START
Program for Creating STart-ups from Advanced Research and Technology
Program for Creating STart-ups from Advanced Research and Technology (START)

This is a program designed for creating start-ups utilizing human resource units ("Project Promoters") with commercialization expertise, with public funds for R&D (research and development) and business development and private commercialization expertise. Starting from the pre-startup stage of ventures originated in universities and other research institutions, this program will follow the new enterprise through to market viability. That will develop business and intellectual property strategies for technology seeds with high potential. Further, it strives for commercialization of such projects, considering their markets and exits. By doing so, we aspire to realize the return of research outcomes of the projects to society and establish a sustainable innovation model to be used as Japan’s model.

1. Project promoter units and researchers units to form a team, including human resource experts such as entrepreneurs and intellectual property professionals to formulate R&D and commercialization plans that are most suitable for technical seeds (commercialization concept).

2. The team conducts project management, R&D, and business training, based on market needs (pre-ventures).

3. We aim to attract private funds through founding ventures originated in universities and other research institutions with high corporate value and implementing projects (entrepreneurship and acquisition of venture capital funds).

A Framework for the Program for Creating STart-ups from Advanced Research and Technology (START)

START connects project promoters and researchers from universities and others and supports R&D and business development. It consists of "project promoter support type," which supports activities of project promoters and "project support type," which supports projects at universities and other institutions.

● Research outcomes = Value
● Excellent research human resources
● Commercialization expertise
● Intellectual property strategy expertise
● Venture capital funds (investment)
● Networks of human resources for science and technology and business

Life Science
Agriculture
Environment / Energy
Nanotechnology / Materials
Telecommunications

Establishing Japan’s Innovation Ecosystem Where Society Utilizes "Knowledge" Such as Found in Universities and Other Research Institutions

Japan Science and Technology Agency

Universities and others institutions

Project promoters

Creation of ventures

Link technology with human resources
Support R&D and business development
We formulate business plans under project management by project promoters from the pre-startup stage, build intellectual property strategies and business strategies, and strive for commercialization of projects with consideration of markets and exits.

**Image of Project Implementation**

Collaboration and cooperation between project promoters and researchers

- Proposal of technology seeds
- Select technology seeds
- Develop business models
- Promote R&D and commercialization integrity
- Create ventures

**Flow Prior to Project Kickoff**

**STEP1: Apply for technology seeds**
Submit the first application form describing the desired project promoters by researchers at universities or other institutions.

**STEP2: Select promising seeds**
Upon receiving the first application, the project promoters will narrow down promising seeds based on their own commercialization policy. Technical evaluation by project promoters
Implementation of due diligence

**STEP3: Apply for a commercialization plan**
If project promoters determine that there is a possibility of commercialization, the business development policy and R&D system are further examined with the researchers to prepare the second application form. Researchers at universities and other institutions may be approached for submission of materials, etc.
Prepare the 3rd application form
Submit the 3rd application form

**STEP4: Project assessment**
We conduct project assessment (such as interviews) and determine whether to support the project, based on the submitted second application.

**STEP5: Project kickoff**
After the adoption of the proposal, the R&D expenses are granted at the university or other institution, and the project starts under the management of the project promoter.

**System Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose of support</th>
<th>R&amp;D for business start-up and commercialization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicable institutions</td>
<td>Institutions correspond to any of the following: national, public, and private universities; national, public, and private institutes of technology, Inter-University research Institute Corporation; and Independent Administrative Institutions (including National Research and Development Agency).</td>
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<td>Fields for application</td>
<td>Entire fields that are expected to grow in the future.</td>
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<td>R&amp;D period</td>
<td>1 to 3 fiscal years in principle.</td>
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<td>R&amp;D expense (direct expense)</td>
<td>From 30 million yen to 50 million yen/year, depending on the R&amp;D period (both are the maximum amount).</td>
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**Contact Information**

Department of Industrial-Academic Collaboration START Group
K's Gobancho, 7, Gobancho, Chiyodaku, Tokyo 102-0076, Japan
TEL: 03-5214-7054 E-mail: start@jst.go.jp
http://www.jst.go.jp/start/en/

For an outline of support of SCORE, please refer to Page SC-4.

**A Sustainable Japan's Innovation Model**

Universities, research institutions, and venture capital companies are promoting further enhancement and reinforcement of various kinds of support for founded ventures towards building an innovation model where they foster the founded ventures and obtain a high return to further enhance their own commercialization support.
The Number of Adopted Projects and Performance in Commercialization

**Project support type**
- Second application
- Application status

**Application status by region**
(Cumulative total for the period from FY 2012 to FY 2018):
- Kanto region: 41
- Chugoku region: 4
- Okayama region: 7
- Kinki region: 21
- Tokyo region: 10
- Tohoku region: 12
- Shikoku region: 1
- Kyushu region: 14

**Amount of External Funds Raised**
- More than 9 billion yen
  - External funds of 100 million yen or more: 37%
  - (Grand total for 43 companies)

**Ratio of establishment of ventures in the final projects (86 projects)**
- 50%
  - (43 ventures)

**List of Founded Ventures**
- [List of ventures from FY 2012 to FY 2018]

**Founded Ventures**
- Adopted projects in FY 2012
- Adopted projects in FY 2013
- Adopted projects in FY 2014
- Adopted projects in FY 2015
- Adopted projects in FY 2016
- Adopted projects in FY 2017

**The number of founded ventures ventures (by year of establishment)**

**Ratio of establishment of ventures in the final years**
- FY 2017: 50%
- FY 2016: 50%
- FY 2015: 50%

**List of Founded Ventures**
- [List of ventures from FY 2012 to FY 2018]