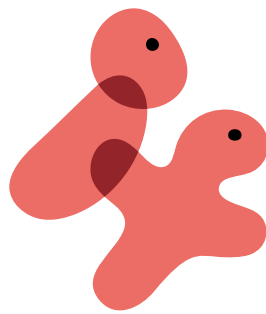


Inochi Declaration



INOCHI FORUM

October 11, 2025
Inochi Forum Council

INOCHI

This precious *Inochi*, an irreplaceable gift to us

Fragile, delicate, changing with time.

Every *Inochi* conceals a radiant light,

All are deeply intertwined.

Let us protect, nurture,

And bond with every precious *Inochi*,

Unleashing its hidden light.

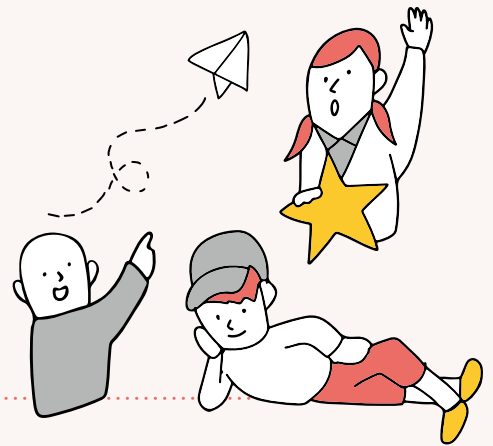
Discovering what it means to be alive,

And returning to *Inochi's* true origin.

**Inochi* is a Japanese term that signifies the sanctity of life. It goes beyond human existence to embrace the lives and ways of all living beings, emphasizing respect, individuality, and the celebration of potential.

1 Feel *Inochi*

Engage with people and nature and feel the essence of each *Inochi*. Sense the transience and vulnerability of *Inochi*, and, precisely because of that, appreciate its preciousness, joy, hidden brilliance, and value.



Declaration 1-1

Feel *Inochi* through art and draw forth the innate compassion within every individual.

Declaration 1-2

Feel the pain of those facing hardship and adversity, expand the circle of empathy, and create a society that leaves no one behind.

Declaration 1-3

Through nature, culture, and spiritual activities, cultivate the capacity to feel *Inochi* and sense its very origin.

2 Protect *Inochi*

Protect *Inochi* from various threats, particularly by facing and offering support to wounded and weakened *Inochi*, extending a helping hand and remaining close.



Declaration 2-1

Uphold the dignity of *Inochi* and break cycles of hatred to build a peaceful society.

Declaration 2-2

Establish mechanisms that foster mutual trust among citizens, ensuring a society where everyone can freely express their opinions and engage in activities.

Declaration 2-3

Develop disaster-prevention systems that function effectively in both normal times and emergencies.

Declaration 2-4

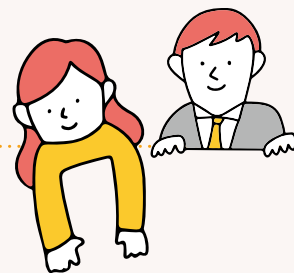
Establish sustainable systems for resource recycling and energy circulation to protect the Earth's environment.

Declaration 2-5

Leverage advanced technologies to realize life care that attends closely to individuals and families.

3 Nurture *Inochi*

Discover and harness the hidden power of diverse *Inochi* to live well and meaningfully. Build societal systems that extend the potential of each individual, and receive the blessings of nature in a sustainable manner.



Declaration 3-1

Overcome poverty traps through learning, eliminate discrimination and inequality, and create a society where everyone can live safely and meaningfully.

Declaration 3-2

Empower children and young people to freely express their thoughts and opinions and participate in decision-making processes.

Declaration 3-3

Share information from a citizen's perspective and, through consumption, investment, and daily choices, build a sustainable society.

Declaration 3-4

Through social enterprises and public policies, encourage mutual learning among residents and open up the future of local communities.



4

Bond *Inochi*

Overcome discrimination, prejudice, division, and realize a world without hostility. Promote coexistence with nature, recognizing that all share in one great *Inochi*. Connect *Inochi* from the past, through the present, into the future, and sustain this collective *Inochi*.

Declaration 4-1

From the perspective of *Inochi*, promote creative dialogue to overcome conflicts and divisions rooted in prejudices regarding nationality, ethnicity, race, and age.



Declaration 4-2

Foster connections and mutual learning across gender boundaries to build a society based on gender equality.

Declaration 4-3

Broaden safe spaces across communities where everyone can gather, connect, and find roles and purpose in life.

Declaration 4-4

Build networks across regions and affiliations to advance community building that cherishes *Inochi*.

Declaration 4-5

Encourage dialogue between business and society to establish an economic system of mutual support grounded in trust and shared aspirations.

Declaration 4-6

Raise awareness of our interconnectedness with nature and open pathways for living together with it.

5 Understand *Inochi*

Understand the essence of *Inochi*—what it is and where it is heading—not only through science, philosophy, and religion, but also through diverse experiences, and come to realize the meaning of being alive.

Declaration 5-1

Foster empathy for non-human *Inochi*, regard environmental issues as a personal concern, and take action.

Declaration 5-2

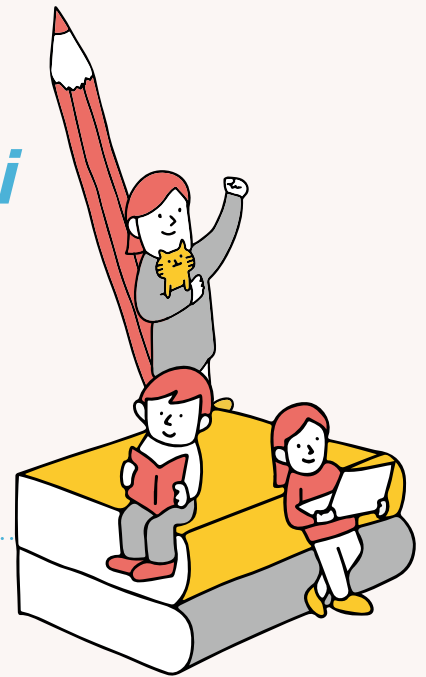
Utilize technology and games to expand circles of empathy and dialogue, and broaden learning spaces where the bonds of *Inochi* can be experienced.

Declaration 5-3

Re-examine the richness of *Inochi* and develop new indicators of value that capture culture, empathy, and connection with nature.

Declaration 5-4

Use both sensitivity and intellect to explore the meaning of *Inochi* and walk together toward the common good.



1. Background to the Establishment of the *Inochi* Forum

Inochi is a Japanese term that signifies the sanctity of life. It goes beyond human existence to embrace the lives and ways of all living beings, emphasizing respect, individuality, and the celebration of potential.

Since the modern era, the development of science and technology has fostered industrial growth, leading to continuous increases in GDP per capita, extended life expectancy, and more convenient and affluent consumer lifestyles. However, the pursuit of material wealth has given rise to various challenges that threaten the *Inochi* of humanity, other living things, and even the Earth itself.

The world population, which reached one billion in the mid-19th century, has grown explosively and is projected to exceed nine billion by 2050. On the other hand, countries such as Japan are experiencing population decline due to a decreasing birth-rate, accompanied by an aging population.

In response to these global trends, the United Nations adopted the “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” with a target for 2030. Under the slogan “Leave no one behind,” humanity is collaborating to tackle various challenges related to human security and planetary health, including environmental destruction, depletion of natural resources, energy and food shortages, the spread of infectious diseases, economic stagnation, inequality, poverty, conflicts, and wars.

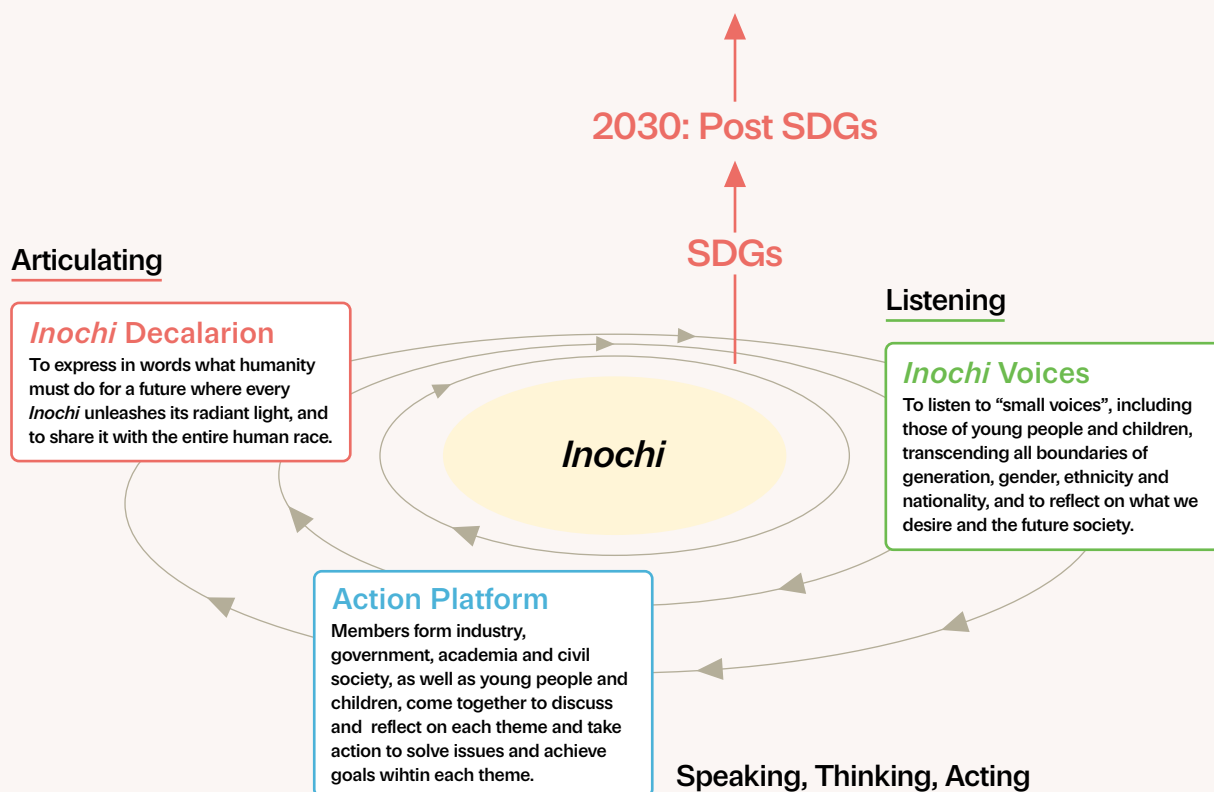
Entering the 2020s, humanity learned through the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the various conflicts and wars around the world, that anyone can become a person in need of help. Building on this experience, we must, under the spirit of the SDGs’ “Leave no one behind,” respect and support one another’s *Inochi* and engage in activities that make every *Inochi* unleash its radiant light.

In response to these concerns, on March 24, 2023, The University of Osaka, the Kansai Economic Federation, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Kansai Economic Association took the initiative to establish the *Inochi* Forum. The *Inochi* Forum serves as a platform to consider the essence of *Inochi* and what its radiant light means, fostering cross-boundary discussions and actions to ensure that every *Inochi* can unleash its radiant light. During the Expo 2025, Osaka, Kansai, Japan, the outcomes of the *Inochi* Forum activities will be presented to the world through the *Inochi* Declaration. After the Expo, the *Inochi* Declaration will serve as a new starting point to further expand the network of people’s thoughts and actions, initiating a global movement advancing the attainment of the SDGs by 2030 and formulating new goals beyond 2030. The ultimate aim is to realize a society where every *Inochi* unleashes its radiant light by 2050.

2. The Three Main Activities of the *Inochi* Forum

The main activities of the *Inochi* Forum are the “*Inochi* Voice,” “Action Platform,” and the *Inochi* Declaration. Each of these serves a distinct role: “Listening,” “Speaking, Thinking, and Acting,” and “Articulating.” The *Inochi* Forum is working in a circular pattern to build these activities.

2050: Society where every *Inochi* unleashes its radiant light



Three activities of the *Inochi* Forum

(1) *Inochi* Voices—Listening

First, we must listen to each other. We must hear the voices of those in vulnerable situations. It is not enough to only hear the voices of influential people; we must listen to the small, silent voices as well. Only by doing so can we truly achieve the SDGs’ goal of “leave no one behind.”

The *Inochi* Voices seeks to transcend the boundaries of age, gender, ethnicity, and nationality and hear the voices of all people, including young people and children. These voices are collected using tools such as surveys, as well as through representation in various forms, including drawings, videos, and other creative works. The *Inochi* Forum has posed the following questions to people both domestically and internationally:

1. What kind of society (or world) do you wish for?
2. Why is that?
3. What would you like to do to create such a society (or world)?

<https://inochi-forum.org/action-report/voice/questionnaire/>



(2) Action Platform—Speaking, Thinking, Acting

The Action Platform is a place where members from various sectors, including government, industry, academia, and civil society, as well as young people such as university students, high school students, junior high school students, and elementary school children, come together to discuss and think about themes related to the SDGs, as well as themes beyond the SDGs. These discussions are connected to actions aimed at solving or achieving the goals for each specific theme. Discussions have taken place under the following 12 themes:

1. Medical and Welfare
2. Education and Children
3. Economy, Employment, and Poverty
4. Urban Development and Disaster Prevention
5. Food and Agriculture
6. Diversity and Inclusion
7. Peace and Human Rights
8. Energy and Climate Change
9. Resource Recycling
10. Environment and Biodiversity
11. Arts, Culture, and Sports
12. SDGs + Beyond

For more details on the Action Platform, please visit our website.

<https://inochi-forum.org/action-report/action-panel/>



(3) *Inochi* Declaration—Articulating

Building on the activities of the *Inochi* Voices and Action Platform, the *Inochi* Declaration is the formal articulation of what humanity must do to ensure a future where every *Inochi* unleashes its radiant light. It is a declaration shared with all of humanity, reflecting the collective actions needed. The *Inochi* Declaration will be issued from the perspectives of “Feeling”, “Protecting”, “Nurturing”, “Bonding” and “Understanding” *Inochi*.

Under this framework, 135 individuals—primarily those who participated in the Action Platform and those who support the founding ideals and activities of the *Inochi* Forum—contributed drafts of 103 action plans looking toward 2050. These action plans have been compiled into a separate volume titled *Action Plans to Realize the Inochi Declaration* and are also available on our website.

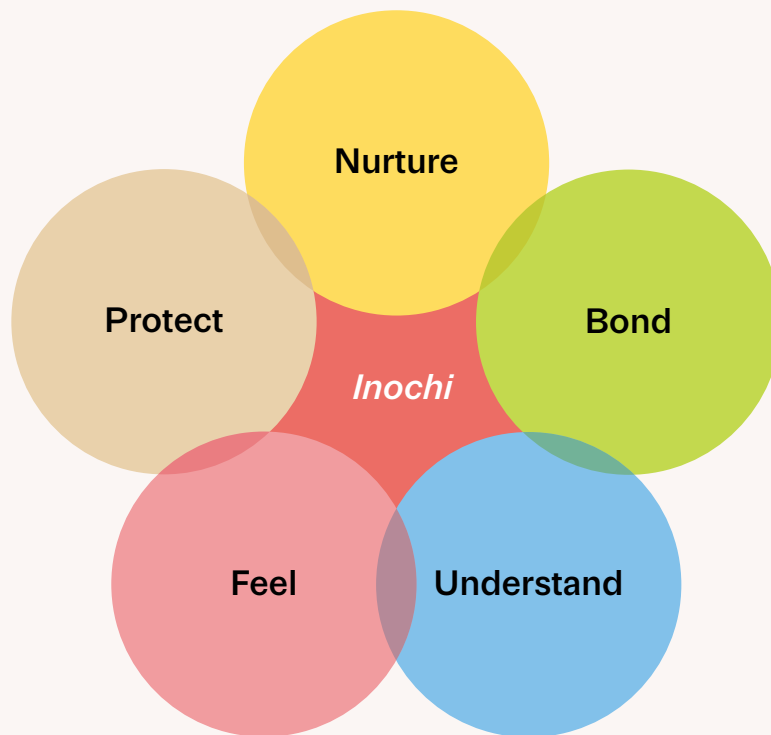
<https://inochi-forum.org/action-report/inochi-declaration/>



Additionally, the first sentence of the *Inochi* Declaration, which expresses the heartfelt spirit behind the Declaration, was set to music by Mr. Masahiko Hashimoto of the General Incorporated Association “Feel&-Sense” and became the theme song of the *Inochi* Forum titled “*INOCHI*.” This song can be listened to at the following QR code:

<https://inochi-forum.org/action-report/general-event/theme-song/>





Five Categories of the *Inochi* Declaration

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the drafting of the action plans for this Declaration, as well as to the many individuals who have supported the *Inochi* Forum in various ways since before its founding. With the thoughts and wishes of all those involved, we hereby issue this Declaration.

Looking ahead, the *Inochi* Forum will further expand its network to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs by 2030 and the development of new goals beyond, working together with more people to transform the world and open a path toward a future where every *Inochi* can unleash its radiant light.

We sincerely look forward to your continued engagement in co-creating this future, and we humbly ask for your ongoing support and cooperation.

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