

2. Deployment of a Car-Sharing Project

Kyushu Electric Power plans to deploy a car-sharing project, using low-emission vehicles such as electric vehicles. The project is a collaboration with Fukuoka City and environmental NGOs and bases its operation in Fukuoka City and its surrounding area. In the car-sharing project, an automobile driver becomes a member of the administrative organization, and instead of owning a car, uses one that belongs to the organization whenever necessary. The following benefits can be expected from the system:

1. Economical effects for the user from not owning a car
2. Mitigation of traffic congestion
3. Measures against air pollution and CO2 reduction



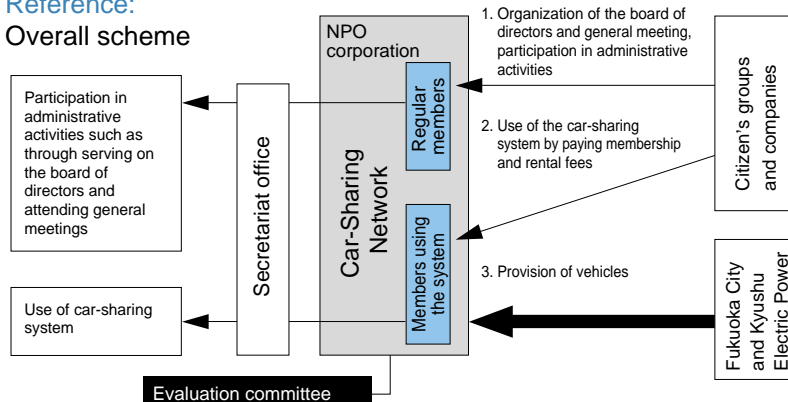
Test driving an electric vehicle within the premises of Kyushu University

A similar system has seen full-fledged business deployment in Europe, and its environmental benefits have been confirmed. However, it is still at the demonstration stage and has never been organized as a business in Japan.

Operational entity	NPO Car-Sharing Network (CSN)
Project period	Scheduled for October 2002-September 2005, however, the project may continue based on evaluation of the 3-year project
Project objectives	Awareness enhancement of global warming prevention and traffic issues Acquisition and collection of knowledge for the business model construction
Vehicles used	Approx. 30 electric, hybrid and other vehicles
Project characteristics	Japan's first collaboration between citizens' groups, a local government and a company Electricity from wind power generation is used for charging the electric vehicles through Green Power WIND certification (first such attempt in the world) Applications were accepted for the location of the charging stations
Kyushu Electric Powers cooperation	Contribution towards the expenses for about 20 electric and other vehicles Provision of expertise for electric vehicle demonstration and research Analysis of vehicle travel data

Reference:

Overall scheme



Press conference on the NPO corporation establishment (May 15, 2002)