

**FY2011**

**International Collaborative Research Program  
Science and Technology Research Partnership for  
Sustainable Development (SATREPS)**

**Special Project Formation Investigation  
【 Feasibility Studies for Young Researchers 】**

**Application Guidelines  
(provisional translation)**

Research Partnership for Sustainable Development Division

Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

July 2011

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## 1 . OBJECTIVE

The Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) is conducting Special Project Formation Investigations as part of the SATREPS program. SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development) is a Japanese government program that promotes international joint research targeting global issues, working through projects involving partnerships between researchers in Japan and researchers in developing countries. The program is conducted through collaboration between JST and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The conventional project application and selection process receives many similar proposals, so it is desirable to discover and encourage the formation of project proposals based on a novel viewpoint or focus. It is also desirable to enhance the abilities of young researchers to work in a global context. For this reason, JST is experimentally conducting Special Project Formation Investigations for Feasibility Studies (FS) by examining research topics addressed by young researchers through the Friends of SATREPS online community (<https://fos.jst.go.jp/>). It is hoped that these feasibility studies will lead to SATREPS project applications next year or in subsequent years. Consequently, JST is soliciting proposals for feasibility studies.

Funding for the Feasibility Studies is provided independently by JST using Contract Research Agreements. There is no ODA funding available for these studies. Consequently, JICA is not involved in funding, and does not need to be party to any agreements.

More details about the SATREPS program and the application process for SATREPS research projects are available from the SATREPS website:

<http://www.jst.go.jp/global/english/index.html>

[http://www.jst.go.jp/global/pdf/koubo2011\\_en.pdf](http://www.jst.go.jp/global/pdf/koubo2011_en.pdf)

## 2 . ELIGIBILITY FOR APPLICATION

(1) The Principal Investigator (PI) making the application must be less than 45 years old, must be affiliated with a Japanese research institution, and must be able to accept external funding for research. The Japanese research institution must be a university, public-service corporation, or similar institution conducting research activities focusing on public benefit.

- (2) "Investigators" refers to researchers at the Japanese research institution (including the PI), researchers of the collaborating country, and researchers at other Japanese research institutions (including private sector corporations, etc.), and includes researchers specializing in other academic domains including humanities and social sciences.
- (3) Research fields and areas eligible for the feasibility studies include the established SATREPS research areas of environment & energy, bioresources, natural disaster prevention, and infectious disease control. In addition, applications can be made to conduct feasibility studies for research that merges or combines established fields, or even for research in new fields provided that they address global issues. Details of established research fields and areas are available at the SATREPS website:  
<http://www.jst.go.jp/global/english/research.html>
- (4) Eligible counterpart countries are the countries targeted for ODA technical cooperation listed in Appendix 1. (Omitted from this partial translation)
- (5) Each Principal Investigator (PI) may only make one application for this FS in FY2011

### 3 . APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

- (1) Applications will be accepted from Friday July 1, 2011. The prospective Principal Investigator (PI) first registers as a Friends of SATREPS member, then creates a Friends of SATREPS community for the purpose of discussing new project formation on Friends of SATREPS with his or her associates who are researchers in eligible counterpart countries. (The PI becomes the administrator of the new community.) The aim is to form a group of collaborative researchers who will use the community to discuss project formation. The collaborative research group must be a young team with at least half the researchers no older than 35 years old. Details of how to create a new community (application/approval process), and other guidelines on using Friends of SATREPS are available on the Friends of SATREPS website:  
[https://fos.jst.go.jp/guide/UserGuide\\_English\\_ver.1.pdf](https://fos.jst.go.jp/guide/UserGuide_English_ver.1.pdf)
- (2) At the stage when the Principal Investigator (PI) creates a community, a JST representative will apply to join the community using a special JST account. Please approve that application. Once that application to join the community is approved, a committee of external experts appointed by JST is able to access the community's pages using the special account to monitor progress of discussions as part of the review process for the feasibility study.
- (3) The prospective Principal Investigator (PI) summarizes the results of discussion by the community, and submits Project Formation Investigation proposal documents to JST through the e-Rad (Electronic System for Research and Development ) system. The deadline for applications is noon

(Japan time) on Friday, September 30, 2011. Guidelines for filling out proposal forms are given in Appendix 2, and guidelines for application through the e-Rad system are given in Appendix 3. Before making an application, the PI is requested to ensure the approval of the research institution he or she is affiliated with, including the approval of the institution's administrator(s) required to provide support for contract procedures if the application is successful.

(4) The review committee will select about 10 of the best feasibility study proposals from among the applications, and make reference to discussion in the community as part of their decision process. Selections will be made in mid-October 2011.

A step-by-step explanation of the application and selection process is given in Appendix 4.

#### 4 . REVIEW CRITERIA

(1) Has a Friends of SATREPS community been actively used for discussion between researchers in Japan and in the counterpart country?

- i) Are all the investigators participating in the community on Friends of SATREPS?
- ii) Are all the investigators actively involved in discussion in the community?
- iii) The community accepts the participation of people other than the investigators.

(2) Has an appropriate collaborative research group been formed? (Formation of a young group)

- i) At least half the investigators must be no older than 35 years.
- ii) The Principal Investigator (PI) must be less than 45 years old

(3) Is the collaborative research concept based on a new focus and does it meet SATREPS objectives?

(4) Is the Project Formation Investigation proposal appropriate?

## 5 . FEASIBILITY STUDY IMPLEMENTATION

- (1) For selected proposals, a Contract Research Agreement will be concluded between JST and the research institution to which the PI is affiliated. (Mid- to late-October, 2011).
- (2) JST will provide funding to the research institution to which the PI is affiliated for the purpose of covering the expenses (travel expenses, etc.) for a feasibility study leading to a practical research project concept.
- (3) The extent of expenses funded is envisaged to be about 3 million yen (including indirect costs) per project. The amount available may be subject to adjustment at the selection stage to ensure compliance with the overall budget.
- (4) Scheduling for feasibility studies assumes that they will be conducted between November 2011 and March 2012.
- (5) A Special Project Formation Investigation Implementation Report must be submitted to JST after the feasibility study is completed. Details of the format required will be sent by JST to the representative.
- (6) No preferential treatment can be given to the investigators of the selected FS projects if they apply for FY2012 or any subsequent SATREPS selection processes.

## 6 . PROVISION OF FUNDS FOR RESEARCH EXPENSES (Omitted from this partial translation)

## 7 . NOTES CONCERNING APPLICATION (Omitted from this partial translation)

APPENDIX 1. ELIGIBLE COUNTERPART COUNTRIES: COUNTRIES TARGETED FOR ODA TECHNICAL COOPERATION (Omitted from this partial translation)

APPENDIX 2. FILLING OUT PROPOSAL FORMS (Omitted from this partial translation)

APPENDIX 3. APPLICATION THROUGH THE E-RAD SYSTEM (Omitted from this partial translation)

APPENDIX 4. APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS STEP BY STEP

## Young Research Team Feasibility Study Application and Selection Process



### Step 1 Register as a Friends of SATREPS member

<https://fos.jst.go.jp/>

- The Principal Investigator (PI) must register for Friends of SATREPS to become a member.
- The PI must be younger than 45.
- \* The PI must be affiliated with a Japanese research institution conducting research activities focusing on public benefit, and must be able to accept external funding for research.



### Step 2 Create a new Friends of SATREPS community

- Create a community involving associates who are researchers in eligible counterpart countries. The aim is to make a successful application for a Young Research Team Feasibility Study.
- \* Give the community a name that begins with "FS" and submit the application to the secretariat.
- When the community is approved, a JST representative will apply to join the community using a special JST account. Please approve that application. Approving that application is considered a declaration of intent to make a feasibility study application.



### Step 3 Discuss project formation

- Start work on designing the project you hope to form.
- Invite or solicit additional collaborative research group members to build up the Friends of SATREPS community group.
- \* At least half the investigators must be no older than 35 years old.



Review committee monitors the progress of discussion.



### Step 4 Submit proposal documents through the e-Rad

- Summarize the results of discussion by the community
- Submit Project Formation Investigation proposal documents to JST through the e-Rad system

Deadline:  
Noon on Friday,  
September 30, 2011



### Step 5 Review and selection criteria

- Has there been active discussion in the Friends of SATREPS community?
- Is the group of research collaborators appropriate? (Are at least half the investigators no older than 35?  
Is the Principal Investigator (PI) under 45?)
- Is the collaborative research concept based on a new focus?
- Is the Project Formation Investigation proposal appropriate?

Mid-October, 2011



### Step 6 Start feasibility study

- Conduct the feasibility study from November 2011 to March 2012 (to be finalized)
- \* Conclude a Contract Research Agreement between JST and the research institution to which the principal investigator (PI) is affiliated

**【Inquiries】**

Inquiries should preferably be made by email, except when urgent.

Research Partnership for Sustainable Development Division

Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

Tokyo Headquarters (Science Plaza) 5-3, Yonbancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8666 Japan

E-mail: [global@jst.go.jp](mailto:global@jst.go.jp)

Tel: +81-3-5214-8085 (Mon.–Fri. 10:00–12:00 / 13:00–17:00\*)

\*Except for public holidays