

New scheme for strategic basic research promotion / Science and Technology Agency.

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Wellcome Centre for Medical Science

New Scheme for Strategic Basic Research Promotion

November 1995

Science and Technology Agency

1. Purpose of the scheme

In order to establish "Science and Technology Oriented State" and to accumulate intellectual assets that are indispensable for technological innovation and new industries, it is important to strengthen creative basic research.

Science and Technology Agency (STA) is going to launch a new policy measure for strategic basic research utilizing governmental investment system through public corporation for the reinforcement of basic research in Japan.

2. Characteristics

- a. To pick up strategic research fields aiming at the 21st century.
- b. To invite public applications for searching researchers' original ideas.
- c. To establish research scheme open to all researchers from universities, national and public research institutes, and so on.

3. System

- a. name of scheme : JRDC Strategic Basic Research Promotion System
- b. organization in charge : Research Development Corporation of Japan (JRDC)
- c. budget for FY 1995 : 5.1 billion yen
budget requested for FY 1996 : 15 billion yen
- d. duration of each research theme : around 5 years
- e. budget per theme : 100 to 200 million yen per year

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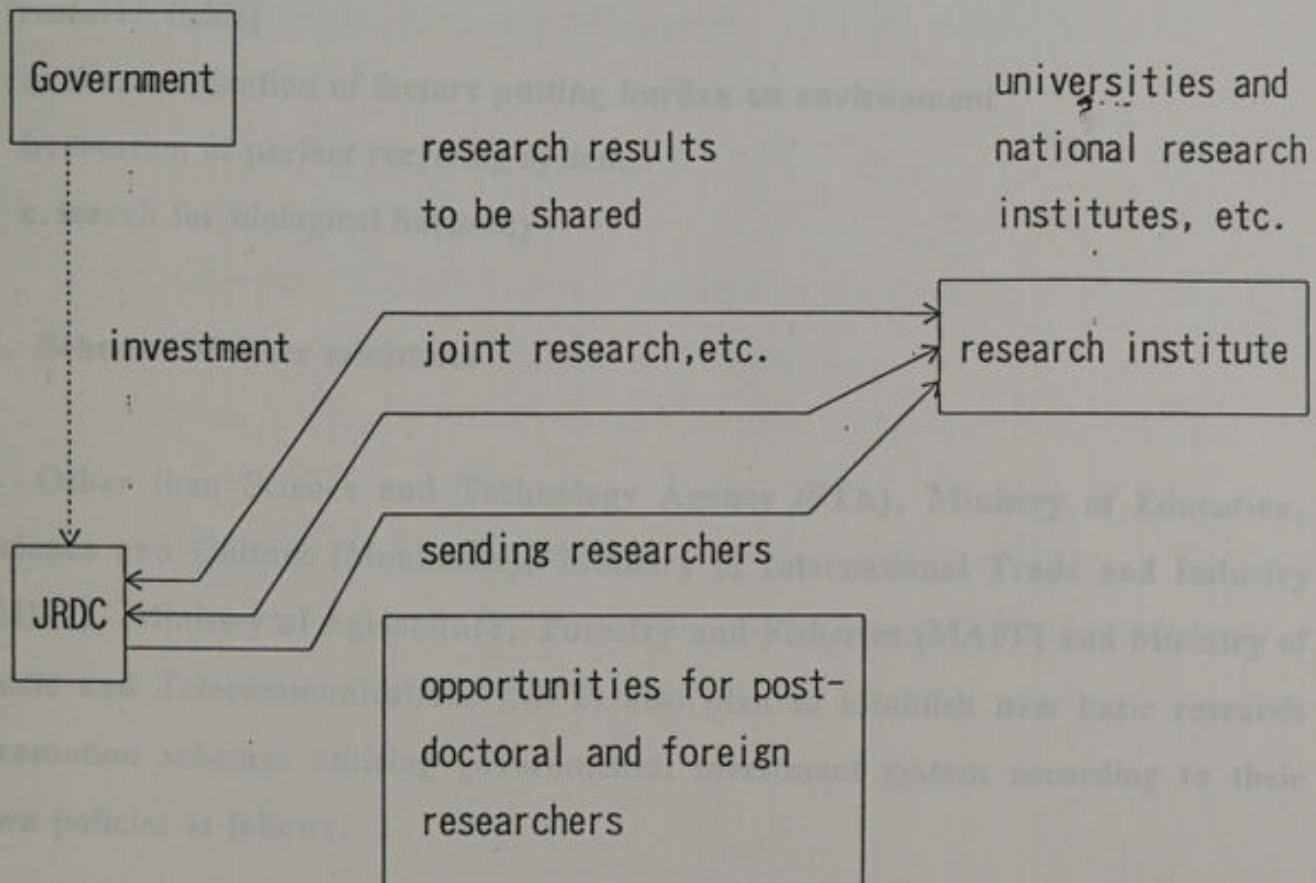
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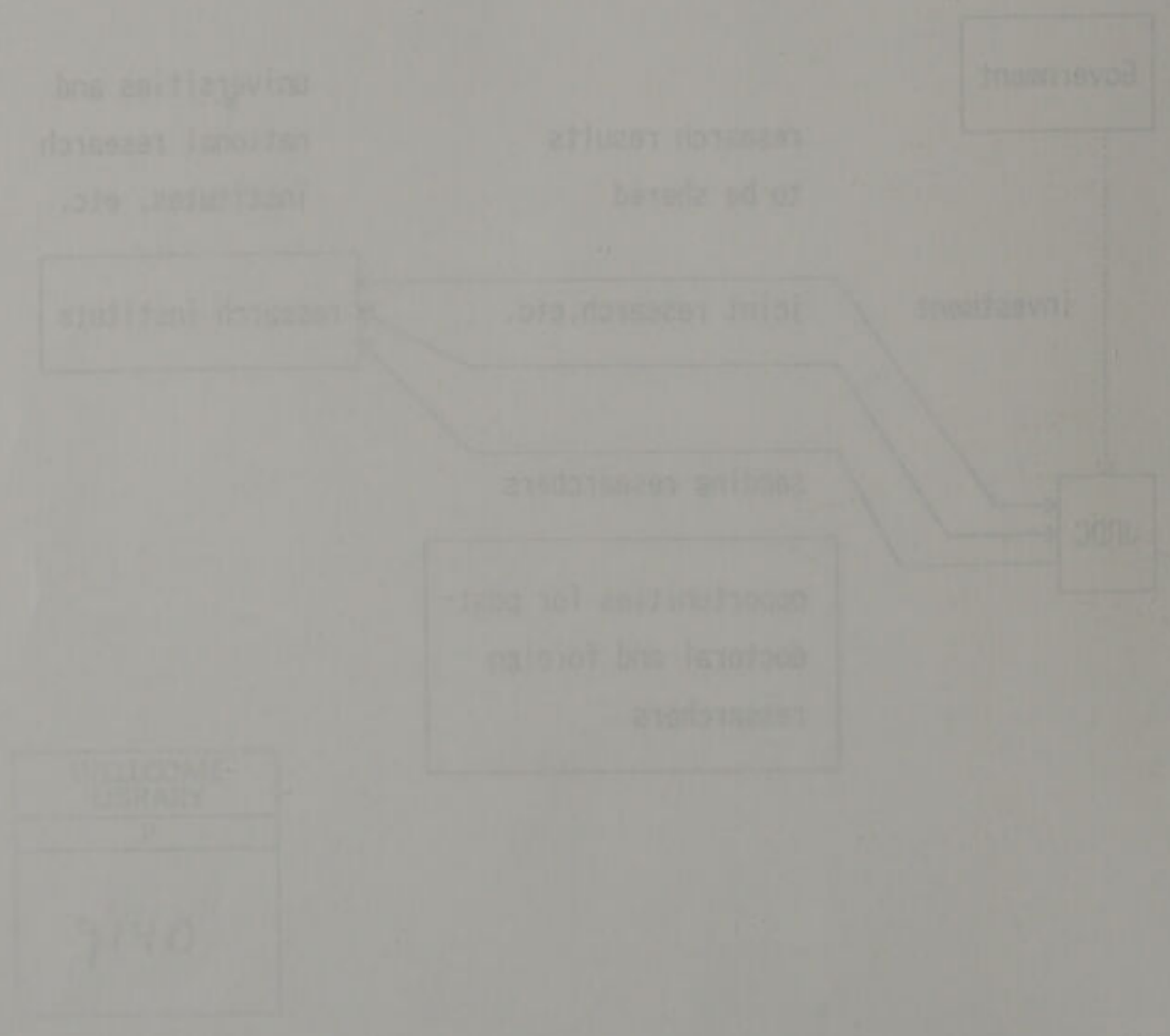
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- f. To accumulate research results to both JRDC (Research Development corporation of Japan) and research institutes by carrying out joint research.
- g. To send post-doctoral and foreign researchers to research institutes to meet the demands of the institutes.
- h. To hold an international workshop once a year and to assess the obtained research results.

4. Image of the scheme



1. To accumulate research results to both JIRC (Research Development Corporation of Japan) and research institutes by carrying out joint research.
2. To send post-doctoral and foreign researchers to research institutes to meet the demands of the institutes.
3. To hold an international workshop once a year and to assess the obtained research results.
4. Image of the scheme.



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5. Examples of research fields

Challenge to unknown fields

[research fields]

- a. life science phenomena
- b. phenomena in microscopic field
- c. phenomena in extreme environment

Realization of environmentally low burden system

[research fields]

- a. characterization of factors putting burden on environment
- b. creation of perfect recycling system
- c. search for biological harmony

6. Schemes of other ministries

Other than Science and Technology Agency (STA), Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (Monbusho), Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT) also plan to establish new basic research promotion schemes utilizing governmental investment system according to their own policies as follows.

(1) Monbusho

- a. name of scheme : JSPS Programme for the Promotion of Scientific Research with a view to Creating Intellectual Resources
- b. organization in charge : Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
- c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 11 billion yen
- d. outline : academic research led by universities to acquire intellectual assets aiming at the 21st century

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- b. organization in charge : Japan Society for the Promotion of Science with a view to Creating Intellectual Resources
- a. name of scheme : 15th Programme for the Promotion of Scientific Research

(1) Measure

own policies as follows.

promotion schemes utilizing governmental investment system according to their fields and Telecommunications (NTT) also plan to establish new basic research (NBT), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) and Ministry of Science and Culture (Mashuhoh), Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Ministry of Science and Technology Agency (STA), Ministry of Education.

B. Schemes of other countries

- c. search for biological harmony
- b. creation of perfect recycling system
- a. characterization of factors putting burden on environment

Realization of environmentally low burden system

[research fields]

- c. phenomena in extreme environment
- b. phenomena in microscopic field
- a. life science phenomena

[research fields]

Challenge to unknown fields

2. Examples of research fields

- e. selection of theme : selection through committee under the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, such as University-Industry Cooperative Research Committee

(2) MITI

- a. name of scheme : Innovative Industrial Technology R&D Promotion Program
- b. organization in charge : New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO)
- c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 2.7 billion yen
- d. outline : creative research and development for technological innovation
- e. selection of theme : open to public application

(3) MAFF

- a. name of scheme : Basic Research Programs for the Creation of New Agro-Related Technics and Industries
- b. organization in charge : Bio-oriented Technology Research Advancement Institution
- c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 2 billion yen
- d. outline : basic research to promote advanced utilization of biological function
- e. selection of theme : open to public application

(4) MPT

- a. name of scheme : System for the Basic Research in the field of Info-Communications
- b. organization in charge : Telecommunications Advancement Organization of Japan (TAO)
- c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 0.5 billion yen
- d. outline : research and development of information and communication technology
- e. selection of theme : open to public application

e. selection of theme : open to public application
d. outline : research and development of information and communication technology
c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 0.5 billion yen
b. organization in charge : Japan (TAO)
a. name of scheme : System for the Basic Research in the Field of Information and Communication Technology Advancement Organization of Japan (TAO)

e. selection of theme : open to public application
d. outline : creative research and development for technological innovation
c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 2.7 billion yen
b. organization in charge : New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEED)
a. name of scheme : Innovative Industrial Technology R&D Promotion Program

e. selection of theme : open to public application
d. outline : basic research to promote advanced utilization of biological function
c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 2 billion yen
b. organization in charge : Bio-oriented Technology Research Advancement Institution
a. name of scheme : Basic Research Program for the Creation of New Agricultural Techniques and Industries

e. selection of theme : open to public application
d. outline : basic research to promote advanced utilization of biological function
c. budget requested for FY 1996 : 2 billion yen
b. organization in charge : System for the Basic Research in the Field of Information and Communication Technology Advancement Organization of Japan (TAO)
a. name of scheme : System for the Basic Research in the Field of Information and Communication Technology Advancement Organization of Japan (TAO)

7. Establishment of "Ad-hoc committee on the new scheme for basic research promotion supported by public corporations"

(1) "Ad-hoc committee on the new scheme for basic research promotion supported by public corporations" is established, which is composed of scholars, under the Council for Science and Technology, the supreme organization of the Japanese science and technology policy.

(2) A working group is set up to improve the collaboration among the related ministries and agency concerning policy implementation on their new schemes.

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