

Invitation to Science Agora 2015 10th anniversary

Instructions for submitting exhibitions
or symposia proposal



Science Agora



Japan Science and Technology Agency

Tentative Timeline

Mon 1 Jun at noon (JST)	: Deadline for proposals submission
Rest of Jun	: Review of the proposals
Tue 30 Jun	: Decisions will be announced
Late Jul–Early Aug	: Briefing and preview for organizers : Distribute organizer’s manual
Fri 29 Aug	: Website of Science Agora 2015 opens
Wed 30 Sep	: Program and pre-registration opens
Fri 13- Sun 15 Nov	: Science Agora 2015
Mon 30 Nov	: Recorded contents available on website

Call for proposals to the 10th anniversary Science Agora 2015

In this November, Japan Science and Technology Agency hosts Science Agora (Science Agora 2015), which is the biggest general science event in Japan together with wide range of stakeholders in science.

This year is the 10th anniversary for Science Agora, which started in 2006. In these 10 years, we have experienced the Great East Japan Earthquake and had many opportunities to rethink relationships between science and society, and yet the stakeholders in science (scientists, business people, policymakers, media people and general public) are still working in each silo and have insufficient concern for each other. How can we build future society with science? A foundation for interactive activities by dialogue, working together and making decisions as independent self-motivated activities have not been matured yet. The reality arise our sense of danger and this is the reason we definitely need an occasion like Science Agora.

In modern society with science, there are many people who have compelling motivations for their actions. How can we recover our society struck by earthquake? How can we maintain resources, foods and energies in a sustainable way? How can we overcome social burden of a low birth rate and an aging population? How can we adapt to and mitigate global warming and infectious disease? How can we configure future education? We would witness various activities striving after better society in which diverse people work together. These collaborative activities breaking the silos are really encouraging.

Therefore, in 2015, we decided to pay much stronger attention to “activities being actually taken” than ever before.

We would like to develop Science Agora as an arena for people on the move to get together and exchange ideas, sympathies, and become partners for the development of each of their activities. Furthermore, these activities presented at Science Agora would engage or inspire people to take their own actions activities.

We are waiting for your proposals to Science Agora 2015 so that we can share your activities. Your activities can visualize the very current status of science and society. We need genuine experience getting bigger value throughout mutual learning from each activity. We are eager to learn from you.

The organizers have ambitions to make Science Agora as a fountain of values for society. We are looking forward to seeing you in Odaiba in this November.

Michiharu Nakamura
President, Japan Science and Technology Agency

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1 . Overview

1 . 1 Objective

§What is Science Agora?

“Science Agora” is an open arena for people from different sectors aiming at future society consistent with science. Aggregated at this arena are independent self-motivated activities connecting people among different areas, sectors, and of different generations and nationalities. Science Agora is a platform for people to gather and build a future society in which science inherently roots through collaborations with mutual respects for diverse values.

* The word "Agora" is Greek for "gathering place"

§Expectation for the 10th anniversary Science Agora 2015

The 10th anniversary Science Agora 2015 is raising attention to make itself a platform for “co-producing value” through good science communications among multiple stakeholders in society.

For this objective, we categorized the stakeholders of Science Agora 2015 to five sectors (i.e. Policy makers, Scientists, Business people, Media people, and General public) and try to meet various needs of them as exemplified in table 1.

Table1 Envisioned expectations

Sector	Expectations as contributors	Expectations as an attendees
Policy makers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get voices of other policy makers, scientists, business people, media people, general public for the policies operated or prepared and get useful insights, new sympathies and partners ▪ Offer to help understanding of policy for scientists, business people, media people, and general public ▪ Offer to help career developments of young people who pursue career as policy makers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get useful insights, new sympathies, partners from scientists, business people, media people or general public for the policy making practice of their own ▪ Develop their own career making use of the experiences in the policy making field
Scientists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get voices of other scientists, policy makers, business people, media people and general public for their researches and get useful insights, new sympathies and partners ▪ Offer to help understanding of scientific issue for other scientists, business people, media people, and general public ▪ Offer to help career developments of young people who pursue career as scientists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get useful insights, new sympathies, partners from other scientists, for their own research (trans-disciplinary) ▪ Get useful insights, new sympathies, partners from policy makers, business people, media people, and general public for their own research (trans-sectoral) ▪ Develop their own career making use of the experiences in the science field
Business people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get voices of other business people, scientists, policy makers, media people and general public for their business and get useful insights, new sympathies and partners ▪ Offer to help understanding of business issue for other business people, scientists, media people, and general public ▪ Offer to help career developments of young people who pursue career as business people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get useful insights, new sympathies, partners from other business people, scientists, media people or general public for the business of their own ▪ Develop their own career making use of the experiences in the business field
Media people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get voices of other media people, scientists, policy makers, and general public for their activities and get useful insights, new sympathies and partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Get useful insights, new sympathies, partners from other media people, scientists, business people or general public for their press report ▪ Develop their own press report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer to help understanding of media issue for other media people, scientists, business people, and general public • Offer to help career developments of young people who pursue career as media people 	career making use of the experiences in the media field
General public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get voices of other general public, scientists, policy makers, business people, and media people for their activities and get useful insights, new sympathies and partners • Offer to help understanding of original issue of their activities for other general public, scientists, business people, and media people • Offer to help career developments of young people who pursue career in civil activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get useful insights, new sympathies, partners from other general public, scientists, business people or media people for their civil activities • Develop their own career making use of the experiences in the civil activities field

1. 2 General vision of Science Agora

We promote Science Agora 2015 under the following vision, which defines the future Science Agora

Let us build society harmonized with science

1. 3 Topical issues in Science Agora 2015

We set following three topical issues in Science Agora 2015. These are hot topics of the year 2015 based on the perception of the times.

(We also accept proposals not related to those issues.)

- ① The on-going evolution of humanities in view of the “Light” –From primitive age to atomic era-

This is the International Year of Light (IYL) proclaimed by the UN General Assembly 68th Session. We could obtain new sight looking back the progress of humankind through “Light”. In primitive age, fire torch in dark granted power to humankind. People have utilized “Light” in the fields of astronomy, telecommunication, new energy as well as art and experienced

joys and sorrows.

Let us consider our future through “Light”. We call for activities presenting new perspectives in our society.

② Shall we discuss “Cyber-society”?

How does the “Cyber-society” we are facing look like? Our daily life is inevitably affected by technology developments. We are forced to make decisions on how we would like to reform our industries, societal systems, and livelihoods.

This year, National Identification Number will be granted to each citizen of Japan, so it is a right time to discuss and take our collaborative actions with the perspective of Cyber-society. We call for activities looking ahead of a structural transformation of our society with insightful ideas or philosophies.

③ Building our society 2020 –The destination of the 5th S&T basic plan-

How will the society in 2020 look like? Shall we think about situations (e.g. recovery from earthquake disaster, Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, etc.) in Japan in 5 years’ time?

Next year, the 5th Science and Technology Basic Plan for FY2016 to FY2020 will be adopted in a Cabinet meeting. This year is the right time to call for various activities committed to build a new society with science under the significant globalization and the dramatic advancement of science and technology.

1. 4 General Information on Science Agora 2015

Date: 10:00-17:00, Fri 13, Sat 14, Sun 15 November, 2015

Host: Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

Co-hosts (TBC):

Science Council of Japan; National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology; Tokyo Metropolitan Industrial Technology Research Institute; Japan Student Services Organization; Tokyo Academic Park; Tokyo Rinkai Fukutoshin Group; Fuji Television

Supporters (TBC):

Cabinet office; Ministry of education, culture, sports, science and technology; National museum of nature and science; Japan society for the promotion of science; RIKEN; Japan aerospace exploration agency; Japan agency for marine-earth science and technology; Japan atomic energy agency; National astronomical observatory of Japan; Tokyo waterfront urban development committee; Japan Business Federation; Science museum; Tokyo metropolitan board of education; Saitama prefecture board of education; Kanagawa prefecture board of education; Chiba prefecture board of education; National association of science education at junior high schools; Japanese council of science museums; Japan science museum association; Japanese association of science & technology journalists; Japanese association for science communication; Japanese society for science and technology studies; The Japan Society of Applied Physics; The Chemical Society of Japan (24 parties)



Venue: Odaiba area, Tokyo

2. Instruction for the proposal

2. 1 Estimated number of acceptable proposals

About 120 proposals will be accepted.

Booth type: about 85

Session type: about 35

2. 2 Eligibility criterion

Any individual, group, organization or corporation is eligible. A corporate status is not mandatory. If the proposed contribution(s) will be presented under the name of a group, organization, or corporation, it has to be approved by the group, etc. The right to propose and withdraw a contribution belongs to the individual in case the proposal is under the name of this individual. If the proposal is under the name of a group, organization, or corporation, the right belongs to the group, organization, or corporation rather than the individual who wrote the proposal.

2. 3 Acceptable dates for the contributions

Acceptable dates for the contributions are following two dates.

Sat 14 November 10:00-17:00

Sun 15 November 10:00-17:00

* On Fri 13 November, contributions will be mostly from the Host (JST), including the Opening Session (although some of the contributors may be asked to join on Fri 13 November.) Therefore, we call for proposals for the above-mentioned two days. Allocation of each accepted contribution will be designed by the Science Agora 2015 Secretariat. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

2. 4 From your proposal to acceptance

(1) Call for proposal

- We call for proposals of your contributions via website. (In case you have a difficulty filling in forms in Japanese, please use the attached excel file.)

<http://www.jst.go.jp/csc/scienceagora/>

DEADLINE: Fri 1 June at noon, Japan Standard Time

- Proposals will not be accepted after the deadline.
- Proposals will not be accepted via postal mail.

(2) Announcement of acceptance

- All proposals will be reviewed by members of promotion committee of Science Agora 2015 and decision will be made concerning the capacity of venue and allocations of contributions.
- Announcement of decisions will be made by the end of June.
- Allocation of each accepted contribution will be designed by the Science Agora 2015 Secretariat.

(3) Notification

- The contents described in the proposal are crucial to the reviewers' understanding of your proposal. Please describe your proposal in detail as much as possible.

2. 6 The type of contributions

We categorized possible contributions in the types shown in the table 3.

Table3. The expected type of contributions

Type	<u>Session Type</u> Talk sessions, symposia etc. with time table occupying certain meeting room.	<u>Booth Type</u> Whole day presentations, e.g. display, exhibition, posters, experiments, or manual trainings, at the allocated booth from opening until closing time of the day.
Variations	<u>Symposium, Talk Session</u> <u>Dialogue-style workshop,</u> <u>Science Café,</u> <u>Science Show,</u> <u>Performance,</u> <u>Demonstration,</u> <u>Others</u> You can propose your ideas in a type unclassified in the variations above	<u>Poster presentation</u> <u>Exhibition, Demonstration,</u> <u>Explanation</u> <u>Experiment, Craft work,</u> <u>Others</u> You can propose your ideas unclassified in the variations above
Given unit	<u>Standard Time</u> <u>3 hours</u> 1hour for preparation, 2.5 hours for the session, and 0.5 hour for clearing	<u>Standard Size of a booth</u> <u>3m x 4m</u> You can apply for up to two booths
Slots	<u>10:00-17:00, Sat 14 Nov,</u> <u>10:00-17:00, Sun 15 Nov</u>	<u>Sat 14 Nov</u> <u>Sun 15 Nov</u>

2. 7 Items which need to be consulted in advance

Please make consultation and get permission from the Secretariat in advance if you plan to use any of the items listed below.

- (a) Using fire, heating, deleterious substance, dangerous substance (e.g. liquid nitrogen), water
- (b) Accessing to electricity (more than 100V, 1000W)
- (c) Using living matter
- (d) Collecting attending fee
- (e) Presenting foods or beverages
- (f) Selling goods
- (g) Generating big sound, strong light, or strong odor etc.
- (h) Using broad band internet access (there is a free Wi-Fi in Odaiba area but it might not be fast enough)
- (i) Using a dark room

2. 8 Notification

(1) Safety control

- There should be someone who is in charge of safety control during each contribution.

Each contribution has to be accompanied with at least one staff (or more). The Host, JST, has no responsibility for the accidents or trouble caused by any of the contributions.

(2) Preparation and clearing

- You need to plan preparation from 9:00 to 10:00, and clearing from 17:00 to 18:00 for the booth type contribution.
- You need to plan 1 hour for preparation, 2.5 hours for the session, and 0.5 hour for clearing for the session type contribution.
- Detailed instruction manual will be provided after acceptance of your proposal.

(3) Pre-registration

- You can make pre-registration website in advance.

(4) Request for cooperation to our recording of the Science Agora 2015

- The Host will make records (movies, photos) or be live-streaming (films and texts) on site via several medias.

- If you invite people to your contribution, please share our recording policy with them and get approval for the cooperation to the recording.

(5) Request for cooperation to our research

- Please cooperate to the questionnaire or post forum study run by the Host as much as you can.

(6) Request for understanding for the allocation of your contribution

- Accepted contributions are allocated to a specific venue by the Science Agora 2015 Secretariat and will be requested flexible adaptation including change of the contents of your contribution. We thank you in advance for your kind understanding and cooperation.

(7) Preclusion

- We will not receive any proposals containing any of the points as listed below.

- ① Contributions for the purpose of profit making
- ② Contributions for the political, religious enforcement
- ③ Exclusive contributions aiming at specific parties, affiliates
- ④ Contributions that considered not to be feasible
- ⑤ Contributions that is not appropriate for Science Agora

(8) Others

- We may pick up some contributions for VIP tours or press conference
- Please plan in advance how to transfer all waste of your contribution outside your venue.

2. 9 A charge for use of space

There will be no charge for use of space in the venue. All materials, equipment (except attached desks, chairs, microphones etc. of each room), travel expenses, workforce have to be afforded all by contributors.

2. 1 0 Insurance

The Host will buy accident insurance for all the participants.

3. Review of Proposals

3. 1 Review and announcement

All proposals will be reviewed by promotion committee members of the Science Agora2015. About 120 contributions will be accepted. We may ask for your flexibility to change your contributions in case of necessity.

Decisions made will be announced to all applicants by the end of June.

We will confirm details your contributions after the decisions. Once your contribution has been accepted, any change to the contribution must be approved by the Host.

3. 2 Reviewing criteria

All proposals are reviewed based on the following criteria.

A Substance of the proposal

Proposals that aim at the certain concrete goal for the contributors rather than the single-shot event prepared for the Science Agora 2015 are very welcome. Proposals aiming at new ideas, sympathies, and partners will be scored high. Reviewing criteria for the substance of the proposal are listed below.

Relevance to any of the topical issues (see 1.3) is not a reviewing criterion. We call for proposals from wide range of interests.

(1) Proposals should address issues which have relevance to the society. Proposals should be made in a view of the better society with science and technology. Concrete and clear proposals will be scored high.

(2) Proposals should address issues which are closely related to the science and technology.

Proposals should include development or utilization of science and technology. High-impact and timely proposals will be scored high.

(3) Proposals should be proactive

Theme of the activities which drive the proposal should be self-motivated. Concrete and inevitable proposals (the activities are necessary regardless of the Science Agora 2015) will be scored high.

(4) Proposals should value a sustained relationship with diverse stakeholders

Proposals should value relationship among diverse stakeholders. Activities including stakeholders from wide range of fields, generations, sectors, nationalities are scored high.

(5) Proposal should disseminate its outcomes widely to the public.

All contributions to the Science Agora 2015 will be published through various media. Therefore, all contributions should be able to be open to the public. You need to disclose not all of the substances but at least the essence of your contributions.

B Feasibility of the proposal

All proposals should be organized smoothly with necessary organization, logistics and workforces. Proposals with enough explanations of safety and concrete procedures will be scored high.

4. Others

4. 1 Privacy policy

We will use your personal information under the privacy of JST.

<http://www.jst.go.jp/EN/privacy.html>

4. 2 Contact information

(1) If you have any questions, please inquire via email to the Science Agora 2015 Secretariat.

Email: agora@jst.go.jp

(2) If you have urgent inquiry, please contact via telephone.

Tel: 03-5214-7625

Science Agora 2015 Secretariat:

Dr. Kazuyoshi Shimada, Emi Kaneko (Ms.), Tomoko Suzuki (Ms.)

Center for Science Communication

Japan Science and Technology Agency