



Weekly Wire
East Asia and Pacific
National Science Foundation Tokyo Regional Office
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JAPAN: JFY2013 Supplemental S&T Budget

Of the total JFY2013 supplemental budget of Yen 5,495.6 billion (\$549.6 billion), the allocation to S&T programs is Yen 428.6 billion (\$4.3 billion).

Major investments will be made as follows:

- ImPACT (Impulsing PARadigm Change through Disruptive Technologies) program: Yen 55 billion
- Space infrastructure: Yen 27.1 billion
- Innovative technologies in agriculture, forests, and fisheries: Yen 10 billion
- Decontamination-related programs: Yen 47.9 billion
- New business development programs: Yen 10.2 billion
- R&D on promising industrial technologies: Yen 10.7 billion
- Health and medical strategies: Yen 21 billion

By-ministry the breakdown is as follows:

JFY2013 S&T Supplemental Budget by Ministry and Agency (UNIT: Yen Billion)

Cabinet Secretariat	10.7
Reconstruction Agency	38.1
Police Agency	0.8
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC)	1.5
Ministry of Justice (MOJ)	1.3
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)	206.3
Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare (MHLW)	4.6
Ministry of Agriculture, Forests, and Fisheries (MAFF)	13.0
Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI)	144.2
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MLIT)	3.8
Ministry of Environment (MOE)	4.3
Ministry of Defense (MOD)	0.0
TOTAL:	428.6

Note: This is a summary translation of an article on the Cabinet Office website.

JAPAN: JFY2014 S&T Budget Proposal

Of Japan's proposed total JFY2014 budget of Yen 95.88 trillion (\$958.8 billion), science and technology budget will be Yen 3.62 trillion (3.8%). The NSF Tokyo Office will soon produce an independent report memorandum on the JFY2014 S&T budget.

JAPAN: Japanese Version of NIH

The outline of the so-called Japanese version of NIH is becoming clearer. The new health-related funding organization will have the following personnel and budget in JFY2014 (April 2014-March 2015):

Personnel (about 300 members): 7 members involved in health-related projects from the Ministry of Health, 4 from the Ministry of Economy and Trade, 42 from the Japan Science and Technology Agency, 10 from RIKEN, 28 from the National Institute of Biomedical Innovation, and 11 from the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (total 102) will move to the Japanese version of NIH. Additionally, about 200 will move to the new organization from companies and universities to become their program directors.

Budget: Yen 44.2 billion (MEXT), Yen 20.8 billion (JST), Yen 49.6 billion (MHLW), Yen 2.8 billion (NIBIO), Yen 10.8 billion (METI), and Yen 10.1 billion (NEDO) will be shifted to the new organization (total Yen 128.2 billion = \$1.3 billion). The size of the industry sector funding is not known yet.

Note: This is a summary translation of an article on the Cabinet's Health & Medical Strategy Office.

JAPAN: Program Directors for Strategic Innovation Promotion (SIP) Program

The Council for S&T Policy (CSTP) has selected 10 Program Directors (PDs) for its cross-ministerial SIP program that will begin in JFY2014 as a 3-5 year program. CSTP will soon hold a symposium where the 10 PDs will present their research plans. The plans will then be in a final form at the end of March 2014 (before the first day of JFY2014). Led by CSTP's investment of Yen 500 million (\$5 million), other S&T ministries will share the rest of the SIP budget of Yen 51.7 billion (\$517 million). Further details, including when and how the proposal call will be made, will be reported in the future NSF Tokyo Office Weekly Wires based on the development of the cross-ministerial discussions.

Note: This is a summary translation of an article on the Cabinet Office website and phone interviews with the Cabinet Office members.

JAPAN: Council for S&T Policy (CSTP) Fellow

The Cabinet Office will establish an "S&T Policy Fellow" system. The Cabinet Office that serves as the secretariat for CSTP currently has six full-time associate professors. The new fellow system will enable up to 10 assistant professors from all over the nation to work for the Cabinet Office for any period between three months and two years. The fellowship experience will be an advantage at the time of evaluation at the fellows' universities. The system is expected to train young researchers in broadening their S&T policy knowledge and management abilities.

Note: This is a summary translation of an article in Nihon Keizai Newspaper – 1/7/2014

JAPAN: Super Global Science High School

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) will establish a "Super Global High School" program in JFY2014. MEXT has been facilitating a 5-year Super Science High School (SSH) grant since 2002 that is provided to the high schools focusing on science education. MEXT added "Global" to the conventional SSH program to encourage high schools' efforts to make their science activities international.

Note: This is a summary translation of an article on the MEXT website.

AUSTRALIA: Scientists Concerned About Funding Cuts

The Government announced that it will cut A\$103 million (US\$91.5 million) from the nation's key independent research granting body, the Australian Research Council. The cut will further limit its capacity to fund fundamental and applied research, when the success rates for world class grants bids are already below 25%.

<http://scienceandtechnologyaustralia.org.au/in-the-media/scientists-concerned-about-arc-funding-cuts/#more-1411>

KOREA: First International Conference on Science and Technology for Society

The 2013 International Conference on Science and Technology for Society held in Seoul was attended by more than 300 people, including government officials and industry and university members. R&D policies and technologies for solving social issues were introduced, and discussions were held on desirable directions for technological development. Speakers included Yasushi Watanabe from Japan's Research Institute of S&T for Society and Robert Ries from the University of Florida.

http://www.kaist.edu/english/01_about/06_news_01.php?req_P=bv&req_BIDX=10&req_BNM=ed_news&req_VI=4671&req_PC=10&req_CG=&sCATE=&sCHAR=



NEW ZEALAND: 2014 Contestable Science Investment Round

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)'s Science, Skills and Innovation Group is inviting proposals via the MBIE portal for applications for: High value manufacturing and services; Biological industries; Energy and minerals; Environmental; Health & Society Research; and Request for Proposals for Smart Ideas.

<http://www.msi.govt.nz/get-funded/research-organisations/2014-contestable-science-investment-round/>

SINGAPORE: S&T Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with South Korea

Singapore's A*STAR and the Korea Health Industry Development Institute (KHIDI) signed an MOU for Science and Technology Collaboration in Biomedical Sciences. The collaboration includes talent exchange and development and facilitation of commercialization of joint projects. The \$5 million A*STAR-KHIDI Joint Research Fund will make the first grant call in 2014. Student exchange programs are also being planned.

<http://www.a-star.edu.sg/Media/News/Press-Releases/ID/1971/Singapore-Republic-of-Korea-Ink-Memorandum-of-Understanding-for-Science-Technology-Collaboration.aspx>