

Umekita Future Innovation Organization (U-FINO)

Support activities as a concierge for innovation in Osaka and the Kansai Region

■ Purpose of Establishment

In order to realize the vision of the Umekita 2nd Project, which upholds “Life Design Innovation” as a theme for creating new industries, stronger industry-academia-government collaboration is required. Accordingly, the Umekita Future Innovation Organization (U-FINO) has been established, through public-private partnerships of the Kansai Economic Federation, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Osaka Prefecture, Osaka City, and Umekita Second Zone developers, as an organization that inherits knowledge and other things gained from the activities of the Promotion Committee and plays a central role in promoting the creation of innovation.

With the vision of establishing an ecosystem where new products, services, and businesses are created by bringing together information, people, technology, and other resources to the Umekita 2nd Project area to resolve social issues and create new industries, thereby promoting the creation of innovation in Osaka and the Kansai Region, U-FINO strives to connect various seeds and support resources and demonstrate the hub function that supports the commercialization of innovation, while sharing the networks, know-how, and other strengths of participating institutions, in order to enhance the ecosystem.

By collaborating with various initiatives, including those for the advance development area, through its activities, U-FINO contributes to the growth and development of the entire Umekita area as an innovation hub that will acquire new international competitiveness while promoting open innovation that transcends the boundaries of industry, academia, and government and contributing to creating new industries, promoting the attraction and exchange of international visitors, and developing human resources in the Kansai region as well as across Japan.

■ Main Activities

Taking advantage of the strengths of the private and industrial sectors as well as the government, U-FINO promotes efforts to realize a hub for Osaka and the Kansai region as a single organization comprising the public and private sectors.

■ Officers

Representative Director	Norio Nakazawa
Director	Souichiro Seki (Kansai Economic Federation)
Director	Setsuo Iuchi (Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry)
Director	Eijiro Obana (Osaka Prefecture and Osaka City)
Director	Toyonori Takahashi (ORIX Real Estate Corporation)
Director	Ryuichi Morotomi (Hankyu Corporation)
Auditor	Takatsugu Abe (Kansai Economic Federation)

■ Members

Mitsubishi Estate Co., Ltd., Osaka Gas Urban Development Co., Ltd., Obayashi Corporation, ORIX Real Estate Corporation, Kanden Realty & Development Co., Ltd., Sekisui House, Ltd., Takenaka Corporation, Hankyu Corporation

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