

Preface

The 2018 White Paper on Science and Technology reports on policies and measures that were implemented for promoting science and technology on the basis of the provisions of Article 8 of the Basic Act on Science and Technology (Act No. 130 of 1995).

Part I focuses on the trends in the important policies and measures related to science and technology and thus provides background knowledge with which one may better understand the content of Part II, which elaborates on the measures that were taken for the promotion of science and technology.

Specifically, Part I, which is titled "For Further Reinforcing the Fundamental Capability for STI," analyzes the current situation and identifies issues concerning fundamental capability for STI which will serve as the driving forces for creating innovation in science and technology, such as human resources, the foundation of knowledge and research funds available at universities, public research institutions, and industrial sectors, and suggests the direction in which Japan should move in the future. The feature story at the beginning of this white paper reports Japan's initiatives to realize "Society5.0," which is expected to contribute to achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs).