



Weekly Wire
News from East Asia and Pacific
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AUSTRALIA: New Climate Change Projections for Australia

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) and the Bureau of Meteorology released climate change projections for Australia based on 40 global climate models. The projections include more frequent hotter days; rising sea levels; increasing acidification of oceans; and declining snow depths. The Australian average surface air temperature has increased by 0.9 °C and the sea level has risen about 20 cm over the past century. The reports can be obtained from:

<http://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/en/>

Source:

<http://view.exacttarget.com/?i=fe691672716600797716&m=fe51c747c6401&ls=fde01c77766006797d1d797c&l=ff3416727167&s=fdfc15727d640d7871157070&jb=ffcf14&ju=fe25167977650c7d7c1374>

JAPAN: Open Science Discussions

To discuss Japan's policy on Open Science (<http://www.oecd.org/sti/outlook/e-outlook/stipolicyprofiles/interactionsforinnovation/openscience.htm>), the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation (CSTI) has held 3 discussion meetings from January 2015. Two more meetings are planned by the end of March 2015 (2014 fiscal year end). Chaired by Dr. Setsuo Arikawa, former president of Kyushu University and information science expert, about 20 experts from national research institutions, ministries, funding agencies, universities, and a CSTI member have been discussing Open Science. The first meeting focused on sharing information about what's going on in the world on Open Science and acknowledging that Japan is lagging behind the advanced countries in this area and should improve. The second meeting included exchange of information, discussion of the difficulty in making information public when a project is funded both by the government and industry; the cost incurred and expertise needed in making the data open-accessible; the importance of raw sampling data rather than merely producing papers; as well as what should be closed and what should be open. The third meeting was for biology and astronomy experts to show how they make their data open, and to present the National Institute of Informatics (NII)'s project to support institutional repositories. Japan has the largest number of academic repositories (n=561), followed by the U.S. (n=455)(according to OpenDOAR). The language issue was also discussed in that there are data only in Japanese language but valuable enough to be in a repository and shared. Also discussed was the need to train experts who can analyze immense amounts of data and know how to reuse them. CSTI plans to incorporate Japan's policy on Open Science in the forthcoming 5th S&T Basic Plan (2016-2020).

Source: Observation of the CSTI's Open Science Discussion meetings

JAPAN: Industries' Investment in University Research – Record

The result of the survey conducted by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEXT) to 1,073 Japanese research institutions shows that Japanese industries' investment in Japanese universities' research in 2013 was Yen 69.5 billion (\$695 million), a record and an increase of Yen 6.7 billion (\$67 million) from the previous year. The investment includes cooperative research, contract research,

clinical trial research and the costs associated with the use of patent rights. For example, the universities received Yen 39 billion (\$390 million) from industries in pursuing industry-university cooperative research, a record and an increase of Yen 4.9 billion (\$49 million) from the previous year. The number of industry-university cooperative research projects implemented in 2013 was 17,881, an increase of 956 from the previous year. The universities' patent right-based income (including license) in 2013 was Yen 2.2 billion (\$22 million), a record and an increase of Yen 650 million (\$6.5 million) from the previous year.

Source: MEXT survey-based report in Japanese and a Nikkei article in Japanese – January 27, 2015