



Weekly Wire
East Asia and Pacific
National Science Foundation Tokyo Regional Office
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AUSTRALIA: Plan for STEM

Australia's Chief Scientist Ian Chubb prepared a plan for a strategic approach to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The plan states that Australia's education system needs to better prepare students for a world bound to STEM work; government-funded research must lead to a continuous flow of new ideas; there need to be greater links between business and researchers; and alliances must be built with other countries. The plan will be sent to the government.

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/1794631/Aust-needs-proper-plan-for-science-Chubb>

JAPAN: JFY2014 S&T Budget Guidelines

The Council for Science and Technology Policy (CSTP) announced the JFY2014 S&T budget guidelines. The budget will prioritize the Action Plan for important S&T programs (see the next item below); and have new Strategic Innovation Creation and Innovative R&D Support programs. The Innovative R&D Support program is expected to be high-risk and high-impact and will be run by carefully selected program managers who will both launch and manage the projects using the DARPA program manager system as a model. The S&T Innovation Budget Strategy Committee established in June 2013 will take the lead in designing the JFY2014 S&T budget. The S&T-related ministries and agencies will submit their budgets by the end-of-August deadline.

[Summary translation of the JFY2014 S&T Budget Guidelines on the CSTP website](#)

JAPAN: JFY2014 Action Plan for Important S&T Programs

The five areas outlined in the Comprehensive Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation (see Tokyo Office Report Memorandum at <http://www.nsftokyo.org/rm13-03.pdf>): energy; long and healthy life; next-generation infrastructure; local area resources; and recovery and reconstruction from the 3-11 Tohoku Earthquake, will be the priority S&T areas in the JFY2014 S&T budget. Each area has several themes and each of the themes has a work schedule from 2014 through 2019 to reach the outcome or target in or after 2020.

An example is [AREA] Energy—[THEME] Innovative structural materials development – [2014-2019] New materials development (metal, carbon, organic)/application of structural materials to transportation vehicles/technology development for junction of different materials/evaluation and standardization of new materials-[2020 and beyond] Contribution to lightening transportation equipment/establishment of new material evaluation technologies

[Summary translation of the Action Plan on the CSTP website](#)

JAPAN: Council for S&T Policy (CSTP) Convened



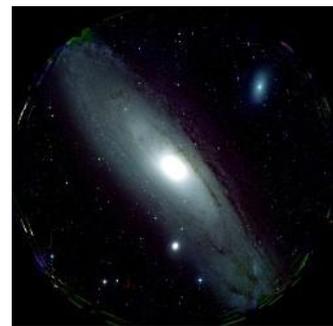
CSTP convened on July 31 to approve: (1) the JFY2014 budget guidelines mentioned above, including the CSTP role for implementing the comprehensive S&T strategy and the Budget Strategy Committee role for accelerating the strategy, and the five themes of the Action Plan; (2)

the reports from the two national large-scale projects: 5-year (2007-2011), 21.3 billion yen (\$213 million) Target Protein project and the 7-year (2006-2012), 111.1 billion yen (\$1.1 billion) Supercomputer project; and (3) new environment and energy plan. Japan shares with the rest of the world the hope that GHG emissions can be halved by 2050. In order to attain this goal, the R&D budget will be expanded to focus on new high-risk and high-impact R&D areas, and the technological roadmap for innovative materials will be revised.

[Summary translation of the CSTP meeting on CSTP website](#)

JAPAN: Andromeda Galaxy

The National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) showed the whole picture of the Andromeda galaxy taken by the new camera installed on their “*Subaru*” telescope facility in Hawaii Island. It is the first time that the galaxy’s entire picture was captured. Loaded with a new 3-meter, 3-ton camera with 870 million picture elements, the facility is now 7 times more capable than with the previous camera. An NAOJ professor says that the camera is the world’s best and represents Japan’s state-of-the art technologies.



[Summary translation of a Nikkei article-August 1, 2013](#)

KOREA: R&D Agenda under the New Administration

The government announced its plan to invest KRW 92 trillion (US\$80.3 billion) in R&D, creating 640,000 jobs, and increasing per-capita income to \$30,000 by 2017. The plan includes development of 120 technologies. The Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning will release the roadmap for the new technologies next year.

<http://koreajoongangdaily.joins.com/news/article/article.aspx?aid=2974246>

KOREA: Radar Observation Satellite

Korea will launch its first radar-equipped Earth observation satellite *KOMPSAT-5* on August 22, 2013. The satellite is capable of providing images in all weather conditions. If launched successfully, the satellite will begin operation in February 2014 at an altitude of 550 Km.

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20130711000616>

NEW ZEALAND: Report on Changing Climate and Oceans

A new report was released by the Prime Minister’s Science Advisory Committee to update the public on current scientific understanding of climate change and ocean acidification. It focused on how these changes are likely to affect New Zealand’s climate and industries at a regional level in the next 40 years.

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/SC1308/S00001/new-zealands-changing-climate-and-oceans.htm>