

Foreword

Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (*Kakenhi*) are competitive funds disbursed for the purpose of making leapfrog advances in scientific research carried out based on the free ideas of researchers themselves—research in all fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, spanning the spectrum from basic to applied science. Grants-in-Aid are awarded through a peer-review selection process, and they support pioneering, cutting-edge research that provides the underpinnings for building a bountiful society.

Within the program, various grant categories are established to coincide with the objective, content and scale of research projects. Applications are solicited and screened under the terms of each of category. This booklet introduces research projects newly selected in FY 2020, namely under the categories Specially Promoted Research and Scientific Research (S), carried out by a single researcher or a relatively small number of researchers, and Transformative Research Areas(A/B), carried out by multiple researchers or a research group.

We will be pleased if the information provided this booklet is helpful in understanding the research activities being carried out in Japanese universities and other research institutions.

**Research Promotion Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports,
Science & Technology (MEXT)**

(https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shinkou/hojyo/main5_a5.htm)

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)

(<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/index.html>)

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