

# Basic Policy on Promotion of Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development Goals (STI for SDGs)【Summary】

April 17, 2018 (Formulated)  
August 31, 2018 (Revised)  
Ministry of Education, Culture Sports,  
Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan

## Domestic and international trends surrounding STI for SDGs

### International trends

- The United Nations (UN) adopted the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (September 2015)  
= Set **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** toward 2030
- The UN has been holding the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum), etc.

### Government

- **“SDGs Promotion Headquarters”** (May 2016)
- **“SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles”** (December 2016)
- **“SDGs Action Plan 2018”** (December 2017)
- **“Extended SDGs Action Plan 2018”** (June 2018)
  - ※ Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) is stated as an **essential, cross-cutting element for the attainment of targets** in various areas. **Promoting Society 5.0 together with SDGs** is the direction of “SDGs model” of Japan.
- **“Integrated Innovation Strategy”** (June 2018) formulated by **CSTI**. Enhance **implementation framework of promoting STI for SDGs**, and develop the “STI for SDGs Road map” etc.

### Non-Government entities

- **Keidanren** (Japan Business Federation): Revised the **“Charter of Corporate Behavior”** where achieving the SDGs is stipulated as a main point
- National R&D agencies and universities: Started organizational efforts. JST has accumulated knowledge and efforts.

## The role and action policy of MEXT

- As MEXT is responsible for a variety of R&D institutions, etc. and covers main efforts of Japan’s STI, MEXT needs to **proactively engage in and contribute to the government-wide efforts** for STI for SDGs.
- As MEXT has contributed to issues related to the SDGs through various measures, MEXT addresses **further enhancement of measures**.
- As STI for SDGs gives a **good opportunity for STI itself to change**, MEXT drives concrete measures having such points of view as follows: **effective combination of creating innovative technology seeds and promoting back-casting R&D, facilitation of creating new ideas with a variety of experts coming from across sectors and fostering human resources who can connect various sectors**.

## Measures of MEXT for promotion of STI for SDGs

### (1) Formulation of the “MEXT STI for SDGs Package”

- MEXT **puts in order the ways to contribute to the SDGs through MEXT’s STI policy measures**, and formulates the Package to **systematically indicate the STI for SDGs policy measures** necessary to materialize contributions to the SDGs.  
(Considers expected outputs and possible future developments of **both domestic and international STI policy measures, with possible time line.**)
- Also, for promotion of the STI for SDGs measures, it is **important to foster human resources who engage in STI for SDGs, to encourage collaborations among humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, and to contribute to the regional revitalization**.

### (2) Promotion of STI for SDGs based on the Package

- MEXT will strategically and steadily promote the STI for SDGs policy measures by **appropriately reflecting those measures to the budget request** every year.
- MEXT will contribute to the attainment of targets by encouraging **organic links among the different policy measures, bearing in mind effective collaborations with policy measures in the fields of education, sports, culture, and etc.**
- MEXT, cooperating with JST which has accumulated knowledge and achievements on STI for SDGs, will **foster co-creation** activities through **open platforms where industries, universities, public research institutions, NPOs, international organizations, and etc. may participate**

### (3) Promotion of communication activities

- MEXT will contribute to **communication activities, educational activities and international communication of the SDGs**. **Collaborations with education-related measures** are promoted to **enhance learning opportunities** on STI for SDGs.

### (4) Promotion framework

- MEXT will **develop an organizational framework**, for the systematical and strategical implementation of the STI for SDGs measures, and for the facilitation of steady improvements of the measures with a following-up approach.