

SSP News Release

Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

June 17, 2014

## Sakura Science Plan (SSP) selects exchange proposals

JST (Michiharu Nakamura, President) made the final selections from the first call for proposals for the new 2014 Sakura Science Plan.

The goals of the Sakura Science Plan are to work within the framework of close collaboration of industry, academia, and government to invite outstanding Asian youth for a short stay in Japan and to enhance productive exchanges between these youth and Japanese youth engaged in science and technology.

Concurrently, this program aims to promote interest in cutting-edge Japanese science and technology among outstanding Asian youth, and thus, to encourage capacity building of these youth.

The first call for proposals began on Friday April 25, 2014 and was closed on Friday, May 23. A total of 316 proposals were received. The Sakura Exchange Program in Science Committee, which includes members from within JST and outside specialists, selected 155 exchange proposals for implementation.

Selected proposals were from 133 universities (including technical junior colleges and high schools), 14 public foundations, and 8 business enterprises in Japan. The total number of program invitees is expected to be 1,639, including 782 young people from China and 165 from Vietnam. (See Supplementary Information 2, 3 and 4)

As contracts are signed, the exchange programs are scheduled to start as early as in July.

The second call for exchange proposals will begin in late June. As details become available, they can be seen in Japanese at the following URL:

<http://ssp.jst.go.jp/>

Supplementary Information (available only in Japanese)

1. Selected Sakura Science Program Proposals
2. Number of Selected Youth, by Country & Region; Course; Affiliation;
3. Number of Selected Proposals by Japanese Receiving Organization (Host)
4. Results of the First Call for Proposals

For additional program information in English

[http://ssp.jst.go.jp/EN/outline/pamph\\_en.pdf](http://ssp.jst.go.jp/EN/outline/pamph_en.pdf)

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June 17, 2014  
Promotion Office  
Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science  
Japan Science and Technology Agency

## General Report on the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Exchange Plan Proposals

### 1. General Description

- (1) Overall, the proposals achieved a high standard; the outstanding proposals among them were selected.
- (2) It was noted that many proposals attempted to participate in the globalization of universities and businesses.

### 2. Breakdown of applications

- (1) Comparatively more proposals were made for exchange programs in the fields of engineering, medicine/dentistry/pharmacology, agricultural science, and fisheries science than for programs in the fields of pure science.
  - ① In the field of engineering, several proposals were made for programs in environmental engineering and materials engineering. Furthermore, within the environmental field, one proposed program dealt with the use of small satellites.
  - ② In the fields of medicine, dentistry, and pharmacology, several proposals were made for education and research in dentistry and pharmacology.
  - ③ In the fields of agricultural and fisheries science, several proposals were made for educational and research programs that took advantage of local geographical characteristics (e.g. technology for agriculture on sand dunes).
- (2) The goals of many proposed programs included expanding the number of overseas exchange students coming to Japan in the future and stimulating cooperative activities between universities in Asia and Japan based on MOUs signed by these universities.
- (3) Among the exchange program courses, many proposed Course B [Joint Research] programs have content more suitable for seminars than joint research. This should be a topic for discussion during the reevaluation of the program system.
- (4) Several of the participating organizations are trying their best to reduce program expenses by contributing from their own funds, using university dormitories, and so on.
- (5) Regarding the Asian youths invited to participate in these exchanges, several instances of cooperation between the receiving organizations in Japan and the sender organizations in Asia can be observed. Several people on both sides helped plan the system for selecting outstanding youths.

End

**Breakdown of persons to be invited to programs adopted in the 1st selection, by country/region, course, and educational status**

Classification Country/region	Course			Educational status							Total
	A	B	C	High school student	University student	Graduate school	Post-doctoral	Teacher	Researcher	Others	
China	557	130	95	51	295	308	6	83	18	21	782
Indonesia	69	37	12	10	50	44	2	10	2	0	118
Cambodia	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Singapore	6	3	10	0	15	0	0	1	0	3	19
Thailand	90	64	3	14	83	42	1	12	4	1	157
Republic of Korea	74	2	11	30	20	26	0	10	0	1	87
Taiwan	71	2	0	13	36	16	0	5	2	1	73
Philippines	24	10	0	0	4	15	2	5	7	1	34
Brunei Darussalam	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3
Viet Nam	116	47	2	19	63	36	3	13	29	2	165
Malaysia	50	49	21	9	63	40	1	6	0	1	120
Myanmar	13	27	0	0	1	16	1	22	0	0	40
Mongolia	4	13	0	0	7	8	2	0	0	0	17
Laos	21	0	0	0	0	10	0	1	10	0	21
Total	1,098	387	154	146	639	563	18	169	73	31	1,639

Course	No. of programs
A	100
B	48
C	7
Total	155

Note: This is a compilation of the numbers of persons to be invited that were given in the program proposals. These may differ from the actual numbers when the programs are carried out.

## Number of programs of each receiving organization chosen in the 1st selection

University / Technical College / High School			Incorporated associations			
	Organization name	No. of programs		Organization name	No. of programs	
1	Aoyama Gakuin University	1	1	The Kazankai Foundation	1	
2	Azabu University	1	2	Tohoku Tabunka Academy Foundation	1	
3	Iwate University	1	3	Remote Sensing Technology Center of Japan	1	
4	J. F. Oberlin University	1	4	Institute of Energy Environment Science Education Promotion	1	
5	Oita University	1	5	Tokinohane (Wings of the Crested Ibis)	1	
6	Osaka Kyoiku University	1	6	Japan China Science, Technology and Culture Center	1	
7	Osaka Dental University	1	7	Foundation for Advancement of International Science	1	
8	Osaka University	7	8	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies	1	
9	Osaka Prefecture University	4	9	Mie International Exchange Foundation	1	
10	Okayama University	3	10	KEK, the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization	1	
11	Okinawa National College of Technology	1	11	Research Institute for Humanity and Nature	1	
12	Kagawa University	2	12	National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology	2	
13	Kagoshima National College of Technology	1	13	National Institute of Radiological Sciences Research Center for Radiation Protection	1	
14	Kanazawa Institute of Technology	1	Total		14	
15	Kanazawa University	1	Companies			
16	Kansai University	1		Organization name	No. of programs	
17	Kwansei Gakuin University	1	1	Horiba, Ltd.	1	
18	Kitakyushu National College of Technology	1	2	Yamashita Sekkei, Inc.	1	
19	The University of Kitakyushu	2	3	Cathay Tri-Tech., Inc.	1	
20	Kyushu Institute of Technology	2	4	JobTessio, Inc.	1	
21	Kyushu University	5	5	Sumitomo Chemical Company, Limited	1	
22	Kyoto Sangyo University	1	6	Napson Corporation	1	
23	Kyoto University	5	7	Fuji Electric Co., Ltd.	2	
24	Kumamoto University	4	Total		8	
25	Kurume National College of Technology	1	Numbers of proposed/chosen programs and their organizations			
26	Kochi University of Technology	1	Proposing organizations	131	Chosen organizations	97
27	Kochi University	2	Proposed programs	316	Chosen programs	155
28	Kobe Women's University	1				
29	Kobe University	2				
30	Saitama Medical University	1				
31	Saitama Institute of Technology	1				
32	Shizuoka University	1				
33	Shibaura Institute of Technology	1				
34	Shimane University	1				
35	Tokyo Metropolitan University	1				
36	Josai International University	1				
37	Soka University	1				
38	Daido University	1				
39	Takasaki University of Health and Welfare	1				
40	Chiba Institute of Technology	2				
41	Chiba University	2				
42	Chuo University	1				
43	Chubu University	1				
44	University of Tsukuba	2				
45	The University of Electro-Communications	2				
46	Tokai University	3				
47	Tokyo University of the Arts	1				
48	Tokyo Institute of Technology	1				
49	The University of Tokyo	3				

	Organization name	No. of programs
50	Tokyo City University	1
51	Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology	1
52	Tokyo University of Science	5
53	Toho University	1
54	Tohoku University	2
55	The University of Tokushima	1
56	Tottori University	2
57	Toyama Prefectural University	1
58	University of Toyama	1
59	Nagaoka University of Technology	1
60	Nagoya Institute of Technology	1
61	Nagoya University	1
62	Nara Institute of Science and Technology	1
63	Nihon University	1
64	Hiroshima University	2
65	University of Fukui	2
66	Fukuoka Institute of Technology	1
67	Fukuyama University	1
68	Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology	1
69	Hokkaido Information University	1
70	Hokkaido University	6
71	Mie University	2
72	Miyazaki Omiya High School	1
73	Miyagi University	4
74	Yamagata University	2
75	Yokohama National University	4
76	University of the Ryukyus	1
77	Wakayama University	1
	Total	133