



Press Conference President of JST

September 17, 2014

Japan Science and Technology Agency

The JST logo is a large, light blue graphic in the background. It consists of the letters 'JST' in a bold, sans-serif font. A blue swoosh or arc starts from the bottom left, loops around the 'J' and 'S', and ends at the top right. A red circle is positioned at the top of this swoosh, above the 'T'.

JST Action Plan 2014 Summary

Background

JST's Challenges to Japan's R&D innovation

- Promoting growth strategies by focusing on social issues and transdisciplinary technologies
- Strengthening basic research and personnel development in a mid-and long-term view in order to maintain global competitiveness
- Creating the best environment for S&T innovation in the world
- Enhancing the function of general headquarters for the implementation of STI policies

Expectations for JST

- Playing roles as a catalyst for realizing S&T innovation
- Building infrastructures for S&T innovation
- Making reforms in order to maximize research outcomes

Action

1. Reformation of R&D System

- Evolving the evidence-based methodology for setting up R&D projects, such as the encounter model between social wish and R&D areas
- Constructing industry-academia-government cooperation hubs (innovation hubs) at universities and R&D institutes
 - Implementing the 'Integrated System Research' in these open environments for actualizing an innovative system and service
- Proceeding the venture incubation through the Entrepreneurship Support Program
- Establishing the 'Office of International Strategy (tentative name)' and strategically promoting S&T diplomacy and Global Ecosystem formulation
- Effectively utilizing intellectual properties both internally and externally through licensing and in-kind contribution of intellectual properties with the 'System for Intensive Utilization of Important Intellectual Property' at the core
- Promoting the active recruitment of women and foreigners and creating such an environment with the 'Office for Diversity and Inclusion' at the core
- Preventing misconduct through the research integrity education

2. Reformation of R&D Programs

- Expanding its capability of cognoscente function and program management to maximize the research achievements from JST Strategic Basic Research Programs, such as PRESTO, CREST, ERATO, and etc.
- Reconstruction of the industry-academia collaborative program for the strategic bridging of top science achievements to the industry
- Realization of achievements from the Post-Disaster Reconstruction and Revitalization Matching Program and the expansion of this model, matching the regional needs and national seeds to other programs
- Promoting the globalization of R&D programs and accelerating international collaborative research, research exchange, and mobilization of researchers
- Substantiating the fundamental technology research program for cultivating Japan's manufacturing industry

3. Reformation of STI Infrastructure Program

- Establishing the cultivating program of research management human resources, such as PMs
- Promoting the human resources cultivation of young scientists, female scientists, and next-generation science and mathematics human resources in a comprehensive manner
- Centralizing a wide range of S&T information and actualize the Information Circulation Platform for R&D, S&T management, and S&T policy plotting
- Promoting efforts for the open access of academic journals and research data
- Reconstructing the 'Science Agora' for stimulating a wide range of communication between science and society (scientists, government, citizens, and etc.)
- Strengthening the future creation activities of Miraikan for the Science Center World Summit 2017 and Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games

4. Collaboration with Related Organizations

- Supporting the projects of the Cabinet Office, such as SIP and ImPACT, for their success
- Cooperation for the smooth establishment of AMED

5. Business Improvement

- Integrating information into the Cloud to strengthen information security and information sharing

6. Reformation of Evaluation System

- Reforming the evaluation system toward the establishment of the National R&D Agency and maximizing the research outcomes

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Points of Budgetary Requests for Fiscal Year 2015

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- ◎ Consistent with the “Japan reconstruction strategy for 2014” and “STI comprehensive strategies 2014” policies, JST aspires to significantly enhance Japan’s capabilities to create innovation by constructing the best R&D environment and personnel development.

■ Budgetary Requests for FY 2015 (Budget of FY 2014)

The below break down shows estimate amounts in the grant for operating expenses for FY 2015.

Total Operating Expenses	126.5 billion yen (124.7 billion yen)	<only general accounting>
Grant for Operating Expenses	123.4 billion yen (122.2 billion yen)	an year-on-year increase of 1.3%

* The FY2015 grant for operating expenses marks an increases of 23.5% over 99.9 billion yen, which is the amount after the estimated expenditure for the unification of AMED was deducted from the FY2014 grant for operating expenses.

Enhancing Japan’s Capabilities to Create Innovation

● Constructing Innovation Hubs 5 Billion yen (new)

Constructing open innovation hubs to open up opportunities to bring together people from industrial, academic, and ministerial sectors in collaboration with other R&D institutes by utilizing JST’s capabilities (of managing R&D, surveying technologies, and providing funds)

● Launching a Program for Cultivating Program Managers (PMs) 0.4 Billion yen (new)

Launching a program for hands-on training devoted to cultivating and acquiring PMs that will assume the responsibility of designing and implementing R&D projects that hold much potential for innovation

Creating Innovation by Utilizing Regional Resources

● Launching a Program for Promoting the Construction of a Regional Research Complex 4.3 Billion yen (new)

Based on a vision for the benefit of Japan’s future, constructing a large R&D site (a research complex) in which scientists from universities, R&D institutes, and corporations collaborate with each other to comprehensively perform R&D ranging from fundamental research to commercialization of research findings, and aspiring for practical applications of these findings before the rest of the world

● Matching Planner Program 2.7 Billion yen (new)

Designating matching planners to link a huge number of national seeds derived from universities, which are collected using JST’s network, to industrial needs in each region and providing support for the development of processes from collaborative research to the commercialization of said seeds .

Preventing Research Misconduct

● Action Toward Improving Research Integrity 0.1 Billion yen (new)

Developing and diffusing educational materials on research integrity and sophisticating research integrity education through workshops and symposiums, and offering advice on building a framework to prevent research misconduct at research institutes in collaboration with Japan Science for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED).