(Attachment 4)

WPI - World Premier International Research Center Initiative -

FY2013 Program Budget Requests：¥9,769 Million
(FY2012 Program Budget：¥8,925 Million)

（Background） Amidst intensifying competition for securing the world's finest brains, Japan needs to more proactively place itself within the global flow of outstanding human resources while creating open research platforms that attract them from around the globe.

（Concept） By achieving a very high research standard and providing an excellent research environment, the centers should be "globally visible research centers".

Required Challenges

○Attractive research environment and operation of top international standard
- ・English as the primary language
- ・Highly effective leadership of a center director
- ・Environment in which researchers can devote themselves exclusively to their research by adequate staff support etc.

○Critical mass of outstanding researchers
○Secure additional resources that match or exceed the amount of the project grant

Science　Reform
Establish World Premier Centers
Globalization　Fusion

Images of a WPI center ※WPI Focus

- ・At total of at least 200 staff members（at least 70※）
- ・At least 10-20 world-class principal investigators（at least 7-10※）
- ・At all times, at least 30% of the researchers are from overseas.

Support Contents ※WPI Focus

Research field：a field of basic research（a focused, cutting-edge field of basic research※）
Implementation period：10-15 years
Project grant（annually per year）：¥1.3-1.4 billion（～¥700 million※）
Follow-up procedure：WPI Program Committee conducts follow-up activities on progress being made by the WPI centers with an eye to developing them into "highly visible research centers."

WPI Focus

○Create centers by focusing on sharp, cutting-edge research fields. (Approximately three new centers)
○Differentiating as a focused center and/or superseding part of research field of world's top institutions.
○The same principles of the WPI scheme and implementation.
○Encourage project proposals that will exploit the results of previously-initiated center-building efforts.

Osaka University
IFReC : Immunology Frontier Research Center
Director：Shizuo Akira

The most cited immunologist in the world over the past ten years

Kyoto University
iCeMS : Institute for Integrated Cell-Material Sciences
Director：Norio Nakatsuji

Japan's pioneer in the establishment and distribution of human ES cell lines, and a leader in ES/iPS cell-based drug discovery

Tohoku University
AIMR : Advanced Institute for Materials Research
Director：Motoko Kotani

Mathematician; leader of the interdisciplinary research between math and material science in Japan

Kyushu University
I2CNER : International Institute for Carbon-Neutral Energy Research
Director：Petros Sofronis

Rationalized and linked experimental evidence of hydrogen-induced plastic flow localization at the macro scale with the shielding effect of hydrogen at the micro scale

(One center adopted in 2010)

The University of Tokyo
Kavli IPMU : Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe
Director：Hitoshi Murayama

Leading theorist in particle physics and principal investigator of a world-leading observational project in astrophysics

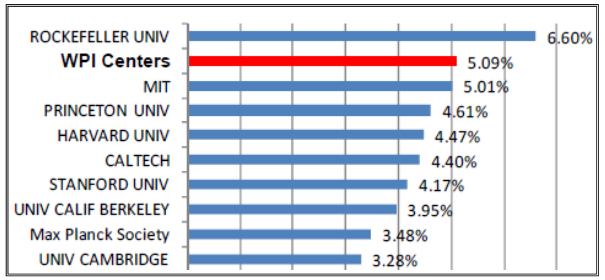
National Institute for Material Science(NIMS)
MANA : International Center for Materials Nanoarchitectonics
Director：Masakazu Aono

Successfully developed the world's first innovative material expected to be applied to brain computing

(Five centers adopted in 2007)

Entering 6th year since the launch, progress is steadily being made

○Each center has established critical mass of top-level researchers from around the world and 30-50% researchers are from overseas. English is naturally used as the primary language.
○By filling positions of young postdoctoral researchers through open international solicitations and getting the donation from the overseas foundation, the centers have been "globally visible research centers".
○WPI centers produce high-quality papers on par with top institutions.
■ Productivity of "Citation Top 1% of papers"



Data analyzed and provided by THOMSON REUTER(2011.10)