

Promotion of “The e-ASIA Joint Research Program”

Akira Nakanishi
Director, Department of International
Affairs
Japan Science and Technology Agency



Objectives

- Accelerate intercommunication of people, goods, money, and wisdom in Science and Technology with Asian countries under the “East Asia Science & Innovation Area” Initiative.
- Solve common issues to realize an innovative and robust economy and society in the region through international joint research and capacity building.
- Consider formation of an Asian research community through a joint funding program.

Program Overview

*Formally inaugurated at the 1st Board meeting held in Singapore on June 28, 2012.

*2 Thai-Vietnam-Japan pilot projects are approved.

< Joint Research by Matching Fund >

Participating Organizations in particular projects provide **equivalent amounts of financial support** from their respective countries.

< Research Fields >

Common issues within the region.

(The fields related to **Biomass and Plant Science***, **Nanotechnology / Materials Science***, **Infectious Diseases and Disaster Prevention** are promising fields for cooperation.) (* 1st Pilot Joint Call fields)

< Operation >

Joint operation . (call for proposals, review, management, evaluation)



Founding Members

- a) Lao PDR: Ministry of Health (MOH)* / Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)*
- b) Thailand: National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA)*
- c) Viet Nam: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)*
- d) Myanmar: Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)*
- e) Indonesia: Ministry of Research and Technology (RISTEK)
- f) Philippines: Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
- g) Malaysia: Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)
- h) Japan: The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)*

*Organizations with *(asterisk) have already deposited their Letter of Intention (LoI) with JST. Others are under internal processing.

Future Milestones

2nd Board meeting to be conducted: TBD

2nd Joint Call to be started: November 2012

e-ASIA JRP Symposium to be held: December 2012



Challenges to be Addressed

<Framework>

- Participation of more countries, especially China, South Korea, Singapore and USA.
- Integrating and collaborating with existing opportunities to invite Ph.D students from partner countries to Japanese universities, as well as providing job opportunities to post doctoral fellows who participate in joint research activities at Japanese research institutions.

<Implementation>

- Coordination among the Members in order to conduct calls for proposals (different fiscal calendar, different national priorities, different mindsets about “competitiveness” of calls).
- Assimilation of the Members with financial difficulties for more active participation.

