

Background to the abridged English-language version of *How Should We Adapt Climate Change Risks: Smart Adaptation for Businesses, Governments, and Grassroots Organizations*

The Environmental Issue Research Group, launched in 1993 by Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Insurance Inc. (former Yasuda Fire & Marine Insurance Company), has until now treated three topics—soil pollution, waste, and the precautionary principle—with a timely assessment of related social issues and potential solutions, and shared the research results with the world in the form of a book publication.

As our research topic for the period from May 2011 through December 2013, we chose "Climate Change: Adapting to Natural Disaster Risk."

As efforts to address global environmental issues through "mitigation" move forward, there is a likewise growing interest in and call for action on "adaptation" to climate change. We chose this topic of adaptation because it strongly linked to the property and casualty insurance business.

In February 2014, just ahead of the March 2014 IPCC meeting in Yokohama, Japan, we presented the results of this research with the release of a book entitled *Preparing for Climate Change Risk: Smart Adaptation for Businesses, Governments, and Grassroots Organizations*.

The present publication is an abridged English translation of the book, prepared for all stakeholders including overseas businesses who want to learn more about this pressing topic. We hope you will make the most of this valuable information.

Sompo Japan Nipponkoa Environmental Foundation
March 2015