



Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program

Pioneering the Future: Japanese Science, Technology and Innovation

What is the Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP)?

The Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP) is a national project for science, technology, and innovation, spearheaded by the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation as it exercises its headquarters function to accomplish its role in leading science, technology and innovation beyond the framework of government ministries and traditional disciplines. And it addresses the most important social problems facing Japan, as well as contribute to the resurgence of the Japanese economy.

The 1st period of SIP had been promoted 11 themes from 2014 to 2018 (Cyber-security for Critical Infrastructure has been promoting from 2015 to 2019) and, the 2nd period of SIP started in 2018 has been promoting 12 themes. Each research program is led by one of the experienced and talented program directors (PDs) who are responsible for end-to-end focused research and development, facilitating coordination among government, industry and academic entities. These directors have been charged with guiding their projects from basic research to practical application and commercialization, and ultimately to a clear exit strategy.

Background

Science, technology, and innovation are core drivers of Japan's economic resurgence and sustainable growth. The Council for Science, Technology and Innovation has, under the leadership of the Prime Minister of Japan and the Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, promoted planning and coordination for comprehensive basic science, technology and innovation policies, taking a bird's eye view of Japan's entire science and technology

landscape. To enhance the headquarters function of, the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation, the Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP) was established. Together with the Public/Private R&D Investment Strategic Expansion Program (PRISM) and the Moonshot R&D Program, the SIP has been promoted as a strategic R&D program regarding the Integrated Innovation Strategy.

Promotion of strategic R&D using the headquarters function of the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation

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The Council for Science, Technology and Innovation takes the lead in allocating budgets that cross the traditional framework of government ministries and disciplines. The Council promotes innovation along the entire path from basic research to effective exit strategies (practical application/commercialization), as well as taking on initiatives to reform regulations and systems.

Features of the SIP Program

- ▶ The Council for Science, Technology and Innovation selects projects that **answer critical social needs and offer competitive advantage to Japanese industry and the economy.**
- ▶ Promote **cross-ministerial, multidisciplinary** efforts through **the industry, academia, and government collaboration.**
- ▶ Promotes focused, end-to-end research and development, from **basic research to practical application and commercialization.** Utilizes regulations, systems, special wards, government procurement, etc. Significant for international standardization.
- ▶ **Intellectual property management system** facilitating strategic corporate use of research results.
- ▶ **Reform regulations** in such areas as international standards, intellectual property strategy, and support for startups.

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The PRISM was set up in 2018 with the aim of directing R&D measures of ministries and agencies to the "R&D investment target areas" in expectation of significant effects on the induction of private R&D investment for expanding public and private R&D investment and streamlining the efficiency of financial spending.

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For creating disruptive innovations, the Moonshot Research and Development Program promotes challenging R&D rather than improving conventional technologies. It aims at realizing fascinating and ambitious missions and gathering the wisdom of researchers all over the world, and discovers and cultivates innovative research results while tolerating failures.