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Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
5-3, Yonbancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

JST announces 10 new projects for FY2025 SATREPS program combines international joint research with ODA

The Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) announced the new projects provisionally selected*¹ for the Fiscal Year 2025 Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program (Appendix 1).

SATREPS is a science and technology diplomacy initiative that promotes international joint research using advanced science and technology from Japan in combination with Official Development Assistance (ODA). The program is a collaboration between JST, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA).

Based on the needs of developing countries, JST and JICA cooperate to promote international joint research targeting global issues with an objective of utilization of research outcomes*². Implemented through collaboration with ODA, the aim of the program is to acquire new knowledge and technology that lead to the resolution of global issues and the advancement of science and technology, and through this process, to create innovations. International joint research under this program also aims to enhance the research and development capabilities of developing countries, and helps create sustainable systems able to address and resolve issues. Also, SATREPS will actively correspond to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) *³ and contribute to the international community.

For FY2025, JST called for SATREPS project proposals from researchers in Japan in its three research fields—Environment and Energy*⁴, Bioresources, and Disaster Prevention and Mitigation—and began to accept proposals on August 20th, 2024. A total of 80 proposals were submitted by the close of applications on October 21st, 2024. The screening committee, composed of external experts, then reviewed the proposal documents and conducted interviews, including review from an ODA perspective, and provisionally selected 10 new projects, comprising seven projects collaborating with Asian researchers, one project with African researchers, one project with Latin American researchers, and one project with Oceanian researchers. Projects involving the Republic of Uganda, the Republic of Paraguay and the Solomon Islands were selected for the first time, bringing the total number of countries selected for SATREPS projects to 60 (62 including projects under administration of AMED).

SATREPS projects in the field of Infectious Diseases Control were transferred to AMED on April 1st, 2015, and are now conducted in collaboration between AMED and JICA.

***1 Provisional selection:**

Before formally starting a project, an international agreement needs to be concluded between MOFA and the government of the counterpart country regarding implementation of the project, followed by an agreement on the details of technical cooperation between JICA and the relevant institution in the country. However, the project may be unable to start in case that both sides do not reach agreement due to the reasons such as changes to the project name or the research details, shortening the research period or changes in the situation in the counterpart country. For this reason, the selection of these projects at this stage is considered to be provisional selection.

***2 Utilization of research outcomes:**

The research projects should lead to future social and economic benefits, achieved by using newly obtained knowledge and technology to enhance government services or to develop products that can be deployed in the market.

***3 The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):**

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit held in September 2015, the outcome document “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” with “the Sustainable Development Goals” as a core component was adopted as a new and more comprehensive world action agenda for people, planet and prosperity.

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>

***4 Environment and Energy:**

After the submission deadline, research proposals in the Environment and Energy research field will be allocated to one of two research areas (“Research contributing to the solution to global-scale environmental issues” or “Research on the sustainable use of resources and energy with a view to achieving carbon neutrality”) for screening. In principle, this allocation will be based on the proposer’s wishes, but depending on the content of a proposal it may be screened in a research area different from that requested by the proposer.

Links

AMED Press Release:

https://www.amed.go.jp/en/news/release_20250417.html

JICA Press Release:

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/information/press/2025/20250417_11.html

Appendices

Appendix 1: Provisionally Selected Projects for FY2025

Appendix 2: Results of the FY2025 Selection Process

Reference: Overview of SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development)

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Provisionally Selected Projects for FY2025

The following projects have been provisionally selected for FY2025. Within each field, projects are listed in alphabetical order of the project title. Project titles are based on the titles submitted by the researchers in the counterpart countries and may be modified as a result of further discussion between JICA and the counterpart country.

*[]: counterpart country

*(): Principal Investigator in Japan; affiliation

Environment and Energy

“Research contributing to the solution to global-scale environmental issues”

“Project for Implementing Water Quality Monitoring and Purification Technologies to Mitigate Health Risks for Antimicrobial Resistances (AMR) in the Dhaka Metropolitan Area”

[People's Republic of Bangladesh]

(Professor WATANABE Kozo; Division of Ecosystem Health Sciences, Center for Marine Environmental Studies, Ehime University)

“The Project for Big Data Platform for Water Environment Monitoring and Data-Driven Policy Implementation”

[Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka]

(Professor KAZAMA So; Graduate School of Engineering, Tohoku University)

“The Project for Development of Digital Network Platform for Integrated Modelling to Assess Grassland and Gobi Desert Ecosystem Resilience against Climate Change and Human Activities”

[Mongolia]

(Professor NAGAI Masahiko; Center for Research and Application of Satellite Remote Sensing, Organization for Research Initiatives, Yamaguchi University)

Environment and Energy

“Research contributing to the sustainable use of resources and energy with a view to achieving carbon neutrality”

“The Project for the Conversion of Weeds and Crop Residues into Organic Fertilizer and Electricity for Agriculture Production in Mine Clearance Areas in Banan district, Battambang Province in Northwestern Cambodia, by Introducing of Rumen Hybrid Methane Fermentation System”

[Kingdom of Cambodia]

(Associate Professor BABA Yasunori; Research Institute for Bioresources and Biotechnology, Ishikawa Prefectural University)

“The Project for Regional BCG Economy and Carbon Neutrality with Hydrothermal-Based Biorefinery for Coastal Ecosystem”

[Kingdom of Thailand]

(Professor KIDA Tetsuya; Institute of Industrial Nanomaterials (IINa), Kumamoto University)

Bioresources

“Research contributing to sustainable production and utilization of bioresources”

“The Project for Development and Promotion of Sustainable Perennial Rice Production System Using Multiple Crop Harvesting Technologies”

[Republic of Uganda]

(Professor SAKAGAMI Jun-Ichi; Faculty of Agriculture, Kagoshima University)

“The Project for Implementation of a Comprehensive Sweet Potato Seedling Management System for National Food Security”

[Solomon Islands]

(Associate Professor MAEJIMA Kensaku; Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo)

“The Project for Mitigation of Wheat Blast by Integrated Pest Management”

[Republic of Paraguay]

(Associate Professor IKEDA Kenichi; Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Kobe University)

Disaster Prevention and Mitigation

“Research contributing to disaster prevention and mitigation towards social sustainability”

“The Project for Improvement of Inundation Forecast to Develop Flood Resilient Society under Climate Change”

[People’s Republic of Bangladesh]

(Professor TERAOKA Toru; Faculty of Education, Kagawa University)

“The Project on Integrated Risk Assessment and Digitalised Community-based Early Warning System for Landslides and Debris Flows in Central Vietnam: Harnessing Remote Sensing Technologies and Evaluating Mitigation Measures with Cost-Benefit Analysis in Hue”

[Socialist Republic of Viet Nam]

(Professor WAKAI Akihiko; Graduate School of Science and Technology, Gunma University)

Results of the FY2025 Selection Process

Environment and Energy:

- **3 projects** out of 22 proposals (after screening) for Environment and Energy “Research contributing to the solution to global-scale environmental issues”
- **2 projects** out of 11 proposals (after screening) for Environment and Energy “Research contributing to the sustainable use of resources and energy with a view to achieving carbon neutrality”

Bioresources:

- **3 projects** out of 32 proposals for Bioresources “Research contributing to sustainable production and utilization of bioresources”

Disaster Prevention and Mitigation:

- **2 projects** out of 15 proposals for Disaster Prevention and Mitigation “Research contributing to disaster prevention and mitigation towards social sustainability”

Overview of SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development)

1. Objectives of the program

The Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) program is a collaboration between two Japanese government agencies: the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Based on the needs of developing countries, JST and JICA cooperate to promote international joint research targeting global issues*¹ with an objective of utilization of research outcomes*². Implemented through collaboration with Official Development Assistance (ODA), the objectives of the program are to acquire new knowledge and technology that lead to the resolution of global issues and the advancement of science and technology, and through this process, to create innovations. International joint research under this program also aims to enhance the research and development capabilities of developing countries, and helps to create sustainable research systems able to address and resolve issues.

***1 Global issues:**

Issues that are difficult to be resolved by a single country or region acting on its own and that need to be handled by the international community as a whole.

***2 Utilization of research outcomes:**

The research projects should lead to future social and economic benefits, achieved by using newly obtained knowledge and technology to enhance government services or to develop products that can be deployed in the market.

2. Outline of the program

(1) Research Areas and Fields

- Environment and Energy
“Research contributing to the solution to global-scale environmental issues”
- Environment and Energy
“Research contributing to the sustainable use of resources and energy with a view to achieving carbon neutrality”
- Bioresources
“Research contributing to sustainable production and utilization of bioresources”
- Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
“Research contributing to disaster prevention and mitigation towards social sustainability”

(2) Research Period

3-5 years

(3) Expenses Covered

- Research expenses (JST budget)
Approximately 35 million yen per year per project (including indirect expenses)
(Total research expenses covered during a five-year project: maximum of 175 million yen)

-ODA (JICA budget)

(Travel expenses between Japan and counterpart countries, travel expenses to invite researchers from counterpart countries, equipment procurement, on-site research activity costs, etc.)

Approximately 60 million yen per year per project

(Total ODA provided during a five-year project: maximum of 300 million yen)

3. Countries and projects to date

A total of 193 international joint research projects in 60 countries*³ have been conducted as SATREPS projects in Environment and Energy, Bioresources, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, and Infectious Disease Control*⁴ since the project commencement in FY2008.

*³ The numbers of countries and projects do not include research projects in the field of Infectious Disease Control that were selected by the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) for FY2015 and thereafter. Including projects in the field of Infectious Disease Control that were selected by AMED for FY2015 and thereafter, a total of 214 projects have been conducted in 62 countries.

*⁴ SATREPS projects in the field of Infectious Diseases Control were transferred to AMED when it was established on April 1st, 2015. Projects that had terminated before that date were not transferred.