

Achieving an Improved, Enhanced, and Clearly Defined S&T Budget

The CSTP promotes a variety of activities designed to establish strategic priorities for S&T to ensure that truly important research and development efforts are implemented and major achievements are produced, and that these achievements benefit both the society as a whole and people.

The CSTP seeks to improve the quality of policy. The mechanism used to accomplish this goal is the PDCA cycle, which consists of four stages (Plan, Do, Check,

and Action). The CSTP also works to improve and enhance the S&T budget, which is seen as an investment in the future, so that it is ever more clearly defined. In FY2007 and thereafter, the CSTP will further promote its selection and concentration efforts such as the prioritization of resources allocated for strategic prioritized S&T, and strengthen measures aimed at achieving more clearly defined S&T-related budgets.

Major steps in the process of finalizing the government budget proposal

Decision of "Resources Allocation Guideline for S&T Budget" for the following fiscal year (June).

Estimation of budget request from relevant ministries and agencies.

Priority-setting for S&T programs.

Evaluation of nationally important R&D.

Finalization of "Toward the Formulation of the S&T Budget" for the following fiscal year.

Finalization of government budget proposal (December).

[Relevant efforts]

Comprehension of S&T activities conducted by independent administrative institutions and national universities, and the publication of opinions offered regarding those activities.

Use of the government R&D database to eliminate illogical overlapping of research fund allocation and excessive concentration of research funds.

Strengthening cooperation and coordination across the ministries and agencies through the S&T Projects Coordination Program.

Conceptual diagram of the PDCA Cycle

P (Plan)

S&T Basic Plan (3rd Plan: FY2006 - 2010).
Sectoral promotion strategy (careful selection of strategic prioritized S&T).
"Resources Allocation Guideline for S&T Budget" and other opinions and recommendations of the CSTP.
Priority-setting for S&T policies.

D (Do)

Overall coordination by the CSTP and improvement of cooperation between ministries and agencies.
Budget requests from ministries and agencies and execution of policy.
Steady implementation of Science and Technology Basic Plan.

A (Action)

Review and improvement of policy by ministries and agencies.
Thorough selection / concentration and enhanced strategic priority-setting.
Reflection in new activities by the CSTP.

C (Check)

Evaluation of nationally important R&D.
Check and elimination of the illogical overlapping of research-fund allocation and excessive concentration of research funds.
Follow-up activities for S&T Basic Plan.