



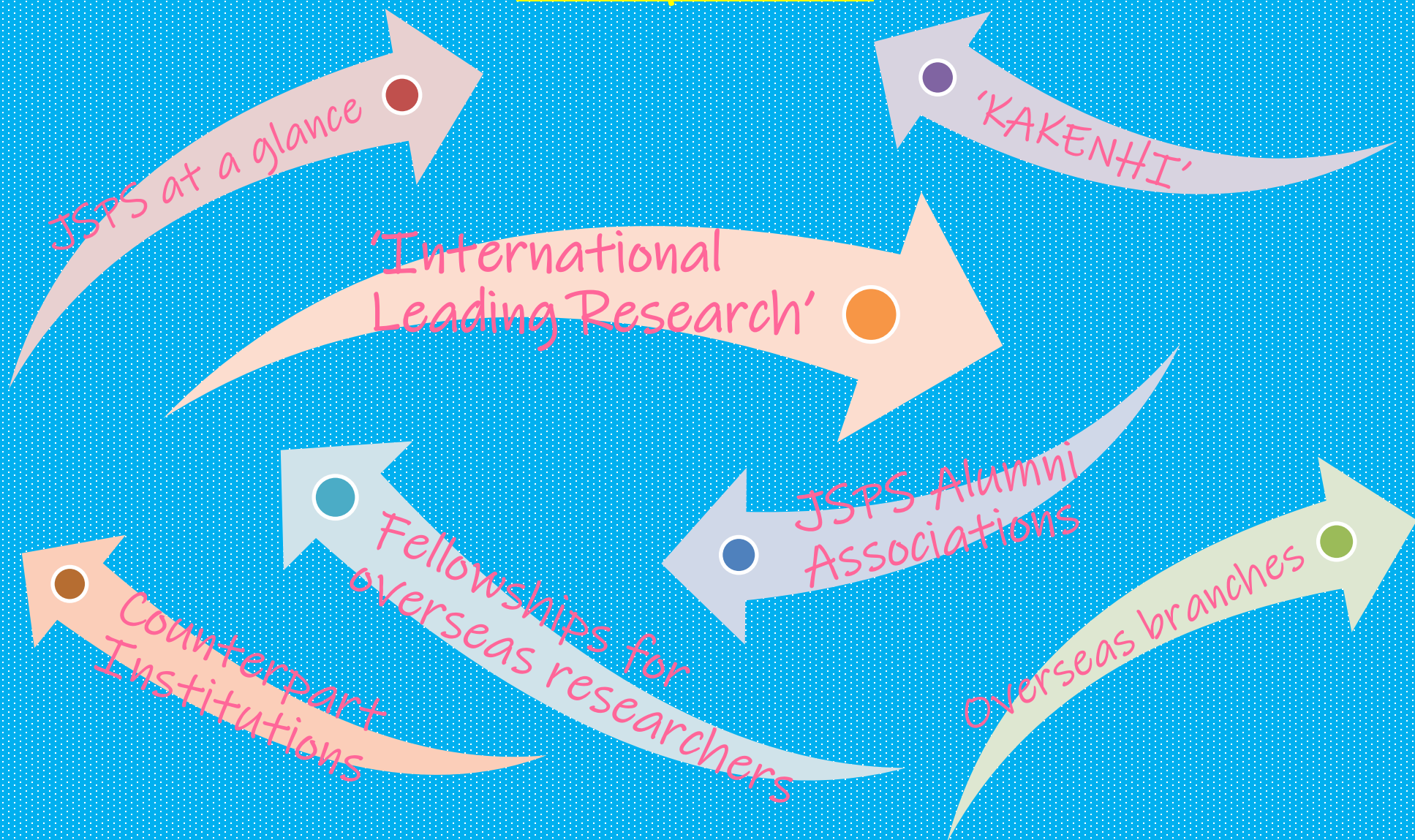
# **JSPS, KAKENHI and its Research Category** **‘International Leading Research’**



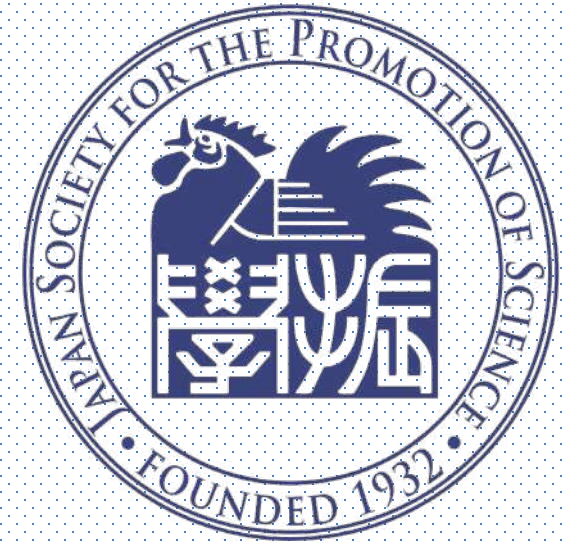
Naritake Abe, Head, Research Aid Division III, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

JSPS

## Today's menu



## JSPS history and its emblem



- **Established in 1932** thru an endowment by the late Emperor Showa
- **Crowing rooster** chosen as the official emblem of JSPS
- Converted into a quasi-government organization in 1967 and an **independent administrative institution** in 2003
- **Symbolizes new knowledge** promising a brilliant future for humankind and **the breaking dawn of science**

## Major missions

Creating knowledge in diverse and profound field

✂ Support for research initiatives

Fostering next generation of researchers challenging the creation of new genres of knowledge

✂ Fostering next generation of researchers  
✂ Awards of recognition

Strengthening the support base for science promotion in universities and research institutions

✂ Enhancing the education and research functions of universities

Building international research networks

✂ International academic collaborations

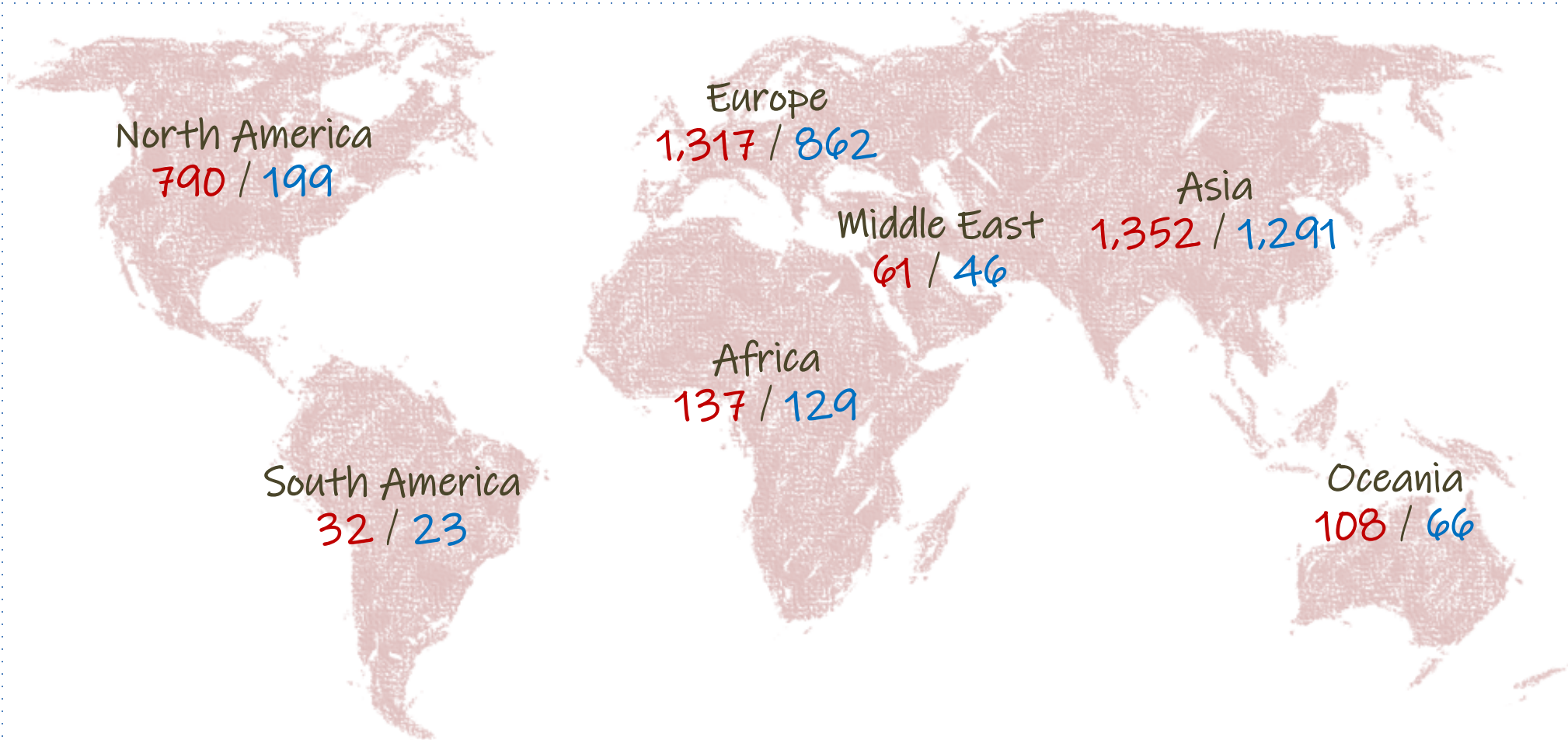
Enhancing the support base for science promotion

✂ Establishing linkage with society  
✂ JSPS Centers

Providing stable and sustained support for researchers' activities

Promoting science

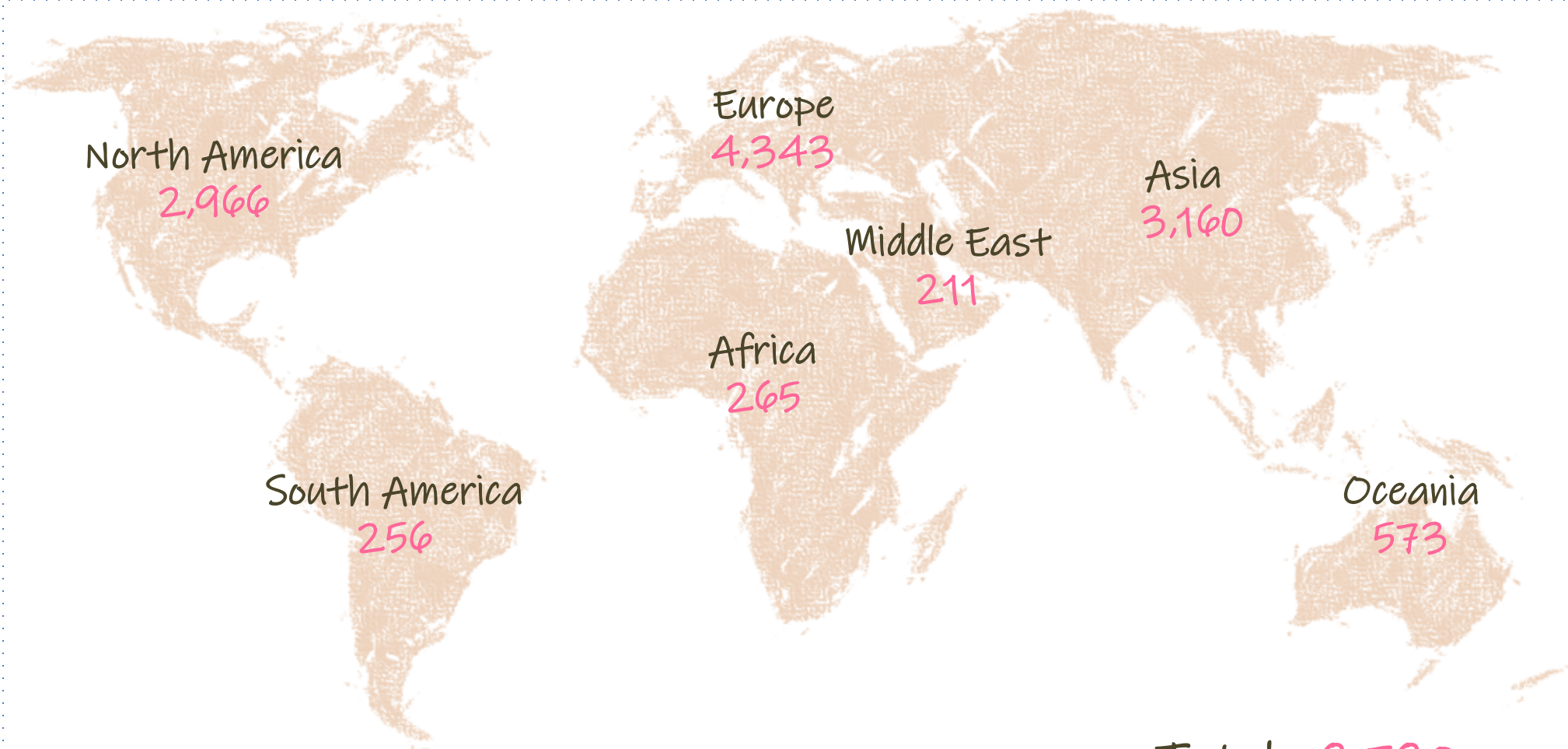
## Number of researchers exchanged under JSPS-funded programs in FY 2023



Red: Number of researchers sent abroad  
Blue: Number of researchers from abroad

Totals: 3,797 / 2,616

Number of JSPS-funded int'l joint research projects in FY 2023



Totals: 8,780

## Counterpart institutions in Sweden

	Pre-/Postdoctoral Fellowship	Multilateral and other programs
Nobel Prize Outreach AB		✓
Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA)	✓	✓
The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education (STINT)	✓	
Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (SSF)	✓	
Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA)	✓	

## Overseas branches and science advisor

Main missions:

- Liaising with overseas counterpart research-promotion organizations
- Holding symposia
- Supporting overseas outreach activities of Japanese universities

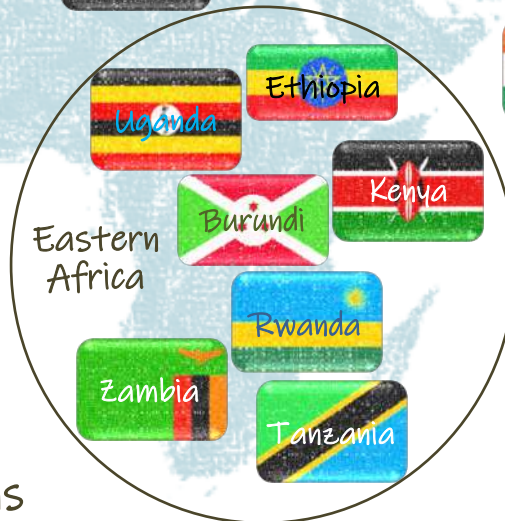


- Coordinating with alumni networks formed among former JSPP program participants
  - Disseminating information on scientific trends in Japan and gather similar information from overseas
  - Supporting researchers conducting fieldwork\*
- \*mainly at research stations

# JSPS Alumni Associations

Founded in 2005  
170 members

21 associations  
with 7,000+ members



## Functions:

- Building network among members
- Holding fora and symposia
- Operating websites
- Providing pre-departure orientations for newly-selected fellows to visit Japan

## Pre-/Postdoctoral Fellowships for overseas researchers

	Summer Program	Short-term	Standard
Who	Predoc or postdoc within 6 years after PhD	Predoc or postdoc within 6 years after PhD	Postdoc within 6 years after PhD
How long	2 months in summer	1 - 12 months	12-24 months
What to do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Gain first-hand research experiences</li> <li>✦ Receive Japanese language/culture orientations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Conduct cooperative research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Conduct cooperative research</li> </ul>
Fellowships awarded yearly	100	140	330
Awards given	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Round-trip air ticket</li> <li>✦ Overseas travel insurance</li> <li>✦ Maintenance allowance, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Round-trip air ticket</li> <li>✦ Overseas travel insurance</li> <li>✦ Maintenance allowance, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Round-trip air ticket</li> <li>✦ Overseas travel insurance</li> <li>✦ Maintenance allowance</li> <li>✦ Settling-in allowance</li> </ul>
How to apply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Applicant to overseas counterpart institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Applicant to overseas counterpart institutions</li> <li>✦ Host researcher in Japan to JSPS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Applicant to overseas counterpart institutions</li> <li>✦ Host researcher in Japan to JSPS</li> </ul>
For details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <a href="http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-summer">www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-summer</a></li> <li>Email: <a href="mailto:summer(at)jps.go.jp">summer(at)jps.go.jp</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <a href="http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-oubei-s">www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-oubei-s</a></li> <li>Email: <a href="mailto:Postdoc-short(at)jps.go.jp">Postdoc-short(at)jps.go.jp</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <a href="http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-ippan/">www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-ippan/</a></li> <li>Email: <a href="mailto:Postdoc-standard(at)jps.go.jp">Postdoc-standard(at)jps.go.jp</a></li> </ul>

## Invitational Fellowships for overseas researchers

	Short-term	Long-term	BRIDGE Fellowship Program
Who	Assistant professor or higher-level researcher; postdoc within 6 years after PhD; Japanese researcher residing overseas for 10 years or longer	Assistant professor or higher-level researcher; postdoc within 6 years after PhD; Japanese researcher residing overseas for 10 years or longer	Researcher overseas who is a regular JSPS Alumni Association member
How long	14 - 60 days	2 - 10 months	14 - 30 days
What to do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Hold discussions</li> <li>✦ Give lectures</li> <li>✦ Attend seminars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Conduct collaborative research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Strengthen research collaborations with Japanese colleagues</li> </ul>
Fellowships awarded yearly	160	60	54
Awards given	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Round-trip air ticket</li> <li>✦ Overseas travel insurance</li> <li>✦ Maintenance allowance, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Round-trip air ticket</li> <li>✦ Overseas travel insurance</li> <li>✦ Maintenance allowance, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ Round-trip air ticket</li> <li>✦ Overseas travel insurance</li> <li>✦ Maintenance allowance, etc.</li> </ul>
How to apply	✦ Host researcher in Japan to JSPS	✦ Host researcher in Japan to JSPS	✦ Applicant to JSPS Alumni Association
For details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <a href="http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/how.html#u20230508191629">www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/how.html#u20230508191629</a></li> </ul> Email: <a href="mailto:invitation(at)jps.go.jp">invitation(at)jps.go.jp</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <a href="http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/how.html#u20230508190619">www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/how.html#u20230508190619</a></li> </ul> Email: <a href="mailto:invitation(at)jps.go.jp">invitation(at)jps.go.jp</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✦ <a href="http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-plaza/bridge">www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-plaza/bridge</a></li> </ul> Email: <a href="mailto:bridge(at)jps.go.jp">bridge(at)jps.go.jp</a>

## Number of proposals/awards in FY2024

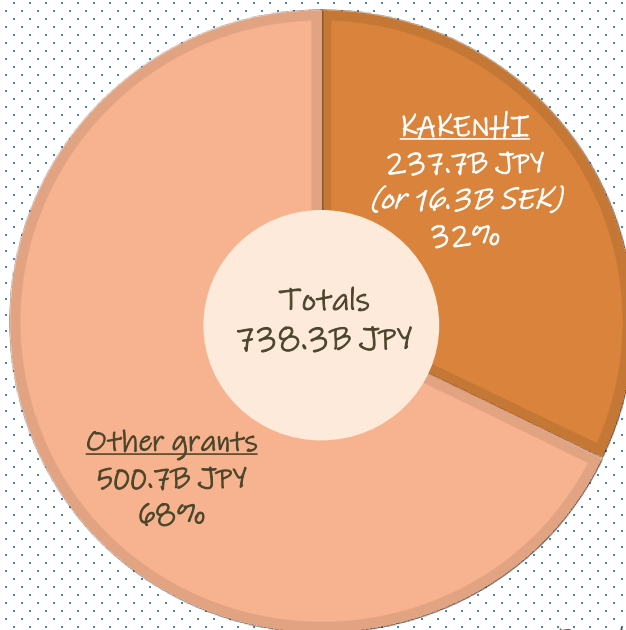
		Proposals	Awards	Funding rate
Pre-/Postdoctoral Fellowships	Short-term	227	60	26.4%
	Standard	1,943	230	11.8%
Invitational Fellowships	Short-term	592	160	27.0%
	Long-term	217	60	27.6%

## Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research ('KAKENHI')

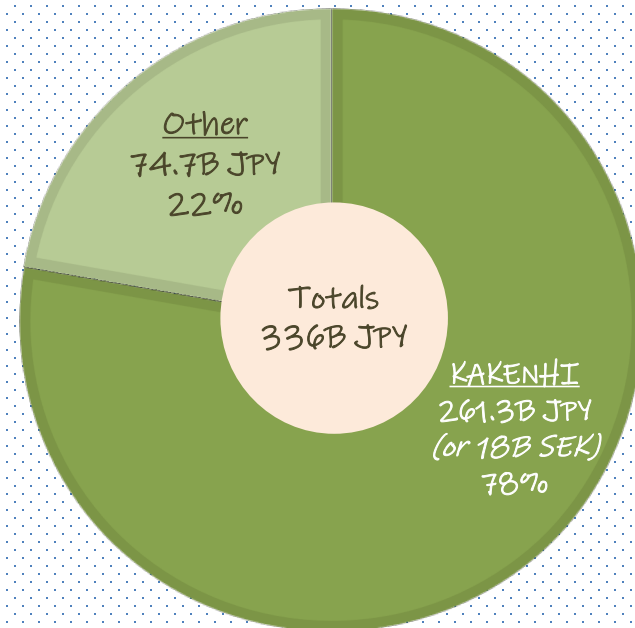


- Japan's biggest competitive research grant
- Supporting scientific, curiosity-driven research across all fields of disciplines
- 83,000+ projects yearly awarded thru rigorous screening process involving 8,000+ reviewers

FY2024 budget of  
competitive research grants in Japan



FY2025 JSPS budget



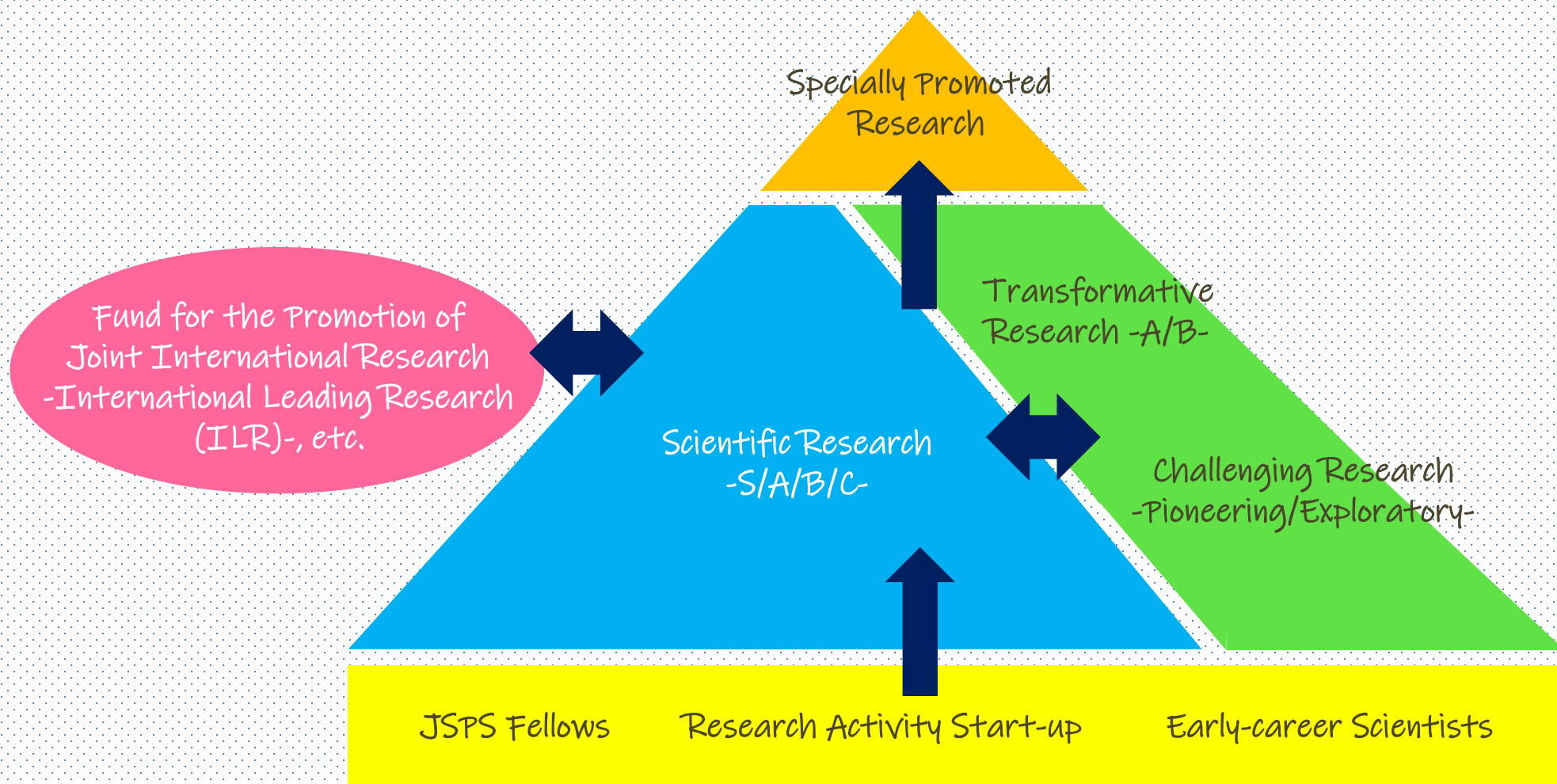
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

## Who is eligible to apply for [KAKENHI](#)?

Anyone of any nationality can apply; however, an applicant must be

- ✦ an individual holding a paid/unpaid academic appointment at a Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology-designated research institution located in Japan
- ✦ actually engaged in research activity not as a student at the institution
- ✦ registered and issued an individual researcher number by [e-Rad](#), a government-operated investment in R&D management system thru the institution

## Schema of KAKENHI research categories



## International Leading Research v. ASPIRE

	International Leading Research	Adopting Sustainable Partnerships for Innovative Research Ecosystem (ASPIRE)	
Funding agency (FA) in charge	JSPS	<a href="#">Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)</a>	<a href="#">Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)</a>
Fiscal year launched	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2023
Purpose	Aimed at enabling top-level Japan-based researchers' groups to achieve research results of high scientific value and foster postdocs/graduate students with expected potential to become world leaders in their respective fields.	Aims to build a network among the world's top research talent, promote Japan's participation in the international top research community, and nurture and mobilize future research leaders.	
Research fields covered	Humanities and social sciences; science and engineering; and biological sciences	AI & Information; Biotechnology; Energy; Materials; Quantum; Semiconductors; and Telecommunications	Healthcare

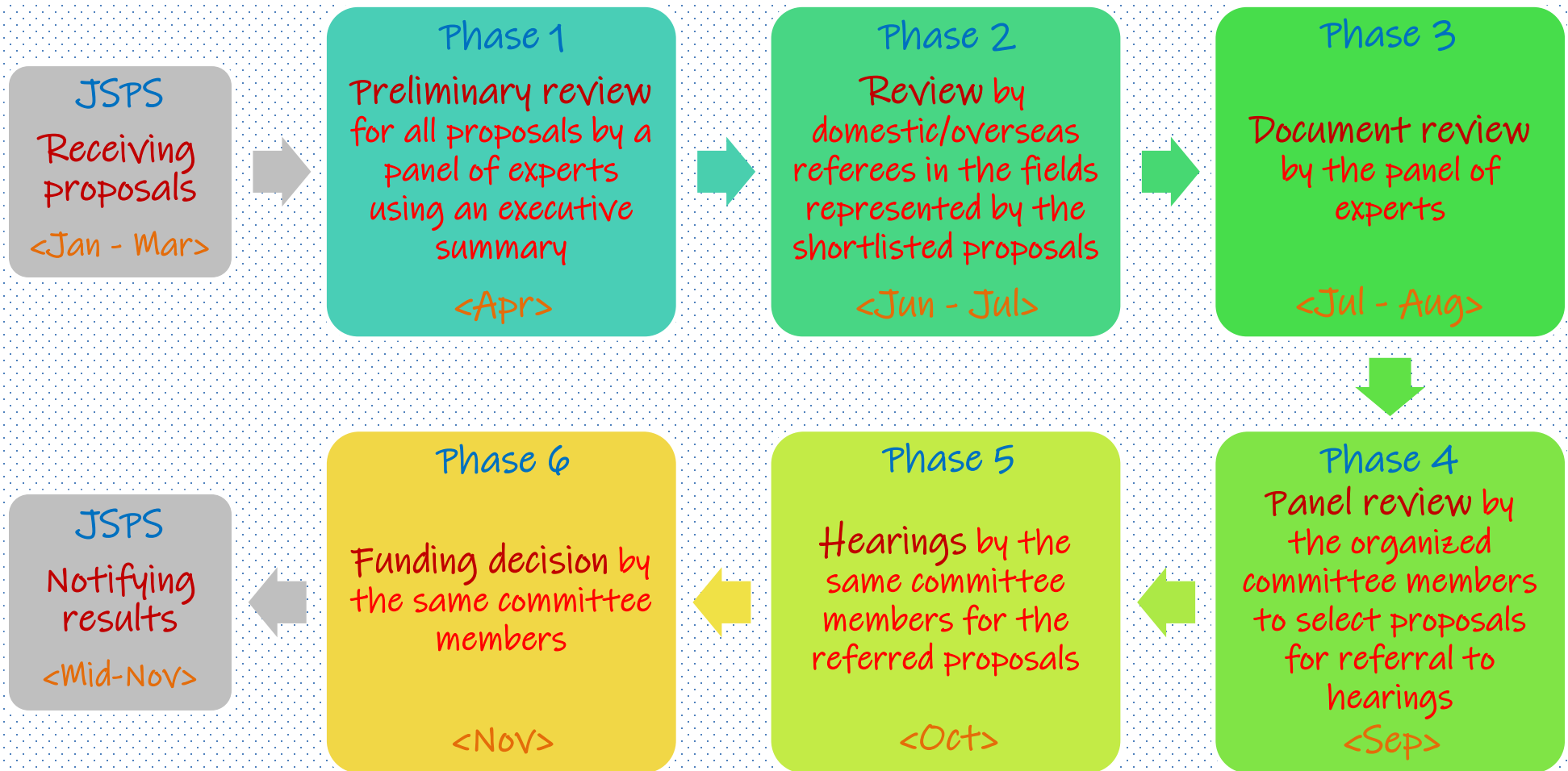
	International Leading Research	Adopting Sustainable Partnerships for Innovative Research Ecosystem (ASPIRE)*	
Grant period	7 years with a possible 3-year extension based on interim evaluation results (1 type of support)	3-5 years (3 types of support)	3-5 years (2 types of support)
Maximum grant account	500M JPY (or 34M SEK) + additional 51m JPY (or 3.4M SEK)	380M JPY (or 26M SEK)	380M JPY (or 26M SEK)
Funded projects	32	88	12
Counterpart countries/regions	195 (countries with diplomatic relations with Japan)	21 (Australia; Austria; Belgium; Canada; Czech Republic; Denmark; EU; Finland; France; Germany; Italy; The Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; South Korea; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; UK; and US)	11 (Australia; Canada; EU; France; Germany; The Netherlands; Norway; Sweden; Switzerland; UK; and US)
Joint call with counterpart FA	N/A	Applicable	Applicable

\*Contents on the ASPIRE are compiled/summarized from postings on each agency's website and for informational purposes only.

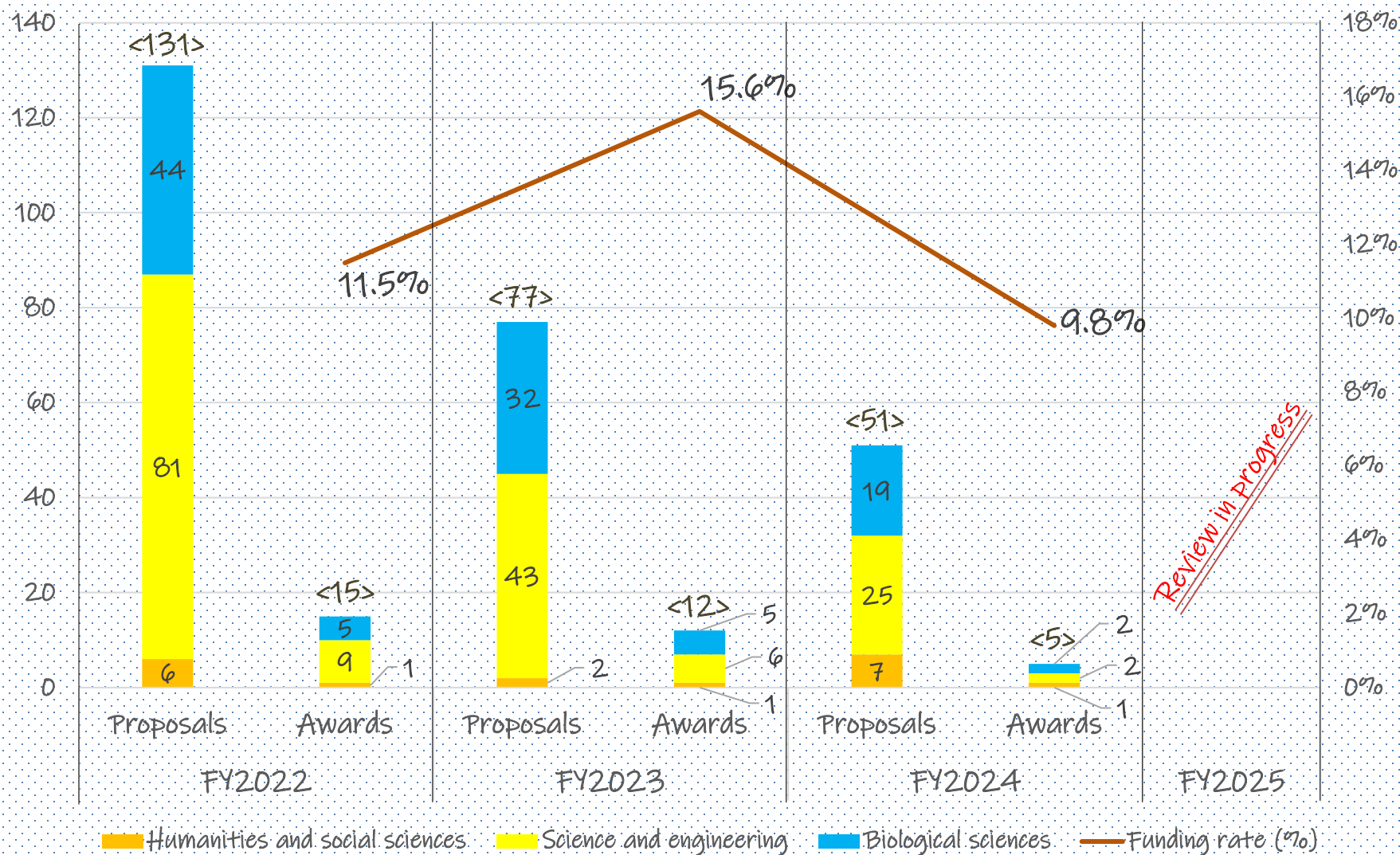
## Features

- ✦ A PI should be a Japan-based researcher and a sole grantee responsible for the conduct of research and administration of project funds.
- ✦ A research group should be organized with 3x as many postdocs and PhD students (early-career researchers) as the PI and its Co-Is.
- ✦ A research period should not be shorter than 7 years. The PI and its Overseas Joint Researchers (OJRs) may not be replaced during the period.
- ✦ OJRs must be employed at overseas research institutions and carry out the project with the corresponding PI.
- ✦ Eligible cash from OJRs is not mandatory; however, in-kind contributions (providing space/facilities/equipment) are expected while accepting early-career researchers sent from Japan for 2-3 years.
- ✦ Grant fund may be used to pay travel and accommodation expenses for OJRs or their early-career researchers during their stay in Japan.

## ILR proposal review process



## ILR trends in number of proposals/awards



## ILR-funded projects partnered with Swedish research institutions

Each project conducts research with, or sends/accepts researcher(s)/student(s) to/from Swedish partner institution(s).

Project title	PI	Partner institution in Sweden
Full-body Electronic Skins for Digital Me	<a href="#"><u>Prof. Takao Someya</u></a> , The University of Tokyo	Linköping University
Exploration of the Particle Physics Frontier at the Super B-factory and Cultivation of Young Researchers	<a href="#"><u>Prof. Toru Iijima</u></a> , Nagoya University	European Spallation Source (ESS)
Global Exploration for Redox Supermolecules Evolving in Life Functions (G-RexS)	<a href="#"><u>Prof. Takaaki Akaike</u></a> , Tohoku University	Karolinska Institutet
Structural Metallic Materials Managing Ultra High Strength and Large Ductility by High-order Control of Deformation: Fostering Young Researchers with Dural-sword Skills of Experiments and Computation	<a href="#"><u>Prof. Nobuhiro Tsuji</u></a> , Kyoto University	KTH Royal Institute of Technology; Chalmers University of Technology

## Today's takeaways:

- ✂ JSPS is the oldest and one of the major funding agencies in Japan and supports curiosity-driven, bottom-up research across all fields of disciplines.
- ✂ JSPS is partnered with 5 Swedish institutions and has 10 overseas branches including the one in Stockholm established in 2001.
- ✂ The International Leading Research is one of the research categories under KAKENHI, which is the largest competitive research grant in Japan.
- ✂ If you are a Japan-based researcher registered in the Japanese government-operated R&D management system, you are eligible to apply for KAKENHI.
- ✂ If not but (very) interested in the International Leading Research, you could encourage your colleague(s) in Japan to apply for the 5<sup>th</sup> call scheduled for early next year.
- ✂ Even if not interested at all, just keep in mind that JSPS is always here for you.

## For details on:

- ✦ FY2025 application procedures: [www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/kaken\\_3505\\_g\\_2864/fy2025ks\\_applicationprocedures\\_e.pdf](http://www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/kaken_3505_g_2864/fy2025ks_applicationprocedures_e.pdf)
- ✦ FAQs: [www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/kaken\\_3505\\_g\\_3060/202502\\_ks\\_faq\\_e.pdf](http://www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/kaken_3505_g_3060/202502_ks_faq_e.pdf)
- ✦ Review criteria: [www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/kaken\\_e\\_grants03\\_2022/r5hyoutei13\\_en\\_kokusaisendo.pdf](http://www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/kaken_e_grants03_2022/r5hyoutei13_en_kokusaisendo.pdf)
- ✦ Funded projects: [www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/35\\_kokusai/05\\_sendou/ichiran.html](http://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/35_kokusai/05_sendou/ichiran.html)
- ✦ JSPS: [www.jsps.go.jp/english](http://www.jsps.go.jp/english)
- ✦ JSPS Stockholm Office: [www.jsps-sto.com](http://www.jsps-sto.com)
- ✦ KAKENHI: [www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants](http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants)



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Tack för ditt hårda arbete.