background of establishing approval of the Industrial Union Act in 1900 by the Meiji Government. The act, Japan’s first legislation on cooperatives, had clauses such as ‘freedom of membership & withdrawal’ and ‘one member one vote’. The industrial unions which were established based on this act later became Agricultural cooperatives, Consumer cooperatives and Credit Unions that we see today.

(2) The Dawn of Kyosai

The idea of providing insurance services through industrial unions emerged at the beginning of the Taisho Period. At the 20th National Industrial Union General Meeting in 1924, a resolution of ‘Commencement of life insurance service’ was officially proposed and approved. Although the same kind of resolutions had been adopted almost every year at the general meetings until 1935, it was quite difficult to realize the service.

Toyohiko Kagawa insisted that industrial unions needed to be authorized to do insurance business under the Insurance Business Act, but it did not come true. There were two main reasons for this: the policy of Ministry of Finance to close the insurance market from the unions, and strong opposition from existing insurance companies to open the market to the unions.

Mr Kagawa and his peers tried to purchase insurance companies. They realized a great success in purchasing and merging two companies and set up Kyoei Fire & Marine Insurance Company in 1942. It started as a company which emphasized its industrial union character with several leaders from industrial unions assuming key posts in the management team.

In later years, various cooperative laws according to each business sector were enacted during the years between 1947 and 1949, which provided cooperatives with the basis with which to start Kyosai business, as well as other services.

(3) Toyohiko Kagawa

Toyohiko Kagawa (1888-1960) was a social reformer and the first million seller in Japan during Taisho and Syowa period. He played a great role in the labor movement and peasant movement as well as in the cooperative movement in prewar Japan. Moved by words, “One for all, all for one”, he devoted his life to realize a society based on mutual help. “The true nature of insurance is derived from comradeship and socialism, however commercial insurers make its transition to capitalism. Insurance should be provided by cooperatives”, he stated and made every effort to include a clause on ‘cooperative insurance’ in Insurance Business Law. However, his dream did not come to pass.

Later, cooperative societies started to provide kyosai services, which were different from original idea, under the supervision of various cooperative acts.



Toyohiko Kagawa

3 Applicable Laws of Major Kyosai Organizations in Japan (Extract)

In Japan, various types of cooperatives are operating on different bases and conditions. Also, applicable laws in which Japanese authorities regulate the kyosai organizations' business and management are diverse according to the types of organizational background.

Each applicable law stipulates the objects of each law and of each organization. The clause spells out what cooperatives desire to achieve through kyosai services.

Agricultural Cooperative Law ◇Zenkyoren

Article 1 This law has for its objective the promotion of the sound development of the farmers cooperative system, thereby improving agricultural productivity and the socio-economic states of farmers as well as ensuring the development of national economy.

Article 7 A cooperative has for its objective the performance of business in order to serve its members and member cooperatives to the maximum degree.

Fisheries Cooperative Association Law ◇Kysuiren

Article 1 This law has for its purpose advancement of the national economy by increasing fisheries productivity and improving the economic and social status of fishermen and marine products processors through the development of fisheries cooperative association.

Article 4 A cooperative has for its objective the performance of business in order to serve its members and member cooperatives (omitted) to the maximum degree, and shall not be allowed to do business for profit making purpose.

Consumer Cooperative Law ◇Kokumin Kyosai co-op, Saikyosairen, CO・OP Kyosai, Zenkokuseikyoren, Seikyo Zenkyoren, Boseikyo, Kanagawa Kenmin Kyosai etc

Article 1 This law has for its objective of the voluntary development of the consumer cooperative system by people, thereby stabilizing the people's lives and improving the life and culture.

Article 9 The objective of each Association shall be consistent with the functions which it is authorized to perform.

Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Cooperatives Act ◇Nikkaren, Kokyoren, Zenjikyo, Chusairen, Kaigyoui Kyosai etc

Article 1 The purpose of this Act is to provide for the organizations necessary for persons engaged in a small and medium-sized commercial business, industrial business, mining business, transport business, service business or any other business and other persons, such as workers, to engage in business in a cooperative manner based on the spirit of mutual support, and to secure the opportunity for these people to conduct fair economic activities, thereby promoting their voluntary economic activities and achieving an improvement in their economic status.

Article 5 (1) (i) The purpose of the cooperative shall be mutual support among partner of the cooperative or partner of the federation.

(2) A cooperative shall have the purpose to directly serve its partner through its activities, and it shall not conduct any activities for the purpose of only benefiting specific partner.

(3) A cooperative shall not be utilized for any specifical party.

4 ICA Statement on the Co-operative Identity

The Statement on Co-operative Identity was adopted at the 1995 General Assembly of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), held in Manchester on the occasion of the Alliance's Centenary. The Statement was the product of a lengthy process of consultation involving thousands of co-operatives around the world.

〈Definition〉

A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

〈Values〉

Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

〈Principles〉

The co-operative principles are guidelines by which co-operatives put their values into practice.

1. Voluntary and Open Membership

Co-operatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

2. Democratic Member Control

Co-operatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary co-operatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and co-operatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

3. Member Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their co-operative. At least part of that capital

is usually the common property of the co-operative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their co-operative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

4. Autonomy and Independence

Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their co-operative autonomy.

5. Education, Training and Information

Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

6. Co-operation among Co-operatives

Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

7. Concern for Community

Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

5 Inscription on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List

In November 2016, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) decided, after a proposal by Germany, to include the “idea and practice of organizing shared interests in cooperatives” on UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage list. Intangible cultural heritage is defined in the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage as “the practices, expressions, knowledge, skills, etc. that, transmitted from generation to generation, are constantly recreated by communities and groups.” The Intergovernmental Committee which decided the inscription praised a cooperative as an “association that allows for community building through shared interests and values creating innovative solutions to societal problems, from generating employment and assisting seniors to urban revitalization and renewable energy projects.”

Moreover, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations 70th General Assembly in September 2015 acknowledges the role of the diverse private sector, such as “cooperatives,” in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out in the agenda.

As described above, cooperatives are receiving increasing recognition from the international community. Cooperatives in Japan are also expected to further develop the idea and practice of cooperatives to pass them on to the next generation, through ceaseless efforts to produce effective solutions to problems faced by local communities and create better lives, work and community.

6 Japan Co-operative Alliance (JCA)

In Japan, 108.35 million people in total are members of cooperatives, and the cooperative industries that range from agriculture, forestry, fisheries, purchasing, finance, mutual insurance, job creation, welfare, medical care, travel, housing and so on.

In April 2018 Japan Co-operative Alliance (JCA) was organized in order that cooperatives work together with each other to solve various issues that they face and that the possibilities of their roles and functions expand in the region.

JCA’s predecessor, Japan Joint Committee of Co-operatives (JJC) was established in 1956 to promote collaboration among Japanese cooperatives. Since its inception JJC had carried out various cooperative activities both domestically and worldwide. In order to further these collaborative activities, JJC was reorganized into JCA.

With the object of contributing to the cooperative’s roles “better living and work creation in sustainable regions”, JCA has following three functions;

- (1) Promotion and Support for cooperation among cooperatives on the regional, prefectural, and national level
- (2) Advocating policies and public relations on cooperatives
- (3) Education, Research and Study on cooperatives

JCA pursues to expand collaboration among cooperatives at each stage of the region, prefecture and nationwide while making full use of JCA’s knowledge, information and networks of its various member societies.

Currently, JCA has over 550 organizations including national level cooperative organizations, Prefectural units of Agricultural Co-operatives and regional level various cooperatives. The JCIA joined JCA as the second-class member since JCA was founded.

PUBLISHER: JAPAN COOPERATIVE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

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PUBLICATION PRINTER/Otowa Printing Co.,Ltd.



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