

**JSPS Bilateral Joint Research Projects/Seminars
FY2015 CALL FOR PROPOSALS
(February Application Round)**

Notes:

- (1) This “FY2015 Call for Proposals” is an English translation of the official announcement in Japanese. Applicants should observe the accompanying Japanese Application Guidelines (http://www.jsps.go.jp/j-bilat/semina/shinsei_bosyu.html). If there should be any differences between the original Call for Proposals in Japanese and its translation into English, the original Japanese text is valid.
- (2) This “FY2015 Call for Proposals” provides the application guidelines on the JSPS side.

1. Program outline

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) carries out bilateral cooperative programs between Japan and counterpart countries based on agreements concluded with academies, research councils and other science-promotion organizations in those countries.

The aim of these programs is to form sustained networks evolved from individual scientist exchanges including young scientists. JSPS provides financial support to Japanese scientists implementing such bilateral joint projects and seminars between research teams from Japan and counterpart countries.

From FY2013 February’s application round, in addition to joint projects/seminars with counterpart organizations, JSPS launched a new scheme for proposals named “Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars” that provides Japanese researchers an opportunity to conduct research/seminar with researchers around the world who reside in a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. (JSPS also treats researchers who reside in Taiwan and Palestine in this manner.)

2. Targeted scheme in this application round

This program includes two types of bilateral exchange: (1) Bilateral Joint Projects/Seminars with JSPS’s Counterpart Institutions, and (2) Open Partnership Joint Research and Seminars. This application round is limited to the latter Open Partnership Joint Research and Seminars scheme.

Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars

Countries/Regions	Activity types	Maximum number to be selected	Subject areas
All countries that have diplomatic relations with Japan (JSPS also treats researchers who	Joint Projects	80	Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences

reside in Taiwan and Palestine in this manner.)	Joint Seminars		
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* Counterpart Countries in last September’s Application Round

Africa: Egypt, Kenya, South Africa, Tunisia

Asia: China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Turkey

South America: Brazil

Oceania: New Zealand

Europe: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherland, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden, Ukraine

Notes:

- 1 The number to be selected may change due to the budgetary situations and/or other conditions of JSPS.
- 2 Under scheme “Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars,” any country may be selected. However, applicants who wish to implement a project/seminar with an eligible country under “Bilateral Joint Projects/Seminars with JSPS’s Counterpart Institutions” are recommended to apply under that scheme. Each applicant is allowed to submit only one application per counterpart country under the FY2015 call (September application round and February application round).
- 3 Each applicant is allowed to submit only one application under “Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars”. In this category, only one country may be selected as the counterpart country. Taiwan and Palestine may be selected in this manner.
- 4 Applicants who will already be conducting a Bilateral Joint Project/Seminar on the starting date in this application round may not apply for another one with the same counterpart country.

3. Eligibility of Japanese applicants

Applicants must hold a full-time or equivalent position as a researcher at a university or research institute in Japan that is eligible to receive Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI). However, there are cases when a researcher not employed in a full time position may be eligible. Such persons must be eligible to apply for a KAKENHI grant-in-aid and his/her affiliated institution must judge them able to implement the project and to provide an appropriate research environment (e.g., laboratory, equipment, personnel) for it.

4. Other conditions

Activities Terms	Joint Projects	Joint Seminars
Participants from Japan	Researchers conducting research at research institutions in Japan (including technical staffs who are eligible to apply for a Grant-in Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI), postdoctoral researchers and students in doctoral and master courses who are sufficiently capable and experienced to carry out such projects/seminars)	
Participants from counterpart country	Researchers at a university or research institute in subject country	
Number of participants	No limitation on number of participants. Participants from the third country are not allowed.	No limitation on number of participants; Researchers from third countries may participate in seminars under the condition that they cover their own expenses
Duration	Up to 2 years	Within continuing 1 week
Others	With the exception of fieldwork or presentation of research reports on the joint project in an international conference, travel costs to third countries are not covered	Seminars are to be held either in Japan or the counterpart country

5. Expenses supported by JSPS

JSPS consigns the administration of projects to the Japanese project/seminar leader's affiliated institution. When using funds, please follow JSPS's rules. However, JSPS does not pay the institution a consignment fee.

Regarding "Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars," JSPS only supports the expenses of the Japanese teams. Counterpart researchers are encouraged to secure their own funding from sources in their own countries.

JSPS covers the following expenses of researchers on the Japanese team:

(1) Joint Projects(*)

International travel	International airfare between Japan and counterpart country
	Maintenance allowance
Domestic travel	Domestic travel expenses for members of Japanese team
Other expenses	Consumables, honoraria, printing, communication, meeting expenses (in Japan), etc.

(*)In each fiscal year, it is required that more than 50% of total funding be used for international/domestic travel.

(2) Seminars

(2) -1 Joint Seminars held in Japan

Domestic travel	Domestic travel expenses for members of Japanese team
Meeting expenses	Consumables, honoraria, printing, communication, meeting expenses, reception, excursion etc.

(2) -2 Joint Seminars held in counterpart country

International travel	International airfare between Japan and counterpart country
	Maintenance allowance
Following expenses incurred in Japan	
Domestic travel	Domestic travel expenses for members of Japanese team (for preparatory meeting and/or debriefing held in Japan)
Meeting expenses (*)	Consumables, honoraria, printing, communication, meeting expenses (for preparatory meeting and/or debriefing), etc.

(*) Costs for holding the seminars are to be covered by the counterpart institution.

Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars

- JSPS will cover the costs of the Japanese team.

	Duration	Funding from JSPS	Remarks
Joint Projects	Up to 2 years * Start date must be during the period of 1 July 2015 to 31 March 2016	Up to JPY 2,500,000 per fiscal year (Up to JPY 5,000,000 in total)	
Joint Seminars	Up to 1 week * Seminars must be held during the period of 1 July 2015 to 31 March 2016	Up to JPY 2,500,000	

- Counterpart researchers are encouraged to secure their own funding from sources in their own countries.

6. Application procedure at JSPS

JSPS receives applications via its on-line application system. For details, please refer to http://www-shinsei.jsps.go.jp/topkokusai/top_kokusai.html (Posted only in Japanese.)

Period for accepting applications: Monday, 8 December 2014 through Wednesday, 4 February, 2015

* Please note that applicants' affiliated institutions may set earlier deadlines.

** Under no circumstances will JSPS accept applications submitted after this period.

7. Other instructions

- (1) The Japanese project/seminar leader is not allowed to hold a collateral position as a coordinator, research representative, or chief seminar organizer under following JSPS programs: G8 Research Councils Initiative for Multilateral Research Funding, Japanese-German Graduate Externship, JSPS Core-to-Core Program, Asian CORE Program, AA Science Platform Program, A3 Foresight Program, International Training Program (ITP), Institutional Program for Young Researcher Overseas Visits, and Young Researcher Overseas Visits Program for Vitalizing Brain Circulation.
- (2) Researchers who are now or have been supported under any of JSPS's international programs in the past 5 years are required to describe the results or expected results of that research activity and, if any, its relevance to the project/seminar being applied for.
- (3) -<Reference only> FY2016 Application Round
From the FY2016 call for applications , the schedule of the call for Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars will be incorporated into September Application Round.

8. Selection criteria for JSPS review

The following criteria are utilized in the selection process:

- Scientific excellence of projects/seminars
- Necessity of cooperation, added value gained, and mutual research advancement through transfer of knowledge and expertise
- Impact of outcomes on improving the quality of life, contributing to socioeconomic development, and/or solving prevailing societal issues
- Participation of young researchers and contribution to fostering them
- Feasibility and concreteness of the research plan and expectation of its advancing the research

In addition to the above criteria, the following points are also considered:

- Contribution to researcher interaction in advancing the research during the project/seminar. (<Only for the joint projects> It is required that more than 50% of total funding be used for international/domestic travel.)
- Appropriateness of the budget plan
- Appropriateness of the venue in case of seminar
- Appropriateness of balance among counterpart countries/regions. Whether counterpart countries are included under “ Bilateral Joint Projects/Seminars with JSPS's Counterpart Institutions” taken into consideration.

9. Selection procedure

- (1) Notification of the selection results will be made in writing through the head of the applying institution.

-Open Partnership Joint Projects/Seminars

JSPS conducts reviews of the applications JSPS receives and makes selections.

(2) Selection results can be confirmed on the JSPS on-line application system.

10. Post-selection funding request to JSPS

- (1) Upon selection, Japanese project/seminar leaders must submit an implementation plan and funding request using the prescribed form. JSPS will make funding allocations based on these documents and/or its budgetary condition.
- (2) To register onto the e-Rad system, Japanese project/seminar leaders are required to submit their researcher number (8 digits) and effort value (percentage of effort dedicated) for the subject project/seminar.

11. Obligation of Japanese project/seminar leaders and their affiliated institutions

- (1) Project funds allocated by JSPS are to be administered by the institution with which JSPS concluded an agreement and to which the project/seminar leader is affiliated.
- (2) Project/seminar leaders must submit a report by the designated due date, which will be given public access, according to instructions by JSPS.
- (3) Due acknowledgement of support by JSPS and counterpart institutions should be made in any publication resulting from the projects/seminars.

12. Measures against misuse of research funds, and for handling of personal information

- (1) JSPS will take appropriate measures (e.g. terminate project/seminar, require reimbursement of part or all of allocated funds) in cases of misuse of research funds, improper practices (e.g. fabrication, falsification, plagiarism), unjustifiable acts (e.g. discrimination, harassment), or violation of laws.
- (2) Personal information provided by applicants will be handled in accordance with the “Act for the Protection of Personal Information Retained by Independent Administrative Institutions” and JSPS’s “Personal Information Protection Policy”, and will be used solely for the purpose of implementing JSPS programs.

The names and affiliations of the project/seminar leaders and participants and the titles, budgets, durations, annual research plans and reports of projects and seminars may be disclosed on JSPS’s website and in its publications.

13. Others

- (1) JSPS does not support any research project related to military affairs.

- (2) JSPS will not bear responsibility for any injury, sickness or accident incurred during travel related to the projects/seminars.
- (3) Project/seminar leaders on both sides are obligated to ensure the protection and proper distribution of intellectual property resulting from projects/seminars, in accordance with the laws and regulations of their countries. It is requested that the PI's (leading researcher's) home institution set certain rules on attribution of intellectual property.
- (4) JSPS does not support the issuing of visas or the arrangement of accommodations related to joint projects and seminars.

14. JSPS contact information

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)

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<E-mail> nikokukan@jsps.go.jp

For Open Partnership Joint Projects/Joint Seminars

<TEL> +81 (0)3-3263-1839/1864

Call Center (Only for inquiries regarding JSPS's on-line application system)

<TEL> 0120-556739 (Inside Japan only)

e-Rad system

<TEL> 0120-066-877

<http://www.e-rad.go.jp/>