

MEXT's Efforts for the Creation of Regional Innovations

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) initiated the Knowledge Cluster Initiative and other relevant policies in Fiscal 2002, and has addressed the improvement of regional science and technology infrastructures for the creation of new technology "seeds" and the establishment of industry-academia-government collaboration systems.

In Fiscal 2011, MEXT initiated the "Regional Innovation Strategy Support Program" as part of the "Project for Developing Innovation Systems," which aims at establishing and improving the systems that enable individual regions to proactively create innovations through the industry-academia-government collaboration policy. The Regional Innovation Strategy Support Program aims at steadily expanding the achievements of previous cluster formation activities by utilizing the science and technology infrastructures developed and refined by individual regions and also at utilizing all pertinent policies of relevant ministries to provide full-fledged support to the regional innovation strategy promoting regions (see page 3) that have proactive and excellent visions toward the creation of regional innovations.

Project for Developing Innovation Systems

Purpose To establish systems that enable the creation of innovations led by each region through the revamped function of universities for promoting the collaboration of industry, academia and government; the regional joint research by industry, academia and government; the formation of regional university networks; and the establishment of advanced interdisciplinary research and development centers.

Regional Innovation Strategy Support Program

* Provides support to the regional innovation strategy promoting regions selected jointly by relevant ministries, focusing on the formation of intellectual assets and the human resource development.

Program for Promoting Self-Sustaining Management of Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration in Universities

* Provides support, to the establishment of systems for industry-academia-government collaboration addressed by individual universities and other organizations.

Creation of Innovation Centers for Advanced Interdisciplinary Research

* Provides support for the realization of center for fusion of advanced technology.

Establishment of Regional Innovation Systems through Effective Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration

