Main Efforts for the Creation of Regional Innovations

Achievements made by the regional science and technology promotion policies promoted in the past by the industry-academia-government collaboration are further advanced with the aim of establishing sustainable regional innovation systems.

Hokkaido University Research & Business Park

Development of “health care innovations” such as the formation of an “integrated center for health science and technology” focusing on the functionalities of food

In accordance with the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake (established on July 29, 2011), these efforts will be further strengthened and expanded globally, and Hokkaido’s uniqueness and advantages as well as accumulated knowledge and technologies will be put to maximum use for the promotion of “health innovation” aimed at maintaining, promoting and reestablishing the general health conditions of people. To achieve such purposes, the Hokkaido University Research & Business Park strives to develop world-leading medical technologies and medicines, to integrate health science and medical technology with the focus on bio-functionalities of food, and to promote medical tourism and illnesses.

Nagano Super Module Supply Hub for Next-Generation Industries (Nagano Prefecture Region)

Creation of innovation from designs of synergetic-effect and dual-wheel-drive, by research-seeds-oriented and market-needs-oriented industry-academia-government collaboration systems

The research-seeds-oriented industry-academia-government collaboration support system, which combines “upstream technology seeds of knowledge-rich institutions such as Ritsumeikan University” and “Nagano Prefecture’s acclaimed ultra-precision technology,” was added with a “market-seeds-oriented product commercialization promotion system” for the development of medical equipment that meet the clinical medical needs of university hospitals and others. The expanded industry-academia-government collaboration system aims to accelerate the establishment of the “Nagano Super Module Supply Hub for Next-Generation Industries” in the greater Nagano Prefecture. This region is focused on promoting international activities, such as sales of superior technologies possessed by regional companies, as represented by “ultrahigh-speed PCR” high-sensitivity clinical examination systems utilizing fluorescent magnetic beads; and other medical equipment developed and commercialized in the region. Moreover, the establishment of a network connecting to overseas universities and research organizations, with the aim of creating an internationally competitive center for the medical equipment industry, are added to our focus.

Hamamatsu/Higashi-Mikawa Life Photonic Innovation

“Life Photonic Innovation” based on Advanced Photonics and Electronics Technology in Hamamatsu and Higashi-Mikawa Area

“Life Photonic Innovation” develops “future technology for transportation”, “health care and medical industry”, “optoelectronics” and “new agriculture-farming” in order to promote safe, comfortable, and sustainable society realizing CO2-neutral life by industry-academia collaboration with the aid of government and financial companies.

Fukuoka Next-Generation Social System Creation Hub

Promotion of the progression of regional new growth industries by implementing social-needs-directed development.

This region aims to organize an innovation hub which powerfully leads the further development of the Japanese economy by strengthening the international competitiveness of the new growth industries such as advanced semiconductor, biotechnology, nanotechnology, automotive, hydrogen energy, robotics, information content, and low-carbon society which they have been engaged, and they also try to introduce transnational powers to Fukuoka mainly from Asia.

To meet the challenge of various problems the world faces today such as high-care, low-carbon, and longevity society, and to create innovation continuously, this region is actively engaged in the development of various Next-Generation Social Systems which can tackle those problems, and also work on the establishment of “Society-leading R&D model.” In addition, by going forward with the global standardization of research and development results, they aim at organizing of “Fukuoka Next-Generation Social System Creation Hub” as a world-class innovation center that will lead Asian countries.

Mutually Complementary Programs for Improvement of Innovation Systems

In accordance with the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake (established on July 29, 2011), the Reconstruction Headquarters in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake, assistance is provided to disaster-stricken areas for the realization of proactive and excellent visions for the creation of regional innovations in those areas so that they can recover smoothly from the disaster caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, create new industries and jobs, and also achieve sustainable growth of the region and revitalization of local communities in the future.

Support for the establishment of local initiatives, cooperation, and technology sharing regional development models for the reconstruction of disaster-stricken areas using the Regional Innovation Strategy Support Program

In addition, this assistance is part of the Regional Innovation Strategy Support Program.

Program for the Promotion of the Regional Innovation Strategy Support Program

The program aims to establish an environment that enables universities to continuously carry out industry-academia-government collaboration activities so that the results of research conducted by universities can be effectively utilized for the betterment of society. It provides support to cover the costs of personnel and the expenses of activities for conducting international industry-academia-government collaboration activities, strengthening unique industry-academia-government collaboration activities and allocating industry-academia-government collaboration coordinators.

Program for Realization of Innovation Center for Fusion of Advanced Technology

The program promotes research activities ranging from fundamental research to achievement-oriented R&D in a comprehensive manner to achieve a system for the realization of innovations based on technology “seeds” possessed by universities in the advanced interdisciplinary research areas (“interdisciplinary research areas”) that are deemed especially important for the creation of innovations. To that end, the program provides support for the establishment of centers for industry-academia joint research and development for the creation of results (innovations) with great socioeconomic impact, while promoting the development of researchers and engineers who will play pivotal roles in the future. This will be accomplished by utilizing the matching fund systems of various companies.

Fukuoka Next-Generation Social System Creation Hub

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Program for the Promotion of the Regional Innovation Strategy Support Program

The program supports the establishment of systems that will contribute to the sustainable creation of regional innovations and realize excellent regional visions through the collaboration of Industry-Government-Academia plus the financial sector.

To ensure the sustainable creation of regional innovations, MEXT links its programs with various policies and programs of other relevant ministries in order to produce synergistic effects from those support programs.