

# Promotion of R&D in Prioritized Areas

The sectoral promotion strategy formulated by the CSTP divides R&D into eight fields. Four of these have been designated as the four priority fields to be promoted: Life sciences, Information and communications, Environmental sciences, and Nanotechnology/Materials. These will receive a prioritized allocation of resources; the other fields to be promoted are Energy, MONODZUKURI technology, Social infrastructure and Frontiers. Work was carried out with the assistance of numerous experts to achieve thoroughness in focusing of resources and to make clear where concentrated investments should be made. These deliberations resulted in the selection of 273 essential R&D subjects, each of which were allotted specific R&D goals. In addition, 62 strategically prioritized S&T areas that fit one of the following three criteria were selected from the essential R&D subjects as targets for concentrated investment over the next five years. The main R&D subjects selected for prioritized action during the 3rd S&T Basic Plan were as follows: **1) S&T selected to resolve social issues immediately; 2) S&T to win in international competition; 3) S&T as a key technology of national importance (Key Technologies of National Importance).**

The CSTP monitors the extent of success achieved with the R&D goals set and, when necessary, flexibly changes or revises the essential R&D subjects and strategic prioritized S&T.



H-IIA launch vehicle (courtesy of JAXA)

## The CSTP mainly address following R&D subjects for the 3rd S&T Basic Plan period.

### Life Sciences

The CSTP promotes R&D that will help to enable the public to lead long and healthy lives. It also responds to infectious diseases, ensures food safety, improves Japan's self-sufficiency in foods, and strengthens the industrial competitiveness. This R&D includes post-genome research into the analysis of protein structure and proteome, translational research to effectively apply the fruits of basic research to medical care and the development of medicine, research into cancer and infectious diseases, and R&D related to food production and supply. The CSTP will also endeavor to promote understanding public of genetically modified crops.



Trenia produced with a state-of-the-art biotechnology (courtesy of the National Agriculture and Food Research Organization)

### Information and Communications

Aiming to achieve a ubiquitous society that can attract whole of the world, the CSTP promotes basic research such as next generation super computers, application and verification R&D such as next generation networks, devices, and robots, and R&D in areas into the future, such as automated voice translation.



Automated voice translation (courtesy of Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International/National Institute of Information and Communications Technology)